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KING ELEVATES PHINDILE TO COMMISSIONER GENERAL



BAYETHE: Newly-appointed Commissioner General of His Majesty's Correctional Services Phindile Dlamini gestures as she appreciates the appointment by His Majesty King Mswati III. This was during the Correctional Services Day at Correctional Staff College yesterday. (Pic: Simon Shabangu) **MORE ON PAGES 2,4,5,8,9,20**

EMBATTLED DVOKOLWAKO HIGH **FINALLY** OPENING

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LABOUR BROKERS **FIGHT BACK**

Page 7

Just how much money is MTN MoMO circulating? The Sunday Observer has the inside scoop

HEALTH CRISIS:

— STORY ON PAGE 3 —

GOVT, NURSES BIG MEET

...Nurses invite MPs to assess extent of the situation in hospitals

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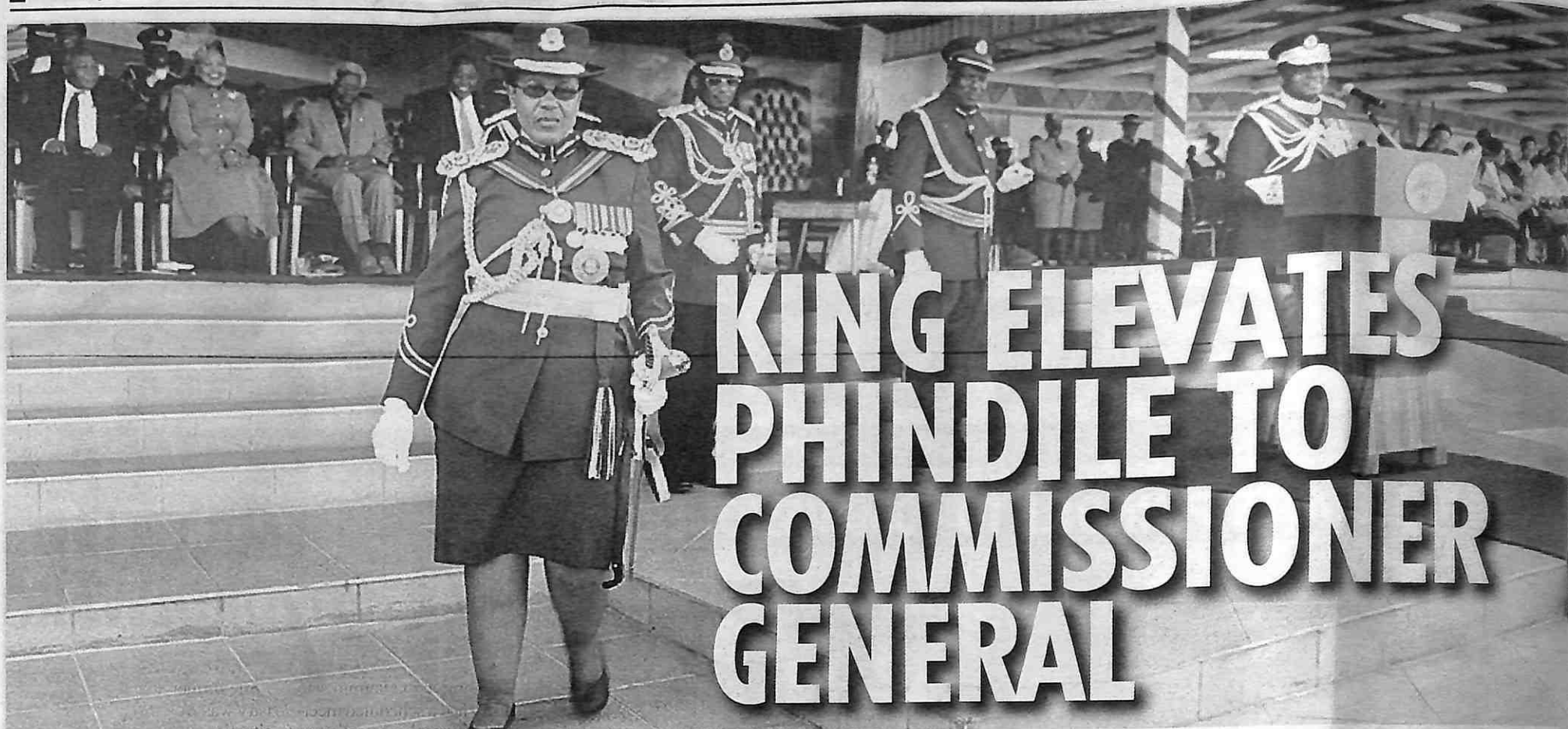
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Stories by Mhlonishwa Mlopho

His Majesty King Mswati III yesterday appointed Phindile Dlamini as the new Commissioner General for His Majesty's Correctional Services.

This was during the Correctional Services Day held at Matsapha, under the theme 'Combating recidivism through community engage-

ment and post custody programmes'.

Dlamini was promoted from the position of Commissioner of Correctional Services to that of Commissioner General, taking over from Isaiah Mzuthini Ntshangase who is now a member of Eswatini National Council Standing Committee, known as Likoqo. She is the first woman to be appointed to the position of Commissioner General.

In his speech, His Majesty acknowledged the importance of appointing women into positions of power. It is worth mentioning that even the ministry of justice and constitutional affairs is headed by a woman in the person of Pholile Shakantu.

The King first acknowledged the visitors from neighbouring countries who graced the event. He said their presence reflected the good

relations that existed between the countries. "Today we are reminded that your work borders on the emphasis of custodial and rehabilitation services. The Correctional centres should not be breeding grounds for hardened criminals, but places of self-introspection, reform, market-oriented vocational skills training and discipline," said His Majesty.

He said the programmes ensured that after rehabilitation there was smooth social reintegration of offenders back into society, ready to serve the community meaningfully. His Majesty explained that every person had the ability to change and refrain from relapsing into criminal activity and make a better life for themselves within a safer and more harmonious society.

'Officers should be exemplary in society'

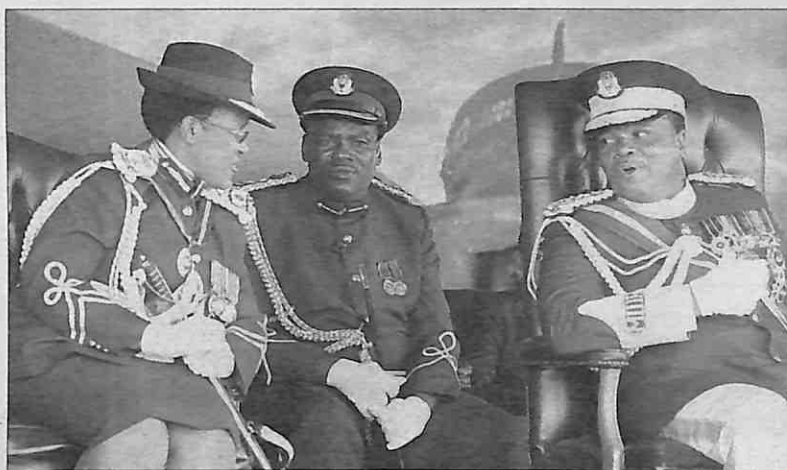
The King has warned Correctional officers to lead a good life in society.

He said this during his address at the Correctional Services Day.

He said officers had a duty to influence and transform lives of inmates and the general public through integrity and diligence. "Your behaviour at work and during your off-days should demonstrate the aspirations of a Correctional officer at all times. You should be a beacon of hope, and not a perpetrator," he stated.

He further encouraged the officers to continue being a shining star in the region through hard work, discipline, self-advancement and professional competence in order to succeed in their challenging work.

He said the officers had a mandate to protect the public through enforcing the stipulated custodial sentences imposed by the judicial courts in the country and to ensure that all offenders serve their sentences.



APPOINTED: His Majesty King Mswati III in a conversation with the new His Majesty's Correctional Services Commissioner General Phindile Dlamini.

King pleads for crime free society

His Majesty has urged the nation to strive for a crime free society.

He said a nation that was crime free brought forth social stability and that had a positive impact on tourism.

"More investors will be keen to come to the Kingdom of Eswatini for the

order and peace we have. We humbly thank all those who have continuously contributed to the growth of the Correctional service to the great standard it shows today," he stated. In the same breath, he also thanked the officers for their commitment and oath to all national duties and assignments.

Matsapha, Nhlangano prisons await facelift

Matsapha and Nhlangano Correctional Centres would soon be rehabilitated.

This was disclosed by Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs Pholile Shakantu in Matsapha during the Correctional Services Day.

However, she did not disclose the budget and the exact date of the rehabilitation. In her speech, she also presented the King with three cows and two other cows were offered to Her Majesty the Queen Mother.

The minister further announced that two trucks loaded with vegetables will be donated to Philani Maswati Charity organisation. She acknowledged the posi-

tive strides taken towards improving the Correctional Services in the country.

However, she also disclosed that lack of adequate resources impact negatively on the efforts of effectively transforming offenders into being productive and law abiding citizens through the various rehabilitation programmes.

"While the department is faced with the challenge of soaring numbers in local correctional centres, there is much hope that once all the structures and stakeholders in the criminal justice system embrace the new Correctional Services Act of 2017, great impact in as far as addressing issues of overcrowding will be realised."

Swazi Observer

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HEALTH CRISIS: GOVT, NURSES BIG MEET

..Nurses invite MPs to assess extent of the situation in hospitals instead of minding non-issues such as encouraging women to dress gorgeously during church services

Stories by Sicelo Maziya

Despite assertion by nurses that government action came about after, only being petitioned, a week later the health system continues to collapse with no intervention.

The Nurses Association has revealed that since their petition, government has failed to respond to their demands as well as their promise to invite them for discussions on the issues of health in the Kingdom.

This is despite the assurance by the ministry of health principal secretary Dr. Simon Zwane that he would engage nurses on the health issues.

Swaziland Nurses Association President Bheki Mamba said the situation had deteriorated further than the time of the petition as patients were now dying before their very eyes of nurses due, this time, to starvation.

He said lack of food for the patients who dearly need it for sheer survival was another addition to the shortage of medicines and poor working conditions coupled with delayed cost of living adjustments for nurses who must deal with the situation on a daily basis.

Mamba invited legislators to take interest in the issues of public health and health in general as it was now life threatening.

Petitions

Mamba further invited Members of Parliament to visit all public health facilities to better understand the situation first hand from the patients and nurses within their constituencies. He lamented that the ministry of health and the Prime Minister's office did not see it fit to respond to the petitions delivered to their offices highlighting the deplorable state of health in the country. He said such silence left them with no choice but to meet and strategise on implementing what they had planned in order to see the situation turned around.

"Up to now, we have not received any invite to discuss the situation as the PS promised when we gave him the petition. Similarly the prime ministers' office has not responded, which is a clear indication that they don't take the health situation seriously," said Mamba.

"Patients simply starve to death from lack of food. They can't take any medication without having eaten."

Struggle

He added: "Imagine an elderly person is referred to Mbabane Government Hospital for better medical treatment but there are no drugs and the person is being starved to death due to lack of food in the hospital and also without anyone bringing food for the patient".

Mamba further begged legislators to take particular interest in how health situations were struggling in the country. He said he read in the newspapers that an MP was concerned about issues of transportation of other people that are not supposed to use government transport. Mamba challenged the MPs



to be concerned about the life that is lost in the public health facilities as government continues to be silent much against a number of people no longer getting any assistance in the public health system in the country.

Last month, nurses gave government an ultimatum to solve the drugs shortage or face dire consequences, an unimaginable walk-out from all public health facilities in the four regions.

Government was given four weeks and it elapsed this week without any correspondence or invite for solution seeking talks by the ministry as promised.

Nurses sent a strong warning, promising to do all they can within their power to expose the real situation to the world; to report government's failure to address a problem of crippling drug shortages.

System

The nurses have vowed to come all out and beg the international community for assistance, including with money, just to save the health system.

They have threatened to use every platform available; funerals, weddings and any gathering to tell the masses about the lack of drugs at government hospitals because government peddles lies via state media without the voices of the people suffering at the health facilities.

They pleaded with government to declare the drugs shortage a health crisis and find a way to resolve the challenges with immediate effect.

The nurses said the ministry lied to the nation, saying it was sending drugs and supplies yet it was only sending allegedly expired nevarapine drugs for newborns and Panados.

They further claimed that there were no ARVs (antiretroviral) for scores of HIV positive patients in the country they invited the prime minister to visit all the country's health facilities to assess the situation.

The association, through their petition, further stated that not long ago the country introduced the nefarious 'test and treat' project: "We had raised that it will balloon costs of health care and compromise the supply of ARVs to all that need them, let alone the effects that might have on the metabolic system in the long run".

Nurses further alleged that the situation was so desperate that patients were

now forced to buy their own medication and bring it back to nurses for assistance.

Nurses made startling claims that patients were being given painkillers, while those with sugar diabetes were no longer getting assistance due to lack of supplies.

The ministry was not only confronted on the drugs and medical supplies but also that the hiring of nurses should be prioritised and the recruitment process be returned to the line ministry that better understands the dire need of nurses. The nurses claimed such technical recruitment cannot be political, demanding that the responsibility should be removed from relying on cabinet decision. Swaziland Nurses Association's Second Deputy Secretary Neliso Matsenjwa, who also read the petitions upon delivery warned that they noted that cabinet resolved not to hire or promote nurses anymore, yet the same could not be said of security forces, who are hired and promoted at a huge cost to the taxpayer.

"It's disheartening to note how cabinet is micro-managing recruitment processes, which has resulted to delayed filling of vacancies and contributed directly to the gross shortage of nurses in the country. We note that even a blocked toilet, for it to be fixed, there should be an approval by cabinet," reads the petition. The nurses association further demanded for a sound healthcare financing strategy to cushion the health care system in economically challenging times. "If this is not done in the next four weeks, we shall render the health sector unworkable".

Imagine an elderly person is referred to Mbabane Government Hospital for better medical treatment but there are no drugs and the person is being starved to death due to lack of food in the hospital and also without anyone bringing food for the patient

'Don't set us against patients'

Nurses, during their petition, pleaded with government to fix the situation and stop setting them against patients through statements that everything was normal.

They pleaded that government should desist from saying they are not willing to work whereas there was no medication to assist patients.

Matsenjwa said they were trained

professionals and all they did was guided by their professional code. She said government must make sure they had the drugs and supplies. "This we have done guided by our own professional code, in particular the principle of veracity, in that as we practice our profession we should do absolute justice when we treat our patients," added Matsenjwa.

Ministry finally invites nurses for talks

The ministry of health after being confronted by Observer on Saturday on whether they have met and responded to the petition by the nurses, they then called the nurses association to invite them

for talks. President of the Nurses association, Mamba, confirmed receiving a call an hour after the ministry was questioned on the progress on the health situation as per the petition of the nurses.

We're doing all we can to reverse the situation-Ministry

Ministry of Health Communications Officer Nomfundo Dlamini said the ministry had a scheduled meeting with the nurses' association as part of the plans to update and discuss how best health systems can be restored under the current situation.

She further reiterated what was said by Principal Secretary Dr Simon Zwane when addressing the nurses during delivery of the petition where he said nurses formed the key partner in the implementation

of the quality and sound healthcare system in the country.

She further shared that the ministry was well aware of the current situation and was not ignoring the facts on the ground. "The ministry of health is working around the clock in mitigating the situation; all plans for the ministry are towards ensuring that quality health systems are restored in the country. However, the situation is not normalising as per projected timelines, but government is taking the situation seriously," said Dlamini.

Embattled Dvokolwako high finally opening

By Bongile Dlamini

Finally, there is light at the end of the tunnel as Dvokolwako High School parents have agreed to have the school opened.

This was an outcome of a meeting held at Dvokolwako Umphakatsi as convened by Acting Chief Mahomedi Magagula. The chief had called his subjects in a bid to come out with a solution that would see the school opening soon.

The meeting comes two weeks after the school was shut down by pupils who vandalised property to get their message across. The chaos started after there were claims that the school principal was involved in the death of several teachers and pupils. However, when the parents made their submissions before their chief, police and Hhohho District Commissioner representative, they only submitted that they were not pleased with Principal Sabelo Sibandze's rudeness towards them.

Several of the parents said they were even ready to repeat their claims in court or even before Sibandze himself. This pleased the chief because he was of the view that should in any case be the need for people to testify before any investigating team that may need to source information.

Although the parents agreed that the school should open even with Sibandze in office, the parents stated that there was still a bubbling cauldron of emotions regarding his style of governing. The parents said they were only agreeing that he should return because they were concerned about their children's future which was already in jeopardy since they had been at home for two weeks. Worth noting is that

the school was closed a day before mock examinations were to commence.

Also, the parents only warmed up to the idea of Sibandze returning after they were informed that the ministry of education and training made it clear that the school could not open if Sibandze was not returning in office.

However, although they agreed to accept Sibandze back, the parents also poured their hearts out to their chief with the hope that their grievances would be addressed. One of the parents who made a submission said in her experience with Sibandze, she was shocked to hear him refer to elderly parents as fools.

Another male parents said he had since stopped attending the school's parents' meetings because he was not pleased with the treatment he had received from Sibandze on several different occasions.

On the other hand, out of the 197 parents who had attended the meeting, only two said they did not want the school to reopen. When asked of his reasons, one of the parents

After the parent had unanimously agreed to have Sibandze return in office, the parents Mubane Masina said he was concerned about the principal's life. Masina said he worked closely with the pupils hence his concern.

In response to this, Hhohho DC representative Hlangabeza Shabangu implored parents to trust the ministry of education with logistics on how Sibandze will be protected while at work. He further assured the Dvokolwako residents that he would forward their decision to the ministry with the hope that means to have the school open soon would be made.

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DAY 2019



HMCS Commissioner General Phindile Dlamini sharing a light moment with His Majesty King Mswati III during the Correctional Services Day yesterday. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



His Majesty addressing the gathering at the event.



His Majesty and the ComGen saluting during the singing of the national anthem.

(R) Liqoqo Chairman Paul Dlamini, Minister of Justice Pholile Shakantu, Prince Masitsela and PM Ambrose Dlamini following proceedings.



NOTICE

WATER INTERRUPTION IN SITEKI



Eswatini Water Services Corporation would like to notify its valued customers in Siteki and surrounding areas that there is an interruption in water supply due to a major technical breakdown in the supply network. Repair works are ongoing and normal supply will be restored as soon as repair works are completed on Saturday, 27 July 2019.

Affected areas include Lonhlupheko, Langa, Mpolonjeni and Lukhula.

The Corporation regrets any inconvenience that may be caused by the interruption.

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Emalangenis among the VIPs as they follow proceedings.



A section of the parade as the officers gave the audience a well-polished display.



His Majesty and HMCS Commissioner General Phindile Dlamini posing with some of the visiting commissioners and senior officers from correctional services in different countries.



Parade leader Norma Sibandze addressing the King after the inspection of the parade.



His Majesty King Mswati III, the Commissioner In-Chief of His Majesty's Correctional Services after inspecting the guard of honour.



Emakhosikati captured during the singing of the national anthem after the day's proceedings.



Minister of Justice Pholile Shakantu making welcome remarks.



Imbali from Correctional Services ready to entertain the gathering.

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PUBLIC SECTOR ASSOCIATIONS' CoLA JUDGMENT ON MONDAY

By Sandile Nkambule

● Industrial Court Judge Sifiso Nsibande expected to deliver judgment

Judgment in the application filed by public sector associations (PSAs) on the cost of living adjustment (CoLA) is expected to be delivered by the Industrial Court on Monday.

The PSAs filed an application at the Industrial Court where they are seeking an order compelling gov-

ernment to effect their CoLA due to them.

They are calling for a 7.85 per cent CoLA provision which they feel should have been included in the national budget.

They argued that civil servants' salaries had not been adjusted for a very long time now which has eroded the buying power of the

workers, amid the inflation rate that is ever increasing.

The Industrial Court had dismissed government's application to have the CoLA case postponed to March next year. Industrial Court Judge President Sifiso Nsibande found that the application for postponement was tantamount to interdicting industrial action by the public

sector associations.

The PSAs are the National Public Service and Allied Workers Union (NAPSAWU), Swaziland National Association of Teachers (SNAT), the Swaziland Democratic Nurses Union (SWADNU) and Swaziland National Association of Government Accounting Personnel (SNAGAP). The CoLA impasse between gov-

ernment and the civil servants started last year in July when government offered them zero per cent increment. The government stated that it did not have enough resources to implement the CoLA, hence it offered the zero per cent.

The civil servants did not accept this as a series of strikes and marches followed thereafter and in September last year, the Industrial Court stopped the PSAs who wanted to take to the streets to try and force government to give them the CoLA.

Government sought a court order to stop the workers from striking because there was no Legislature or Executive at the time.

The Industrial Court stopped the PSAs though recognising that the strike was lawful and the PSAs shifted the strike to January 28 but again, the Industrial Court stopped the strike because the matter was still before it.

'Mock exams for Mlalatini on'

By Sicelo Maziya

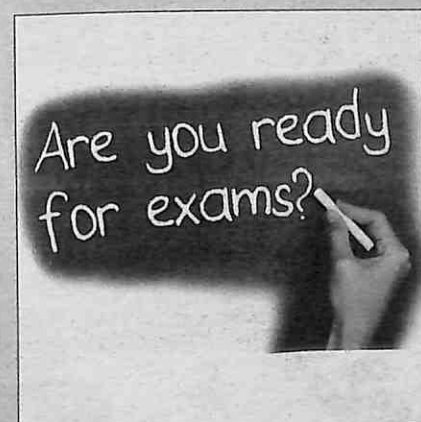
Mlalatini Development Centre Principal Glen Mazibuko yesterday issued a statement notifying parents and students that mock exams will start next week. Mazibuko in his statement announced that mock exams would resume on Tuesday at different centres following assistance from the ministry of education to ensure students write their mock exams.

The statement further stated that mock exams at the study centres start August 12 for all classes from Form One to Form Five. Mazibuko named the study centres as Elim Church in Nhlengano, Mankayane High School, New Haven Bible College, Siphofaneni High School, Lubombo Central High School, Mayiwane High School, Dwaleni High School and Ngwane Park High School.

Mazibuko said Mlalatini Development Centre students must prepare for the mock exams.

Mlalatini Development Centre (EDC) is a government institution that provides open and distance learning (ODL) programmes at junior and higher secondary education levels in Eswatini. EDC was mandated to offer first and second opportunities to the youth and adults of Eswatini who, for one reason or another, could not finish their secondary education.

Eswatini Exams Council Registrar Dr Edmund Mazibuko distanced his organisation from the mock exams, stating that such is a prerogative of the schools and has nothing to do with the Exams Council. Ministry of Education Principal Secretary Dr Sibongile Mtshali said she was not aware of the assistance given to the development study centre as she was busy with Parliament business for the ministry.



Two held briefly on Corrections Day

By Sifiso Dlamini

Yesterday truly was a day of rehabilitation as two rowdy civilians were pardoned after insinuating a fight during His Majesty's speech.

Two men, one said to be a soldier with the Eswatini Umbutfo Defence Force, were temporarily detained by members of the Close Protection Unit after they exchanged blows following an argument.

Information gathered from a source close to the action was that the argument started when the soldier pointed in His Majesty's direction.

The other man apparently told him it was wrong to point at the



direction of the King. He allegedly said he was pointing to his brother who was around the same direction from where they stood. Thereafter, the heated argument ensued and the soldier was allegedly struck on the knee with a stone. He retaliated by punching his assailant. A member of the CPU quickly went up the stand and grabbed

the soldier, took him towards the entrance where he was questioned by other members of the CPU as well as uniformed police officers.

After pleading his case, the CPU went back to the stand and took the man for questioning. After a while, the matter was resolved and the two men were set free but banished



LAW AND ORDER: Police officers and the two rowdy civilians who were fighting.

from entering the arena thereafter. This proved to be in line with the Corrections Day of rehabilitating offenders to avoid re-incarceration.



SPONSORS: NAMBoard CEO Siphephiso (c) Dlamini posing for a group photo with representatives from the five companies. (Pics: Bahle Gama)



ENPF sponsored the summit with E50 000.

More sponsorships pour in for Cold Chain Summit

By Bahle Gama

Sponsors for the Cold Chain Summit keep on pouring in at NAMBoard.

Five companies submitted their sponsorships in the form of cheques and services yesterday at Hilton Garden Hotel.

These are Eswatini Mobile, Industrial Development Company of Eswatini (IDCE), Apollo Services, Eswatini National Provident Fund (ENPF) and TransMagnific. Four of these companies sponsored the summit with E145 000, respectively, and one pledged their services.

The cold chain summit themed 'Keeping it Fresh' will be staged from August 7-8 at Mavuso

Exhibition and Trade Centre in Manzini.

gratitude

Making his remarks, NAMBoard CEO Siphephiso Dlamini extended his gratitude to these companies, noting that the level of detail they were pouring into the forthcoming summit would guarantee an elevated profile and quality

required by exceptional businesses who seek to attain or maintain unrivalled brand positions in their sectors.

Efforts

"We recognise your efforts with great gratitude because when one starts something it needs some conviction for someone to say 'I can forge an alliance with you'

and that conviction cannot be measured in any proposition, hence I say this is very significant to us," he said.

He added that this was a partnership that had been defined by government's strategic roadmap. The CEO stated that farming was a critical priority and involved all players like the mentioned sponsors.

Dlamini further mentioned that the summit is intended to turn around agriculture in the country.

"All sectors in agriculture will be turned around because the developments we are witnessing as a country are massive because in horticulture alone we are going to be investing over 3 000 to 4 000 hectares of land," he said.

Additional sponsors:	
Name of company	Sponsorship
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Apollo Services	E30 000
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LABOUR BROKERS FIGHT BACK

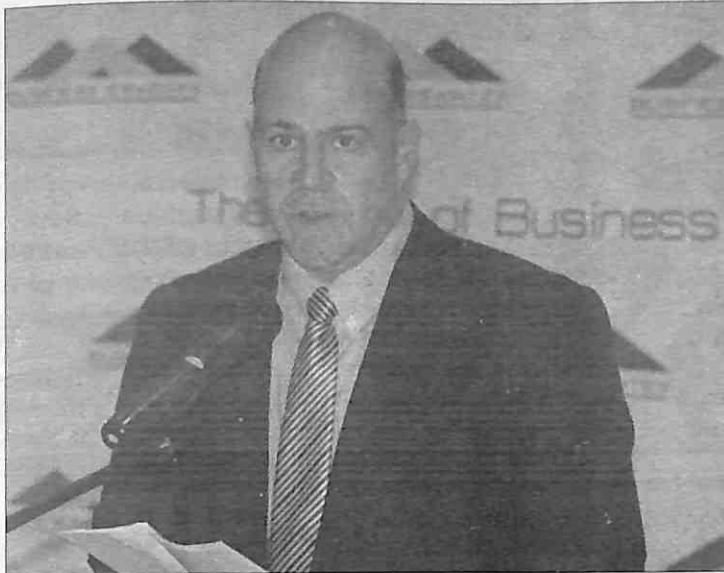
Stories by Zwelihle Sukati

Business Eswatini is not taking the call to ban labour brokers and sub-contractors in the country lying down. As such, the office of the Chief Executive Officer is currently engaging attorneys to consider legal action to interdict the ministry of labour against the proposed Employment Bill.

In an interview with President of Business Eswatini, Andrew Le Roux, said such a move by the Labour ministry was contrary to government's vision of creating jobs and promoting investment in the country. He spoke for labour brokers.

While labour brokerage can be simply defined as the practice of facilitating the contractual relationship between employer and employee, Le Roux said according to the proposed Employment Bill of 2017, it remained unclear what really defines labour broking because with the current definition given, it appears to include even security guard companies and sub-contractors.

Le Roux said there was never meaningful consultation with all relevant stakeholders in coming up with The Employment Bill of 2017, which seeks to make these changes.



MAKING A POINT: President of Business Eswatini, Andrew Le Roux.

"There were a series of labour advisory board meetings where there were high level discussions on the Bill and almost all submissions made by Business Eswatini, which is the apex employer representative in the country, were disregarded," Le Roux said. He came to conclude that the Bill was a merely a product of decisions made between the Labour ministry and certain unions to propose what he is now calling the "TUCOSWA BILL".

He said as employers, Business Eswatini believes in government's vision of economic growth, something which the Bill brings about the direct opposite effect. "We look toward government and stakeholders in developing labour legislation that promotes job growth, protects employees and a country regarded as best in international labour practices."

This entire hullabaloo comes after Minister of Labour and Social Security

Makhosi Vilakati informed parliament that labour broking will be a thing of the past in three months' time. His promise to Parliament came after Members of Parliament moved and passed a motion calling for the banning of the practice in the kingdom. The motion was moved by Motshane MP Robert Magongo a few weeks ago and was seconded by Kwaluseni MP Sibusiso Mabhanisi Dlamini.

"Business Eswatini is very supportive of Government and the turnaround Strategic Roadmap with its initiatives to draw foreign direct investments and job creation. It is very unfortunate that these pronouncements by the minister were made without consultation with the private sector and without necessary information and studies to understand the impact," Le Roux reiterated. "It is also unfortunate that this Bill also contains provisions which are extremely onerous for business and negative for job creation." "There will almost certainly be significant job losses if this Bill is passed", confirmed Le Roux. Efforts to get comment from Minister of Labour and Social Security Makhosi Vilakati were unsuccessful by the time of compiling this report yesterday.

Security guards face retrenchments

Thousands of security guards employed in companies around the country have everything to worry about their job security.

This is if the views held by Business Eswatini President Andrew Le Roux are anything to go by.

"One challenge of not consulting properly on this Bill is that the definition of labour broker remains unclear. The current definition will appear to include security companies," Le Roux said.

He highlighted that the security industry in Eswatini employs between 7 000 -10 000 people and that many of these jobs will be at risk. "Even the government makes extensive use of the security company services."

He concluded that parliamentarians did not act in good faith and are also not from an informed position when calling for the abolishment of labour broking.

"The necessary marked studies and impact assessment were not been done. Clearly, this is purely a political decision with significant consequences."

Subcontracting also to be banned – Business Eswatini

Not only will labour broking be banned, so will also be subcontracting.

This is the view held by President of Business Eswatini Andrew Le Roux in an exclusive interview. "The Bill the minister refers to doesn't just ban brokers but effectively bans all subcontracting in

Eswatini," Le Roux said. "Subcontracting in Eswatini has created hundreds of Swati owned businesses and thousands of jobs. All this is now at risk."

The Business Eswatini president said the organisation has engaged its membership and there was no iota of doubt that job losses will be there should

the Bill be passed.

"This Bill affects both labour broking and subcontracting. Therefore, it affects every business and industry sector in Eswatini, as well as the banks that lends them working capital and asset finance. This could run into hundreds of millions of Emalangeni losses."

Parliament misinformed

Parliament and Government need to do their homework first before jumping the gun.

This was the simple advice coming from Business Eswatini.

The organisation's president, Andrew Le Roux, said had parliamentarians done their work, it would have found that a majority of these companies make very small profits and come nowhere near the 40-50 per cent projected in the press. "Again, all this is an uninformed position by parliament," Le Roux pointed out.

He said it would have been useful for the Labour ministry to understand the industry before making ill-informed pronouncements to parliament.

ment.

"The majority of brokers and contractors are fully compliant to legislation, with representation by unions and workers get all rights and protection of labour laws. The lack of compliance by a small minority is used to condemn the industry that creates thousands of jobs."

With regard to compliance with existing labour legislation, Le Roux said what needed to be done was to have all labour brokers comply with legislation.

"There is no doubt that there have been exploitative practices by labour brokers which Business Eswatini doesn't support, something which can be dealt with by proper leg-

islation and compliance."

He went on to advise that a full market research study by independent experts to better understand the impact this will have on Eswatini businesses and employers was needed so that informed decisions can be made.

"The majority of brokers and contractors are fully compliant to legislation, with representation by unions and workers get all rights and protection of labour laws**"**

Ban on labour brokers has hidden political agenda

"It is without doubt that the move to ban labour brokers has been politicised by people exploiting the uninformed for political gain in the fulfillment of election promises."**"**

This was said by President of Business Eswatini Andrew Le Roux in an interview on Thursday. He said the move had a political agenda as opposed to serving the best interest of the country's labour force and businesses.

He put it succinctly clear that the only conclusion Business Eswatini can come to was that the Bill purporting to ban labour broking was "nothing more than just a TUCOSWA Bill".

TUCOSWA is an acronym for the Trade

Union Congress of Swaziland, an umbrella organisation for workers union in the country. Unfortunately, Le Roux said, some senior politicians have politicised this matter for own personal gain.

