

ESWATINI Observer

observer.org.sz

Revived, Reliable and Read

MONDAY MARCH 2, 2020

PRICE: E6.00 (VAT INCLUSIVE)



As a consumer you have a responsibility to verify the information on your credit report.

Further info? Call us on 2406 8000

DOC21370



WILL YOU BE MY WIFE? Lindelani Kunene on his knees as he proposed to Nompumelelo Mkhabela during an all-night prayer service hosted by God's Glory Ministries at Mavuso Exhibition and Trade Centre on Friday. The hundreds of congregants present witnessed the proposal, which came as a pleasant surprise to the ministry's praise team member. (Pic: Simon Shabangu) **MORE PICTURES ON PAGE 16**

'KING'S TRIPS PAY DIVIDENDS'

Page 3

WOMAN THROWS CONDOM, TAMPON AT PASTOR

Page 2/3

SERGEANT PULLS GUN AT JUNIOR OFFICER

Pages 2/3

EPTC MD PETROS LEAVES

HIS LAST DAY IN OFFICE WAS FRIDAY

STORY ON PAGES 2-3



SUPER SPECIALS!!

E129.⁰⁰ TREATED TIMBER 6m 38 x 114	E64.⁰⁰ REINFORCE Y12 x 6m
E119.⁰⁰ TREATED TIMBER 6m 50 x 76	E32.⁰⁰ REINFORCE R8 x 6m
E169.⁰⁰ TREATED TIMBER 6m 38 x 152	E799.⁰⁰ WELD MESH REF 395
	E309.⁰⁰ WELD MESH REF 193
	E73.⁰⁰ ICON CEMENT 50KG, 32.5N

Build it

MBABANE
SOZISA ROAD/ BYPASS ROAD
P.O. Box 4012, Mbabane
Tel: 2405 0183/7 2404 9149/6
Fax: 2404 5396/ 2404 9158

NHLANGANO
4th Street, Nhlanguano
P.O. Box 243, Nhlanguano
Tel: 2207 7815/ 2207 8600/1
Fax: 2207 2007



#Super Loaded

ESWATINITELECOM WiFi

GET 100GB OF DATA FOR ONLY E313 PER MONTH

Stream More! Spend Less!

For more info visit your nearest Telecentre or call 800 2000. www.sptc.co.sz

in touch...

Eswatini Telecom Limited

DOC21232



EPTC MD PETROS DLAMINI LEAVES

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE
Mbabane

ESWATINI Post and Telecommunications Corporation (EPTC) Managing Director (MD) Petros Dlamini had his last day in office on Friday after his contract was not renewed.

This is one man who has worked all his life for the corporation, having worked his way up to the top job.

Under Dlamini's leadership, EPTC experienced some years of calmness following

periods of uncertainty after the unceremonious departure of then charismatic MD E. Nathi Dlamini in 2010/11.

E. Nathi was replaced by almost three MD's who didn't last long until Petros, who was amongst the former's then 'Champions' was appointed to the hot seat.

His departure was confirmed by EPTC Board Chairperson Mtiti Fakudze yesterday.

Fakudze said while they would be looking for the next MD, the position will be filled on an acting basis for now.

"Dlamini's last day in office was last week Friday. There has been no replacement yet, but there will be someone who will perform his duties on an act-

ing basis for the time being before the job can be awarded to someone permanently," he said.

Crucial

Fakudze said as the Board, they had reported the vacant crucial position to the ministry of Information, Communication and Technology (ICT).

He said hopefully today they will be given a name of the suitable candidate by a Cabinet Sub-Committee on Public Enterprises (SCOPE). The acting MD is expected to be revealed today or later before the end of the week.

Ever since the coming into force of the Eswatini Communications Commission Act of 2013, Dlamini has been negotiating for the disinvestment from MTN

Eswatini, where they are a majority shareholder with 41 per cent.

The situation remains unresolved despite EPTC having a technology neutral licence to also run a mobile company, but will not do so until they have fully disinvested their shares from MTN Eswatini. Another area which has been a hot potato for Dlamini has been the