"We know that some made promises during elections and these initiatives are now in fulfillment of those promises. However, this will impact on employment and ability of Eswatini to attract investment."

"What is absolutely shocking, is that these same politicians have not created any meaningful employment themselves or even read the Bill that they are proposing", said the President of Business Eswatini, "And yet they are making political decisions that affect every business and employee in the country".

LIQUOR NOTICE

It is hereby notified for general information that the Liquor Licensing Board will hold its sitting to hear the following applications at the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade Conference Room on the **16th AUGUST 2019** starting at **09.00am**.

Region Manzini

1. **NKOSINATHI DLAMINI**, P. O. Box 6683 Manzini **GRANT** of a **BOTTLE STORE** Liquor Licence situated at **FARM 18 PORTION 15, SIDVOKODVO** known as **FRIENDS LIKE THESE BOTTLE STORE**.

Any person who wishes to lodge an objection to the above-mentioned application may do so with the Secretary of the Liquor Licensing Board in writing, sending a copy to the applicant by registered mail to reach him/her at least ten days before the sitting of the Board.

SECRETARY LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD
P.O. BOX 451
MBABANE

R/N 166682

LIQUOR NOTICE

It is hereby notified for general information that the Liquor Licensing Board will hold its sitting to hear the following applications at the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade Conference Room on the **16 AUGUST 2019** starting at **09.00am**.

Region Manzini

1. **NKOSINATHI DLAMINI**, P. O. Box 6683 Manzini **GRANT** of a **WINE & MALT** Liquor Licence situated at **PORTION 15 FARM 18 SIDVOKODVO** known as **FRIENDS LIKE THESE WINE & MALT**.

Any person who wishes to lodge an objection to the above-mentioned application may do so with the Secretary of the Liquor Licensing Board in writing, sending a copy to the applicant by registered mail to reach him/her at least ten days before the sitting of the Board.

SECRETARY LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD
P.O. BOX 451

R/N 166682

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DAY



His Majesty King Mswati III inspecting the guard of honour upon arrival for the Correctional Services Day at the Correctional Staff College in Matsapha yesterday. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



A section of the VIPs who were at the event.



Mzwakhe Khumalo directing proceedings at the marquee.



A section of the many people who were at the arena to witness the special day.



Businessman Kareem Ashraff, Army Commander Jeffrey Tshabalala, newly-appointed Commissioner General of HMCS Phindile Dlamini and REPS Acting National Commissioner William Dlamini.



Acting National Commissioner of Police William Dlamini congratulating HMCS Commissioner General Phindile Dlamini while Army Commander Jeffrey Tshabalala looks on.



Chief Khwebetisa Ntshalintshali of Bhahwini, African Alliance Partner Sthofeni Ginindza, BRC member Canon Mandla Dlamini and SIMPA Principal Cyril Kunene were also among the VIPs.



Vulamasango School Choir rendering a music piece before the King and guests.

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ONLINE PURCHASE OPTION: USE QR CODE OR LINK

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Online link:

<https://tiny.cc/kgu9y>



The officers were a marvel to watch as they throw a leg into it.



Officers from the service display their skills during the parade before His Majesty.



Sticks Shabangu, Thom Dlamini, Sandile Nxumalo, Israel Matsebula and Prophet Elijah Fire sharing a light moment after the activities of the day.



It was a splendid showing from the officers.

MILADYS
new store now open
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25 JULY 2019

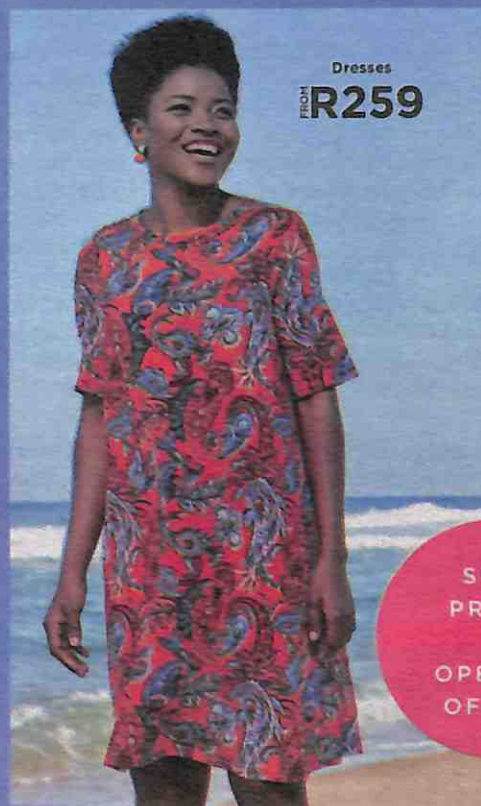
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PRIZES
+
OPENING
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MILADYS

NO MATERNITY, SICK LEAVE FOR TEACHERS, TSC NOT WORKING

Stories Mhlonishwa Hlophe

Teachers who anticipate taking leave days such as maternity or sick leave encounter some problems as the operations of the TSC Commission have been halted.

This comes after the expiration of the term of office for commissioners in May 2019, with the exception of the chairman and one new member.

This is contained in the quarterly

report for the ministry.

It states that the two active members do not form a quorum for functioning and this hinders the full operation of the TSC/Secretariat.

Blocklog

"This has caused a backlog in a substantial number of matters that include employment filling vacancies, sick leave, maternity leave, legal cases and other functions that need the authority of the Commission," it elaborates.

On another note, it is also revealed that the issuance of Circular No.3 of 2018 on filling of vacancies in August 2018 has proved to be a very serious challenge on the overall service delivery of the Commission. It states that situation has left schools with very low staff compliments/human resource capital in the form of teachers since teachers are continuously leaving the service due to demise, retirements and resignation among other reasons.

Skill centres to be opened soon

Skills Centres will be back in full operation once the ministry of education and training select committee has finalised discussions with the Swaziland Skill Centre founders. This is contained in a quarterly report for the ministry of education. Last week, representatives of technical and vocational, education and training centres in the country marched to cabinet offices to deliver a petition containing their grievances especially how they have been locked out of school for the past 10 months.

The vocational centres have been closed since 13 September 2018, citing lack of funds as the main reason for the closure. Students were sent home and told they would be informed when to return to class. The over 500 trainees from the Swaziland Skills Centres (SSC) are now frustrated as they have still not been called back and are languishing at home. The report states that the Ministry of Education

and Training had to suspend operations of the skills centres due to number of challenges encountered. It reports that the Ministry, however, lifted the suspension to allow the founder of the skills centres to continue on their own without jeopardizing the students progression.

The report reveals that this has failed as the institutions have remained not fully functioning except for Nhlangu Industrial Training Centre. It is envisaged that the skills centres will be back in full operation once the Minister of Education and Training Select Committee has finalized discussions with the Swaziland Skill Centre founders. The report says, "the Ministry is currently working with a select committee, which was constituted at Cabinet on normalizing the situation at the Swaziland Skills Centres with the view of having the skills centres back in full operation following their closure since September 2018".

Eswatini meets SA over truck driver killings

Stories by Zwelihle Sukati

Minister of Labour and Social Security Makhosi Vilakati last week met his South African counterpart on the alleged target killings of truck drivers based in the neighbouring country.

Minister Vilakati led a delegation of senior officials from the Labour ministry in the principal secretary and the commissioner of labour to Pretoria, South African, on a fact finding mission.

According to impeccable sources, the discussions between Ministry of Labour officials and the South Africa Minister of Employment and Labour were held Friday last week.

This publication understands that Minister Vilakati initiated the talks following disturbing reports that local truck drivers based in South Africa were allegedly being hunted and called emakwerekwere (foreigners) in the neighbouring country.

It is said the violence against locals had been playing itself out along the South African roads wherein trucks are burnt and workers attacked, something which has resulted in casualties and loss of life. Our sister publication, Sunday Observer, recently reported that over 100 truck drivers convened at the St. Theresa's High School Hall where they narrated to the Border Restoration Committee (BRC) threats they face while in the line of duty in that neighbouring country.

Representing the BRC were its members in Herbert Cashata Vilane and Mandla Dlamini while Sibongile Mdluli was from

High level team set up in SA

A high level team in South Africa has been set up to address the alleged targeting of foreign national truck drivers based in that country.

This was disclosed by Ministry of Labour and Social Security Principal Secretary Thulani Dlamini in an interview at the ministry offices.

"It transpired during our meeting that the South African government was willing to cooperate and find to this matter," Dlamini said.

Highlighted

He also highlighted that the issue touched upon various portfolios such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Home Affairs as well as industry and trade. "To them

it also includes the police and transport."

Dlamini went on to say that after it has been reported to Cabinet a mechanism would then be set up to engage the South African government on the matter. He said there was a commitment to engage at high level.

"This is a priority matter and I must say that after briefing Cabinet the minister will issue a statement to guide the affected parties to bring forward specific concerns."

Dlamini also opened up that when they met the government officials in South Africa they found that they were already working on the matter. "Therefore, it was easy for them to attend to us on short notice."

the Southern African Development Community (SADC) office as well as the drivers' messenger. During that meeting it was estimated that about 278 Swati nationals were victims of the said violence.

Engaged

This publication yesterday engaged Ministry of Labour and Social Security Thulani Dlamini to ascertain what transpired during their meeting with their South African counterparts.

"It is true that the minister of labour led his team to South Africa on a fact finding mission on the impasse involving foreign nationals who are truck drivers in the

neighbouring country," the principal secretary said.

He said theirs was to get an understanding on what was really happening. Dlamini said the discussion went very well. However, he said he couldn't get into the merits of the discussions as the minister was yet to report to Cabinet. "Until then, we can't discuss any this further," he politely said. "Yes, the matter is real and a highly sensitive one for the South African government." Parliamentarians raised concerns on the matter a fortnight ago, saying if the matter was not addressed soon, the good relations existing between Eswatini and South Africa could be strained.

No resting in peace for late Victor Shabangu

By Sandile Nkambule

It appears there is no resting in peace for the late former Eswatini Sport Council Chief Executive Officer Victor Shabangu as his burial Court battle has been postponed for the next four months.

The matter had been brought before Judge John Magagula and it transpired that one of the lawyers could not proceed since she is indisposed.

This is the matter in which the late Shabangu's parents are at loggerheads over his burial since both of them want to own burial rights of the deceased.

Victor's mother Joyce Nsibandze and his father Pitoli Shabangu are in a never ending Court battle at the High since the latter took the former to Court after filing an application to stop him from burying his son.

The matter has now been postponed to November 13 since the Court no longer has dates in its diary this session which is expected to close soon.

The last time the matter was before Judge Magagula, he had stated that the court is now functus officio (can no longer hear the matter) as he handed down judgment and ruled that the deceased be buried at Moneni.

One would have expected former Eswatini Sports Council Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Victor Shabangu to be resting in peace in his grave by now.

However, more than a year later, his body is still in the morgue.

This came after the late former CEO's mother Joyce filed an appeal application after the High Court had ordered that the deceased's father Pitoli should bury him at Moneni.

The late former sports administrator's body is still kept at Dups Funeral Home while the battle for his corpse rages on.

Ordered

Judge Magagula in the judgment challenged by Joyce ordered that Victor's body should be buried at Moneni. But Joyce filed an appeal immediately after the ruling and Pitoli

made it clear that he was hurting that his son's body is being kept at the morgue instead of being buried.

He blamed Victor's mother for making unfounded allegations by stating that Ngculwini is Victor's place.

Shabangu said this is far from the truth as the deceased built the home for her and argued that Victor cannot be buried where his children are not welcome.

While Sibandze had initially successfully filed an application to stop the funeral, Victor's father also moved an application at the High Court where Judge Magagula ruled in his favour.

Pitoli, among other prayers, sought an order directing the University of Eswatini (where Victor was employed) to process all claims lodged by Nomvuyo Shabangu (nee Kunene) who is Victor's wife.

Claimed

Nomvuyo is the same woman whom Joyce claimed was not the rightful wife of the deceased as their marriage allegedly ended.

In his application, Pitoli alleged that Joyce was refusing with all the required documents to process the claim, hence a court order compelling her was necessary.

The applicant (Pitoli) further sought an order restraining and interdicting Joyce from removing Victor's body from Dups Funeral Home Crematorium, pending finalisation of the matter.

Respondents in the matter are the University of Eswatini, Joyce and Dups Home and Crematorium.

In his court application filed under a certificate of urgency, Pitoli had stated that on June 16, 2018 his son Victor collapsed and died in Manzini.

He stated that the deceased resided with him from a very young age up until he completed Form Four and when he was doing Form Five, he went to stay with Joyce.

Pitoli alleged that he did all the duties a father did for his child and paid for his education from primary to high school.



MEETING: Minister of Labour and Social Security Makhosi Vilakati (C) with his delegation from the ministry and their South African counterparts after the bilateral talks. (courtesy pic)

FOCUS ON GENDER VIOLENCE

Stories By Zwelihle Sukati

GENDER KILLINGS: MASS PRAYER MARCH ON THE CARDS

Enough is enough! The killings must stop! This was said by SWAGAA Director Nonhlanhla Dlamini as she announced a call for a mass prayer march to sensitise the nation to pull all ends in putting a stop to gender killings in the country.

In an interview, the Swaziland Action Group Against Abuse (SWAGAA) director said logistics for the prayer march were at an advanced stage. The exact date for the march is yet to be announced after all logistics have been tied up with all stakeholders.

Planning

"But we are planning for the first week of August, next month. That is how soon we want this to be," Dlamini said. She said the idea was to create public awareness on the escalating violence against women. She said there was no justification for any form of violence against women, no matter how one felt provoked, because it was a given that women were weaker in terms of strength.

"Men have a responsibility to protect their women but instead what we see is the direct opposite," she said. "Women are killed senselessly by the people who should be using their strength to protect them from harm. It is a case of adults failing to exercise restraint in the



heat of an argument and in a show of barbaric brutal strength they resort to violence and murder." Government agencies are expected to weigh in full support for the mass prayer march as

well as all other stakeholders. The idea is to engage this at the highest level. Dlamini said the violence was not something new and that the organisation has always been advocating for stiffer sen-

tences. She said the march was also intended to educate people about the consequences of gender killings and the trauma of the loved ones left behind. "That murdered woman is a mother,

daughter and or sister to someone. The anger felt by the loved one left behind is too much to contain. The emotional pain and scars last a lifetime. What will come out of the child who grows knowing how his or her mother died?"

Enacting

The country made a huge stride in enacting the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence (SODV) Act but still, statistics suggest that gender based violence is ever on the increase.

The most predominant form of GBV experienced by women and perpetrated by men occurs within intimate partnerships. Already, the police are counting 15 cases of murder where accused persons took the lives of their intimate partners, plus five others who resorted to committing suicide after the murders. These shocking statistics show that gender-related killings are on the rise.

Perpetrators resort to suicide

Twenty-five percent of women killers resort to committing suicide in fear of facing the wrath of justice.

"People are aware of the harsh punishment that comes with the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence (SODV) Act and the trend that we see now is that 25 per cent of perpetrators kill themselves afterwards," SWAGAA Director Nonhlanhla Dlamini said. "Because of the stiffer sentences that come with the legislation perpetrators opt to kill themselves than to face the law." Dlamini said they were also working on promoting methods on how to prevent gender killings, adding that with all such incidents, there was always a trend of violence leading to the actual killing. "We are saying that if you are in an abusive relationship stand up and do something while you still live. Rather go separate ways than to the grave, learning behind a life yet to be lived."



LEADERSHIP: SWAGAA Director Nonhlanhla Dlamini.

Engaging men, boys in the fight against GBV key

SWAGAA has embarked on awareness programmes aimed at enlightening the young minds of boys, as young as pre-school, to what it takes to be a gentleman.

Director Nonhlanhla Dlamini said these initiatives have started with boys' clubs in schools to teach future adults that violence has no place in modern society, that long gone are the days

when people lived in caves as animals and violence was a means of survival when faced with a dinosaur.

Programmes

"These programmes are called Men Involvement campaigns.

We are stretching out to teach boys that as they grow they must appreciate that beating up anyone or using foul language is wrong and unacceptable."

Dlamini said this was because violent behaviour starts rearing its ugly head when children were young and in pre-school.

Challenges

"Therefore, we want to teach the young that as they grow, they will face life's challenges that will need them to master the power of exercising restraint and self-control."

Rather have 151 divorce cases in three months than deaths

Why is it so difficult to understand someone who has run out of love?

SWAGAA Director Nonhlanhla Dlamini wondered why men refuse to be dumped whilst they have other affairs on the side.

"I say it is much better that we deal with 151 divorces in three months, as

recently reported by your publication, than to mourn deaths in the hands of lovers," she said.

She said another problem with men was that some grew up without love and find love in their partners as adults. Once they feel rejected (kwalwa), she said, they switch to fight mode, yet a person has to accept the things that can-

not be changed. "This is also where you find some demanding back all the gifts that were given out the name of love when all was rosy. That is stupid because those things were given as gifts, not borrowed. The cellphone, chocolates and cannot be taken back because they were given freely. And lovers need to accept that even when love falls out."

Filling up prisons no solution

Tarcila Rivera, an Indigenous Rights Activist from Peru rightly stated that "Filling up prisons and detention centres is not the solution. The solution is education, structural inclusion and ending poverty and marginalisation."

Although not well documented, most countries provide some psychological rehabilitation to perpetrators of GBV. The 2018 Gender

Protocol Barometer reports that the departments of correctional services in most countries in the region also offer rehabilitation and re-integration services for perpetrators of GBV.

"To engage perpetrators of violence, South Africa has been employing a restorative justice approach that seeks to address the hurts and the needs of both victim and offender in a way that brings healing to both parties, includ-

ing their families and or communities," reads an extract from the South African Department of Justice report.

However, some have contested this approach because they believe it encourages a culture of impunity as it ignores the need for punishment.

Organisations that work with men to end GBV have played a significant role in engaging perpetrators of GBV, including the MenEngage Network, which has a presence in most SADC countries.

EU AND UN PUT \$500M TO ELIMINATE GBV

With direct focus attention on GBV, the European Union and the United Nations have invested more than US \$500m towards the Spotlight initiative to eliminate violence against women and girls, with its mantra to "leave no one behind."

According to the SADC Gender Protocol 2018 Barometer, the ini-

tiative targets those people that other programmes have not reached – women and girls in rural areas and conflict zones, the displaced and disabled, indigenous and minority populations, and especially the young and the old. "If the global community is to make any progress in achieving gender equality or women's empowerment, as stipulated in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

Development, it must address GBV," reads part of the report.

SOME RECENT GENDER VIOLENCE AND KILLINGS

● Businessman Masweli Samukelo Simelane, 45, allegedly shot dead his wife Zanele Manana. The two had a divorce matter pending with the courts. The couple is said to have once approached the Mbabane Magistrates court for a peace binding order. The two were said to have been separated after Simelane left their homestead in 2014 and returned this past Sunday to commit the heinous

crime

● Nhlanihla Ngo beni allegedly killed his wife and daughter by burning the house they were sleeping in. Makhosazane Maziya, 38, and her daughter, Mimi aged 13, died inside a stick and mud house they were sleeping in when the allegedly jilted husband set it alight after dousing it with petrol.

● Three weeks earlier, two children Mahle aged 9 and Owenkhosi, 7, both Shongwe, were allegedly poisoned by their father Zwelli Shongwe, who then committed suicide using the same poisonous substance. Their mother Lisa Magagula, 26, was stabbed to death several times in the head allegedly by Zwelli before he committed suicide.

SIPHO SHONGWE TRIAL STALLED

- AVL application matter postponed to September 3
- Murder trial postponed to September 4 and 5, resumes October 21 through 25

By Sandile Nkambule

The trial for businessman Siphon Shongwe which was expected to continue at the High Court yesterday has been stalled due to what has been termed as administrative reasons.

This was yesterday disclosed by advocate Michael Hellens who is instructed by Principal Crown Counsels Absalom Makhanya and Macebo Nxumalo when Audio

Visual Link (AVL) application was supposed to be heard by Judge Nkosingithi Maseko.

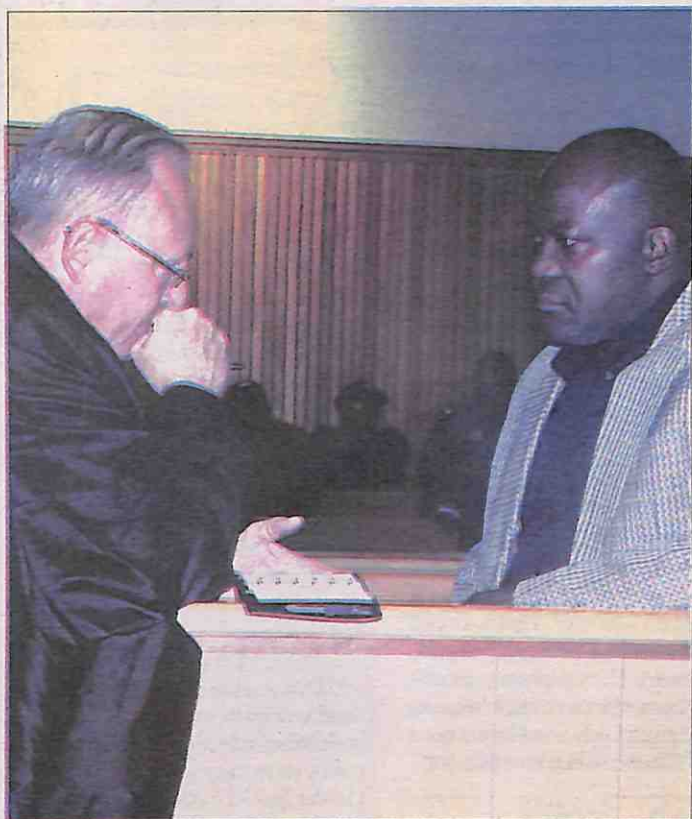
It had been agreed on Wednesday that the AVL application would be heard yesterday; however, before the postponement, both legal teams comprising Hellens, Makhanya, Nxumalo and advocate Laurence Hodes, Lucky Howe and Ben J Simelane who are representing Shongwe met Judge Maseko in his chambers.



LISTEN: Murder suspect Siphon Shongwe in consultation with his defence team after the case was postponed until September at the High Court yesterday. (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)



SAFE: Correctional Services officers escorting Siphon Shongwe's car as he leaves after postponement.



UPDATE: Siphon Shongwe getting an update from Advocate Laurence Hodes.



SERIOUS: Advocate Michael Hellens briefing the Crown Counsels.

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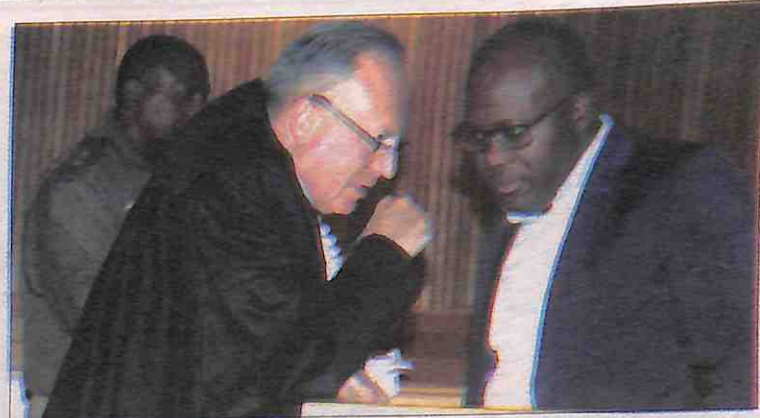
Coffee table
E199.00

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E2990.00

SIPHO SHONGWE TRIAL - DAY 3

SAME PAGE: Businessman Sipho Shongwe emphasises a point as he was in consultation with Advocate Laurence Hodes before the start of the on-going murder trial at the High Court on Thursday. (Pics: Mduzuzi Mngomezulu)



CONSULTATIONS: Sipho Shongwe in consultation with Advocate Laurence Hodes during the trial.



IN SPIRIT: Some of the members of the public arrive at the High Court to follow the proceedings.



TILL THE END: One of Mbabane Swallows die-hard fans Babe Tfwala arrives for the trial.



INTERESTED: Some of the interested people arrive for the trial.



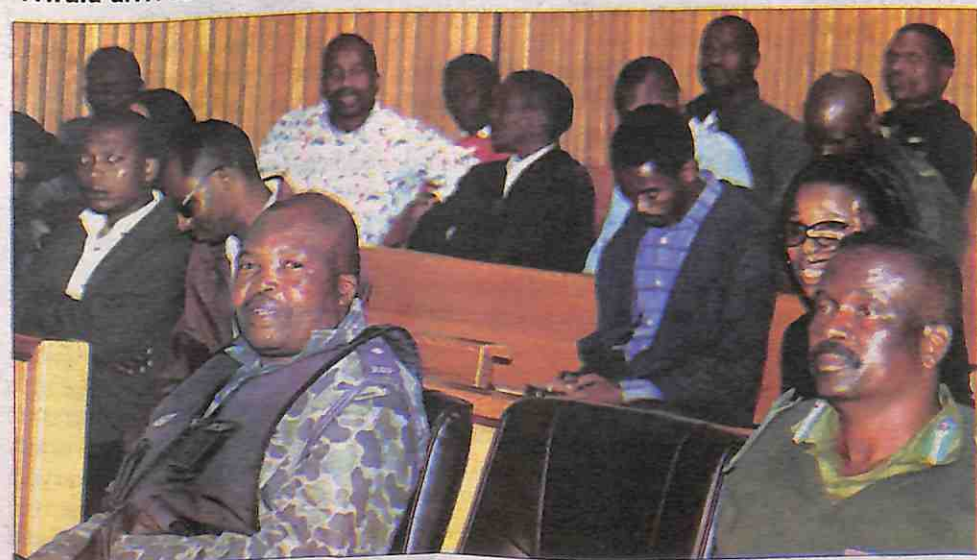
ALERT: Security is always tight during the trial.



DEFENCE: Shongwe's defence team led by Advocate Laurence Hodes, Lucky Howe and Ben J Simelane arrive.



JUMP: An officer jumps off from a moving van as they arrive to provide security at the court.



FOLLOWING: A section of the people at the public gallery follow the proceedings.

WINTER SPECIALS



Safety boots from **E240.**



School jersey from **E90.**



Mens suede boots from **E260.**



Folding table **E550.**



Coffee mugs from **E8.**

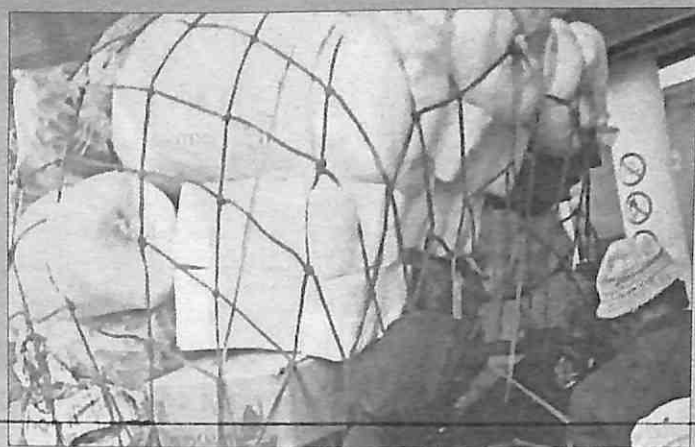


Hot water bottle **E30.**

PHYSICAL ADDRESS:
70 Nkosenhla Street,
Manzini
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AYIKHO INKHOKHELO: The luggage at Wanderers terminal in Johannesburg being taken off.

'Sowing seeds of conspiracy'

It all began in May when Jomo Khumalo registered other vehicles in the name of his father as Ligugu Transport, something that sparked resentment among other members of the Swaziland Interstate Association who felt he was now getting a larger share of the collections from the Johannesburg-Eswatini and back routes with extra vehicles.

"The feeling was that I was now bringing another label with Ligugu Transport as I had been registered at Interstate only with Mahle Emantungwa Transport." At first things seemed to run smooth as he was a member of the association and only registered the new vehicles under his late father as the executor of the estate.

However, on May 25 at an orchestrated meeting held at Interstate headquarters near Helemisi in Manzini, it transpired in the presence of the chairman that indeed Jomo was given a green light to purchase the two vehicles, a 16 and a 22 seater Mercedes Benz Sprinters. "Then all of a sudden a resolution was taken that each person shall be considered in terms of the registration of each name with the association, the member's name." More members joined the complaint against Jomo to the extent he was advised to decide on what to do with his new vehicles. But his woes are manifold, he still has two years to pay off the loan with which he acquired the vehicles. The loan approval was on the basis that they would take over routes as per arrangements with the association. "Some members suggested I should include these vehicles in my existing quota but the limit there is three vehicles." It was later suggested that

Jomo should register the vehicles in one of his brothers' names but while in the process marshals in Manzini blocked the vehicles from taking in passengers. The marshals did not even communicate their decisions. "However we proceeded with registering the vehicles as Ligugu by abiding with all the prescriptions offered by Interstate and now they have all the necessary papers but still are hindered from operating. The brief skirmish was saved by the coming in of one of the secretaries who testified that indeed the office had long issued permits for Jomo to operate only the secretary back at the office had them."

"On May 30, again the marshals denied the vehicles from loading at the Manzini terminal but fortunately the required papers by then were available at the rank." In the company of his aunt, Jomo says he went to enquire from the office why the vehicles were blocked and the official there, he says, told them he was unaware of the standoff. Further consultations with a secretary back at the terminal he, says Jomo, confirmed that indeed the vehicles had been stopped from operating at the terminal.

The brief skirmish was saved by the coming in of one of the secretaries who testified that indeed the office had long issued permits for Jomo to operate only the secretary back at the office had them



INNOCENT: This vehicle in particular suffered yet it is not part of the controversy.

INFIGHTING STIRS WAR

...Cross border transport operators fear that involvement of South African counterparts in affairs of locally administered vehicles could open floodgates for the importation of the much dreaded taxi wars into the otherwise peaceful kingdom

Stories by Ackel Zwane

First it was the blatant disregard of a court order issued against Swaziland Interstate Association and now it is the involvement of the South African branch in a bid to squeeze out of business local member Jomo Khumalo of Mahle Emantungwa Transport.

A near nasty episode occurred at Wanderers Street Park Station in Braamfontein, Old Johannesburg on Tuesday when one of Jomo's kombis was forced to offload both cargo and passengers just when it was leaving for Eswatini after it was intercepted by the Johannesburg based members of Interstate, citing that they were working on instructions by Eswatini branch in Manzini.

The removal of Jomo's permit holding vehicles from the route has sent shivers

up the spine of other members of the local kombi association who suspect they might be next given the way things are run at the association, that without any authority members' vehicles are frustrated out unless they conform to new unconventional sets of working conditions. It is also believed that the Johannesburg Interstate officials removed Jomo's vehicle from circulation on the strength of a letter issued from Eswatini but ironically, no one seems to want to own up on the origins of the said letter. Contents of the letter as engineered from the Eswatini side are to the effect that Jomo must withdraw the court order against Interstate Swaziland if he wants his vehicles to continue operating from Johannesburg. Further investigations, especially through an audio recording of a conversation between the chairman of the local asso-

ciation and an official in Johannesburg can reveal that the local chairman is aware of the condition that Jomo must withdraw the court order in his favour. This kombi on its return trip back to Eswatini, the officials at the Johannesburg rank refused to give him the return passenger. Normally, passengers pay for the trip before embarking on the journey from both destinations and such

They ordered the passengers to disembark to another vehicle and also connected the cargo bakkie to this other vehicle.

JUDGE QINISILE'S ORDER DEFIED

Stories by Sicelo Maziya

High Court Principal Judge Qinisile Mabuza's order for protection of an elderly woman, Ntsetselelo Shongwe who approached the court seeking, amongst others, an order that Khopho Dlamini and his sons be interdicted and restrained from assaulting and threatening her life and further interfering with her, has been defied.

The elderly woman is still roaming the streets of Manzini as the defiant and disobedient Samuel Khopho Dlamini and his children decided to flee from the home on the day police and the deputy sheriff were to execute the court order.

Shongwe continues to suffer in silence and is even contemplating committing suicide as she is now helpless.

"I'm suffering yet the courts of the land have issued an order but Khopho is acting as law unto himself. I sometimes fail to get money to buy even a jerry can of water sold at E1.50 and even then I'm so frail I can't carry the jerry can home as the water source is far away from where I'm staying," Shongwe said.

"I have suffered too much at the hands of this man, I curse the death of my children because he is acting this way because he knows I have no one to fight for me and he is using his children to take over my parental home," said Shongwe.

Shongwe's prayers seeking an order that Dlamini and his children or any allies be interdicted, restrained from setting foot anywhere near her (Shongwe) parental homestead at Ka-Shali has not been adhered to by the defiant Khopho who has also allegedly refused



ENOUGH: Ntsetselelo Shongwe contemplates aking her life as Khopho Dlamini and his children refuse to leave her home.

to honour orders by the Masundvuni Royal Kraal.

Shongwe still leaves in fear in the outskirts of Manzini despite High Court Principal Judge Qinisile Mabuza granting Shongwe the prayers she wished for.

Shongwe said she duly followed the lawyer's advice after she was told the outcome of the case had been in her favour; the case was being referred to the deputy sheriff for execution of the order. "The lawyers said the case was won and I need to raise money for paying the sheriffs to execute the court order. I was lucky to get assistance and I paid the amount but I'm stilling living in squalor here," said Shongwe.

Shongwe claims that even the sheriff and the police failed to assist her in

executing the orders of the court issued in April following her's prayers for the court's protection.

Manzini Deputy Sheriff Charles Thwala said he was aware of the case, adding it was ongoing. Thwala narrated the events that led to the current state of affairs concerning the execution of the order.

"After the lawyers engaged us, we approached Khopho who was not cooperating from the onset. After failing to reach common ground, we then decided to approach his children at the home in question telling them to talk to their father that we will be carrying out the court order but when we arrived on a Monday they had vanished," said Thwala.

He further narrated that on the failed

AT INTERSTATE KOMBIS

money is remitted to the owners of the vehicles and not the crew. They ordered the passengers to disembark to another vehicle and also connected the cargo bakkie to this other vehicle. It must be noted that this vehicle was not among the three Jomo ones that were a subject of the court order.

Khumalo and other operators say pleas to the ministry of public works and transport fell on deaf ears because no official would want to entertain anyone pitching against Interstate.

This is because some officials at works are said to be having direct interest to the business of the association, an allegation whose proof could be derived from the total dismantling of the Mbabane branch of the association, which is now defunct.

However, a very senior official at works refutes any ill-treatment, saying he was currently assisting Jomo on his Pretoria route with Crossborder Association that he should be attended on his concerns. While preferring not to be named, he acknowledges that he has heard of other issues going through the courts but is not privy to happenings behind the scenes that were not reported to him.



WHEELS OFF: Mahle Emantungwa fleet at the centre of controversy between their owner and Swaziland Interstate Transport Association.

Interstate frowns at accusations

Bhambumuzi Sithole, the chairman of the association says Jomo's kombis are well attended to by both marshals and other officials at the Manzini terminal, further demanding that Jomo should produce the much talked about court order that has recently become a matter of public concern even in the media.

"We're law abiding citizens at Interstate. I heard there

was a court order and our lawyer also wanted to take hold of it but it was never shown to us. We don't know it." Sithole says the only kombis that could be having an issues are those belonging to his father and not the ones registered under his name. He further reiterated that the association was obligated to attend to all vehicles belonging to members including those of his father if reg-

istered. "However on Wednesday I got a call from the chairman of the Johannesburg association that Jomo had taken them to court and therefore they would rather not attend to his vehicles if he had taken them to court," added Sithole. He said call was to alert the local Interstate because they are 'jointly and severally' conjoined with the South African association

Accusations of venting anger on drivers

Jomo reveals that on several occasions, drivers are subjected to arbitrary disciplinary processes if they resist any form of intimidation by the bus rank officials and marshals.

"I had to intervene to redirect the accusations at me." The drivers live under constant threat of a lifetime ban from Interstate because no one represents their interests, welfare in particular. They say time and again they are subjected to fines without proof

accompanying the allegation.

The other form of punishment is to push the vehicles of the targeted drivers at the back of the queue simply because they are fighting their bosses, in particular the case of Jomo whereby this was a method of frustrating him into withdrawing the court order, he says. The other common accusations are that their kombis either deviated from the designated routes or took up passengers in non-designated stopping points.



GET OUT: Luggage trailer pulled from the Eswatini bound kombi in Johannesburg on Tuesday.

Defiant Khopho, his children approach the courts

Whilst Khopho's phone was not available on the network at his office in Manzini, he was said to be busy with other issues at Ludzidzini Royal Residence.

His child Vincent Dlamini approached the High Court with the certificate of urgency. Dlamini, through his lawyers, sought an order for stay of execution of an order that is in the possession of the deputy sheriff that can be

executed at any time.

He said his family was now living in fear that they might be evicted from the homestead at Ka-Shali at any time. According to the filed papers, his argument is that the eviction from the homestead that is at Ka-Shali shall put their lives at risk. The argument is that it is now winter season and the nights are bitterly cold. They claim that if the eviction

is carried out they shall be left in the cold because they do not have alternative accommodation. They further stated that the reasons for them to request a stay of execution was because they have domestic animals in the homestead. "If the eviction order is executed, the welfare of the domestic animals will be seriously violated. There will be no one available to feed the domestic animals."

mission on that Monday, they were with the police to execute the order but they were advised that they could not break in to execute the court order.

Thwala further shared that whilst the failed execution was delayed, Khopho and his children were now appealing to their lawyers for a stay of execution of the High Court order.

On the other hand, Shongwe said the lawyers informed him that they gave Khopho and children two weeks to continue with their filing if they failed to do so the order of the court would be executed. The order required the respondents, Dlamini and his children, to stop assaulting and threatening Shongwe and interfering with her personal life in whatever manner.

According to her papers that were filed before court, she was now living in fear and can no longer go home as her life is threatened.

She submitted that she was now living a

nomadic life following the threats, assaults and stabbing as she moves from one place to another seeking refuge.

She submitted that the last time she attempted to go to her parental homestead at Ka-Shali, she was assaulted and stabbed on the head by the respondents and the first respondent (Dlamini) and his children were so violent that they had no respect of the law.

"In fact they have become law unto themselves and probably this is because the first respondent is a King's Liaison Officer (Ndabazabantu) who is expected to respect the law which he administers. When I attempted to go home I was stabbed and the matter is pending at the Magistrate's Court," Shongwe submitted.

She averred that the matter was urgent because each time she attempted to go home she was threatened with violence and death threats from

the first respondent and his children were issued, a situation which turned her into an orphan who wandered all over with no definite place of abode. Khopho holds an important office in the Judiciary, and he is expected to be one of those abiding by the law as he is one of the country's Liaison Officers (Ndabazabantu).

The order for eviction was originally issued in October 2016 by the Masundvini Royal Kraal. It was further confirmed by the Ludzidzini Council sometime in 2017. Khopho and his children did not budge as they adamantly refused to allow Nontsetselelo back to the home.

They are also using tactics to dodge the issued court order issued on April 5. According to Shongwe, the family was given enough time to voluntarily vacate the homestead but instead fled when the deputy sheriff came with the police to execute the order.

"I'm suffering yet the courts of the land have issued an order but Khopho is acting as law unto himself. I sometimes fail to get money to buy even a jerry can of water sold at E1.50 and even then I'm so frail I can't carry the jerry can home as the water source is far away from where I'm staying"

KING SOBHUZA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL ROTTING AWAY

By Mhlonishwa Hlophe

Zombodze Primary School is a the first institution for natives or indigenous people to be built in Eswatini, being also where the late King Sobhuza II attended his primary school.

So, it's the most respected school but is now in shambles. Across the fence Zombodze High School towers with modern infrastructure and a credible staffing complement, something wanting on the eastern side.

The situation is so dire that teachers often fork out money to contribute towards electricity units, meaning each day children go to school to play, literally, because there is either no teaching equipment or no adequate power.

The high school teachers are now faced with the inconvenience of absorbing children with no basic education from Zombodze Primary.

It must be noted that while the school was initially built for the education of the King, it also took in several children to benefit from the generosity of royalty and also encourage the young King to learn. "We are now forced to inherit hardly ever prepared learners. To start afresh to be precise all because the primary is no learning environment at all," said a teacher.

The school logo goes "We strive for academic excellence, moral upright-



GRAND ENTRANTS: the historic school that deserves to be maintained considering its history for educating the founding father of the nation.

ness, to produce a disciplined and acceptable citizen."

Sobhuza II was the son of Bhunu and Lomawa Ndawandwe. He was born on the 22nd of July 1899 at Zombodze. His father named him Nkhotfotjeni (stone lizard), a name that told a story - when the baby was conceived, the father was living among stones like a lizard because war was threatening between the Boers and the indigenous Eswatini peoples.

His grandmother Gwamile/Labotsibeni named him Mona (jealousy) as there was jealousy between the Boers and the British, between whites and

Swazislocals and among Eswatini royalty itself.

This newspaper caught up with one of the veterans who attended his primary education at Zombodze primary. His name is Bishop Sigubhu Zakhele Mthethwa. He is 88 years old and resides at Zombodze.

He is the biological father to Swazi Gospel Singers' lead singer Mathokoza Mthethwa. Bishop Mthethwa recounted that he was amongst the first people to enroll at Zombodze primary. "Other prominent people who enrolled at the school are Princess Ngebeti, the late Brigadier Fonono Dvuba,

.....EX PUPILS SUMMONED TO ZOMBODZE UMPHAKATSI

A visit to the school this week was a sorry sight as the ceilings in classrooms are in shambles.

Reporters were ushered to the headteacher's office where they immediately developed the feeling that it was one of the class rooms.

Some residents allege that the school sometimes goes for days without electricity.

One parent who did not want to have his name mentioned stated that they sometimes donated some money to buy electricity units.

However, Bishop Mthethwa disputed those claims; he said he was not aware that the school some-

times went for days without electricity.

He said all he knew was that the Umphakatsi of the area had summoned all former pupils of the school to discuss on how they could improve the academic performance of the school.

Oldest

He said it was true that the school was amongst the oldest, but it was not at a dilapidated state like it was being portrayed out there.

During our visit a straying dog was seen loitering around the premises, one would mistaken the school for an abandoned home. The headteacher did not want to entertain questions from reporters.

Prince Msalela, to mention just a few."

He recalled that during their time the school won a handful of trophies. He said, "I recall vividly one of the finals in football we played against Manzini Nazarene primary and we won on penalties to take home the trophy, we also participated in traditional dances and won" he said.

He also established that one thing that was unique about Zombodze primary school was that they never wore uniform back in the days, they wore traditional regalia, and they only started wearing uniform during the arrival of Mntonsundvu Mdziniso, who was their head teacher.

He disclosed that discipline was very essential during their time, adding that they would greet adults when they met along the way, "unlike today's youth who just pass you by without

saying hello.

Even worse some of them you find proposing to one another right in front of adults, something that never happened in the yesteryears, we respected our parents," he said.

He emphasised that the newly introduced laws that were meant to protect the rights of the children are also derailing the country. He was referring to the banishment of corporal punishment at schools.

"During our time some of us had beard but we made sure we shaved before going to school, and we never argued with our teachers. Corporal punishment was there.

The country is going nowhere with this kind of approach," he stated, referring to positive discipline as opposed to corporal punishment as adopted by the ministry of education.



BLOWING AWAY: roofing of the school remain a sorry sight to say the least.



WALLS OF SHAME; The school has its fair share of challenges yet it has recently been painted through kind donations.



UNDER DONATION: The school that is supported by the donors for what it looks like today.

Electricity spark leaves 13 kids homeless

By Mhlonishwa Hlophe

Thirteen children have been left without shelter after a spark from electricity cables is alleged to have started the fire which gutted down their rondavel at a Mtsetfwa homestead in Dwaleni.

According to the Mtsetfwa family damages could amount to E10 000. A rondavel which houses thirteen children was burnt beyond recognition. Clothing, blankets and cutlery were all burnt. As a result, the family is now forced to share with their parents, the only one room flat that is left in the homestead.

Lomasontfo Buthelezi, wife to Ben Mtsetfwa, has seven children and six grand children. She is unemployed and the husband gets piece jobs which help him support his family. She is very thankful to God that when the incident happened most of her chil-

dren were at school, she was left with only the grandchildren whom she was able to save. Last week Friday was very windy for the whole afternoon. The gusty wind forced some of the electricity cables to clash and a fire spark was seen and immediately thereafter, there was huge fire which was perpetuated by the strong wind the whole Mtsetfwa homestead and neighbour's homes were covered by a huge smoke. "Immediately, we noticed that the fire from the electricity cables was going to be strong, I called my grandchildren to one of the houses and locked it. We were so scared the whole area was covered by smoke. I never anticipated that the fire could burn the rondavel," she said.

She stated that whilst inside the house with her children she heard people screaming alerting them that the rondavel had caught fire. "I rushed outside and found the rondavel on fire.

There was nothing we could do, we just watched helplessly as it was gutted down by the fire. We reported to the employees of EEC after they had been alerted that their cables had caused some damages in the area.

They promised to escalate the matter to their superiors in Mbabane. We never ended there, we also reported to the Umphakatsi through Sibondza," she explained.

Efforts were made to get a comment from Bucopho Bekhundla and Sibondza senkhundla of Mphini umphakatsi both their cell phones were not available on the MTN network.

Spokesperson for EEC Khaya Mavuso advised the Mtsetfwa family to make a formal complaint to the company, however, he was quick to state that some people end up making false claims at the company. He said the complainant have a choice to either register their complain through the call



Lomasontfo Buthelezi narrates the story of the fire which burnt down her rondavel. (Pic: Sicelo Maziya)

centre or write a letter to the company and then they would take it from there. Those who may wish to offer

a helping hand to the Mtsetfwa family be any kind of donation may call Lomasontfo Buthelezi at 76598869.



ATTENTIVE: Some of the officers present.



PRESENT: PICO officers were also present.

SUPPORT THE KINGDOM'S STRATEGIC ROADMAP

The Acting National Commissioner – William Dlamini has urged police officers to embrace and support the country's Strategic Road Map 2022 which is aimed at

resuscitating the economy.

Speaking during a brief address held at the Police Headquarters last Wednesday, the Acting Police Chief revealed that the Kingdom's Roadmap stipulate, that the Police Service, as a law enforcement agency, should work towards reducing fatalities on the country's roads and the occurrence of homicides in general.

He noted that the rate at which people are killing one another is very alarming which impacts negatively on the country in terms of attracting investors.

Dlamini also revealed that a single life lost due to traffic accidents is one too many, thus such needs to be drastically reduced.

Dlamini stated that it is a legal obligation for every Police to support the country's

strategies and endeavours, therefore policing programmes should be aligned with the Government Plan of Action.

To this end, he revealed that the theme "Creating a Peaceful, Safe & Secure Environment Towards the Realisation of the Kingdom of Eswatini Strategic Roadmap 2019-2022" has been crafted to illustrate Police commitment in supporting Government.

Dlamini urged officers to be cognisant of the prevailing fiscal situation and use the limited resources economically. He said Police Officers were expected to spread the available resources across so they can obtain maximum results in the fight against crime.

He stated that the unavailability of the required resources, such as transport, should not be reason for officers to be complacent. He revealed that strategies for fighting homicides and road fatalities should be proactive as this is less costly than responding to

a crime or accident.

He stated that motor vehicles and other working equipment should be well looked after to ensure that the quality of service delivery is not compromised. On another note, members of the public are strongly warned to desist from setting wild fires willy-nilly, especially during the current windy period, because such become uncontrollable and causes serious havoc.

This follows a series of rampaging fires which have been the order of the day lately; damaging property amounting to millions of Emalangeni. People intending to set fire in and around their premises are advised to follow the appropriate procedures and communicate with the appropriate ministry or risk facing prosecution.

The wild fire does not only destroy property but it is not good for the environment.

SUPPORT: Acting National Commissioner of Police William Dlamini.



FULHOUSE: Senior officers present during the address.

UPROAR AS TENDERPRENEUR OCCUPIES WARDERS' QUARTERS

Stories by Sicelo Maziya

When the gods are in your side everything runs smoothly even at a time when government is in a serious fiscal challenge. One lucky businessman in Eswatini, who has been working for His Majesty's Correctional Services since 2013, is using one of the big government houses for his employees.

Whilst the company is benefitting from winning tenders over the years maintaining the correctional services department, instead of getting accommodation for employees the owners decided to occupy the government house.

The company, known to the publication, has site offices in the government house to accommodate its employees.

Civil servants are short of accommodation and three correctional services officers are sharing two bedroom houses with one occupying the sitting room as a bedroom yet a house is reserved for a businessman and his employees. Officers within the depart-

ment stated that the company employees by staying within the government premises, had breached security. Officers within the department shared their suspicions that the company employees might have had a hand in the daring escape of two prisoners from Big Bend prison given that all the security checks were always maintained. The officers alleged that they felt uneasy about this but knew that officers were trained on the importance of security of inmates.

When there are strangers in a security area, breaches are likely as inmates might be mistaken to be part of the warder village occupants working for the businessman staying on campus.

The last inmate escapees were recently gunned down by a joint operation between the police and correctional services officers.

Sources within the correctional services department at Big Bend alleged that the businessman and his employees have been contracted for maintenance within the department. "They should seek accommodation elsewhere than to occupy a government house within the quarters because



officers are accommodated separately for a number of security reasons, hence they should be moved out of the Big Bend station forthwith," said concerned officers.

They claimed that they were also concerned with the never ending tender of the company whose results are not at par with what they have been tasked with since two prisoners escaped while they were there in charge of maintenance. The continued maintenance

services by one company enjoying a long contract is a security risk itself as they now know the blue print of the correctional centre. "The tender should allow the company to do a certain job and leave than be resident at the station.

The department hired professional artisans that should be utilised for such maintenance services as they are conversant with security details here," said a source.

It's an abandoned government house - PRO

His Majesty's Correctional Services Public Relations Officer Gugulethu Dlamini confirmed knowledge of the contracted company but said it occupied an abandoned house which was no longer fit for use.

Dlamini said the company asked to maintain the house just to accommodate its employees so that they could be closer to the workstation anytime they are called for duty.

She said the house was no longer in use and officers were aware of the state of the building before the company occupied it.

Dlamini on the security risk fears, disagreed with the observations, saying their mission was to do maintenance work of the correctional facilities.

"Correctional officers are security specialists and well trained on that aspect.

They know that every individual is supposed to be vetted thoroughly all the time without any compromise to the security of the facility and inmates.

Therefore, there is no way officers can see their security checks sleep as it is not only limited to one person," said Dlamini.

E800m water plant for Matsapha in the offing SILICOSIS CASE: Eswatini victims to tap from E5bn

By Mhlonishwa Hlophe

Water shortage in Matsapha will soon be a thing of the past as government will start working on an E800 million project to be concluded in 2022.

EWSC Managing Director Jabulile Mashwama revealed that comprehensive analyses of the constraint of their customers had been done and a four phase approach developed to address them. This is contained in a quarterly newsletter for Eswatini Water Services Corporation.

The report states that initially, Matsapha has a water treatment plant that was constructed in the 1970s and it has been a source of clean water for the industrial town and neighbouring areas. However, over the years, the town has developed in leaps and bounds and this growth brought about an increased demand for water supply for both residential and commercial customers.

The managing director states that to address the increased demand for supply, the corporation has developed and is implementing a short to long term plan that aims at addressing constraints experienced in Matsapha.

Mashwama said, "the implementation of the varied project plan will ensure that the corporation is able to meet demand and future growth and further address customer concerns that have been shared with the corporation," she explained.

She further stated that the cor-



EWSC Managing Director Jabulile Mashwama.

poration has integrated its network system to ensure that the drop in reservoir levels does not affect supply to areas like Tubungu, Police Academy, Emhlane and surrounding areas. "Secondly, to address water supply challenges in Nhlambeni, Masundvini, Sigodweni and Mobeni, the corporation is already implementing a mid-term to permanent solution by increasing storage capacity. A three mega litre reservoir will be constructed in Emathangeni in Matsapha. This tank will be a dedicated alternate supply point for our residential customers in cases where industrial water supply demand is at peak," she explained.

She further enlightened that to improve water supply in Kwaluseni, Mfabantfu, and surrounding areas, the corporation would increase supply capacity by upgrading the pumping sys-

tem to the Logoba reservoir.

She also stated that to improve the general quality of services and the growing demand for water in the Matsapha-Manzini corridor and surrounding areas, the corporation is upgrading the Matsapha Water Treatment Plant to increase capacity to meet future demand.

"The upgrade of the plant is ongoing and it will tie in with the larger recently approved Manzini integrated water and sanitation project to ensure water is supplied to additional areas under the Mafutseni, Nhlambeni, Manzini South and Mtfongwaneni Constituencies," she stated.

Concluding, she said implementation of the works requires planned water supply interruptions and the corporation would ensure that the usual 48-hour notice is given to customers scheduled shutdown.

By Zwelile Sukati

The High Court of South Africa in Johannesburg has approved a historic E5 billion settlement in the ongoing silicosis case involving thousands of mineworkers.

The South African media was yesterday abuzz with news reports on the landmark judgment.

The agreement affects workers who contracted the disease during or after being employed in gold mines from 1965.

The court found that all the parties made an effort to ensure that the settlement was reasonable, adequate and fair.

The silicosis case has been described as one of the most complex class action lawsuits to date and now it has finally come to an end with a E5 billion settlement. This means that thousands of gold miners who contracted silicosis or pulmonary tuberculosis during or after their employment from 1965 will be paid out between E70 000 and E500 000, depending on which category they fall into.

Judge Leoni Windell said the terms of the settlement agreement demonstrated that they succeeded in their efforts.

Justice Windell found that "all the parties made an effort to ensure that the settlement agreement is reasonable, adequate and fair.

"The terms of the settlement agreement demonstrate that they succeeded in their efforts," the judgment read.

Parties made submissions in May asking the court to approve the settlement agreement and to issue instructions on the clauses it is not happy with. The legal process involving gold miners affected by lung diseases has stretched over several years and has been described as one of the "most complex multi-party class action settlements ever concluded" by parties.

The agreement, on behalf of thousands of mineworkers and their dependants, affects people who contracted silicosis or pulmonary tuberculosis during or after being employed as gold

miners from March 1965. The six mining companies paying out the collective R5-billion formed the Occupational Lung Disease (OLD) Working Group, which represented African Rainbow Minerals, Anglo American SA, AngloGold Ashanti, Gold Fields, Harmony and Sibanye Stillwater.

The mining companies admit that in the past they failed to take necessary precautions to protect their employees from the silica dust that rises from the gold mines.

Miners and the dependants of deceased miners were represented by various lawyers, including Richard Spoor and the Legal Resources Centre. In May, lawyers representing the miners joined forces with mining groups in a bid to get the court to approve the settlement.

Since the discovery of minerals in South Africa in the 1860s, Swaziland has been a labour-exporting partner for South African mining companies with most miners coming from the Lubombo region.

Four categories of claims

In a historic judgement in May 2016, the case was certified as a class-action suit by the high court. In December 2018, the court declared four classes of claimants;

- people who contracted silicosis or were exposed to silica dust,
- the dependants of deceased miners who fell ill with silicosis,
- people suffering from tuberculosis, and
- the dependants of deceased miners who contracted tuberculosis.

The claimants will be paid out between R70 000 and R500 000, depending on which of the four categories they fall into.

The benefits will be paid through the Tshamiso Trust, set up specifically for this purpose. It will receive R845 million to identify and locate eligible mineworkers and dependants, and will assess, process and pay their claims.

(Additional info for Fin24)

STEEL&WIRE NAME CHANGE CONFUSES EMPLOYEES

By Sicelo Maziya

Steel and Wire rebranding or change of name to Macsteel is troubling employees of the company as their years of service to the former company might be forgotten and subsequently their benefits forfeited.

The employees stated that their issue had dragged for very long owing to the interpretation of laws governing labour practices in the country when a company is taken over by another.

However, the company is alleged to have told employees the company was not sold but rebranded. Employees alleged that what was happening at the factory shop was not what was said by the current employer.

They further alleged that many of the senior personnel were no longer in the factory but there was new management.

Disgruntled employees alleged that their plea for compensation for the years working for Steel and Wire is not being adequately addressed by both new management and government labour inspectors.

To add salt to injury is that, the workers allege, labour inspectors when called to address concerns of workers simply sit at round tables with management with no worker representative and at the end of the private meetings they walk away, leaving workers dejected.

According to the employees, some of them worked for Steel and Wire for over three decades but when the takeover or name changes occurred, they were

... long serving employees cry foul as their years of serving the company might not be considered when they retire or in case Macsteel closes down.

Are you their mouthpiece - Director Francis Goldstein

“Are you representing them, why do they call you if they have any grievances with us?” complained the director, Francis Goldstein. Goldstein said employees had their own union and were aware of the right channels to follow. If they fail they know that

the next step is the Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration Commission. **Employees**

Despite Goldstein being told that the employees were having difficulty in communicating through the Human Resources office, he insisted employ-

ees knew the procedure to follow.

Goldstein refused to share light on the two names of the company Macsteel and Steel and Wire.

“I cannot talk about that issue of the company as it is still in court” said Goldstein.



Employees want to be paid their benefits for working for Steel and Wire as changes at the company suggest its a new company.

simply told nothing had changed in ownership and they were not affected by the change of name.

Secret

However the employees, meeting informally at a secret spot where they would rather the employer did not know, alleged that a lot had changed in the company with the management bringing in new faces and those con-

sidered to have a heart in the Steel and Wire era being sidelined. They further confided their fears that it would seem to them Macsteel management was systematically phasing out all old employees of Steel and Wire.

They felt they deserve a better explanation regarding their status at Macsteel than just rebranding because indication on the ground paints a different

picture. The main issue at the top of their concerns is compensation after the so called rebranding and also advice from the commissioner of labour on their true status given the developments. Each time the issue of compensation is taken further they are confronted with the clarification that it is no longer Steel and Wire.

Recent changes have also confirmed

the employees' suspicions after the alleged redeployment of managers without offices and all they do is menial work such as inspecting vehicles and if there is no movement, they loiter around the premises, yawning the day away.

The usage of derogatory language among staff is another thorny issue. Allegations are abound that shop stewards are often referred to as uneducated, if they were they would have realized that the company had changed its name.

Macsteel Human Resources Manager Ntokazi Sihlongonyane said she was not authorised to talk about issues of Macsteel referring all inquiries to the director. However, when pressed to respond to allegations leveled against her office she disputed all the allegations, saying there was no formal complaint before her in her office. She said she never encountered a situation whereby workers were told they were uneducated when they wanted their issues addressed.

“Employees are aware of the laid down internal channels to address any grievances.

We have no disciplinary hearing on that matter and there is currently no unresolved issue warranting them to even being called by any person from management that they are uneducated,” said Sihlongonyane.

The workers had accused her of taking sides and not processing their concerns, citing in particular her alleged attitude.

Another challenge is the introduction of time limit for all delivery trucks to be returned to the factory, forcing drivers to speed and risk causing accidents. MacSteel is said to currently employ over 4 000 people in Southern Africa and has developed to be Africa's leading manufacturer, merchandiser and distributor of steel and value added steel products.

Steel and Wire Company is said to have been founded by Doug Armitage in 1981.

4Him impounds 100 dung spilling cows

By Mhlonishwa Hlophe

At least 100 livestock found loitering around Mahwalala Zone 4 have been impounded by 4Him Security personnel.

The security company is hired by the Mbabane Municipal Council to bring peace, order within the city and its outskirts.

Sources around Hilltop and Lomkiri confirmed that since last week the 4Him Security personnel had been busy impounding stray livestock around the neighborhood and surrounding areas. They said this would help bring order in the neighborhood. “One would bet we were now competing with livestock in the roads and at our yards,” one resident who preferred anonymity said. She also said the livestock manure was dirtying the roads.

Municipal Council Spokesperson Lucky Tsabedze confirmed that they had impounded livestock around Lomkiri and Hilltop, saying they are continuing with the exercise till they see that the number of animals in the streets have decreased.

“Our focus is in all the townships and their outskirts of the city; we will be very strict with livestock found loitering within urban boundary,” he said. A



couple of weeks ago this publication reported that residents of Lomkiri Township registered their complains with the municipal council about being terrorised by unrestrained livestock. Lomkiri is found at Zone 4, which is about five kilometers outside the Mbabane city centre, alongside the Mhlambanyatsi road.

The residents alleged that at times they were woken up by the noise of the livestock as early as 3am. When asked if they reported their grievances to the council they responded to the affirmative, saying the council would move the animals from the road but would defi-

antly return in doubled numbers just the following week.

Residents of the township could not hide their excitement about the impounding of the livestock, “The council is doing a wonderful job, and I think they should monitor the situation now that they have started impounding the livestock. You may find them back again next week, I think they should increase the fines,” one resident was quoted saying.

They thanked this publication for reporting about the story, hence, the municipal council hastily responded to the matter.

It is alleged that some of the livestock would come as far as Mahwalala, down to Hilltop and Lomkiri. The livestock were not only a threat to the residents of the township also to motorists and students at Christian University. One student said, “I so much fear a cow and it disturbs me to find one in the middle of the road while on my way to class, at times I am forced to wait for others so that we can walk as a group,” she was quoted saying.

Again this newspaper failed to ascertain the rightful owners of the livestock as nobody had come forward to claim them by the time this report was put together.

LACK OF TRANSPORT, FUEL HINDERS HEALTH OUTREACH

By Mhlonishwa Hlophe

Shortage of transport and fuel has been a hindrance in providing quality health services in some health institutions situated in the four regions of the country.

This is contained in the quarterly report for the ministry of health. This has resulted in inconsistency in conducting outreach visits due to lack of transport and fuel. Also, the delay in fixing of mechanical faults when vehicles break down.

The Shiselweni region seems to be the only region hit hard by the shortage of vehicles, as it is reported that the regional Health office has only one vehicle to carry out all regional, national and routine activities. These challenges could be attributed to the difficulties faced by the Central Transport Administration (CTA), whose mandate is to purchase, maintain and provide fuel for government vehicles.

Also, the department's mandate is to dispose of government vehicles. Currently, the Ministry of finance has stopped pumping money to CTA for purchases not budgeted for. The decision to halt the pumping in of extra money into the public enter-

prise comes after damning findings by the Attorney General Timothy Matsebula. When carrying out an audit, the AG found that the CTA was operating without a budget; something Matsebula said was against a particular financial and accounting instruction.

Other challenges faced by the different health institutions country-wide include shortage of staff, drugs and equipment such as BP cuffs, sterilizers, Cervical Cancer Screening equipment. Also affected by the shortage of transport was the Eswatini National Blood Transfusion Services (ENBTS), hence, they could not get enough blood.

According to the report, the reason for that was the unavailability of adequate funds, which affected them as they could not buy material needed among which were, refreshments, hence they had to cancel the appointments they had made.

The mobile blood collection vehicle also had mechanical faults resulting in cancellation of some scheduled appointments for donation. Fuel rationing was also mentioned as part of the challenges, to which they said they could not reach all the places they were supposed to go to.



HMCS HOLDS SUCCESSFUL CORRECTIONAL DAY



BAYETHE: His Majesty The King Mswati III in conversation with the newly-appointed Commissioner General Phindile Lomakhosini Dlamini. This was during the HMCS's Correctional Day held at Matsapha Staff College.



DONATIONS: His Majesty receives a E50 000 cheque from Commissioner General towards Philani Maswati Charity Organisation.



BIG GUNS: Former security forces heads Isaac Magagula, Isaiah Mzuthini Ntshangase and Sobantu Dlamini.



INSPECTION: His Majesty inspecting the parade.



MARK TIME: Officers displaying Russian Drill.

Display On The Lense



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**OBSERVER
ON SATURDAY**

COLUMNS & OPINIONS

INSIDE:

Future of
technology
in education

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Debt, its damag-
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The not-so hand-
some guy, his
sleek car(s) and
the girls after him

P. 27



Ackel Zwane

Observer on Saturday Editor

FEMICIDE: LAY YE THERE MY SWEETIE

...Not so long ago, businessman Ishmael Metfula of Mpolonjeni was reported as having killed himself after brutally bashing his wife with a hammer but Lo and Behold she survived while he kicked the bucket

The sounds of sweet nothings come to an abrupt stop after a shot is fired with the bullet piercing through the woman's white matter before ricocheting against the wall.

The commotion is followed by a deafening silence but soon thereafter it is screams from the children who had just witnessed a murder of a parent at that very tender age.

This could only be an intro into a story of trigger happy Maswati Simelane, who on Sunday shot the mother of his own son, or so it is alleged, just to take possession of their matrimonial home.

It is surprising that researchers have discovered that in very few cases, the man kills his family and turns the weapon on himself but the most common cases are a result of prior domestic violence. Certainly we are not privy as to how the Simelanes fared but no doubt there already were symptoms that something nasty could result even though not likely that fatality was to be predicted. Now this calls for very drastic moves to be taken to protect the family from brewing anger. The scars caused by the murder incident will never clear from the minds of the witnesses, the violence has planted seeds of not-so palatable a fruit unless they all undergo counselling and post traumatic therapy.

Police

Experts say access to dangerous weapons, in particular a gun is a significant risk factor, as are threats with a weapon, a stepchild in the home or estrangement. However, a past criminal history is not a reliable or significant predictor in murder-suicide. In the aftermath of a family murder followed by a suicide, communities, police, researchers and others search for explanations. In difficult financial times, it may be natural to look for economic influences, especially when the killer has recently lost a job or has enormous financial problems. Researcher Campbell found that unemployment was a significant risk factor for murder-suicide but only when combined with a history of domestic violence. In other words, it was not a risk factor in and of itself but was something that tipped the scale following previous abuse.

Adams, author of *Why Do They Kill? Men Who Murder Their Intimate Partners*, offered his perspective based on years of research and his experience working with domestic violence cases. His comments focused mostly on guns and jealousy in these violent crimes. When we consider prevention, guns are essentially the 'low-hanging fruit,' (Men Who Murder Their Families: What the Research Tells Us by Bernie Auchter).

There was a time of high incidences of men killing their spouses but a few decades ago this



A traditionalist acquaintance advises that it is important to be always on the lookout for signs and symptoms of anger that might develop into domestic violence. Such vigilance requires the services of counselling specialists on standby at all times

extended to the boys with the toys – the law enforcing agents. We still have fresh memories of how a woman was killed by her husband cop while inside their Nhlambeni home. She was believed to have been committing adultery with a very influential person who happened to be also in the bedroom when it was only the woman to bear the brunt of the anger of the jilted cop. After the story died down from the media houses, it was the last we heard of it or whether justice took its course.

Property

Not so long ago businessman Ishmael Metfula of Mpolonjeni was reported as having killed himself after brutally bashing his wife up but Lo and Behold she survived while he kicked the bucket. The one time school principal and successful property owner suspected his wife of infidelity after the ageing man

accessed his wife's cellphone and read all those mouth-watering WhatsApp messages. That was enough to call it a day for himself and also for the love of his life. In this particular episode, what was unique was that it was the son who also fuelled things up by informing his father that his wife was having an affair after the young man had allegedly tried several times to get his mother to stop her wayward ways.

Amos Sibonangaye Shongwe of Macetjeni outside Manzini is said to have joined arms with his wife's cousin to kill her by forcing Dudu Mamba to ingest a poisonous substance while making her believe that it would help her overcome her illness, that was the one and last sip.

Obviously, in the above examples we come across anger rooted on the love for property on the one hand also anger spurred by jealousy. Maswati is reported to have deserted his wife five years ago only to return to murder her all because of a house he wants to dispose of and she was refusing to let it go.

A traditionalist acquaintance advises that it is important to be always on the lookout for signs and symptoms of anger that might develop into domestic violence. Such vigilance requires the services of counselling specialists on standby at all times. Alternatively of relations are brewing towards a violent end one of the parties must throw in the towel. Anger management requires a highly-developed skill and not just anyone can manage as evidenced by the cases above. "If the anger is sexually related, it is better to venture into the outside of the matrimonial home than to risk committing a murder or a suicide," Says Koshini, however this may not be the best option but

weighed against risking doing life in jail all because of sporadic anger it is always best to look for other more reasonable escape routes. "The most common type of killer was a possessively jealous type, and I found that many of the men who ... commit murder-suicide, as well as those who kill their children, also seem to fit that profile," Adams said.

This country has gone a long way to confront domestic violence or violence against women and children, in particular.

The case of bus drivers and their conductors attacking women at the bus terminus in Manzini because of their short skirts and tight pants ushered in a new era in this area of investigation.

Women took to the bus rank and the streets of Manzini to protest such attacks on one of their own, that on its own raised the bar and drivers have incorporated into their syllabus human rights issues, especially respect of the right to privacy and personal space. The integrity has been growing steadily in recent times with very little or no reports of fresh attacks save for verbal attacks through provocative comments. Middle to high income women who use public transport are familiar with such comments by bus conductors as 'granny push to the back, yegogo shona lemuva!'

Losing it makes men strap around the neck the stigma of being violent killers instead of the love and care promised to partners on the very first day there was the spark. Killing a loved one should not be dangled like a badge of honour but instead it must get from the society the scorn it deserves.

saturdayobserver@observer.org.sz



Dealing with Diabetes

WITH: Nomalungelo Ginindza

Diabetes
Eswatini PR

QUOTE:

When enough people care about autism or diabetes or global warming, it helps everyone, even if only a tiny fraction actively participate.

Jeth Godin

FOR CORRESPONDENCE, CONTACT:
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SKIPPING MEALS

According to Diabetic Living in America, Skipping meals could potentially push your blood glucose higher.

When you don't eat for several hours because of sleep or other reasons, your body fuels itself on glucose released from the liver. For many people with type 2 diabetes (PWDs type 2), the liver doesn't properly sense that the blood has ample glucose already, so it continues to pour out more. Eating something with a little carbohydrate signals the liver to stop sending glucose into the bloodstream and can tamp down high numbers.

Skipping meals can also lead to overeating, which can cause an increase in weight. And if you take certain diabetes medications that stimulate the body's own insulin such as common sulfonylureas, or you take insulin with injections or a pump, you risk having your blood glucose drop too low when you skip or delay meals.

GOING LOW@CARB

Low-carb diets 'are not balanced and deprive the body of needed fiber, vitamins, and minerals' says Constance Brown-Riggs, M.S.Ed., R.D., CDE, CDN, author of *The African American Guide to Living Well with Diabetes*.

EATING PASTA AL DENTE

It is best to eat your spaghetti al dente, says David J. A. Jenkins, M.D., Ph.D., D.Sc., Canada research chair in nutrition and metabolism at the University of Toronto and St Michael's Hospital. Overcooked pasta and other starches become soft, lose their form, and give up their glucose more readily, likely giving you a bigger rise in blood glucose, he says.

"The real problem with pasta is that it's so palatable," and you may eat more than you intend, says Jenkins. A cupful of pasta provides as many calories and carb grams as three slices of bread, and the pasta goes down faster. Jenkins' advice: Cook starchy foods adequately, but avoid overcooking. Most important, control portions and count the calories and carb grammes.

ADDING DIABETES SHAKES AND BARS TO MEALS

Shakes or bars made specifically for people with diabetes can help you control blood glucose levels when you're on the go, says Brown-Riggs. But if you fall into the trap of eating them in addition to your usual meals or snacks, both your weight and your blood glucose could climb. You have to swap them for other foods, or your calorie and carbohydrate intake will likely be too high.

SPRINKLING CINNAMON

A study reported in *Diabetes Care* in 2003 suggested that cinnamon might lower blood glucose, triglyceride, and cholesterol levels for people with type 2 diabetes. Enjoy this sweet, fragrant spice anyway to delight your taste buds without adding calories or sodium. Cinnamon brings out the natural sweetness of tomatoes in a sauce and adds an interesting complexity to beef and poultry. Sprinkle it on oatmeal, yogurt, and fruit to add sweetness without adding sugar.

DRINKING ALCOHOL

Alcohol may lower blood glucose, but it can do so erratically and, therefore, isn't consid-



ered a safe or effective method of glucose control. Alcohol interferes with the liver's ability to raise blood glucose and can cause low blood glucose (hypoglycemia). In fact, it's hard to predict just when alcohol might cause hypoglycemia. Sometimes the effects even occur the following day. And when alcohol is mixed with high-sugar drinks such as sodas and juices or eaten with carbohydrate-containing foods, your blood glucose may initially rise but drop later. This is especially important to note if a person takes a blood glucose-lowering medication that can cause hypoglycemia, such as a sulfonylurea or insulin.

DRINKING GREEN TEA

Replacing sugary drinks with green tea is a great way to cut calories, save carbohydrate, and get a good dose of disease-fighting polyphenols, but don't bank on it to lower your blood glucose. Some studies suggest that green tea may help prevent type 2 diabetes and improve insulin sensitivity, but the evidence isn't strong enough to make firm recommendations. Green tea extracts - but not the beverage -- in high doses have been associated

with several cases of liver toxicity, according to Laura Shane-McWhorter, Pharm.D., BCPS, BC-ADM, CDE, a professor at the University of Utah College of Pharmacy and author of *The American Diabetes Association Guide to Herbs and Nutritional Supplements* (2009). Shane-McWhorter recommends people with diabetes use supplements with caution.

DRINKING EXCESSIVE WATER

It's a smart idea to drink plenty of calorie-free beverages, especially water, when your blood glucose is elevated. Because high blood glucose can cause excessive urination, drinking plenty of water helps prevent dehydration, says Constance Brown-Riggs, M.S.Ed., R.D., CDE, CDN. It won't, however, lower high blood glucose levels, she says.

SPLASHING A LITTLE VINEGAR

Can a spoonful of vinegar help the blood sugar go down? Yes, says Carol S. Johnston, Ph.D., R.D., professor and director of the nutrition program at Arizona State University's College of Nursing and Health Innovation. Consuming 1-2 tablespoons of vinegar before a meal may slow the rise of "the postmeal surge in blood glucose by as much as 40 percent," she says. But that's still not a license to go carb crazy.

Vinegar may inhibit starch digestion and hold food in the stomach a little longer, Johnston says. By delaying emptying of the stomach, vinegar may help to blunt the rise of blood glucose in response to eating. The problem is the vinegar itself. It just isn't fun to drink a couple tablespoons before a meal. Take advantage of vinegar's benefits by splashing some on a salad and adding it to cooked vegetables.

Use caution if you adjust insulin based on your carbohydrate intake; reports have shown a higher frequency of hypoglycemic episodes in individuals with type 1 diabetes ingesting vinegar, says Johnston.

DOUBLING UP ON DIABETES MEDICINES

Is twice as much medicine twice as good at lowering your blood sugar? This is dangerous because you risk your blood glucose dropping critically low when taking blood glucose lowering medication. If your blood glucose consistently runs high, work with your health care provider to adjust your medications and develop an individualized meal plan. If it's high because of simply eating too much, learn from your mistake and move on. You should not adjust your medications without first discussing it with a member of your health care team.

EXERCISING INSTEAD OF SLEEPING

Too little sleep or poor sleep can disrupt your hormones, leading to increased appetite, higher blood glucose, and a thicker waistline. In fact, researchers from the Netherlands found that a single night of sleep deprivation can decrease insulin sensitivity by almost 25 percent.

SLEEPING INSTEAD OF EXERCISING

"If you're giving up exercise for sleep, on the other hand," says Jennifer Hyman M.S., R.D., CDE, registered dietitian and diabetes educator in Rockville Centre, New York, "chances are you are not active enough during the day." It becomes a vicious cycle, because inactivity can reduce the quality of sleep, and poor sleep leaves you too lethargic to exercise.

Sneak in at least a few minutes of daily exercise by walking on your lunch break and taking the stairs instead of the elevator, says Hyman.

TAKING SUPPLEMENTS

According to the Natural Medicines Comprehensive Database, taking guar gum with meals might lower blood glucose after the meal. Its high fiber content may help reduce cholesterol levels as well, but also may cause stomach upset. Guar gum might also reduce the absorption of penicillin and other medications.

A study reported in Diabetes Care in 2003 suggested that cinnamon might lower blood glucose, triglyceride, and cholesterol levels for people with type 2 diabetes. Enjoy this sweet, fragrant spice anyway to delight your taste buds without adding calories or sodium

WHEN VOICES UNITE

“

Music is the greatest communication in the world. Even if people don't understand the language that you're singing in, they still know good music when they hear it.

Lou Rawls



WRITER'S NOTE

WITH NOKWANDA SIBANDZE

Welcome to yet another dose of your favourite entertainment feed.

This week we discuss different topics which are trending on your social media platforms. As the month of July draws to a close, we continue to dissect many things that will keep you talking.

On pages 2-3, this week we talk to Mhluleli Bhembe, an upcoming photographer passionate about his work.

The young lad says he fell in love with photography back in 2015 when he was doing his first year at university and ever since then, he has loved the joy it gives him.

Bhembe says his love for photography has perfectly aligned itself with what he was studying in university and he is trying to make a career out of it, which has at least managed to kick-off pretty well.

On Try the Trend we have micro bags. We all know they are in fashion, all your favourite celebrities are seen carrying them and shops are fully stocked with these bags. Read through and get to know why these bags are the in-thing. On you guide this week, we help you figure out how to talk to the one girl that you really like. Get tips and tricks on how to finally get her number or muster the courage to actually say "hello" for the first time.

On pages 4-5, we have a trio of vocals. Nkhosiyabongwa Dlamini, Nelisiwe Mzizi and Welcome Khoza share their love for singing.

Interviewing the three, I went through different emotions; I laughed, cried and laughed again. They are funny and always jolly. Read through to get to know them better and learn about their different aspirations and goals. Reading about the three, I hope you will get inspired on friendship, praising and worshipping God and following your passion. On page 6 we have your international entertainment stories that will help you catch up on your favourite celebrities. I hope this issue will help you usher in the weekend and believe you will read and enjoy but most importantly, I hope you get inspired. Till next week, Enjoy.

YOUNG & UPCOMING

PHOTOGRAPHY MANIAC

• LENS HAVE FUN



In this weeks young and upcoming section we sit and talk to young photographer Mhluleli Bhembe who has quickly taken over the photography scene and judging by his social media presence, the young man is here to stay.

The young lad says he fell in love with photography back in 2015 when he was doing his first year at university and ever since then, he has loved the joy it gives him.

Bhembe says his love for photography has perfectly aligned itself with what he was studying in university and he is trying to make a career out of it which has at least managed to kick-off pretty well.

Asked on who he really is and how he can best describe himself, he said he a very determined person.

"Mhluleli Bhembe is a young open minded guy aged 23 with a weird passion for photography. I was born and raised in Manzini at Lwandle area and I hold an Associate Degree in Public Relations from Limkokwing University of Creative Technology. I am that photography maniac from Infinity Pictures," said Bhembe.

The camera star says in three years' time, and he really cannot picture himself away from Infinity Pictures. He sees himself behind a brand that will be a photography household name and he sees himself on a growth trajectory.

Asked what he thinks of the photography career in the country, the young lad said it is still a growing industry, with its ups and downs but nonetheless on the right direction.

"Maybe one day everyone will fully acknowledge its worth and start investing in it from any angle where maybe bigger things and ventures may be done through photography," he says.

His biggest events so far include the recent Zwile Bhembe one-man show, and KrTC's's unleashed show.

But the biggest one which really pushed his capabilities and focus point has to be a wedding (Ngubeni wedding).

"It was one event that deserves to be a highlight of my young photography career. It did add a few points to the portfolio," noted the young lad.

His yet bigger upcoming event that he is looking forward to is the Standard Bank Lujju Food and Lifestyle Festival.

"I love the diversity of that festival; it stretches your photography muscles which is fun and you may never know whose picture you will click and they are impressed with the skill."

Adding, Bhembe shares that he looks up to a lot of people in the industry and the art platform as a whole but the stand-out role model has to be Shaka Makhanya.

"I look up to Shaka Makhanya of Shaka Makhanya Photography. I always look forward to seeing more of his amazing pictures," closes Bhembe.



Try the trend

From doubling up to two bags at once to furry details and even smaller micro bags, fall's best bags are anything but basic.

Small — is happening in the fashion world right now. For summer, handbags have suddenly become tiny again.

Comically small, the bag was immediately declared 'ridiculous,' with claims that it could only fit one Tic-Tac or a single Air Pod. But not everyone were haters: "His accessories, on the other hand — bags macro and very micro, earrings with clips to hold hankies or postcards — were clever," one critic wrote.



What can you fit in there?

When I asked this of a friend in the industry, he facetiously remarked, "Like literally, only drugs." But all jokes aside, what is the point of a very, very small bag when function is out of the question?

Most recently, an onslaught of diminutive bags took over the Spring/Summer 2019 collections. They were seen as necklaces — or very, very chic lanyards, depend-

ing on how you looked at them — decorating the necks of models that ended with vintage-style kiss-lock coin purses at Erdem or miniature boxy totes at Gabriela Hearst.

HOW TO SHOP MINI HAND-BAGS TREND

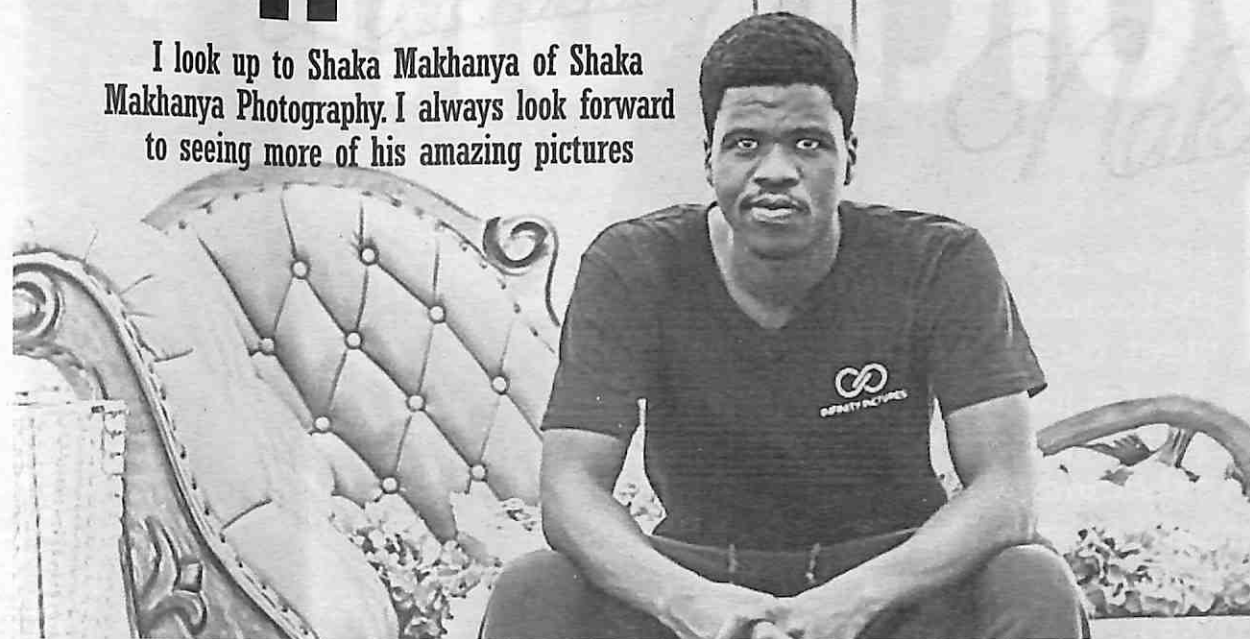
Sometimes, fashion accessories have their own way of doing the talking. Do you find your outfit of the day incomplete? Don't worry,

throw in a nice pair of mini-bags with that outfit of yours and you're all set to hit the streets with style. In recent fashion trends, micro bags have taken over the position of statement accessories with your outfits and there is no reason to not like them. These super cute bags are all that you should be thinking of buying right now because they are gaining the most desirable attention in the world of fashion trends.

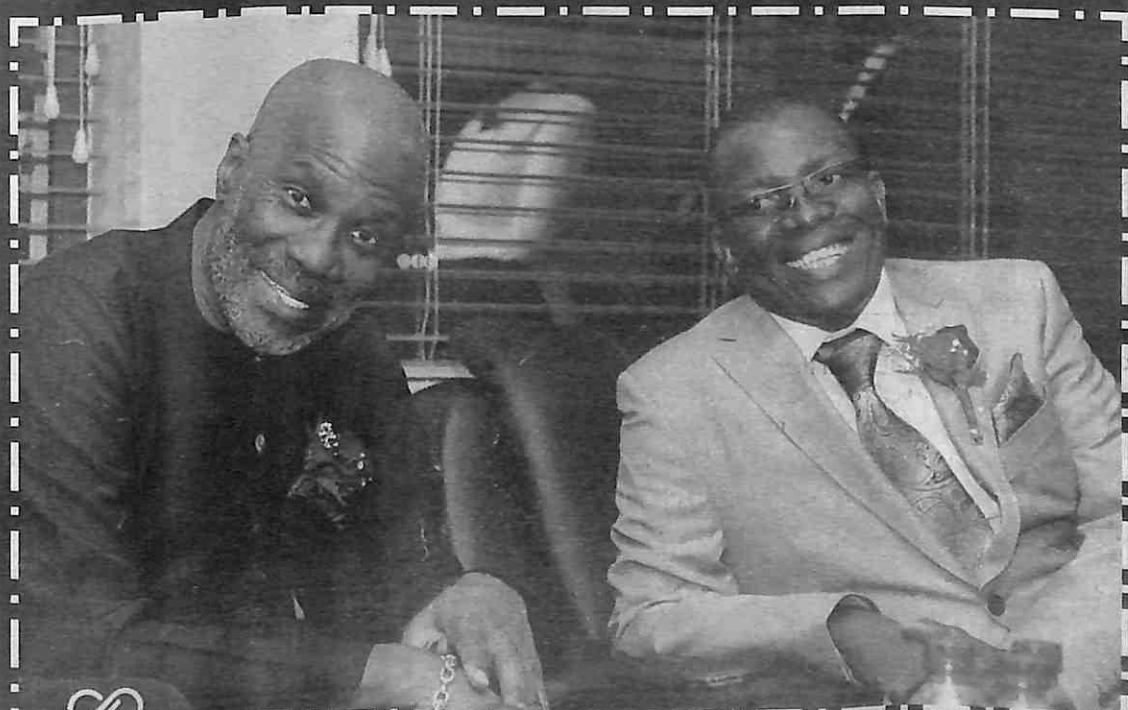
MICRO BAGS

“

I look up to Shaka Makhanya of Shaka Makhanya Photography. I always look forward to seeing more of his amazing pictures



...The camera star says in three years' time he really cannot picture himself away from Infinity Pictures. He sees himself behind a brand that will be a photography household name and he sees himself on a growth trajectory.



Lifestyle Guide

HOW TO MACK ON A GIRL

It doesn't take a relationship expert to figure out how to start a conversation with a girl. So, why does it seem so difficult? A lot of guys struggle to find a way to start a conversation. It can feel like walking into unknown territory and that can be very intimidating. Here are some of the tips men could use to up their macking game.

1. ESCALATE PHYSICAL CONTACT

Physical contact with a girl will quickly give you an idea of whether a woman is interested on you or not. If you gradually escalate physical contact throughout the interaction with the woman, then you will soon find out whether she's interested or not. If she is try hugging her, holding hands and then put your arm

around her later, still the situation has had a chance to build and rise and a romantic interlude will seem inevitable. Whereas if you ignore all physical contact for six hours and then amateurishly lunge for a kiss at the end of the night, you'll seem clumsy and awkward.

2. ACT CONFIDENT

Act confident around her to make her more interested. Avoid comparing yourself to others since it can make you appear less confident in yourself. Recognise what you're talented in and what you like about yourself so you can feel comfortable in your own skin. Practice being confident by doing activities that you're a little uncomfortable with, such as talking to a stranger or taking up another hobby that you've wanted to try for a while. As you gain confidence, the girl you want to like you may notice and could be more interested in talking to you.

3. Be polite

Be polite and courteous to others so she can see your manners. Don't be rude to other people and stay respectful to others so you

don't come across as mean-spirited.

Listen to others intently as they talk and have meaningful conversations with them so they can see you genuinely care. Say "please" and "thank you" when you're asking for something so the girl can see how polite you are and know that you're a caring individual.

In conclusion different women like different approaches so having to know the woman you're about to Mack is the most important thing one should consider.

TELL JOKES

Tell jokes and be funny to show your sense of humour. Add a little humour into your conversation to make it more light-hearted and fun for her. Tell funny stories about

yourself or make funny comments in

response to something either of you has said in the conversation earlier. If you can make her laugh, it may be a sign that she likes you or appreciates your company.

ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT HERSELF

Ask the girl questions about herself so you get to know her better. Learn more about the girl by asking her questions about what she enjoys or likes to do. Maintain eye contact and listen attentively to her to show that you're genuinely interested in what she's saying.

If the conversation is going well, try asking personal questions to learn more about her goals and what she wants to do in the future.

Talk about something that you two have in common. When you first start talking, ask a few questions about what she's interested in so you can get to know one another. Look for common topics that you're both interested in so you can both get involved in the conversation. Avoid interrupting the girl when she's talking to show that you're polite and care about what she's telling you.

WHEN VOICES UNITE

It is very exciting to meet people that can sing but when you meet three people who can sing, that is just out of this world.

These three singers; Nelisiwe Mzizi, Nkhosiyabongwa Dlamini and Welcome Khoza all have one thing in common, what I like to call angelic voices.

The three met in church and kept a close relationship after that.

I caught up with them after they had a photo-shoot session last weekend. They all shared their stories on how they love music and when they realised they could sing.

It was evident during the interview that music meant a lot to them. As they narrated their love for the art, they laughed and I saw tears filling their eyes but they were definitely tears of joy. The two girls, who are best friends, also talked about the joy of singing together.

They have been friends for years now and they say when they sing, they can feel the love for each other through their voices.

Talking to the three, I went through different emotions; I laughed, cried and laughed again. They are funny and always jolly. It made me wonder how they went through their Sunday church practices. Nelisiwe said because they do not just love singing but praising God, they take practice sessions seriously.

Praising and worshipping God is another thing that they have in common. They said they are deeply rooted into the Word of God which is what keeps them grounded at all times. In as much as they go through difficulties, the trio said they understand the importance of staying rooted in the Word of God.

By Nokwanda Sibandze

MEET SIYA

Her music career has been booming. From being featured on Into The Music Society show hosted by Jazz Music fanatic Nelisa Lawton at the Theatre Club, Nkhosiyabongwa has a passion for music. She has done a number of shows in the country and besides singing in church, she is pursuing her career in the art. Her love for music started when she was younger. "I realised I could at a very young age.

It was weird because I am a very shy person but I jumped at every opportunity to sing." She also expressed her love for her best friend. "Oh Nkhosiyabongwa

is my best friend. She is my foodie buddy, we find funny things equally amusing to both of us, we are both God-fearing families and from time to time we get to have the same interests in things in general because we spend a lot of time together." When describing herself, she mentions that above everything she is a child of God that comes from a God-fearing family of six. The youngest of her three siblings, she said she is always happy to sing at any given moment.

"I love singing, I believe I am at my best when I am singing whether on stage or at home in the kitchen," The singer expressed

that she hopes her music career will take off at the right time. She however believes that, singing was a therapeutic experience.

"I believe when one sings, someone else can get healed. For more singing is very spiritual because it is also a gift from God and being able to have that gift is an honour." Having a common interest with Welcome and Neli is just one of the many things that she loves about having such a gift.

LADIES MAN SAM

Sam is a definite ladies man. Welcome Khoza also has a passion for the art of singing. He has known the two ladies for over 10 years in church.

When he narrated his love for the art, he also told us how he realised he could sing back in 2009. "I realised I could sing in 2009 right when I decided to join the school choir, where I was one of the few selected to go sing at the King's birthday celebrations in Mavuso Trade Centre during that year."

Besides singing, music wise, Sam also plays drums but career wise he runs a business called KHK Corporate Investments (Pty) Ltd located in Ngwane Park. The business trades as Sam's Café and offers internet services; secretarial services; instudio and external photographic services; graphics designing services; and software installations and updates on PCs, laptops and phones.

Full name Welcome Samkelo Khoza was, born on 13 September 1991 in

Manzini. He started his primary education at St. Paul's, while living with his mother at Fairview North. "In 2004, after relocating to Ngwane Park, I went to Ngwane Park High School (now known as Ngwane High School) and completed my secondary and high education by year 2009."

The three have heard each other sing and if an opportunity would avail itself for them to collaborate, they would jump on it.

"We've already had the chance to sing in the same church choir for quite some time, so if a chance presented itself, I'd actually do a collaboration with my sisters, because I know they have great voices. I am sure our collabo would be really good as well," he laughs.

When looking into the future, he has many plans both for his music career and business. "I've already started paving for my future plans. The driving force is my intellectual growth and reason for the sake of irrational decision making

in my personal life, the business, my love life and other general and spiritual aspects revolving around me."

AND THEN THERE WAS MZIZI

Nelisiwe Mzizi is a ball of happiness.

She and Nkhosiyabongwa have known each other since high school but their friendship started or rather grew after completing their schooling and that was five years ago.

"I met Nkhosiyabongwa at Mjinggo High. We discovered that we have the same taste in music, thus one thing led to another." Their love for music grew stronger ever since. Mzizi admits that if it wasn't for school, she doubts they would have met. "I am grateful to have met her though as she has become my sister and best friend."

Besides just music, they two have quite a lot of interests since they spend a lot of time together but the major interest is the love the both have for God and serving in church. "To us that is the number one common interest, we both have this desire to serve God with all that we have, so we go about everyday with that one simple mutual goal and it actually helps strengthen our relationship as well."

24 years of age, Mzizi was born and bred in Manzini.

"I recently completed my Human Resource Management and Organisational Behaviour course at the Institute of Development Management (IDM) and currently working as an Intern at the Family Life Association of Swaziland (FLAS)"

Besides music, she says her working experience has helped transform her. "I have matured only not in finding myself as a person but in learning more about the corporate world. I love working and being around people, especially the youth. That is the other side of me besides the love I have for music."

Her wishes include growing more in the field that she is in and beyond that making a difference in this world by changing a lot of young people's lives.



Lifestyle Celebville

01

HAPPY 50TH BIRTHDAY J-LO: REASONS WHY SHE IS STILL SLAYING

NEW YORK - Can you believe that Jennifer Lopez is turning 50 years old today?

The singer, dancer, actress and TV presenter (gosh, what can't she do?) first came on the scene in 1990 when she landed a part on the show 'In Living Colour, and has since gone on to be

one of the biggest superstars in the world. The fact that she is still slaying at everything, and even doing it better than those half her age, proves why she deserves to be celebrated as she continues to entertain us into the second half-century of her life.

News24



03

Marvel's first black LGBTQ+ superhero to hit our screens

NEW YORK - Marvel Cinematic Universe is slowly moving with the times and catching up with the importance of representation. Last year, Marvel released the groundbreaking 'Black Panther' which is the first black superhero film.

And now, they've hinted that we might be in for a same sex relationship in the upcoming 'Thor 4: Love and Thunder.'

Demi-goddess Valkyrie (played by the incredible Tessa Thompson), although bisexual in the comics had a scene from 'Thor: Ragnarok' cut that made Valkyrie's sexuality known to fans. At the time, Thompson confirmed this in a tweet:



"Protect your legacy by any means! Artists are forced to throw in the towel sooner or later coz this industry gets even harder the longer you stay in it.

There are folks that really want you out! Let your story end the way you envisioned it, not on the devil's terms."

News24

04

Scandal! actress tackles mental health stigma

PRETO-
RIA -
Ingénue

Nomvelo Makhanya has spoken out for the first time about her admission to a psychiatric hospital three years ago as a result of living with mental illness.

Renowned for her role as vixen Lindiwe Ngema on e.tv soapie Scandal!, she was diagnosed with depression, bipolar and anxiety at age 20 in 2016.

The 23-year-old actress poured her heart out to Sowetan about how it took some time for her before she could speak about living with mental disorder because of stigma.

"I was living with it for a long time, but I was unaware. I would go through these emotions, but I didn't understand why. Until I started seeing a psychologist," said Makhanya.

"Right now days are not the same.



Some days are great and some days are bad. I have learnt more about it.

"So I understand that when I feel a certain way, it's not going to last forever. I think I'm in a good space mentally." Learning to function in her everyday life after she was discharged from hospital was extremely difficult for Makhanya.

She was put on different kinds of medication to help her cope, includ-

ing antidepressants, Xanax, mood stabilisers and sleeping pills.

She gradually stopped taking the medication since it started to negatively affect her work.

"It didn't happen overnight. I remember when I got discharged and returned to work it was difficult. I felt like I was breaking down and needed to find my pills."

Times Live

02



Rosie Motene in royalty dispute

JOHANNESBURG - Gender activist and actress Rosie Motene is involved in a royalty dispute with the publisher of her book 'Reclaiming the Soil.' Motene has accused Porcupine Press of miscalculating royalties of the book which was published last year.

She told this publication that she picked up the discrepancy when she asked for a spread

sheet of all the book sales.

The seasoned TV and film actress, who has since bought herself out of the publisher's contract, asked for an independent bookkeeper to verify the figures. She said the report which was sent to her had R8 276.72 figure but after verification it came to R12 220.98. Motene discovered that the figures were short by R3 944 26. TimesLive

Sbahle's squad rallies behind her as she takes her first steps

DURBAN - Sbahle Mpisane's journey to recovery after a horror accident last year that almost cost her her life has been documented by the star on Instagram. Memory loss, hospitalisation, wheel-chair bound and the battle to walk are just some of the mammoth struggles she has faced. In a recent post about taking her first steps, Sbahle said it took her an hour to take three steps unaided. "I cannot describe how mentally challenging it was," she wrote in the post.

As Sbahle continues to document her journey, her fans and friends have been showing her all the love, surrounding her with a powerful support squad. Times Live



Movie watch



KABIR SINGH

PG16 | 3h 00min | Drama, Romance
Kabir Singh is a remake of a Telugu movie Arjun Reddy (2017), where a short-tempered house surgeon gets used to drugs and drinks when his girlfriend is forced to marry another person.
Director: Sandeep Reddy Vanga
Writer: Siddharth Singh (dialogue), Sandeep Reddy Vanga
Stars: Shahid Kapoor, Kiara Advani, Soham Majumdar



ANNABELLE COMES HOME

PG16 | 2h 00min | Horror, Mystery, Thriller
While babysitting the daughter of Ed and Lorraine Warren, a teenager and her friend unknowingly awaken an evil spirit trapped in a doll.
Director: Gary Dauberman
Writer: James Wan (story by), Gary Dauberman (screenplay by)
Stars: Vera Farmiga, Patrick Wilson, McKenna Grace



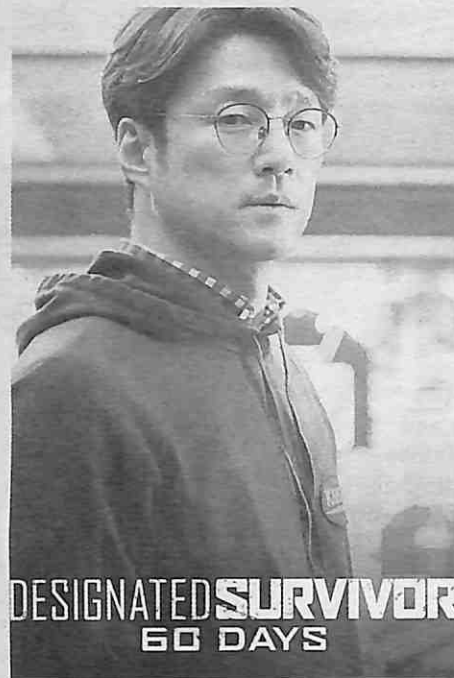
47 METERS DOWN (2017)

Two sisters vacationing in Mexico are trapped in a shark cage at the bottom of the ocean.
With less than an hour of oxygen left and great white sharks circling nearby, they must fight to survive.
Director: Johannes Roberts
Writers: Johannes Roberts, Ernest Riera
Stars: Mandy Moore, Claire Holt, Matthew Modine

TV Shows (Series)

NETFLIX

My First First Love



MY FIRST FIRST LOVE

Due to various personal reasons, some of Yun Tae-o's friends move into his house, where they experience love, friendship and everything in between.

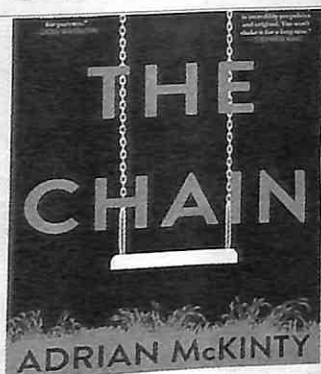
FAMILY REUNION

A family struggles to make the transition from life in Seattle to Georgia, where the extended family lives.

DESIGNATED SURVIVOR: 60 DAYS

When the National Assembly suffers a catastrophic attack, Minister of Environment Park Mu-jin has to find a way to lead Korea through the ensuing chaos.

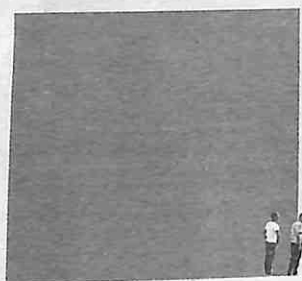
Book Review



THE CHAIN

You just dropped off your child at the bus stop. A panicked stranger calls your phone. Your child has been kidnapped, and the stranger explains that their child has also been kidnapped, by a completely different stranger. The only way to get your child back is to kidnap another child within 24 hours. Your child will be released only when the next victim's parent kidnaps yet another child, and most importantly, the stranger explains, if you don't kidnap a child, or if the next parents don't kidnap a child, your child will be murdered. You are now part of 'The Chain'.

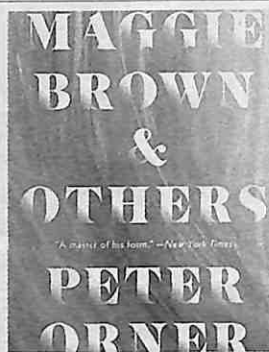
THE NICKEL BOYS



THE NICKEL BOYS

In this bravura follow-up to the Pulitzer Prize, and National Book Award-winning #1 New York Times bestseller 'The Underground Railroad,' Colson Whitehead brilliantly dramatizes another strand of American history through the story of two boys sentenced to a hellish reform school in Jim Crow-era Florida.

As the Civil Rights movement begins to reach the black enclave of Frenchtown in segregated Tallahassee, Elwood Curtis takes the words of Dr. Martin Luther King to heart: He is "as good as anyone."



MAGGIE BROWN AND OTHERS

In this powerful and virtuosic collection of interlocking stories, a National Book Critics Circle Award finalist takes the form to new heights.

In his orchestral and moving new book, Peter Orner, a writer who "doesn't simply bring his characters to life, he gives them souls" (New York Times Book Review), chronicles people whose lives are at inflection points. In forty-four compressed gems, he grips us with a series of defining moments.

SONG OF THE WEEK

Jonas Brothers-Sucker

We go together
Better than birds of a feather, you and me
We change the weather, yeah
I'm feeling heat in December when you're 'round me

I've been dancing on top of cars
and stumbling out of bars
I follow you through the dark, can't get enough
You're the medicine and the pain, the tattoo
inside my brain
And, baby, you know it's obvious

I'm a sucker for you
You say the word and I'll go anywhere blindly
I'm a sucker for you, yeah
Any road you take, you know that you'll find me
I'm a sucker for all the subliminal things
No one knows about you (about you) about you
(about you)
And you're making the typical me break
my typical rules
It's true, I'm a sucker for you, yeah

Don't complicate it (yeah)
'Cause I know you and you know everything
about me
I can't remember (yeah)
All of the nights I don't remember
When you're 'round me (oh, yeah yeah)

I've been dancing on top of cars and stumbling
out of bars
I follow you through the dark, can't get enough
You're the medicine and the pain, the tattoo
inside my brain
And, baby, you know it's obvious

I'm a sucker for you
You say the word and I'll go anywhere blindly
I'm a sucker for you, yeah
Any road you take, you know that you'll find me
I'm a sucker for all the subliminal things
No one knows about you (about you) about you
(about you)
And you're making the typical me break my typi-
cal rules
It's true, I'm a sucker for you, yeah

(I'm a sucker for you)
I've been dancing on top of cars and stumbling
out of bars
I follow you through the dark, can't get enough
You're the medicine and the pain, the tattoo
inside my brain
And, baby, you know it's obvious

I'm a sucker for you
You say the word and I'll go anywhere blindly
I'm a sucker for you, yeah
Any road you take, you know that you'll find me
I'm a sucker for all the subliminal things
No one knows about you (about you) about you
(about you)
And you're making the typical me break my typi-
cal rules
It's true, I'm a sucker for you
I'm a sucker for you

LOVE HAS NO BOUNDARIES

I
DO

"I love you without knowing how, or when, or from where. I love you simply, without problems or pride: I love you in this way because I do not know any other way of loving but this, in which there is no I or you, so intimate that your hand upon my chest is my hand, so intimate then when I fall asleep your eyes close."

Ayanda Simelane, affectionately known as Swane, and Thando Matsenjwa tied the knot in a beautiful ceremony held at Mavuso Trade and Exhibition Centre. The couple expressed their love for each other sharing their special day with their family and friends. We wish the couple a life filled with love and success throughout their marriage.



DONE DEAL: The couple posing with bridesmaids and groomsmen.



BROTHERLY LOVE: Ayanda being walked down the aisle by his brother.



NEWLY WEDS: Ayanda Simelane and Thando Matsenjwa posing for picture as newly weds.

Columns & Opinion

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Research by the World Economic Forum estimates that 65 per cent of children entering primary school will find themselves in occupations that today do not exist. Isn't it scary?

Nowadays, soft skills are more valuable than hard skills for one reason: everything changes so fast, that your ability to adapt to changing circumstances continuously learn new trends, think systematically and be proactive – these are the skills that are normally valued the most now.

At the same time, 90 per cent of organisations currently have an IT skills shortage, while 75 per cent of educators and students feel there is a gap in their ability to meet the skills needs of the IT workforce. To prepare the talent needed for the digital economy, education must adapt as fast as the demand for IT skills is growing and evolving.

Technology has greatly expanded access to education and gave enormous opportunities for teenagers starting their own start-ups before even they turn 18. Just by knowing how to code, they can programme their website and start doing their business. Moreover, now all information that you need is available online and you have online forums, where you can actually ask advice of the professionals, get access to the case studies and start self-education.

In medieval times, books were rare and only an elite few had access to educational opportunities. People had to travel to centres of learning to get an education. Today, massive amounts of information are available at one's fingertips through the internet. Opportunities for communication and collaboration have also been expanded by technology. The walls of the classrooms are no longer a barrier as technology enables new ways of learning, communicating, and working collaboratively. Now, students can learn about the Arctic by following the expedition of a team of scientists in the region, read scientists' blog posting, view photos, e-mail questions to the scientists, and even talk live with the scientists via a videoconference. Students can collaborate on group projects using technology-based tools such as Google docs, trello, etc.

In the traditional classroom, the teacher is the primary source of information, and the learners passively receive it. This model of the teacher has been in education for a long time, and it is still very much in evidence today. However, because of the access to information and educational opportunity that technology has enabled, in many classrooms today we see the teacher's role shifting to the 'guide on the side' as students take more responsibility for their own learning using technology to gather relevant information. Schools and universities across the country are beginning to redesign learning spaces to enable this new model of education, foster more interaction and small group work, and use technology as an enabler.

The future of technology in education is helping teachers to expand beyond linear, text-based learning and to engage students who learn best in other ways. Its role in schools has evolved from a contained computer class into a versatile learning tool that could change how we demonstrate concepts, assign projects and assess progress. Also, the future of technology in education is to improve communication. In regions that were difficult to reach such as places in sub-Saharan Africa are now starting to be accessible through eLearning. Tutors can lecture learners over long distances and scholars can achieve their academic papers through eLearning. Also, students that feel like studying from home can now do it. Advancement of information technology in education has

Once you have an innovation culture, even those who are not scientists or engineers – poets, actors, journalists – they, as communities, embrace the meaning of what it is to be scientifically literate. They embrace the concept of an innovation culture. They vote in ways that promote it. They don't fight science and they don't fight technology. **Neil deGrasse Tyson**

QUOTE:



SWANCEFA

With: Thulani Lushaba



Future of technology in education

improved research. There are very many online libraries that assist teachers and students with comprehensive reading materials. Teachers and lecturers are also able to post their work online for their students to read.

FUTURE OF TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATION: EXAMPLES & POSSIBILITIES

Social media in education – Allow learners and educators to post thoughts, ideas, and comments in an interactive learning environment. Also, students can follow influencers and learn from their posts.

Ipads and computers – Technology helps students be more responsible. Owning their own device or borrowing the school's devices gives students the opportunity to improve their decision-making skills as well as taking ownership of a valuable and often times expensive device.

Better Simulations and Models – Digital simulations and models can help teachers explain concepts that are too big or too small or process that happen too quickly or too slowly to demonstrate in a physical classroom.

Global Learning – At sites like *GloVico.org*, students can set up language lessons with a native speaker who lives in another country and attend the lessons via Skype, hangouts, etc. Learning from a native speaker, learning through social interaction, and being exposed to another culture's perspective are all incredible educational advantages. Also, podcasts are another popular learning method, with hundreds of free educational programs now available online.

More efficient assessment – Teachers can collect real-time assessment data from their students. When the teacher gives out an assignment, she or he can watch how far along students are, how much time each one spends on each question, and whether their answers are correct. With this information, a teacher can decide what concepts students are struggling with and can pull up examples of students' work on a projector for discussion.

E-books – A digital textbook is a PDF on a tablet that students can carry around and now there is no need to carry five textbooks anymore. It's all digital. What used to take hours

in the library to find, now students find instantaneously.

Epistemic Games – Commercial game-like simulations that put students in roles like city planner, journalist, or engineer and ask them to solve real-world problems. In one game, students are high-powered negotiators who need to decide the fate of a real medical controversy. In another, they must become graphical artists in order to create an exhibit of mathematical art in a particular style, etc. Creative professionals learn innovative thinking through training that is very different from traditional academic classrooms because innovative thinking means more than just knowing the right answers on a test. It also means having real-world skills, high standards and professional values, and a particular way of thinking about problems and justifying solutions. Epistemic games are about learning these fundamental ways of thinking for the digital age using tech-



The future of technology in education is helping teachers to expand beyond linear, text-based learning and to engage students who learn best in other ways. Its role in schools has evolved from a contained computer class into a versatile learning tool that could change how we demonstrate concepts, assign projects and assess progress.

nology.

Students database and results tracking – Teachers are able to track individual progress, and are encouraged to identify learning objectives and differentiate instruction based on the needs of their students. Also, "My dog ate my homework" just won't work anymore, everything is saved on cloud. Other than that, student is able to check their grades immediately in the digital diary. Basically, students will each have a digital portfolio where they store all of

their projects, assessments, notes.

Interactive textbooks & case studies – The way that we think of textbooks is completely changing. It is no longer limited to merely text and pictures. Today's textbooks often have web-based sites that include assessments, animations, additional materials, videos, and other materials to support the learning of new content. Normally students have questions after reading a material and they can answer them in an interactive way.

Making learning fun again – Teachers can now use videos, animations and other forms of content to enhance the process of learning. Nowadays, with the help of technology, it is now common for learners and teachers to use games as a way of enhancing the process of learning and teaching. As a result of the use of various forms of content, learning and teaching are now fun and more meaningful than the way it was in the past.

Lifelong Learning – The future of technology in education is also about revolutionising education by normalizing lifelong learning. Online learning is a great way to facilitate today's knowledge-driven society and the ongoing demands for continuous professional development. The nature of employment has changed, and keeping one job for life is no longer expected. As a result of globalisation, educational institutions around the world are now integrating technologies into all elements of their courses. Online education has become part of mainstream teaching and learning, since students now have access to a wide range of increasingly impressive online resources.

Nowadays, students become more and more involved in forming their own education. In 10 years, students will incorporate so much independence into their learning process, that mentoring will become fundamental to student success. And teachers will form a central point in the jungle of information that students will be paving their way through. I really believe that the future of technology in education is about adapting to the fast-changing world, giving students an opportunity to choose their own way of learning, combining theory and practice, always taking into account the current demand of the market.



ECONOMICS TODAY

WITH: George Choongwa

QUOTE:

Debt is a trap, especially student debt, which is enormous, far larger than credit card debt. It's a trap for the rest of your life because the laws are designed so that you can't get out of it. If a business, say, gets in too much debt, it can declare bankruptcy, but individuals can almost never be relieved of student debt through bankruptcy. **Noam Chomsky**

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Southern African Research Foundation for
Economic Development - SARFED
Nurturing sustainable growth

Most people argue that the best way to start a business is to get a loan from either the bank or the external financier.

They strongly believe this be the best approach in business, but this article gives reasons as to why this might be dangerous to your business take off. Just to start with, if your business starts on the basis of borrowed money, then whose is the real owner of it? I guess it is the one with the money in it is it? Let me clarify this point further below:

REDUCED PROFIT MARGIN

We all know that the life blood of a business is profit margin. The smaller, the profit margins, the less profit and the chances of survival is the business and vice versa. The key issue at hand is therefore to ensure that a business had its financial reserves in good place the first time. However, if the business starts with debt, then the trend is likely to continue down the line. In this regard, debts have the potential to choke the company's profitability since debts in actual terms are deducted from the sales revenue and to some degree your business may even sustain losses. That's why it's critical that you focus on improving the accounts receivable collection process to reduce the losses.

PREVENT GROWTH OF A BUSINESS

The growth of any business is dependent on the cash flow. Therefore having a debt in a business is like having something eating the cash flow in nature. The outcome of such kinds of activities is the business' loss of its growth potential. In this manner, many people are blinded not think that such kinds of activities makes the entire firm have less assets accumulated and eventually challenges in expanding growth for sustainability purposes.

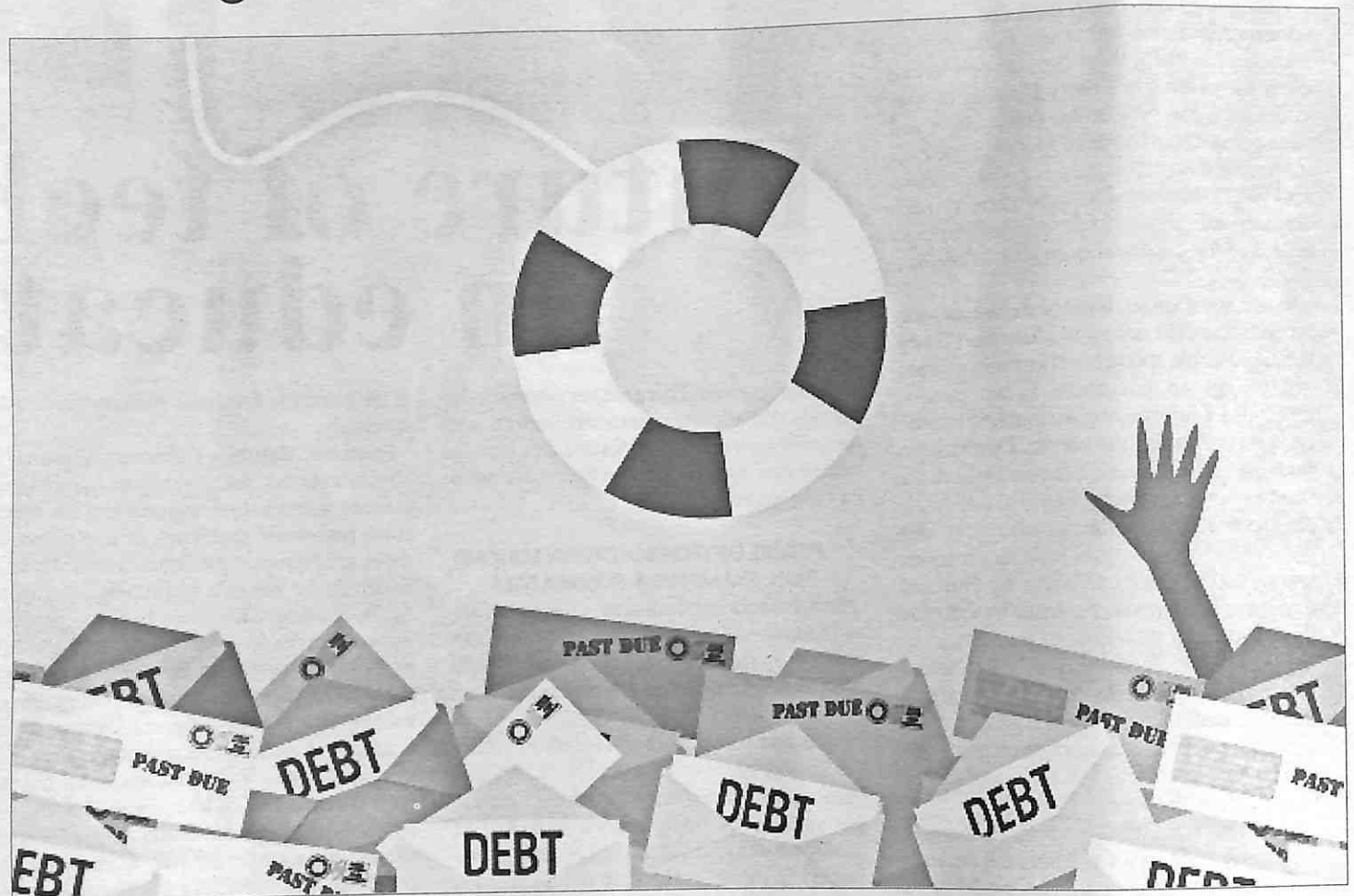
Assets are always used for activating resources for the business and in the event that a business was servicing a larger sum of debt, then it would become a challenge to reach the higher levels of growth. I have seen this among several small firms, due to high debt; their businesses would remain static with very limited levels of venturing into other profit driven activities like new technology and product development in nature. This is the reason why most of these businesses have found themselves missing out in several activities that would otherwise bring about higher chances of gaining profit due to expanded liquidity.

INCREASES RISK OF A BANKRUPTCY

The more a business is caged with debt, the higher it is likely to have reached a risk of bankruptcy.

The equation is simple; while it might be seen as a potential tool for improving the business level of performance, most businesses have faced several challenges in overcoming this mountain on the basis that small businesses' secret of survival is dependent on the degree of cash flow into the business and not the other way round. This is on the basis that small firms depend on the day to day operations of the business as they would need to meet their short terms expenses as fundamentals to make the entire world moving. Therefore, a continuous supply of cash is essential to ensure that all financial obligations are met. When a large number of customers default on payments, it can make it difficult for a company to continue operating which might eventually bring about sudden deaths.

Debt, its damaging side of thing in your business



Most small business starters like to start their business operation in what can seem to have been bigger and better offices with borrowed furniture and the like. This trend has landed most of the business owners in trouble.

OUT OF OFFICE

Most small business starters like to start their business operation in what can seem to have been bigger and better offices with borrowed furniture and the like. This trend has landed most of the business owners in trouble. They have faced a situation in which due to higher

levels of debts, they faced eviction from their trading places which eventually brought about having or operating in vacuum and loss of business. The key understanding behind this concept is that; successful businesses would need to be gradual in growth. It is not advisable to just start operating on higher pitch and expect everything to go down smoothly.

HEALTH EFFECTS

Debt can even affect you as an owner of the business in physical health. The worry and constant stress of debt can take its toll on your body as well as your mind. People often suffer headaches, stomach upset, anxiety and other conditions.

Lack of sleep and not eating properly can have adverse effects on one's health. People often avoid dealing with debt because they just don't see any way out of the dilemma, but this just makes the situation worse—causing more worry, more stress and more adverse effects. In some cases most small business owners have even resorted to dangerous acts which were suicidal due to debt pressure.

LOSS OF EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS

Being in debt can put a person under enormous pressure. Bill collectors can make your

life miserable, and with your mind focused on the mountain of debt sleepless nights can become a pattern. You may find that you're not as efficient at work and your temperament may change. People who are suffering from stress often become irritable and short tempered. Debt can seem like a never-ending circle. People often borrow to pay off one debt only to owe another, and the cycle continues. The stress of being in debt can lead to frustration and even depression.

PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE

It is best to deal with the ill effects of debt by taking one step at a time to eliminate the debt. Getting out of debt isn't going to happen overnight, but the longer you try to avoid the debt the more it will continue to mount. The interest rates are going to continue to build whether you are paying on the debt or not. Make a budget for your monthly finances and stick to it.

Take steps to conserve your resources. Contact creditors and make arrangements to get debts paid. It will take time to improve your credit rating and vanquish your debt, but in the long run it's worth it. Eliminating debt can give you peace of mind—and that's something you can't put a price on.

Columns & Opinion

For correspondence, contact;
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QUOTE:

I always try to slip healthy things by my kids. I give them sweet potato French fries and fake chicken nuggets.
Elaine Irwin



**LIVE SMART, BE ACTIVE,
EAT WISELY**

Ministry of Agriculture Home
Economics Section

The sweet potato (*Ipomoea batatas*) is an underground tuber. It's rich in an antioxidant called beta carotene, which is very effective at raising blood levels of vitamin A, particularly in children.

Sweet potatoes are nutritious, high in fiber, very filling and delicious. They can be eaten boiled, baked, steamed, or fried. Sweet potatoes are usually orange but also found in other colors, such as white, red, pink, violet, yellow, and purple. In some parts of the world, sweet potatoes are called yams. However, this is a misnomer since yams are a different species.

DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF SWEET POTATO

• Orange sweet potatoes

Orange sweet potatoes are the most common type found in supermarkets in overseas countries like the United States. They are reddish-brown on the outside and orange on the inside. When compared to regular white potatoes, orange sweet potatoes have higher fiber content. This gives them a lower GI and makes them a healthier option for people with diabetes. Some studies indicate that boiled orange sweet potatoes have a lower GI value compared to baking or roasting them.

• Purple sweet potatoes

Purple sweet potatoes are lavender-colored on the inside and outside. They are sometimes marketed under the names Stokes Purple and Okinawan potatoes. Purple sweet potatoes have a lower GI than orange sweet potatoes. In addition to nutrients, purple sweet potatoes also contain anthocyanins.

Anthocyanins are a polyphenolic compound that may reverse or prevent obesity and type 2 diabetes risk by improving insulin resistance.

• Japanese sweet potatoes

Japanese sweet potatoes (Satsuma Imo) are sometimes referred to as white sweet potatoes, even though they're purple on the outside and yellow on the inside. This strain of sweet potato contains caiapo. A study found that caiapo extract was able to significantly reduce fasting and two-hour blood glucose levels in subjects when compared with placebo. Caiapo was also shown to reduce cholesterol.

Nutrition facts of Sweet Potatoes
Carbohydrates

A medium-sized sweet potato (boiled without the skin) contains 27 grammes of carbohydrates. The main components are starches, which make up 53 per cent of the carbohydrate content. Simple sugars, such as glucose, fructose, sucrose, and maltose, comprise 32 per cent of the carb content. Sweet potatoes have a medium to high glycemic index (GI), varying from 44-96. The GI is a measure of how fast your blood sugar levels rise after a meal. Given the relatively high GI of sweet potatoes, large amounts in a single meal may be unsuitable for people with type 2 diabetes. It is important to note that boiling seems to be associated with lower GI values compared to baking, frying, or roasting.

Starch

Starches are often split into three categories based on how well they're digested. The starch proportions in sweet potatoes are as follows.

• Rapidly digested starch (80 per cent). This starch is quickly broken down and absorbed, increasing the GI value.

• Slowly digested starch (9 per cent). This type breaks down more slowly and causes a smaller rise in blood sugar levels.

• Resistant starch (11 per cent). This one escapes digestion and acts like fiber, feeding your friendly gut bacteria. The amount of resistant starch may increase slightly by cooling the sweet potatoes after cooking.

Fiber

Cooked sweet potatoes are relatively high in

NUTRITION FACTS AND
HEALTH BENEFITS OF
SWEET POTATO

fiber, with a medium-sized sweet potato containing 3.8 grams. The fibers are both soluble (15-23 per cent) in the form of pectin, and insoluble (77-85 per cent) in the form of cellulose, hemicellulose, and lignin.

Soluble fibers, such as pectin, may increase fullness, decrease food intake, and reduce blood sugar spikes by slowing your digestion of sugars and starches. A high intake of insoluble fibers has been associated with health benefits, such as a reduced risk of diabetes and improved gut health.

Protein

Sweet Potatoes are a poor source of protein; a medium-sized sweet potato holds two grammes of protein. Despite being relatively low in protein, sweet potatoes are an important source of this macro-nutrient in many developing countries.

Vitamins and minerals

Sweet potatoes are an excellent source of beta carotene, vitamin C, and potassium. The most abundant vitamins and minerals in this vegetable are

Pro-vitamin A. Sweet potatoes are rich in beta carotene, which your body can convert into vitamin A. Just 100 grammes of this vegetable provides the recommended daily amount of this vitamin.

Vitamin C. This antioxidant may decrease the duration of the common cold and improve skin health.

Potassium. Important for blood pressure control, this mineral may decrease your risk of heart disease.

Manganese. This trace mineral is important for growth, development, and metabolism.

Vitamin B6. This vitamin plays an important role in the conversion of food into energy.

Vitamin B5. Also known as pantothenic acid, this vitamin is found to some extent in nearly all foods.

Vitamin E. This powerful fat-soluble antioxidant may help protect your body against oxidative damage.

Other plant compounds

Like other whole plant foods, sweet potatoes contain a number of plant compounds that may affect your health. These include

Beta carotene. An antioxidant carotenoid that your body converts into vitamin A. Adding fat to the meal can increase your absorption of this compound.

Chlorogenic acid. This compound is the most abundant polyphenol antioxidant in sweet potatoes.

Anthocyanins. Purple sweet potatoes are rich in anthocyanins, which possess strong antioxidant properties.

Notably, the antioxidant activity of sweet potatoes increases with the colour intensity of their flesh. Deep-hued varieties, such as purple, deep orange and red sweet potatoes, score the highest.

The absorption of vitamin C and some antioxidants increases in sweet potatoes after cooking, while levels of other plant compounds may decrease slightly.

Sweet potatoes compared to regular potatoes

Many people substitute regular potatoes for sweet potatoes, believing sweet potatoes to be the healthier choice. The two species contain similar amounts of water, carbs, fat, and protein. Notably, sweet potatoes sometimes have a lower GI and boast higher amounts of both sugar and fiber. Both are good sources of vitamin C and potassium, but sweet potatoes also provide excellent amounts of beta carotene, which your body can transform into vitamin A. Regular potatoes may be more filling but may also harbor glycoalkaloids, compounds that can be harmful in large amounts. Because of their fiber and vitamin contents, sweet potatoes are often considered the healthier choice between the two.

Health benefits of sweet potatoes

Sweet potatoes are associated with the following benefits.

1. Prevention of vitamin A deficiency

As vitamin A plays an important role in your body, deficiency in this essential nutrient is a major public health issue in many developing countries.

Deficiency can cause both temporary and permanent damage to your eyes and even lead to blindness. It can also suppress immune function and increase mortality, especially among children and pregnant and lactating women. Sweet potatoes are an excellent source of highly absorbable beta carotene, which your body can convert into vitamin A. The intensity of the yellow or orange color of the sweet potato is directly linked to its beta carotene content. Orange sweet potatoes have been shown to increase blood levels of vitamin A more than other beta carotene sources, as they contain a highly absorbable variety of this nutrient. This makes eating sweet potatoes an excellent strategy against vitamin A deficiency in developing countries.

2. Improved blood sugar regulation

Imbalance in blood sugar levels and insulin secretion are the main characteristics of type 2 diabetes. Caiapo, a type of sweet potato with white skin and flesh, may improve symptoms in people with type 2 diabetes. This sweet potato may not only decrease fasting blood glucose and LDL (bad) cholesterol levels but also increase insulin sensitivity.

3. Reduced oxidative damage and cancer risk

Oxidative damage to cells is often associated with increased risk of cancer, which occurs when cells divide uncontrollably. Diets rich in antioxidants, such as carotenoids, are associated with a lower risk of stomach, kidney, and breast cancers.

Studies indicate that sweet potatoes' potent antioxidants may reduce the risk of cancer. Purple potatoes have the highest antioxidant activity.

Potential downsides

Sweet potatoes are well tolerated by most people. However, they are considered fairly high in substances called oxalates, which may increase your risk of kidney stones. Individuals who are prone to getting kidney stones may want to limit their sweet potato intake.

Sweet potatoes are underground tubers that are excellent sources of beta carotene, as well as many other vitamins, minerals, and plant compounds. This root vegetable may have several health benefits, such as improved blood sugar regulation and vitamin A levels. Overall, sweet potatoes are nutritious, cheap, and easy to incorporate into your diet.

RECIPES

SWEET POTATO CHIPS

Ingredients

4 small sweet potatoes, peeled
Cooking spray /cooking oil to grease
Salt (to taste)
Freshly ground pepper (to taste)

Method

Preheat oven to 260°C

1. Cut sweet potatoes lengthwise into wedges about 1.5 cm thick.
2. Lay in a single layer on a non-stick baking sheet (you could also put down a layer of aluminum foil). Lightly coat with cooking spray or cooking oil.
3. Bake for 30 minutes, turning wedges once or twice during baking period, until potatoes are crisped and tender.
4. Serve immediately.

SWEET POTATO SALAD

Ingredients

2 sweet potatoes
1 potato
4 eggs
½ cup red, yellow and green pepper(cubed)
½ onion, chopped
2/3 cup mayonnaise
1 teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon ground black pepper

Method

1. Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Add potatoes and cook until tender but still firm, about 30 minutes. Drain, cool, peel and chop.
2. Place eggs in a saucepan and cover with cold water. Bring water to a boil. Cover, remove from heat, and let eggs stand in hot water for 10 to 12 minutes. Remove from hot water; cool, peel and chop.
3. Combine the potatoes, eggs, peppers and onion.
4. Whisk together the mayonnaise, salt and pepper. Add to potato mixture, toss well to coat. Refrigerate and serve chilled.



PET OBSERVER

HILLARY HAGUE
SWAZILAND ANIMAL WELFARE
SOCIETY (SAWS)
FOR VACCINATED AND STERILISED
PETS

QUOTE:

"A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than you love yourself."

Josh Billings

Columns & Opinion

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The debate over the history and evolution of the domestic dog ended with the tool of DNA testing.

It is now clear that all domestic dogs are descended from *Canis lupus* - the European grey wolf. They are still so closely related that they can interbreed, producing fully viable offspring (called wolfdogs) and in 1993 domestic dogs were reclassified from *Canis familiaris* to *Canis lupus*.

The remains of dogs dating back 10-15 000 years give a rough time estimate but we can only guess at how dogs were domesticated. Wolves and man were both hunters and hunted in packs and our paths would have regularly crossed. Perhaps a human hunting party found a very young wolf cub and decided to keep it. No doubt this happened in many different groups of hunters over thousands of years. A semi-tamed wolf would probably have had considerable value to a hunter gatherer group, providing superior hunting senses, as well as a defensive warning system.

Dog breeds would have evolved automatically. Wolves that were aggressive to the group or of little use would have been killed. Only wolves with desirable traits would have been left to breed. Eventually the traits of each group of tame wolves - size, colouring, senses and even the length of its coat or swimming ability - would reflect the needs of the group of humans it lived with. Puppies would have been swapped and traded between groups based on the inbred traits they now possessed.

Understanding the changing requirements of man through our history explains the hundreds of different dog breeds and the Groups, Classifications and Standards applied to dog breeds over time.

Sight hounds: for example whippets and greyhounds, have good vision and specialize in hunting quarry by sight rather than by scent.

THE HISTORY AND EVOLUTION OF DOGS



Their lean muscular body, deep chest and long powerful legs are essential assets when following fast and agile prey.

Scent hounds: for example bloodhounds, specialise in following a scent trail. They do not need to keep their quarry in sight and are built for endurance. They can follow a scent for long distances and even across running water. They have large noses which have deep, open nostrils and their lips are loose and moist, designed to pick up scent particles.

Hound dogs: were bred to chase (or hound) a quarry by sight or smell, or a combination of both senses.

Working dogs: were developed as big, strong

dogs to perform a wide variety of tasks, such as herding, droving, pulling, hauling, herding, hunting, rescuing and guarding.

Sporting dogs: for example retrievers, pointers and setters, hunt by air scent, as opposed to ground scent. Retrievers find and return killed game to the hunter. Some retrievers are especially equipped with a water-repellent coat and webbed feet, for retrieving downed waterfowl. Pointers stand in front of their quarry, with their nose and body rigidly still, thus pointing to its location. Setters were trained to set, or crouch, in front of game preventing its escape. The hunter would make the capture with a net. As man's hunting methods devel-

oped away from primitive tools and nets, sporting dogs became gundogs.

Terrier dogs: were developed to hunt and kill vermin including rats, mice and other predatory animals such as foxes that raided a farmer's produce and livestock. The nature of these tasks required an energetic, tenacious, brave and determined dog.

Non-sporting dogs: this includes a wide variety of breeds developed as times, fashions and societies changed.

Toy dogs: also known as Teacup dogs, a name which describes these tiny breeds, were initially status symbols owned by the wealthy with little apparent purpose.

A CAREER IN OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY



Eswatini Standards Authority

This month's articles have been dedicated to looking at Occupational Health and Safety from various aspects. We looked at the management systems itself, and even looked at how it can apply in an office environment.

This week's article will look at the requirements needed for in order to pursue a career in the OHSAS field.

Occupational health and safety experts are concerned with the identification, prevention and control of health and safety hazards related to work and the work environment, as well as their prevention and control. They promote health and safety within organisations by developing safer, healthier and more efficient ways of working.

If you pursue a career in this field, you might design programs to control, eliminate or prevent health problems caused by chemical, physical or biological agents. You might advise organisations about using more ergonomically

designed equipment or furniture. You might conduct occupational safety inspections or evaluate how well employers adhere to laws, regulations or policies designed to protect their workers' health and safety.

What are the educational requirements for a career in OHSAS?

Individuals interested in occupational health and safety will typically need a bachelor's degree as a foundation. Coursework includes safety and health standards, health hazard identification, industrial hygiene, occupational safety and hazardous materials and waste management. Students can also pursue related bachelor's degrees in chemistry, engineering or biology. Various short courses in occupational risk management, hazard identification and risk assessment can add to your credentials and expertise in the field.

A significant amount of on-the-job training is needed to learn the inspection procedures and applicable laws of various work environments. Since occupational health and safety specialists can work in numerous settings, the training they receive will be specific to the environment that they work in. For example, a specialist who works in a manufacturing facility will likely require different training from a specialist who works in an office environment. Training typically occurs under the supervision of an experienced professional and may take up to one year to complete.

Duties

Duties of an occupational health and safety specialist would generally include the following:

- inspect workplaces to ensure equipment, materials, and production processes do not present a safety and health hazard
- investigate health and safety related complaints
- enforce health and safety laws and regulations
- review and make decisions regarding situations where a worker has refused to work on the grounds that danger exists, or the work will cause danger to the worker
- provide advice regarding the development of safe and healthy practices
- encourage managers, supervisors and employees to participate in occupational health and safety programs
- Investigate workplace fatalities, serious injuries and near misses.

These duties require occupational health and safety specialists to have a thorough understanding of legislation relating to safety standards and the ability to advise corrective action and facilitate change to improve the health and safety culture of workplaces. Health and safety officers also must keep informed about changes in technology.

Working Conditions

Health and safety specialists usually are

responsible for a territory or specific industrial process. Considerable travel may be required. Working hours depend on the types of workplaces they inspect. Overtime may be required, particularly after an incident or a hazardous situation has been identified.

Health and safety officers spend most of their time in the field where they may be exposed to potentially dangerous situations. They routinely are required to enter confined spaces, climb ladders and work in dusty conditions. The rest of their time is spent in offices located at central or regional headquarters.

Personal characteristics organizations look for in an occupational health and safety specialists generally include:

- good communication skills, both in writing and in person
- mediation and conflict resolution skills,
- the ability to manage multiple projects,
- the ability to remain open-minded and objective,
- good health and physical fitness,
- Good interpersonal skills.

The job title for OHSAS employees vary and organizations choose to name it differently. OHSAS employees can be referred to as an inspector, occupational hazards specialist, occupational health and safety specialist, safety officer. An individual in the OHSAS field should enjoy having clear rules and organized methods for their work, analyzing information, and acting as an advocate for workers.



Untipping The Societal Scales

WITH: Dumisa Dlamini

QUOTE:

You should take some responsibility for the way you present yourself. But you should not be hung up on your looks, whether you are ugly or handsome, because it isn't an achievement.

Christopher Reeve

Columns & Opinion

The most beautiful thing a man can possess other than a fat wallet are sleek wheels.

With a good car, you are guaranteed of arrival in many destinations of your choice, often times than not when it is convenient for you. You are also in a position to extend a helping hand to a neighbour, a relative or even a colleague by giving them a ride in your automobile in the scarcity of public transport. You cannot own a vehicle and remain unknown in your vicinity.

That automobile remains first and foremost a liability of convenience fit for the owner and then anyone else who is privileged to be aboard—courtesy of the driver. The only imbalance with cars is that they are not only difficult to procure but also very expensive to run, maintain and keep them as yours ever. Here is a balance to the imbalance, once somebody buys a car for the first time, (s) he shall endeavour to buy another after the first, economy allowing, however. *Uyabonakala umuntu lohamba ngetinyawo kantsi wake waba nge-moto*. Look around, you will see them, *bayagcunkela* like he is wearing an unequal pair of shoes. That is general. There is, however, something very special and specific about cars when they have been procured or secured by a young man.

They are not only sleek and shiny, they hardly get time to be parked because they are almost always on the road.

Scales has been part of celebrations where a young man freshly out of university has bought his first car courtesy of a bank that extended this gesture, a collateral being his employment letter. He had all the girls swarming on him even before he shadowed his work office. Young men buy beautiful cars quicker than their parents.

Lobola

They are educated, they earn big money from big jobs and love fast and fancy things. *Lentfo yekubeka imali utotsenga tinkhomo temalobolo* is not their cup of tea. They cross the bridge when they come to that stage. Its either he delays *lobola*, does not consider it at all or he takes another loan and buys just the required number *yetinkhomo ahambe ayotsenga iLondon kaMagagula*. Period! Once a young man buys a car it doesn't matter whether he is good looking or not.

He will have girls flocking unto him. Mbhemiseni Tsabedze had not always been a preferable guy in the vicinity and at school but he was smart. When he finished school his grades had excellent marks and was soon admitted at university. The long and the short of the story is that he ended up with a big job, a beautiful car and a beautiful girl. The couple caused a stir, be it in the mall or street when they were societally beheld together. An old lady sitting by her stall of fruit and vegetables calmed the shock of her fellow young marketers who wondered what beautiful girl was doing with a man of such mean looks. *Unemoto lomfana, lenhle futsi, kute umuntu lomdvuna longaganwa uma anemoto nemali*.

You don't comprehend what all girls are fed with from infancy until they are teenagers other than the well branded Nestum, Nespray *nenembe yemabele*.

Scales, like all spectators, has an underlying belief that the nannies, naughty as they are *babohle batsela nelitfonsi laGasoline kuledemu*. This is derived from the way all girls love cars, not withstanding who the driver is and paying no attention at all to the looks of the

young man. *Yadvuma nje, tisha etulu tilwanetemandla*, women and get ready for any unspecified destination the driver and owner of the vehicle will choose. *Ubowati kutsi ayikutsandzi mbamba intfombi uma yala kugibela emotweni yakho*. It could also spec-



You don't comprehend what all girls are fed with from infancy until they are teenagers other than the well branded Nestum, Nespray *nenembe yemabele*. Scales like all spectators has an underlying belief that the nannies, naughty as they are *babohle batsela nelitfonsi laGasoline kuledemu*.

ify that *sikhohloliya kona lokwemoto kwakho* or her other boyfriend is driving something sleeker, bigger and newer.

Company

Scales is informed a guy was invited to a party in a distant town and had been encouraged to bring as much company as his car would be capacitated to carry. Such company even, specified to be feminine for the saying goes, "The more the merrier." He didn't struggle to pick two girls because he already had

his best friend on board. All four went to the party in *eNhlango kungatiwana kahle*, save for Mandy, Hlelo.

The driver introduced himself as Siphuzo *sabantwana* or Juice boy. Calamity struck the next day on their way back as the driver lost control *ngabophela tjwala bayizolo obunehabhalazi*. As fate would have it, the women were badly injured and in a pretty bad state. The gentleman driver and owner of the car had been sleek vehicle now a wreck, *ilimele yona kwasindza tikhiya tayo kuphela*, had no idea who the lady was. Notwithstanding that they had travelled hundreds of kilometres together, *ambambe lukhalo* the whole night at the party he could not give *bafana bemsetfo* identity, in terms of name and residence of the woman.

Meeting

Three days later when she could talk, she didn't either, know who the driver was though she had all the details of their meeting, travel and travelling together in the party. You don't need to be anybody to a woman when you drive a beautiful car and they can follow you to hell even.

Women are a smart lot. You are not going to find a young woman having bought a new car chasing after boys with it. Nay. On the contrary, she parks her own car and still jump unto a man's car. There is this young man who was working in a garage and fixing cars of all models. Rumour has it that he was so good with the spanner that most car owners trusted him with their cars. They would call him wherever they were stuck and he would be their SOS.

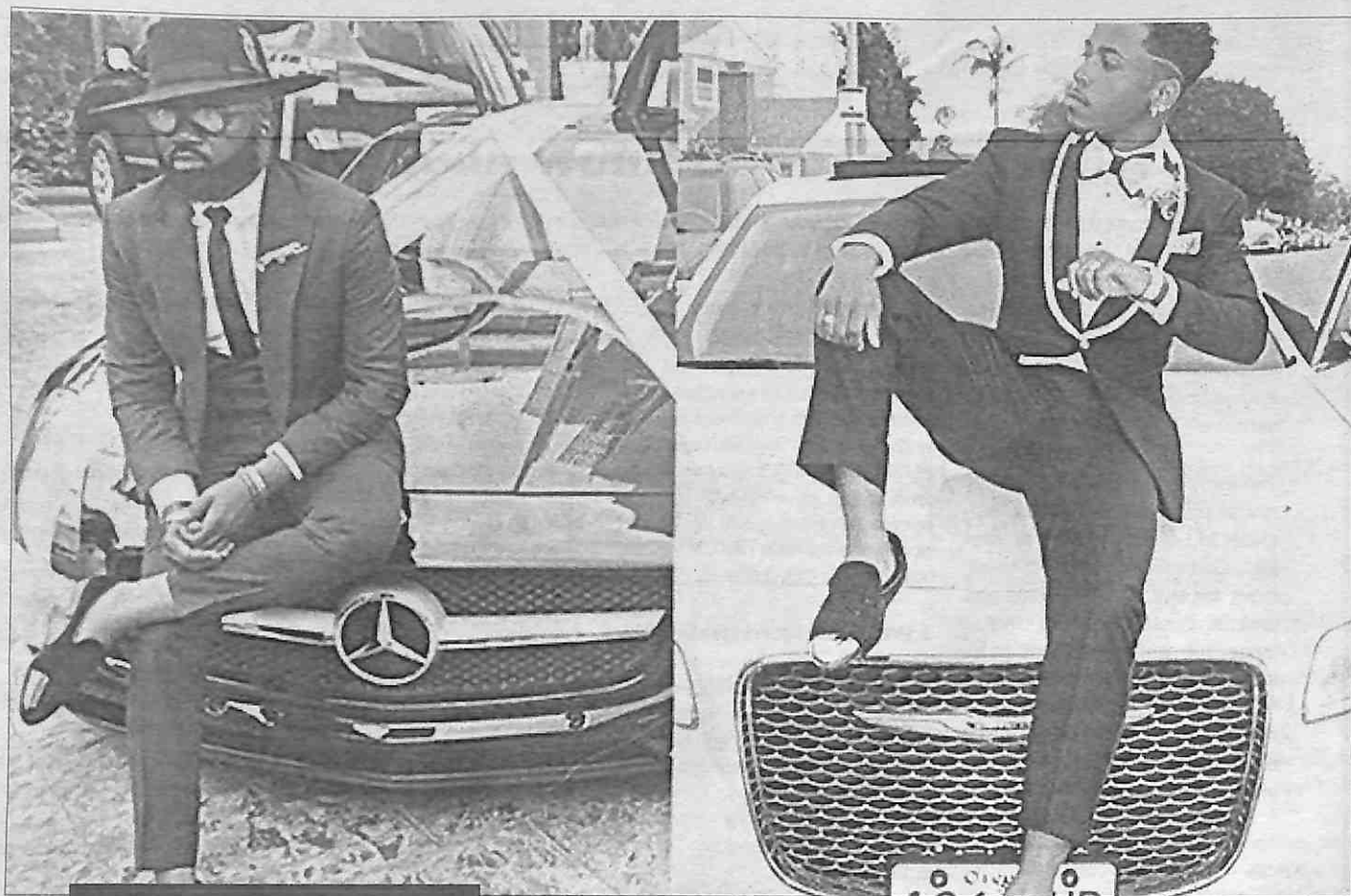
The client/service provider trust grew so much that he could use a client's car over a weekend, *atsi uyayiva kutsi ilungisekile yini*. Each time he targeted a beautiful woman, he would free himself of soot and grease, stuff himself unto his best jeans *alandze simomondiya setitfombi ebhange*.

He would take the woman anywhere within and beyond the borders making her believe he was the owner of such a huge beautiful monster. *Phela emantfombatana ungatsi kwafakwa nelithayi lemoto etinyamateni tekubabhunyisela*.

He would brag to the woman he had another car parked at home so that he had borrowed another client's car, the woman would hook in line, hooker and sinker. The young man would come back and have a long laugh with other mechanic colleagues because they knew all is pranks.

Brake

You never go wrong with women when you have a beautiful car. What of *Make Zwane waseMcozini* who got inside her hubby's Ford something, disengaged the gear, and released the hand brake. The vehicle, *yantshuma yashona esiweni* whilst she had long jumped out of it. It transpired that she was fixing Khwephesha, her husband, who had developed a habit of womanising after he had bought this second hand car. The not-so-handsome young man and *nalomdala* who would have seen better days have equal opportunities over a beautiful woman so long as they drive sleek and shiny automobiles. *Kwaba nemutsi wetintfombi ke*, she is yours for ever!



THE NOT-SO HANDSOME GUY, HIS SLEEK CAR(S) AND THE GIRLS AFTER HIM



QUOTE:

HIV does not make people dangerous to know, so you can shake their hands and give them a hug: Heaven knows they need it. **Princess Diana**



What you need to know about beginning HIV treatment...

You made a great step to test for HIV to know your status. If your test was HIV positive, it is important that you are started on HIV treatment immediately regardless of your CD4 count. Here are some important points to know about beginning HIV treatment.

1. Begin antiretroviral therapy (ART) treatment immediately to benefit you, your partner and your baby if you are pregnant.

The early acceptance of antiretroviral treatment for HIV is beneficial in several aspects of your life. Commencement of treatment for HIV early can help you look and stay healthy, live a longer life, and enable you to be a productive contributor to one's family and society without experiencing the negative effects that come with being sick from HIV infection symptoms.

2. Who will benefit from treatment?

Everyone testing HIV positive in eSwatini can start treatment as soon as they test HIV positive, regardless of CD4 count. ART treatment is recommended immediately for all people living with HIV no matter how long they have had the virus or how healthy they are.

3. When can I start treatment?

Once you test positive for HIV, immediately talk to your health care provider about starting treatment immediately. HIV treatment called antiretroviral therapy treatment (ART) involves taking medicines that slow the progression of the virus in your body.

4. What if I am not ready to start ART?

It is normal to feel that you are not ready for treatment on the same day or immediately, but it is important to understand that it is best to start treatment immediately in order to start living a healthy life. There are dedicated expert clients who are openly living with HIV and are on ART who will provide support as well as encourage you during the process. Your testing site can help link you with the expert clients to help you cope and even assist with taking you to the ART clinic or department.



5. What does ART do?

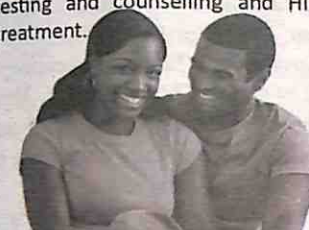
The sooner you start, the better, because ART has several benefits:

- Slows the process of HIV progression.
- Reduces chances of getting sick from HIV.
- Helps people living with HIV live to a near-normal life expectancy.
- Reduces the chances of transmitting HIV to children and sexual partners if you completely adhere to treatment because the virus is suppressed and cannot be transmitted.
- Improves your health when you already feel healthy.
- Helps you learn ways to disclose your status to partners and spouses.
- Ensures that the community has people who are virally suppressed thus less transmission



6. Where can I start treatment?

Visit New Start or Litsemba Letfu Men's Clinic in Matsapha or your nearest health facility to access free health services such as HIV testing and counselling and HIV treatment.



We would like to hear from you. Contact us for your feedback or question. Call 1212 for free and follow us on social media.



Litsemba Letfu
Got it? Get it
New start Swaziland

MONKEY RAMS BUS INTO TWO CARS



MONKEY BUSINESS: Monkeys are the mortal enemies of most people in India. For instance, take this monkey from Bareilly who stole a bus and smashed it into two other buses before the driver could regain control of the vehicle. A UPSRTC spokesperson said, "Monkeys have become a regular menace at bus stations and workshops, where they often fiddle with vehicles undergoing repair. They have also damaged CCTV cameras at stations. Three years back we had taken the help of municipal authorities to get rid of them but they have returned." (Daniel Mennerich)



Goat Arrested for Chomping Down on Judge's Garden

ARRESTED: A goat named Babli and his owner were arrested in 2016 after the man's neighbor, Judge Hemant Ratte, called the cops on the goat for munching on the flowers and vegetables that were growing on his property. The goat and his owner were released on bail.



Focus on SA Scene

Your Daily Mzansi News

Design of new R2 coin features minibus taxi

JOHANNESBURG - The SA Reserve Bank's subsidiary, the SA Mint released the coins under the theme "Freedom of Movement and Residence".

The coin is part of a larger series that features five commemorative R2 circulation coins, a commemorative R5 coin and three collectable coins in gold, silver, and bronze alloy, reports Caxton Central.

The SA Mint said in a statement: "The year 2019 marks a monumen-

tal 25 years of constitutional democracy for the nation of South Africa. To reinvigorate national pride, the South African Mint together with the South African Reserve Bank, developed six new commemorative circulation coins.

"South Africans were consulted on their interpretation of democracy and freedom and shared the symbols that they associated with these values. Taking this into account, a Commemorative Coin Range has

been developed, giving everyone an opportunity to reflect on our diverse identity as a country."

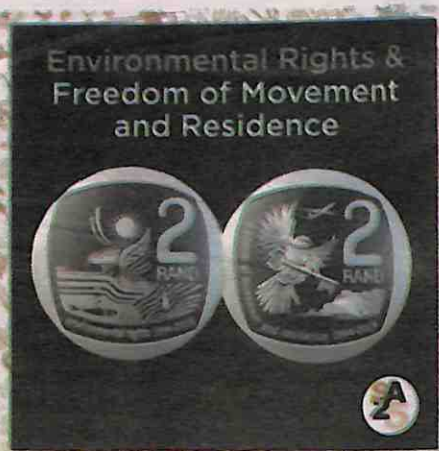
Freedom

According to the SA Reserve Bank, the latest release under the theme of the right to freedom of movement and residence was a reminder of the heavy restrictions on movement and residence as the apartheid government enforced its policies to separate people who were categorised along racial lines.

Graffiti and tattoo artist Rasty Knayles designed the coin with the right to freedom of movement symbolised by a plane, a bird holding a key, and a minibus taxi on the reverse (tails) of the coin.

The heads (the obverse) side of the coin features the national coat of arms, the date of issue, "2019", and the words "South Africa" written in English, and "Afrika-Dzonga" in Xitsonga.

Citizen



NALEDI PANDOR ATTENDS BRICS FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTERS' MEETING IN BRAZIL

JOHANNESBURG - SA International Relations and Cooperation Minister Dr Naledi Pandor yesterday the Third Formal Meeting of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (Brics) ministers of foreign affairs in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil.

The department of international relations and cooperation - SA's foreign affairs ministry - said in a statement that on the margins of the meeting, Pandor would have a bilateral meeting with her Brazilian counterpart, Ernesto Araujo.

"South Africa and Brazil enjoy strong bilateral rela-

tions conducted through the Joint Commission for Cooperation (JCC), which is co-chaired at a ministerial level," said the statement.

The SA - Brazil JCC has not met since 2013, because of political and economic reasons.

Met

"Minister Pandor and Minister Araujo met for the first time since Minister Pandor took office in May 2019.

The bilateral meeting afforded the minister an opportunity to emphasise South Africa's strong commitment to fruitful bilateral relations."

African News Agency



HAND SHAKE: Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Dr Naledi Pandor, meeting with the Russian Foreign Trade Minister, Mr Sergey Lavrov in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

PANGA - WIELDING MEN RAPE 2 PUPILS

LIMPOPO - The two pupils who were raped on their way home from school by unknown panga-wielding men fear going back to school.

The mother of one of the survivors in Limpopo told SowetanLIVE her 16-year-old daughter was struggling to sleep and could barely eat.

Three pupils from Tshimupfwe Secondary School in Hanani village were on Tuesday attacked and two of them raped in the bushes, while on their way from a school in Thondoni village, 4km away.

"She is now fearing going back to school because she is still going to use the same road to and from school.

"My poor daughter is no longer the same after the horrible incident. She was always active and energetic but all that has disappeared."

The mother said her daughter told

her that she was walking with her two friends when they were attacked.

"My daughter said they were followed by a man in the middle of their trip who kept on speaking on the phone. She said when they started to suspect that they were being followed, they increased their pace and so did the man too.

"Immediately, when they wanted to run, another man came from the bushes and threatened to chop them with a panga." The mother said the suspects ordered the three pupils into a secluded area where two were repeatedly raped. "She said they were ordered to undress and open their legs before the men took turns raping them.

"They were told that they must not say anything to anybody if they wanted to live." The mother said she wants the police to arrest the two men and send them to jail. *Sowetanlive*

KZN govt allocates R66m budget for Zulu monarch

DURBAN - KwaZulu-Natal Premier Sihle Zikalala confirmed on Thursday that King Goodwill Zwelithini's budget for the 2019/2020 financial year will be to the tune of just over R66m.

The official figure of R66 719 000 for the royal household was announced by Zikalala during his budget policy speech in the KZN provincial legislature.

"The Zulu king serves as a symbol of unity and continues to be a custodian of Zulu culture," he said.

Reacting to the allocation, opposition

parties in the legislature had differing views. The IFP welcomed the allocation, emphasising the importance of the royal household.

"More money should be injected into the royal household and traditional structures to support them," IFP MPL Velenkosini Hlabisa told IOL.

Leader

The news site said the DA leader in the province, Zwakele Mncwango, had questioned the relevance of the royal household.

"We have allocated R66m to his majesty

and R19m the trust. Why are we spending money on a trust that is not functioning?"

According to EWN, Zikalala said a revenue-generating plan for the royal household was in the pipeline and would be implemented in the next financial year.

In his policy vote, Zikalala also touched on issues plaguing the province from corruption and youth unemployment to the dilapidated state of municipalities.

IOL

Shivambu echoes Malema's claims on Zuma ousting

JOHANNESBURG - EFF deputy president Floyd Shivambu has been dropping files on the dealings between the party and the ANC's Derek Hanekom.

EFF leader Julius Malema on Tuesday said Hanekom had met EFF members to discuss which ANC MPs would join the party's parliamentary vote of no confidence in Jacob Zuma. Hanekom has con-

firmed the meetings but said it was no secret. He said there was nothing wrong with members of different parties meeting each other.

Shivambu echoed Malema's sentiments that it was not just Hanekom involved in the "plan" but also SACP deputy secretary Solly Mapaila.

"As a matter of fact, it is public knowl-

edge that the SACP adopted a decision openly calling on former president Zuma to resign or be recalled if he did not resign, and finally be removed from office through a motion of no confidence if he still did not resign after being recalled," said SACP spokesperson Alex Mashilo in a statement.

Timeslive

Focus on Africa News

Continental News



150 PEOPLE DROWN OFF LIBYAN COAST

LIBYA - Approximately 150 refugees have perished off the Libyan coast, after the boat they were in was shipwrecked as they tried to sail to Europe from al Khoms, 120 km east of Tripoli.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reported that at least another 150 who were rescued by fishermen and the coastguard have been brought back to Libya in what it described as "the worse Mediterranean tragedy" so far this year.

Libya is the focal point from which

many African and Arab migrants attempt to reach Europe for a better life.

However, the waters off the North African country are extremely dangerous, and thousands of refugees have died at sea after their unseaworthy boats sailed by human traffickers capsized.

Humanitarian organisations operating rescue boats have reached a standoff with the Libyan coast guard and several European governments, specifically the Italians - who are trying to stem the flow of illegal refugees

to their countries.

They do this by having them returned to Libya or prevented from leaving in the first place - and have declared the rescue operations illegal and have arrested some of the rescue personnel.

This forced some of the organisations to stop their operations towards the end of last year.

However, several have defiantly announced they are returning to the Mediterranean at the end of July to continue their rescues.

African News Agency

MOZA THREATENS ZIM WITH SANCTIONS

MAPUTO - Mozambique has threatened Zimbabwe with sanctions, after repeatedly warning Harare against imposing trade sanctions on a variety of goods exported from Maputo including alcohol, according to a report in the Zimbabwe media.

Pindula News reported that Mozambique's Minister of Trade and Commerce, Rajendra De Sousa allegedly told Zimbabwe President Emmerson Mnangagwa that the ban could be met with retaliation.

Business

During a business seminar in Maputo, De Sousa told Mozambican industrialists that Zimbabwe had placed bottlenecks for trade between the neighbours in clear violation of the SADC Free Trade Protocol agreement.

The minister said that he told Mnangagwa that Mozambique could also close its border with

Zimbabwe for three days which would complicate life for Harare.

A similar incident took place in 2017 with Malawi, after it too had banned several products being imported from Mozambique.

Mozambique closed its border with Malawi for several hours, after which numerous telephone calls were made and delegations sent to Maputo to resolve the impasse.

"Mozambique has this weapon, which is our geographical location. If they stick to the strategy of not using the law and using mechanisms, we will do the same," De Sousa warned.

Sea

Mozambique is Zimbabwe's closest gateway to the sea and key imports such as fuel, maize and wheat come through the port of Beira.

African News Agency

Zim tourism minister arrested on corruption allegations

HARARE - Zimbabwe's Environment, Tourism and Hospitality Minister Prisca Mupfumira was arrested on Thursday morning on corruption charges relating to the National Social Security Authority (NSSA), local media reported.

The state-owned Herald news-

paper said Mupfumira "is in the hands of the Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission (ZACC)". It gave no further details.

Mupfumira is a former minister of labour and social welfare, the department under which NSSA falls.

African News Agency

TUNIS - Beji Caid Essebsi, Tunisia's first democratically elected president, died on Thursday at a military hospital in the capital Tunis, after being admitted the night before.

The 92-year-old took office almost five years ago.

Essebsi died at 10:25 am (0925 GMT) on Thursday, the presidency said in a statement.

Hours later, parliamentary Speaker Mohamed Ennaceur was sworn-in as interim president. The 2014 constitution states that the Parliament head can take office for a maximum

Tunisia's first democratically elected president dies at 92

period of 90 days.

Ennaceur, 85, took the oath of office in the Parliament's premises in Tunis due to the absence of a Constitutional Court, which would have been tasked with declaring the presidency vacant so that an interim president can take over. The interim president in an evening speech vowed to adhere to the constitution and called for unity among the Tunisians. Late Thursday, the Independent Electoral Commission announced that Tunisia will hold

new presidential elections on September 15.

The President of the commission, Nabil Bafoun, said "the change in the date of the elections comes with the aim of adhering to the provisions of the constitution and respecting the deadlines..." The presidential vote was originally scheduled for November 17. A funeral for Essebsi will be held today, Tunisian Foreign Minister Khamis al-Jahnawi told the state news agency TAP. Late last month, Essebsi was hos-

pitalised for four days due to a severe illness. Since then, he has made few appearances in public.

He recently signed a decree to kick-off procedures for legislative and presidential elections scheduled for later this year. He looked frail in his last appearance on Monday when he met with Defence Minister Abdelkarim Zbidi. The president's death comes as Tunisia marked Republic Day on Thursday, the 62nd anniversary of the abolition of the monarchy. *DPA*



REST IN PEACE: Beji Caid Essebsi, Tunisia's first democratically elected president is dead.

BRIEFS

Zimbabwe central bank eases forex rules

ZIMBABWE - Oil firms, chrome miners, embassies and international organisations in Zimbabwe can use foreign currencies for local transactions, the central bank said, easing rules for some sectors in a bid to boost the flow of dollars in the economy. Last month, Zimbabwe banned the use of foreign currencies in domestic transactions after renaming its R100 currency Zimbabwe dollar and making it sole legal tender, ending a decade of dollarisation. The exemption which the central bank hopes will unlock \$1.3 billion held in banks by exporting companies, individuals and international organisations, is the latest unexpected policy change by the government. *AFP*

Hyena mauls family in South Sudan

KHARTOUM - A South Sudanese family is still dealing with the trauma of losing three family members to a hyena attack, which happened as they slept outside their home in Pathai Payam in Bieh State, territory controlled by the South Sudanese opposition, in the middle of the night. Radio Tamazuj reported on Thursday that last week's attack also left three other people injured when they were mauled by the animal. The injured were admitted to Pieri Health Centre while local youths managed to track down the hyena and kill it. Hyena attacks on people in southern Sudan increased during the Second Sudanese Civil War, when human corpses were readily available to them. *African News Agency*

Sudan arrests top general, officers

SUDAN - Sudan's military said on Wednesday it had arrested a top general and several others over a foiled coup attempt announced earlier this month. "At the top of the participants is General Hashim Abdel Mottalib, the head of joint chiefs of staff, and a number of officers from the National Intelligence and Security Service," the military said in a statement. "Leaders from Islamic movements and the National Congress Party of ousted leader Omar al-Bashir were also arrested," the military said in a statement. On July 11, the military announced it had foiled a coup attempt without specifying when it took place. *AFP*

Zim can't afford to drown their sorrows

HARARE - Zimbabweans can no longer afford to drown their sorrows in beer as the product is now priced beyond their reach, the country's biggest alcohol brewer Delta said on Wednesday. Delta, which has AB Inbev as its major shareholder, said beer volumes for the three months to June were down 57%, with high prices the biggest deterrent. This should come as no surprise, with Zimbabwe's inflation for the three months under review jumping from 75.86% in April to 175.66% in June. National average wages and salaries have largely remained stagnant. Buying power has been eroded as the exchange rate between the US dollar and Zimbabwe's new currency - the real-time gross settlement dollar - depreciated from around 1:2.5 to the dollar to 1:9 currently. *Fin24*

Focus on World News

Global News

US FEDERAL GOVT TO EXECUTE INMATES FOR FIRST TIME SINCE 2003

NEW YORK - The United States Justice Department on Thursday reinstated a two-decade long dormant policy allowing the federal government's use of capital punishment and immediately scheduled the executions for five death row federal inmates.

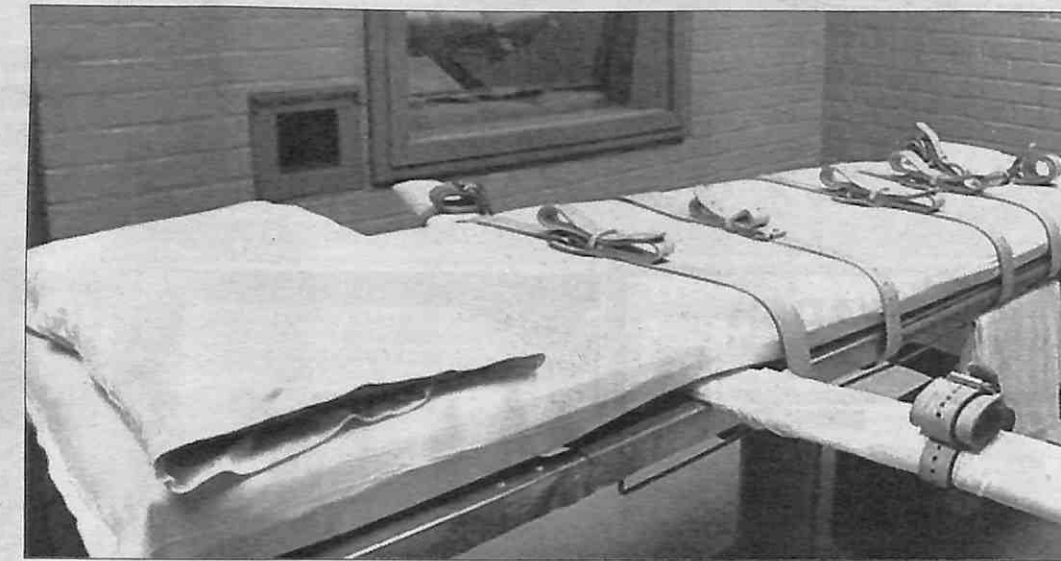
"Congress has expressly authorised the death penalty through legislation adopted by the people's representatives in both houses of Congress and signed by the president," Attorney General William Barr said in a statement.

"The Justice Department upholds the rule of law - and we owe it to the victims and their families to carry forward the sentence imposed by our justice system."

US President Donald Trump has called for increasing the use of the death penalty for drug traffickers and mass shooters, a request the Justice Department has since laid the groundwork to carry out.

Early on in the administration, former Attorney General Jeff Sessions ordered the Federal Bureau of Prisons to examine what steps might be required to resume the use of the death penalty, a Justice Department official said.

In March 2018, Sessions also called on federal prosecutors to seek the death penalty when bringing cases against drug dealers and traffickers as part of a strategy to help combat



the opioid crisis. Most recently in May, the department's Office of Legal Counsel took steps to make it easier for states to carry out executions by declaring that the Food and Drug Administration lacked the power to regulate lethal injection drugs.

Decision

That decision will make it easier for states to import such drugs after many pharmaceutical companies cut off supplies.

There are currently 62 federal inmates on death row, including Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, who planted a deadly bomb at the Boston Marathon in 2013. The Justice Department

said it has scheduled executions for five federal inmates who have been convicted of murders and sex crimes, with more planned in the future.

All five will be executed by lethal injection using a single drug - phenobarbital.

According to US media, however, analysts say it is unclear if a protocol will be in place in time for executions to take place by the end of the year. Analysts also expect opposition to any protocol put in place.

The inmates included on the initial list of scheduled executions include, Daniel Lewis Lee, a white supremacist who was convicted in

Arkansas for murdering a family of three, including an 8-year-old girl.

Another is Lezmond Mitchell, who was found guilty by a jury in Arizona of stabbing a 63-year-old grandmother and forcing her young granddaughter to sit next to her lifeless body on a car journey before slitting the girl's throat.

The other three inmates who will be executed are Wesley Ira Purkey, who raped and murdered a teenaged girl, Alfred Bourgeois, who sexually molested and killed his young daughter, and Dustin Lee Honken, who shot and killed five people.

AFP

Four dead in Los Angeles shooting spree

LOS ANGELES - Four people were shot dead and two wounded on Thursday in a shooting spree that spread across Los Angeles neighbourhoods and touched off a 12-hour manhunt before police tackled and arrested an armed suspect.

A Los Angeles police spokesman identified the suspect as Gerry Zaragoza, 26, and said he was held on pending murder charges in the shooting deaths of his father and brother, and the wounding of his mother with a gun shot. The spokesman did not identify the victims.

The shooting spree started at an apartment the suspect shared with his parents at about 2 a.m. on Thursday in LA's Canoga Park, police said.

Police said the suspect also allegedly shot and killed a woman he knew at a gas station in North Hollywood about 45 minutes later, but did not characterize their relationship.

Some media referred to her as a former girlfriend, others as an acquaintance.

At the same time, he allegedly shot and wounded a gas station clerk. The man was shot five times and was in critical condition, the Los Angeles Times and other media reported.

Later, at about 7:45 a.m., police said Zaragoza allegedly shot a gardener he tried to rob at an ATM machine. And at about 1 p.m. he allegedly shot and killed a man on a bus in the Van Nuys neighborhood, police said.

Media reports say he did not know the man on the bus and that the shooting appeared to be random. The Los Angeles Times reported that Zaragoza was arrested in Canoga Park after being tackled by plain clothes officers about 2:30 p.m. Police used a taser to subdue him. An LAPD spokesman had no information on any bond set for Zaragoza, but said he remained in police custody early yesterday. Reuters

Boris Johnson accused of being 'combative' after call to renegotiate Brexit

LONDON/BRUSSELS - EU officials accused new British Prime Minister Boris Johnson of taking a "combative" approach after he demanded in his first speech to parliament that Brussels renegotiate Brexit or face the prospect of Britain leaving without a deal.

The European Union's chief Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier on Thursday urged the bloc's 27 remaining member states to "remain calm, stick to our prin-

ciples and guidelines and show solidarity and unity."

The bloc will not heed Johnson's call to drop the Irish backstop clause in order to save the withdrawal deal, Barnier wrote in a letter to EU leaders seen by dpa.

Barnier said Johnson's statement was "rather combative," adding that he remains "available throughout the summer for talks" with Britain.

Johnson earlier Thursday urged EU

leaders to "rethink their current refusal" to renegotiate Britain's EU withdrawal agreement.

"We are ready to negotiate, in good faith, an alternative [Brexit deal]," Johnson told British lawmakers. "We will throw ourselves into these negotiations with the greatest energy and determination." If the EU does not renegotiate, "we will have to leave without an agreement," he said, adding that he has asked his new ministers to make prepa-

rations for a no-deal Brexit their "top priority." The president of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, discussed the withdrawal agreement with Johnson by phone later Thursday, according to a spokeswoman.

"President Juncker listened to what... Prime Minister Johnson had to say, reiterating the EU's position that the withdrawal agreement is the best and only agreement possible," she told dpa.

DPA



NEW: British Prime Minister Boris Johnson.

BRIEFS

The death of Armstrong, a \$6 million secret

NEW YORK - When Neil Armstrong died in 2012, it was officially put down to complications arising from heart surgery. But seven years on, more murky circumstances have come to light. The New York Times said Tuesday it had received by mail 93 pages of documents revealing a dispute between the family of the most famous astronaut in history and the small Ohio hospital where he was treated and operated on.

The Cincinnati Enquirer also received the documents, which were sent anonymously. According to the newspapers, the family had threatened to publicly accuse the hospital of medical malpractice.

AFP

London teens charged after attack on lesbians

LONDON - British police on Thursday charged four teenage boys over an alleged homophobic attack on a lesbian couple who refused to kiss in front of them on a London night bus. Melania Geymonat, 28, said she and her girlfriend Chris were robbed and left covered in blood after the incident in the trendy Camden Town area on May 30. The four boys, aged between 15 and 17, were all charged with committing "an aggravated hate crime", London's Metropolitan Police said in a statement. Some of the group also face other charges including theft, handling stolen goods, and possession of cannabis, the force added. They are all set to appear in a London youth court on August 21. AFP

Notre-Dame cathedral site, schools shut

PARIS - Work to shore up the fire-ravaged Notre-Dame cathedral in Paris was halted on Thursday to stop workers being exposed to hazardous levels of lead hours after two nearby schools were also closed because of contamination fears. Environmental groups warned soon after the disaster in April that hundreds of tonnes of lead in the historic church's roof had gone up in flames, endangering the health of people who live and work nearby. Last week authorities insisted that lead contamination from the blaze posed no danger following a media report alleging that they had covered up pollution levels in local schools.

AFP

N Korea fires short-range missiles

SEOUL - North Korea fired two short-range missiles into the sea on Thursday, complicating efforts to resume stalled nuclear talks with Washington and signalling its anger over planned US-South Korea joint military exercises. It was Pyongyang's first missile test since an impromptu meeting between US President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un last month that produced an agreement to resume a working-level denuclearisation dialogue. But those talks have yet to begin. And North Korea warned recently they could be derailed by Washington and Seoul's refusal to scrap military exercises scheduled for next month.

AFP

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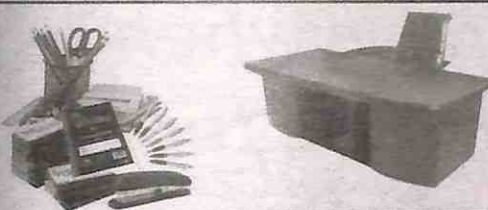
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DEATHS

Nellie Lomasontfo Dlamini
laSibandze

Funeral: 27/07/2019
Vigil: 26/07/2019
Place: Ekutsimleni

Kwatiswa tihlobo nemndeni wa Nellie Lomasontfo Dlamini laSibandze lobekendze kumfundisi Abraham Sota Dlamini naye longasekho emhlabeni, kutsi akasekho emhlabeni usishiye mhlaka 16 kholwane 2019. Utawufihlwa ngemgibelo mhlaka 27 Kholwane 2019 Ekutsimleni ekhaya kakhe ngemuva kwemlindzelo lotawuba ngaleSihlanu mhlaka 26 Kholwane 2019. Inkono yesikhumbuto sakhe iseSivokodvo Nazarene Church Ekutsimleni mhlaka 26 Kholwane 2019 sikhatsi ngu 2:00 PM. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngumndeni waka Dlamini.

Nelsiwe Fortunate Khumalo
Dlamini

Funeral: 27/07/2019
Vigil: 26/07/2019
Place: eMayiwane

Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani nabobonkhe labati make Nelsiwe Fortunate Khumalo Dlamini kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa bakubo kaDlamini nabakagogo wakhe kaLukhele eSiteki kaLanga. Libandla lakhe eMbabane Free Evangelical Assemblies liyatiswa litochuba umsebenzi. Inkono yesikhumbuto ingaleSihlanu mhlaka 26/07/19 nga 12:30 hrs. kulindzela ngaleSihlanu afihlwe ngeMgibelo mhlaka 27/07/19 ekhaya Emayiwane kaKhumalo sisheshi kuse Mayiwane High School. Simemetelo sikhishwa nguSandile Meshack Khumalo umyeni wakhe.

Daniel Mabhasi Mhlanga



Funeral: 27/07/2019
Vigil: 26/07/2019

Relatives and friends of Daniel Mabhasi Mhlanga are informed that he is late. He will be laid to rest on Saturday 27 July after a night vigil. Informants are the Maphanga and Makhubu families of Endzingeni and Luyengo respectively. Announcement by Patrick King Lukhele on behalf of the family.

Zanele Sylvia Dlamini



Funeral: 28/07/2019
Vigil: 27/07/2019
Place: eBethany

Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani baZanele Sylvia Dlamini kutsi akasekho emhlabeni utofihlwa ngeLisontfo 28-07-19 emvakwemlindzelo akhaya kubo eBethany kaLobamba Lomdzala. Simemetelo sikhishwa banfwabakhe egameni lemndeni. Rest in peace Nkhosi Dlamini.

Scaloesihle Nhlapho



Funeral: 28/07/2019
Memorial: 27/07/2019
Place: Ngwane Park

Friends and relatives of Scaloesihle Nhlapho are informed on a memorial service in her remembrance to be held at dups Chapel Manzini on Saturday 27 July 10:00 hours. She will be laid to rest at Ngwane park Cemetery at 11:30 hours. Announcement by her family.

Bhekumuzi Benson
Nkhambule

Funeral: 28/07/2019
Vigil: 27/07/2019
Place: Mpuluzi

Friends and relatives of Bhekumuzi Benson Nkhambule are notified that he is late. Funeral will be on the 28th July 2019 at 5:00 AM after a night vigil on the 27th at his home at Mpuluzi. Memorial service will be at Malkems Assemblies of God at 12:00 Noon. Announcement by his brother David Gundwane Nkhambule on behalf of the family. Rest in peace Mlandzelalanga.

Jabulani Anson Zwane



Funeral: 28/07/2019
Vigil: 27/07/2019
Place: eMankayane

Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani nemndeni wa Jabulani Anson Zwane kutsi akasekho emhlabeni umlindzelo ungeMgibelo 27/07/19 eMankayane ekhabonina kaMkhulu wakhe. Uyafihlwa ngeLisontfo ekuseni mhlaka 28/07/19 simemetelo sikhishwa ngu Thabsile Zwane dzadzawabo egameni lemndeni.

Talesin Golide Brown



Funeral: 28/07/2019
Vigil: 26/07/2019
Place: Crydon

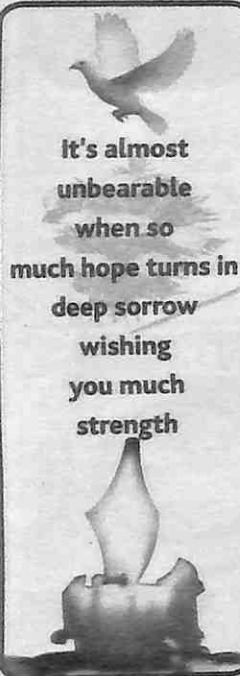
Kwatiswa umndeni nebangani ba Talesin Golide Brown kutsi akasekho emhlabeni usishiye ngalokukhulu kutumeka. Kwatiswa bekhobomake wakhe bakaMakhanya utawufihlwa eCroydon ekhaya kubo. Kutawuba nemlindzelo ngemgibelo bese ufihlwa ngeLisontfo ekuseni. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngubabe wakhe David Lotata Brown. Call 76050037

Jan Dladla Dube



Funeral: 27/07/2019
Vigil: 26/07/2019
Place: eMvutjini

Kwatiswa tihlobo nemndeni ba Jan Dladla Dube kutsi akasekho emhlabeni utawufihlwa Ezulwini ngeMgibelo 27/07/19 ngemva kweMlindzelo ekhaya lakhe eMvutjini. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngu Terry Dube



Death brings pain that time can only heal, no words could ease what we truly feel but with God, her joy is eternally sealed, and cherish her memories that death can't ever steal

Condolences

JOB 13:15

Though He slay me,
yet will I hope in him;
I will surely
defend my ways to
his face.

The LORD is close to
the broken-hearted;
He rescues those
whose spirits are
crushed.

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unbearable when
so much hope turns
in deep sorrow
wishing you much
strength

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CHASED FOR A MILE

LONDON - Arsenal stars Mesut Ozil and Sead Kolasinac were chased for a mile by knife-wielding motorbike riders in an attempted daylight car-jacking in north London on Thursday.

Ozil, a £350,000-a-week midfielder, was ambushed by the robbers as he drove his black Mercedes G-Class through leafy Childs Hill at around 5pm on Thursday.

But as the thugs surrounded the 4x4, Ozil's Arsenal teammate and childhood friend, Sead 'The Tank' Kolasinac, leapt out and bravely took them on.

CCTV footage from the scene shows Kolasinac swinging punches at the attackers and standing his ground against them despite being threatened with a knife. The attackers' motorbike pulls away as the footage cuts.

But rather than that being the end of

the drama, the players were then chased through the mansion-lined streets of north London in Ozil's 4x4 in a high-speed chase that lasted for more than a mile.

The childhood friends sped towards a Turkish restaurant on Golders Green Road where they are known, and staff raced to their aid as they abandoned the Mercedes 4x4 in the road.

Witnesses said 30-year-old Ozil looked 'terrified,' as the waiters and chefs rushed to defend their friend.

One witness told MailOnline: "I saw Ozil being chased up my High Street by boys armed with knives."

CCTV footage captured before the chase began shows burly 6ft Bosnian Kolasinac squaring up to and rushing at a robber whose face is obscured by a crash helmet.

The 26-year-old darts toward the front

end of the Mercedes to face off an attacker as he makes sure the front passenger door is protected.

The fullback then turns to the rear of the vehicle to steam towards an oncoming assailant who appears to be wielding a blade while wearing a motorbike helmet.

At this point Ozil is able to drive forward in the £100,000 SUV as Kolasinac swings his bare-fists at the thug.

Off camera, Kolasinac was able to rejoin Ozil in the car and they sped away together, pursued by the raiders.

Waiters and chefs from Turkish Restaurant Likya rushed to the aid of the football stars when they arrived forcing the riders to flee empty handed.

Neither of the Premier League players from the north London club were harmed during the incident.

Daily Mail

I apologise on behalf of my players - Pochettino

LONDON - So much for a pre-season friendly. On a steaming night in Shanghai, it got more than a little heated between Manchester United and Tottenham in what resembled a full-blooded Premier League game.

Enough for Mauricio Pochettino to apologise for the behaviour of his players during a first half that could have ended with three red cards instead of yellows.

The flashpoint was a challenge by Moussa Sissoko on Dan James when the Tottenham midfielder floored United's new £15 million signing by the corner flag and then appeared to stamp on his midriff.

Scott McTominay reacted furiously and clashed with Harry Kane as other players joined the melee.

Dele Alli had already left United's other new-boy Aaron Wan-Bissaka in a heap before he was booked for a tackle on McTominay, and Andreas Pereira was also cautioned for lunging into Harry Kane before half-time.

Amazingly, Sissoko escaped any punishment for his challenge on James and is fortunate the FA are powerless to take retrospective action over the incident. Pochettino wasn't inclined to make excuses for his players, saying: "I was a little bit annoyed about some situations."



"Not happy. It's a friendly game. I apologise on behalf of our players to Manchester United."

A total of 17 substitutions by both teams at half-time helped to take the sting out of the game and it was a more sedate second half at the Hongkou Stadium. Ole Gunnar Solskjaer played down the ferocity of some of the tackles, saying: "It's a competitive sport and I thought it was very good preparation for the league."

"We also gave, we didn't just receive. That's why we have referees. There was no tippy-toey football. You went in when you were supposed to tackle, so I have no qualms."

It was by no means the first time James

has been subjected to rough treatment on United's tour following their previous wins over Perth Glory, Leeds United and Inter Milan.

"Of course we want them to be looked after but it's a man's sport," added Solskjaer. "We can't lose tackling in football as long as you tackle fairly."

"Dan is so quick and I can understand why players mistime tackles against him, but he's a brave little boy. There's no rolling about or diving."

Ironically, United's only injury was caused by Eric Bailly catching his studs in the turf. The Ivory Coast defender, who had surgery on his right knee in May, was carried off after twisting his left knee. *Daily Mail*

Angry Sakho sues WADA for £13 million over 'gaffe'

LONDON - Mamadou Sakho is suing the World Anti-Doping Agency for £13 million, accusing them of a drug-test error that effectively ended his Liverpool career.

The central defender, now at Crystal Palace, was banned in April 2016 following a positive test for a fat-burning substance after a Europa League match against Manchester United.

The provisional 30-day suspension meant the France international missed Liverpool's Europa League final loss to Sevilla and, at London's High Court on Thursday, Sakho claimed the ruling cost him a place at Euro 2016 in his homeland.

The court heard that Sakho tested positive for higenamine in March 2016.

However, he was eventually cleared by UEFA after they ruled the substance was not on the banned list.

As a result, Sakho is suing for £13m, claiming his earnings and the worth of his personal brand have been reduced due to his move away from Liverpool.

WADA deny responsibility for his transfer from Liverpool, which they say was caused by disciplinary issues and a personality clash with Manager Jurgen Klopp.

Sakho's barrister Stuart Ritchie told the court: "Although (Crystal Palace) is a distinguished Premier League club, it does not have the worldwide reputation or brand recognition of Liverpool with the value which this brings to a player, and his associated image rights. Only recently has he been re-selected to play for the French national team."

The laboratory wrote to WADA, which maintains the list of substances prohibited in world sports, and was told the substance was on the banned index.

But the list did not specifically name higenamine and UEFA found it was not proven that it was on the banned list, clearing and 'vindicating' Sakho in July 2016, according to his QC. The 29-year-old argues the impact on his career was made worse when WADA stood by their claims in 'defamatory' emails to journalists in 2016 and 2017, said Ritchie.



DARREN BENT RETIRES

MANCHESTER - Former England striker Darren Bent has announced his retirement from football at the age of 35.

Bent, who has not had a club since his release by Derby at the end of the 2017/18 campaign, revealed his decision to hang up his boots during an interview on talkSPORT on Thursday afternoon.

He represented England 13 times, netting four goals, and scored 106 Premier League goals in 276 appearances.

Bent started his career at Ipswich and also had permanent spells at Charlton, Tottenham, Sunderland, Aston Villa - who paid a club-record £18million to sign him - and Derby during a 17-year playing career.

Bent was part of one of the most memorable moments in Premier League history in 2009.

When playing for Sunderland at the Stadium of Light, his shot hit a beach ball in the penalty area and diverted past Liverpool goalkeeper Pepe Reina and into the net. *Daily Mail*

Aston Villa sign Brazilian midfielder

LONDON - Aston Villa have signed Brazilian midfielder Douglas Luiz from champions Manchester City for an undisclosed fee, the promoted Premier League club have said.

Villa did not give financial details but the BBC reported the deal for the 21-year-old was worth 15 million pounds (\$18.66 million) which took their close season spending past 100 million pounds for 10 new players.

"Douglas is an extremely talented young player with an outstand-

ing pedigree who I am sure will fit nicely into our style and system of play," Villa boss Dean Smith said.

Luiz, who came through the ranks at hometown club Vasco da Gama, joined City in 2017 but never played for Pep Guardiola's side, spending the last two seasons on loan in Spain's Girona.

Villa, who are preparing for their first season back in the English top flight since 2016, visit Tottenham Hotspur in their opening league fixture on Aug. 10.

Reuters



TO THE #SOWETODERBY, THE SPOILS. BUT WHO WILL IT BE?

DURBAN – There's something a little weird about Kaizer Chiefs and Orlando Pirates fans.

They would tolerate their team's negative result in a competitive match against any other team but would lose their appetite and go to bed hungry if they lost in a friendly derby between the two rivals.

It is this weirdness that makes today's Carling Black Label Cup a titanic clash between two powerhouses of South African football. The purists have consistently downgraded this game in farcical terms but not the Soweto teams' diehard fans.

Here, we interview former Orlando Pirates skipper, Edward Motale, who is confident that the Buccaneers will emerge victoriously today.

Pirates are on a roll

If you look at last season's form and the way Pirates played, I believe they will win this game.

They have an upper hand. Chiefs are still struggling and they are a team that is under construction. The new players are still trying to find their feet. Pirates

will continue where they left off from last season.

Itumeleng Khune

The absence of Khune is a plus for Pirates. Khune is a pillar of strength at Chiefs, especially at the back.

He is very influential when it comes to motivating players. He is a commander at the back. If I was the coach, I would have him on the bench to motivate his teammates.

Lorch is Pirates major threat

Theminkosi Lorch has to give us 120 per cent if not 150. He was the Player of the Season (last season) and the national team disappointed him by not playing him earlier but he proved himself in the game against Egypt.

He will show again tomorrow that he should have started more games for Bafana Bafana.

Score prediction

Goals are very scarce my brother. It is going to be a very intense game. It is going to be 1-0 or 2-1. We won't go more than that but Pirates will win. I

will hate draws and the penalties. We are sick and tired of penalties.

You can't talk about penalties from here (Joburg) to Durban but you can discuss the first goal from Gauteng to Harrismith. By the time you discuss the second goal you are in Durban, you see.

Meanwhile, former goalkeeper Rowen Fernandez played for Amakhosi and worked for the Buccaneers as the goalkeeper coach after retiring from football and believes the Soweto Derby is too hard to predict.

It will be goals galore

The derby is always fantastic. To pick the team that is going to win, I don't know.

I think it is going to be a high scoring draw and the game will head to penalties. It will be anybody's game on penalties.

Chiefs are under pressure

They (Chiefs and Pirates) both look good and I love them both.

They have good squads with depth. Chiefs have to win.

The Mercury

Billiat move to Sundowns dismissed with contempt by Chiefs

Johannesburg – Kaizer Chiefs Communications Manager Vina Maphosa says there is virtually zero chance of Khama Billiat making a return to Mamelodi Sundowns.

Billiat joined Chiefs at the start of 2018/19 and enjoyed a good season individually as he hit double figures in all competitions.

Following a good Africa Cup of Nations tournament with Zimbabwe, the 28-year-old has

been the subject of intense media speculation regarding a move away from Naturena.

Raja Casablanca are said to have expressed interest in his services whereas Angola's Petro Atletico are also reportedly ready to make a huge offer to snap him up.

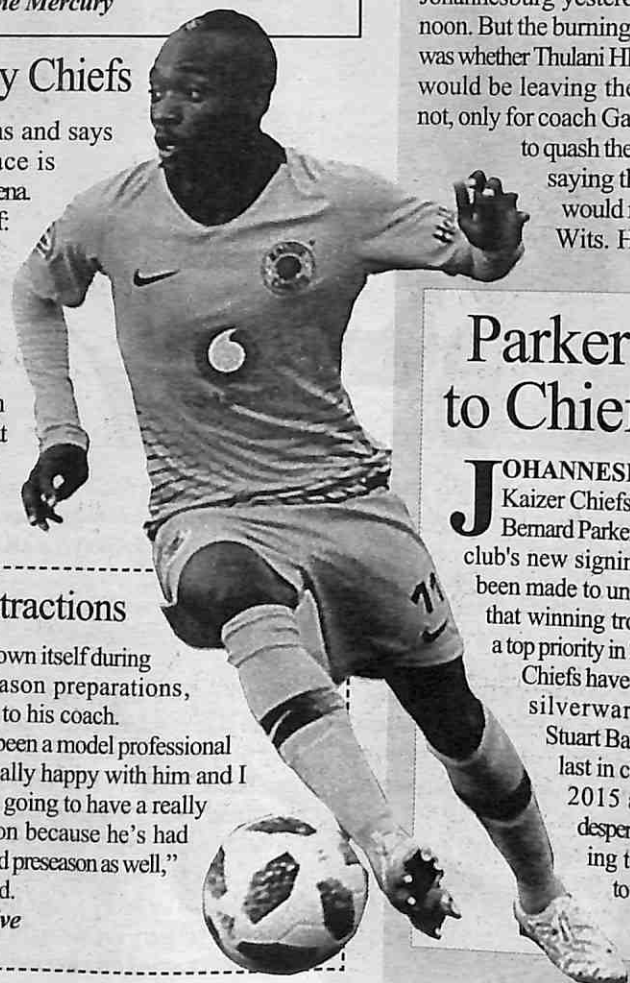
Nonetheless, recently reports emerged that Sundowns were keenly interested in bringing the forward back to Chloorkop.

Nonetheless, Maphosa has rub-

bished the claims and says the Amakhosi ace is staying put at Naturena.

He told Kick-Off:

"No, no, no Billiat is not going anywhere my man, he is Chiefs property, and we are not negotiating with Sundowns for Billiat my man. That's how it is, nothing more." *Kick-Off*



Teboho focused on SuperSport, amid European talk distractions

Pretoria – SuperSport United coach Kaitano Tembo says promising midfielder Teboho Mokoena is focused on his task at the club for the coming season even though talk of trials overseas have been circling around him for months.

"I'm happy that the boy is really focused. He has been tremendous, especially since we started preseason

regardless of all the talk about a possible transfer, all the media speculation," said Tembo.

Promised

Mokoena had been promised a trial in Germany or Holland during the off-season by club boss Stan Matthews, but this did not materialise.

But if the 22-year-old from Bethlehem is struggling with disappointment it

has not shown itself during the preseason preparations, according to his coach.

"He has been a model professional and I'm really happy with him and I know he's going to have a really good season because he's had a really good preseason as well," Tembo said.

Times Live

'I am so disappointed with the rubbish that has been said'

LONDON – Dillian Whyte has broken his silence on a failed drug test ahead of his defeat of Oscar Rivas by insisting he won the bout 'fair and square'.

The British heavyweight tested positive for a banned substance three days before his fight with Rivas last Saturday.

Whyte survived a ninth-round knockdown to claim victory over the Colombian on points at the O2 Arena in London.

In a statement posted on Twitter, Whyte insisted that he won the fight fair and square.

He said: "I am so disappointed with the rubbish that has been said about me over the last few days.

"I have lawyers dealing with it and I have been told that I can't talk about it for good legal reasons. I was cleared to fight and I won that fight fair and square."

The 31-year-old has served a previous doping ban from 2012 for unknowingly taking an illegal supplement, and he could now be suspended for eight years if he is found guilty of a second offence.

Sportsmail revealed on Thursday that Whyte underwent a hearing in front of a doping panel just before his clash with Rivas.

Legal

It is understood that the 31-year-old and his legal representatives made their case to the independent National Anti-Doping Panel on Saturday morning.

The tests are believed to have been administered by the British agency UKAD on July 17.

The results were reported to Whyte's Matchroom promoters and the British Boxing Board of Control. The latter allowed the fight to go ahead according to legal protocol, pending B sample tests and appeals.

Should Whyte's B sample come back negative, he would be cleared of any wrongdoing.

Speaking to iFL TV, Whyte's promoter Eddie Hearn said: "Before this bout this situation was dealt with.

"Dillian Whyte was cleared by that panel to take part in this fight.

"That is really important because people think this news came in and was brushed under the carpet and no-one knew about it. No. A process was adhered to. A hearing was had. He was confirmed and cleared to take part in this fight."

Daily Mail

Hlatshwayo to Pirates talk overshadows Wits' new signings unveiling

Johannesburg – Wits introduced Brandon Petersen, Siyanda Zwane, Sameegh Doute, Prince Khumalo, Carl Lark, Zitha Macheke, Kenneth Sebastian, Ivan Mahangwahayo, Phathutshedzo Nange, and Joseph Douhadji at Johannesburg yesterday afternoon. But the burning question was whether Thulani Hlatshwayo would be leaving the club or not, only for coach Gavin Hunt

to quash the rumours saying the player would remain at Wits. He said it

was just rumours driven by the media and the defender would leave Wits for a better move outside the country. "Tyson is not going anywhere, I certainly don't want to lose Tyson. It's been a media drive; I don't know where it came from and it's disturbing. But I don't worry about this because I deal with the CEO and the chairman. So there is nothing like that, he will be here. He is the captain of our team.

"If he does go anywhere I think it will be a bigger and better move somewhere else."

Citizen

Parker reveals advice to Chiefs' new signings

Johannesburg – Kaizer Chiefs forward Bernard Parker says the club's new signings have been made to understand that winning trophies is a top priority in 2019/20.

Chiefs have not won silverware since Stuart Baxter was last in charge in 2015 and are desperately trying to return to winning ways.

The Glamour Boys have signed Kearyn Baccus, Samir Nurkovic, James Kotei and Lazarous Kambole as they attempt to turn things around under coach Ernst Middendorp.

Speaking to reporters, Parker said: "Yes, definitely, they do understand.

"We've done a lot of work in this pre-season in terms of not only on the field but also getting to work a lot on the mental side of the game."

Sport24

PERCY TAU WILL PLAY FOR CLUB BRUGGE IN 2019-20

JOHANNESBURG - Percy Tau will play for Club Brugge this season after his English Premier League side agreed a loan move, but without the option for the Belgian club to purchase the Bafana Bafana star at the end of the campaign.

Brighton were hoping to have Tau in their squad for this season, but his work permit issues remain a stumbling block and he will instead be sent to Belgium for another season after an excellent 2018-19 campaign with second-tier Royal Union Saint-Gilloise.

If he features for Bafana in the 2021 Africa Cup of Nations and 2022 World Cup qualifiers over the next 12 months, it will strengthen his claim for a work permit at Brighton in the 2020-21 season.

Tau is reported to have agreed to the move on Thursday, as Brugge, who will play in the UEFA Champions League this season, beat off competition from a number of other sides in Belgium and outside.

For Tau it is a move that makes sense in that he is already used to Belgian football and living in that country, and so should be a seamless transition from Union.

Attacking

The step up to the top-tier Jupiler Pro League is welcome, though, for one of South Africa's best attacking talents currently.

Tau was named the best player in the Belgian second division last season after scoring 13 goals and adding a further 13 assists for Union in all competitions, which included a run to the semi-finals of the Belgian Cup.

Brugge also needed to push through a loan agreement now as they race to get Tau registered for the Champions League, where they will take on Ukrainian side Dynamo Kiev in the third qualifying round on August 6 and 13.

Brugge have been Belgian champions on 15 occasions, second only to Anderlecht, and were runners-up to Genk in the last campaign.

They will be title contenders again under coach Philippe Clement, a former Belgian international defender who took Genk to the league title last season, but despite this moved on to Brugge.

Tau will not be the first South African to play for the club. Former attacking midfielder Elrio van Heerden had a successful three-year stint with the team between 2006

and 2009, before moving on to English Premier League Blackburn Rovers.

Times Live



Djokovic, Del Potro withdraw from Canadian Masters event

MONTREAL - Wimbledon champion and world number one Novak Djokovic has withdrawn from next month's US Open hardcourt tuneup event in Montreal, saying he needs more rest after capturing his 16th Grand Slam singles crown.

The 32-year-old Serbian, who outlasted Roger Federer in an epic All-England Club final earlier this month, was joined by Argentina's 12th-ranked Juan Martin Del Potro in pulling out of the ATP Masters Canada tournament.

"I'm sorry to announce that I decided to pull out of Rogers Cup," Djokovic said in a statement released by

NEW HOME:
Percy Tau.

Tennis

Canada. "With the support of my team, I have decided to give my body longer rest and recovery time before coming back again to play."

"I love Canada and I have many friends there that always make me feel like I'm at home and I'm looking forward to coming back again to play in front of all of you in Montreal."

Djokovic's withdrawal means Spanish star Rafael Nadal, an 18-time Grand Slam singles champion, will be the top seed in Montreal when main draw begins August 5. Nadal has captured the Canadian crown four times, most recently last year by defeating Stefanos Tsitsipas in the final.

Djokovic has won the Canadian event that alternates between Toronto and Montreal four times, twice in each city - Toronto in 2012 and 2016 and Montreal in 2007 and 2011.

AFP

KLUIVERT CONFIRMED AS LA MASIA COACH

BARCELONA - Patrick Kluivert is back at Barcelona 15 years after leaving as a player.

The Dutch legend has been confirmed as the club's new Head of La Masia academy after he was sacked as Cameroon assistant manager after a poor AFCON campaign.

He has signed a two-year deal to be the director of youth football until June 2021 and the agreement was

finalised on Thursday.

And Kluivert is both excited by the new challenge and looking forward to use experience gleaned from the Ajax academy, where he came through as a youngster and worked in 2016.

"I am very happy to be back home and looking forward to this new era, with the challenge of keeping Barça among the top teams in the world," he said after putting pen to paper.

"I grew up at the Ajax academy,

which is very similar to La Masia, and I think I can do a lot for the development of young Barca players."

It is thought that the club are unhappy with the mixed results of La Masia's production line in recent years and hope a new structure, headed up by Kluivert, can restore it to its former glories.

The former striker played for Barcelona between 1998-2004 and scored 123 goals in 259 games for

the club.

His appointment comes just days after former Barcelona and Manchester United goalkeeper Victor Valdes was named head of the club's Under-19s side as the Catalan giants plot a dramatic overhaul of their youth system.

Daily Mail

Bayern Munich 'open talks with Manchester City'

MUNICH - Bayern Munich have opened talks with Manchester City about potentially signing Leroy Sane.

The Bundesliga champions have been linked with the 23-year-old and would likely have to fork out over £90million to bring him to the Allianz Arena.

According to Bild, Bayern's Sporting Director Hasan Salihamidzic has met with City chiefs to thrash out a deal and the German side would be willing to pay the winger £200 000 a week. Bayern are keen to reinforce their wings following the departures of Arjen Robben and Franck Ribery at the end of last season.

Sane is yet to make a decision on his future, which City boss Pep Guardiola insists is completely out of his hands.

"We want him to stay," Guardiola reiterated on Wednesday. "So it's not in our hands - he has to decide. If he wants and there is an agreement then it's good but if he wants to leave he can do it but we will be sad. Hopefully he stays." "Leroy is a guy who I appreciate a lot - I like him a lot," Guardiola added. "I think he has an incredible gap to be better in terms of being connected in the game."

Bayern boss Niko Kovac has made no secret of the fact that he is a fan of Sane's and insists it would be a "dream" to bring him to the Allianz Arena this summer.

"We all know that Leroy Sane is our dream player. The public knows that, we know that," Kovac told Sport Bild earlier this week.

Daily Mail



Japan recycled nearly 80 000 tons of cellphones to make medals

TOKYO - The 2020 Olympic and Paralympic games in Tokyo don't start for another year, but Japan hasn't wasted any time in getting the medals ready.

Tokyo 2020 is making the gold, silver, and bronze medals entirely from 78 985 tons of recycled electronics, including 6.21 million recycled cellphones, according to the Tokyo 2020 Medal Project.

It turns out that gadgets contain everything that's needed to make the medals. Tokyo 2020 didn't say if the ribbons were also made from the old electronics, but perhaps the recycled plastic could make for good ribbon material? I wouldn't start tearing apart electronics

to extract their precious metals, however. Of the nearly 80 000 tons of recycled gadgets, only 32 kilograms of gold, 3 500 kilograms of silver, and 2 200 kilograms of bronze (copper and zinc in this case) were extracted, according to Tokyo 2020.

Collected

The Tokyo 2020 Medal Project - including Japanese mobile carrier NTT Docomo, which collected the cellphones - started collections between April 2017 and March 2019. In those two years, the project amassed enough relevant metal for approximately 5 000 Olympic and Paralympic medals.

Sport24

Bafana star Hlanti ruled out for Wits 'for a long time'

JOHANNESBURG - Bidvest Wits have been dealt a blow ahead of the new ABSA Premiership season after it was revealed that left-back Sifiso Hlanti "will not be available for a long time" after sustaining a major injury.

Wits coach Gavin Hunt said Hlanti sustained the injury while on national team duty with Bafana Bafana at the Africa Cup of Nations (Afcon) in Egypt.

The 29-year-old defender starred at the Afcon finals and played all five matches as Bafana crashed out of the tournament at the quarter-final stage following a 1-0 defeat to Nigeria.

"Hlanti is going to be out for some time. I'm very disappointed with the diagnosis," said coach Hunt, who is now facing a crisis at left-back and in urgent need to fill the gap left by Hlanti. "He came back from the national team with a major injury. I really don't know the severance of the injury but I know that it is for a pretty long time," said the four-time league-winning coach.

Hunt did not give timeframes but the defender is expected to be sidelined until at least December. Hunt was speaking yesterday at the club's training base at Sturrock Park in Johannesburg where his team unveiled 10 new signings to bolster the coming season.

Goalkeeper Brandon Petersen, Siyanda Zwane, Phathu Nange, Sameehg Douthie, Zitha Macheke, Carl Lark, Ivan Mahangwahaya and Prince Nxumalo were paraded to the media. *Times Live*

CYCLING UPDATES



Top female riders are also expected to grace the inaugural east to west race.

All is set for East to West road race

I hope you are ready for the East West Road Classic which will resume at Buhleni tomorrow morning.

Surely there is a distance tailor made for your fitness level.

Just dust those cobwebs and dust off your bike and come use the race to resume building your fitness.

I really cannot wait to see if the youngsters will tame the Madalas.

It is confirmed that they are untouchable on the MTB races.

The odds favour the host team, Dig Deep Racing with Sihle Dlamini, Gcina Banda and Lungelo Mlangeni showing good form lately.

May the best man win !.

STIX MTB WAS A MARVEL TO WATCH

By Mbusi Motsa
(Guest Writer)

Well done to the Mormond team for a well-executed Stix Charity race.

Congratulations to champion Christo Carelsen, Sihawu Dlamini and William Kelly respectively for winning the third edition of the Mormond Stix charity race.

Clinton and team, you deserve a holiday if not a Bells and do know that you have set the bar to unreachable heights.

You have made it difficult for us race organisers.

Coming back to Christo, that man is on serious business. He came back with a vengeance after losing to Muzi Shabangu in the 2018 edition.

How I wish Muzi was there too so we could see if he deserved his last win. The runner up, Sihawu Dlamini trailed him by four minutes.

Christo is fresh from SA MTB National championships where he



The Mormond Stix MTB race 2019 Champion Christo Carelsen, runner up Sihawu Dlamini and third-placed finisher William Kelly pose with Eswatini Cycling Association (ECA) President Sihlangu Nhlabatsi and Mormond's Charles 'Mashesha' Thomson. This was during the Mormond Stix race which was held last weekend at Manzini.

managed a fifth position finish. I am happy that we are catching up to the SA pros.

In the past, as much as 20 minutes would go by without the locals coming in after the winner.

...on the Tour de France

The exciting Tour de France is finally getting to the end with Julian Alaphilippe still clinging on to the yellow jersey and Egan Bernal on second after displacing defending Champion Geraint Thomas to third position as at stage 18.

It has been three weeks of bliss with the 22 teams of eight riders battling it out on a total of 3480 km split over 22 days.

Don't you just love the skilful Peter Sagan who never fails to impress with his stunts.

Crossing the finish line on a wheelie while on one hand is a very tough skill even more challenging on a racer. We can't wait for Sunday, the last day of the tour where we will know who the champion will be.



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VS

Orlando Pirates

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fwn
Swaziland in
real time



ANGOLA NATIONAL TEAM ARRIVES FOR CHAN CLASH



HAPPY PEOPLE: Angola national team players captured at Ngwenya Border Gate upon their arrival yesterday afternoon. The Angolans are here for the CHAN Qualifiers match against Sihlangu Semnikati tomorrow at Mavuso Sports Centre. (Pics: Melusi Mlotsa)



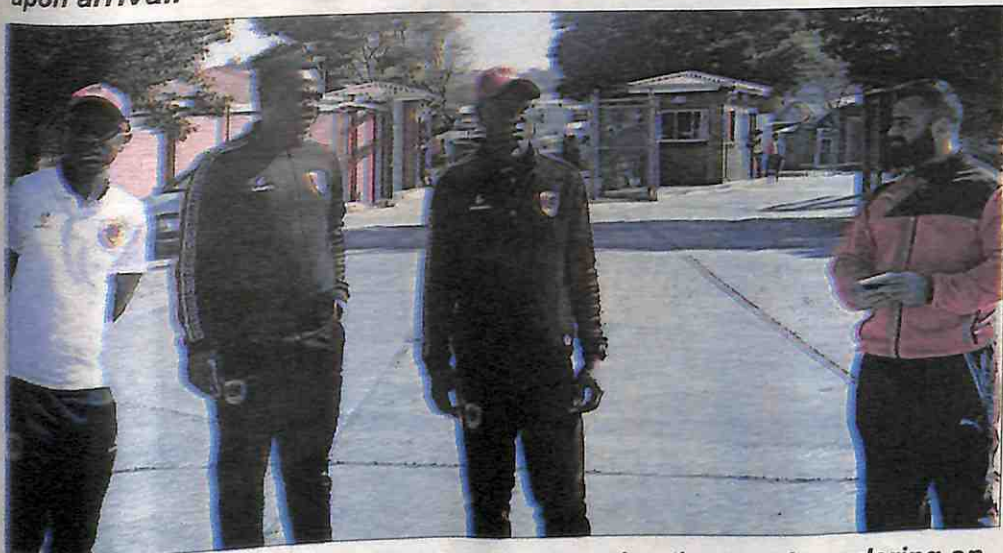
ARRIVAL: Part of the Angola national team players pose at the border.



SESEFIKILE: Angola national team officials that formed part of the delegation.



DISCUSSIONS: The officials in a discussion over logistical concerns upon arrival.



PONDERING: Part of the officials accompanying the squad pondering on their next move.

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WFA AGM POSTPONED

BY MELUSI MLOTSA

SOCCER – The Women Football Association's Annual General Meeting that was slated tomorrow at the Lobamba Technical Centre has been postponed due to Sihlangu CHAN clash against Angola scheduled for tomorrow at the Mavuso Sports Centre.

WFA Secretary Aaron 'Katalala' Mavimbela said the decision was taken in honour of the senior national team which will be involved in crunch international assignment against the 2016 FIFA World Cup participants (Angola).

Postponed

"We have postponed the AGM that was slated for tomorrow. This is due to the national team activity against Angola. We will set another date within fourteen days as per the constitution," he said.

The AGM main agenda was to fill the vice

president position left vacant by Mfanabili Vilakati who resigned in 2017 due to unclear reasons.

Manzini Wanderers' ladies soccer team Thula Simelane is vying for the vice president position alongside Siteki Ladies Soccer Director Winile Gwebu.

Departure

The treasurer position was also left vacant after the departure of Sindi Dladu, who was recently appointed into the Eswatini Football Association Executive committee.

In the treasury position, Royal Leopard coach Xolile Dlamini is contesting alongside Ian Nxumalo, Nkosinathi Lukhele and Mfanabili Vilakati.

HONOUR: WFA Secretary Aaron 'Katalala' Mavimbela.



We will bounce back – REPS

By Melusi Mlotsa

PPOOL – Following the last week defeat they suffered at the hands of current log leaders, Way Inn, Royal Eswatini Police Pool Club have vowed to bounce back to winning ways against Mankayane during their next Dixies International E40 000 Pool League.

The match will be played tomorrow at Mankayane Pool Club. The police service side team manager Norman Khoza said they are hopping for the best tomorrow after their disappointing results. "We have to redeem ourselves. We don't know how things will unfold, but we are hoping for the best though it's an away match," he said. Khoza added that though its away match, they will fight to the bitter end. He said this season is tough as compared to the other seasons.

WEEKEND FIXTURES
Garrison vs Correctional
Bhunya vs Figa 5
Mankayane vs Police Academy
Manzini Pool Club vs Stairs
Nicks vs Way Inn

SNBA changes name to BASE

By Jongile Xuba

BASKETBALL – The Swaziland National Basketball Association (SNBA) has joined other sporting association by heeding upon his Majesty's King Mswati III's call of changing of the country name to Eswatini after changing its name to Basketball Association of Eswatini (BASE). This was revealed by association Secretary General Noma Mkhombe, who also revealed that they have changed their logo

Change

"As the basketball association of Eswatini we would like to announce our name change from Swaziland National Basketball Association (SNBA) to Basketball Association of Eswatini (BASE). Apart from the name change, we have also adopted a new logo which we will use moving forward," she said. Mkhombe further stated that the decision to change the name was taken during their recent Annual General meeting (AGM).

"We took the decision during the AGM which was held on the 7th of April where our affiliates voted for the name and also the new Logo. We would like to thank our stakeholders for



PACE: Skhumbuzo Gulwako runs with the ball whilst Mbongeni Dlamini attempts a block during a recent league game.

assisting us in the changes being implemented, Ball is still Life," she said. The association also acknowledged the designer for the new logo being Thatenda Mtemeri who is a player within the league for his invaluable input in the new innovation.

ECA League matches to be live streamed on App

By Jongile Xuba

CRICKET – Eswatini Cricket Association (ECA) will broadcast live scores of tomorrow's league matches for the first time on their online streaming app.

This was revealed by ECA Secretary General Rueben 'Rhoo' Nxumalo who said the app was available for those who wanted to keep up with the local cricket league scores.

"We will be broadcasting live scores of tomorrow's league games on the mobile app that can be downloaded on Google Play Store and the Apple Application Store. The ECA is happy to have such a tool to help local cricket fans keep up to date with local matches being played," he said.

The games will be played at U – Tech High School and are expected to start at 9am. There are two games scheduled with Cricket Mbabane taking on RSSC in the first games followed by Lowveld Gladiator against RSSC in the afternoon. Nxumalo said games had been going well and cricket lovers can expect a highly competitive season this year.

"These are the third round of games this season and we have seen some good performances from the teams. Apart from that, there has also been a good attendance and I urge fan to continue supporting their teams during the league games," he said.

ECA LEAGUE FIXTURES

Tomorrow at U – Tech		
Cricket Mbabane	vs	RSSC
Lowveld Gladiators	vs	RSSC



Mlungisi Simelane is new Moneni Pirates General Secretary

By Jongile Xuba

SOCCER – Mlungisi Simelane has been unveiled as new Moneni Pirates Management Committee General Secretary and Public Relations Officer after an administrative shake took place at the club.

Sharing the news of the latest development was Simelane who is the former Manager of the black and white ensemble. Simelane said the change in structure at the club was to streamline the club's operations and structures.

Changes

"We would like to announce a change in the MC structure as of this season. We have created a new post which is Head of Corporate Affairs held by Mhlonishwa Motsa.



NEW FACE: New Moneni Pirates General Secretary Mlungisi Simelane making his remarks during the press conference. Meanwhile Marketing committee treasurer Bongiwe Sithole looks on.

This is to make sure the business and technical sides of the club work in together and that no one individual is overwhelmed with work," he said. "Brian Magagula is still our

General Manager with me Mlungisi Simelane as General Secretary. Theminkosi Dlamini is our Finance Officer with Zakhele Thikazi as team manager. As revealed earlier



PRESENT: Moneni Pirates General Secretary Mlungisi Simelane, Head of Corporate Affairs Mhlonishwa Motsa, Ngwane Mills Feed Master Depot and Sales Representative Constatine Ginindza and Marketing committee's Londiwe Jiyane following proceedings during the introductions. (Pic: Jongile Xuba)

Mhlonishwa Motsa will be our new Head of Corporate Affairs and will look at keeping our investors happy," he said.

The GS said the MC would continue to work tirelessly to ensure the continuous growth and improvement of the club and he applauded the marketing committee for securing sponsors for the team.

New Moneni Pirates Club MC
General Manager - Brian Magagula
General Secretary / PRO - Mlungisi Simelane
Finance Officer - Theminkosi Dlamini
Team Manager - Zakhele Thikazi
Head of Corporate Affairs - Mhlonishwa Motsa

Moneni Pirates 2019/2020 technical bench
Head coach - Gcina 'Magiyane' Dlamini
Assistant - Bongani Mhlongo
Fitness & Goalkeeper coach - Percy Shongwe
Head of Development - Zenzile Mpofu

WE WANT TO REWRITE ESWATINI'S HISTORY BOOKS – KOSTA PAPIC

By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCKER – Sihlangu head coach Kostadin Papic says they want to rewrite the country's history books by qualifying for one of the major international competitions.

The Serbian mentor said this ahead of tomorrow's crunch Champions of the Africa Nations (CHAN) qualifier against Angola at the Mavuso Sports Centre.

"Our main aim is to qualify for the finals of any international competitions and we have to continue with our mission on Sunday (tomorrow) against Angola. We are focused in every game that we play despite the magnitude of the opposition that we are facing on any given day,"

"We only need the support of the nation in order to achieve our goal as a team and we will be happy to see the stadium packed on Sunday. The boys are focused and working hard by trying to make the nation happy. We are going to give our best shot in



WATCH THE SPACE: Sihlangu head coach Kostadin Papic.

all the games that we are going to play until we succeed," he said.

When asked about the upcoming tight schedule for the nation's pride, the former Orlando Pirates coach said they would soldier on until the end of their international assignments.

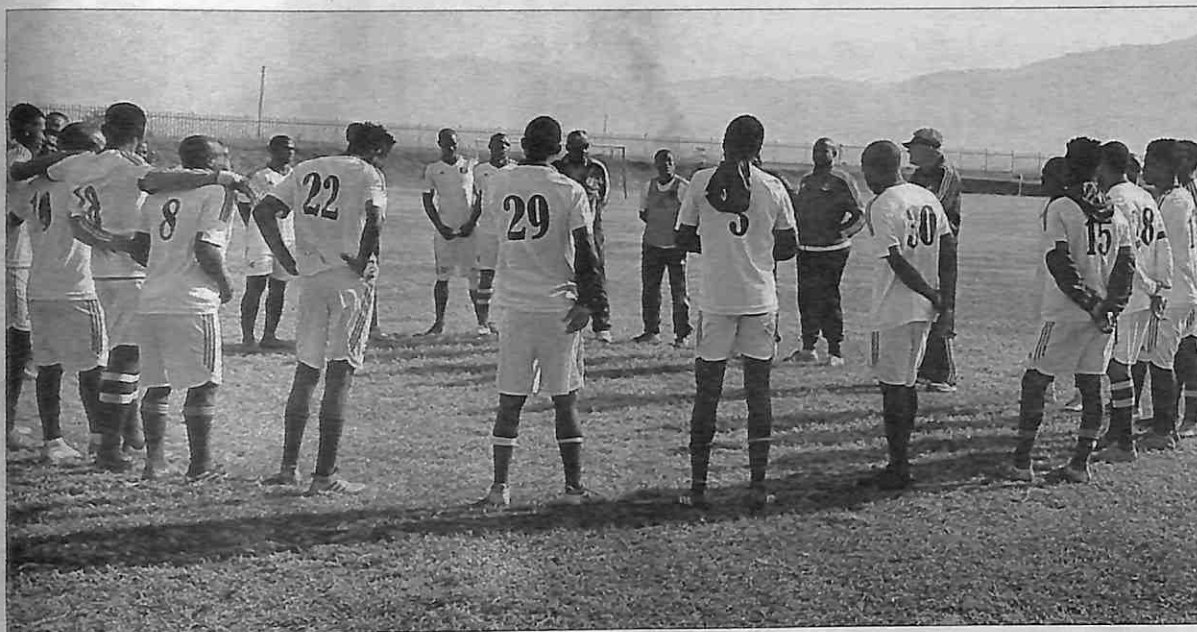
"We cannot make excuses but we have to try and keep the players in the right shape mentally and physi-

cally. I am confident that my players will do the job despite the fact that we are sometimes minus some key players who have recently secured international moves," he said.

The nation's pride is now two rounds away from reaching the finals of the continent's second premier national competition (CHAN).

The senior national side will also compete in the 2021 AFCON qualifiers and the 2022 FIFA World Cup qualifier's later this year.

"We only need the support of the nation in order to achieve our goal as a team and we will be happy to see the stadium packed on Sunday"



ALL OUT: Papic addressing his troops before the training session.

E100 000 PLE boost for 'Buffs', Green Mamba

By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCKER – THE two local CAF envoys Young Buffaloes and Green Mamba will get E100 000 from the Premier League of Eswatini before their continental missions in the 2019 CAF Champions League and Confederation Cup, respectively.

Each team will pocket E50 000 from the local football organisation ahead of their international assignments next month.

The security forces' sides will be involved in the international assignments on the weekend of 9-11 August.

A source close to the matter revealed that the executive committee had already agreed to release the money to the two teams even before the CAF interclub draw early next month.



ANNOUNCED: Premier League of Eswatini Chief Executive Officer Simanga Nhleko.

"The two local CAF participants will each receive E50 000 from the PLE which they could use to cover some of their expenses. The executive committee felt that teams competing in CAF

competitions should be offered financial assistance since they were now representing the country," the source said.

Premier League of Eswatini Chief Executive Officer Simanga Nhleko said they were yet to meet to discuss administrative issues when reached yesterday.

"We haven't met as an executive committee to discuss any issues and it would be folly to commit myself on the matter you are talking about until we hold our meeting," he said.

The two security forces teams also stand to receive E100 000 each from the Eswatini Football Association for their assignments set to commence next month.

Green Mamba will take on giants Zesco United in CAF Champions League whereas Buffaloes will tackle Buildcon in the CAF Confederation Cup also from Zambia.

We are here for a win – Angola

By Melusi Mlota

SOCCKER – The Angolan national team have said that they have nothing but a win in mind when they face Sihlangu Semnikati tomorrow in the CHAN Qualifiers.

Speaking upon their arrival at Ngwenya Boarder post yesterday at 1:20 pm, Angola national team Coach Jose Silvestre said he brought along a mixture of young and experienced players who are more than ready to fight for the country.

The Angolans came yesterday through the Ngwenya/ Border Gate. The squad comprised of 10 officials and 20 players. They were welcomed by Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs official, Foreman Dlamini and Vusi Hall.

Most of the "Palancas Negros" national team players are from the Under 23 squad following the shocking exclusion of the key players who recently took part in the 2019 African Cup Nations.

"We thank God for having a safe journey from home to here. I have come with a mixture of young and

experienced players who are ready to fight for the country. Our opponents must brace themselves for a defeat as we are here for a win," he said.

Jose further said he has not watched Sihlangu play but from what he saw and heard, they are a good side. He was however, confident that his boys will finish the job here.

The national team captain, Lando Do Maquis, echoed his coach words saying they were ready for the local side.

"We have come here for a win, nothing else. We want to return to our country with the maximum points and the job will be finished tomorrow," said the Bravos Do Maquis player. The captain added that tomorrow's game will help them prepare life after their early exit in the continent's showpiece (AFCON) The much anticipate first leg encounter is billed tomorrow at Mavuso Sports Centre. Kick off time is 3:30 pm. Entrance fee is E50.

The two sides will lock horns in a return match to be played at a venue yet to be confirmed at Luanda.

Ngwane Mills showers Pirates with E130 000 sponsorship

By Jongile Xuba

SOCCKER - Moneni Pirates have secured yet another kit sponsorship from Ngwane Mills Trading as Top Score to a tune of E130 000 for the upcoming 2019/2020 season.

This was revealed by Ngwane Mills Depot and Retail Sales Representative Constantine Ginindza during a press conference held at Ocean Basket in Mbabane yesterday.

Ginindza said the company was happy to have finally partnered with football and that the partnership signified good things for both parties. "I am happy to announce that we will provide a E130 000 kit sponsorship for Moneni Pirates in the upcoming MTN Premier League 2019/20 season.

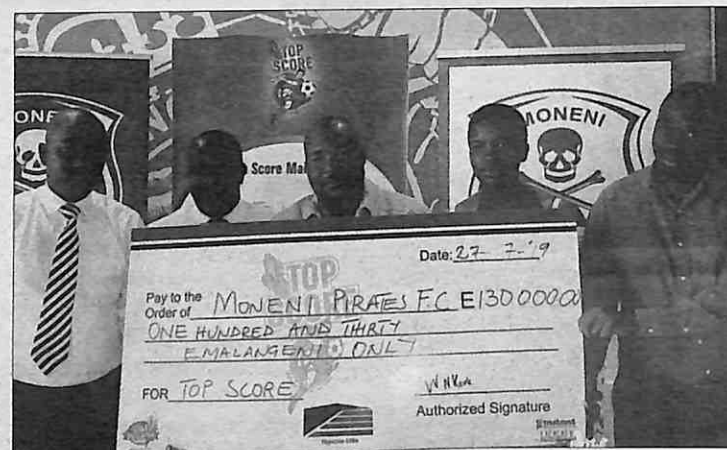
This partnership will ensure that we all reap benefits and see growth for all of us," he said.

Newly appointed Moneni Pirates Head of Corporate Affairs Mhlonishwa Motsa thanked the company for choosing to partner with them.

"We are very grateful as a club for yet another momentous event in the clubs history. We thank Swazi Mills for their generous package which really shows that football is growing and businesses should partner with more clubs," he said.

According to Motsa the company will have two spots on the jersey to represent their two subsidiaries.

The front chest area will have the Top Score logo and the Feed master logo around the neck area.



BHAKA JUJU: Moneni Pirates General Secretary Mlungisi Simelane, Head of Corporate Affairs Mhlonishwa Motsa, Ngwane Mills Feed Master Depot and Sales Representative Constantine Ginindza, Marketing committee's Londiwe Jiyane and Terence Matse with the replica cheque of Ngwane Mills Top Score's E130 000 sponsorship at Ocean Basket Mbabane yesterday. (Pic: Jongile Xuba)

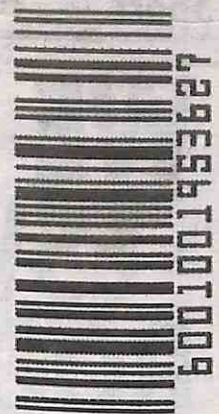


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SPORT

IF SPORT IS YOUR BIBLE, THEN WE'RE YOUR CHURCH

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'WE'LL MAKE HISTORY'

● Serbian mentor promises good fight ahead of crucial CHAN assignment

Chiefs, Pirates set for Carling Black LC battle

JOHANNESBURG - Kaizer Chiefs and Orlando Pirates will meet in the return of the unofficial season curtain raiser, the Carling Black Label Cup (CBLC), at the FNB Stadium in Soweto today.

Kick-off is at 3pm CAT.

The high-profile friendly returns to the calendar after being absent in 2018, and sees Chiefs looking to complete a hat-trick of victories following their triumphs in 2016 and 2017. They currently trail Pirates 4-3 in terms of overall CBLC wins.

The Amakhosi endured another trophy-less season in 2018/19 and will be desperate to begin the new campaign with some silverware – albeit in a non-competitive match. The pressure will be on coach Ernst Middendorp, who has overseen preparations for the new season and signed several new players, including Lazarous Kambole, James Kotei, Samir Nurkovic and Kearyn Baccus.

Goalkeeper Bruce Bvuma, who will stand in for the injured Itumeleng Khune, hopes to make a major

impression on the match – and given that it often goes to penalties, he may just get his wish.

"I believe I was born ready it's a great opportunity for me," he said. "Playing in the derby, I know there are no friendly matches in this kind of a game. I can't wait for Saturday. I just want to be there and show what I'm capable of doing."

Pirates themselves have not won a major competition since the 2014 Nedbank Cup, but the progress they made under coach Milutin Sredojevic last season (they fin-

ished runners-up to Mamelodi Sundowns and took the title fight to the last day of the league campaign) suggests silverware may soon be on its way.

The Buccaneers have also been very busy in the transfer market, with their most notable additions being the likes of Tshegofatso Mabasa, Siphesihle Ndlovu, Fortune Makaringe and Frank Mhango.

Pirates veteran Happy Jele wants to see the club return to their glory days of just under a decade ago, when they won back-to-back domes-

tic trebles.

"The time for excuses is finished. It's time to bring something to the team and the league is one of them, it's the first priority for the team. We also want the other domestic cups," said Jele. "So for this season each and every player made a promise that obviously we want to have the league. The only thing I wish is to bring back the glory days to Orlando Pirates and win the trebles, like the likes of [Lucky] Lekgwathi, [Siyabonga] Sangweni and myself. "I want to bring that back, so that the youngsters that are coming can feel what we had in the trebles. So that's my goal."

As ever, the starting XIs for both teams were selected by supporters via a voting system, while two fans have the chance to be 'Champion Coaches' and sit on their respective team's bench. **SuperSport**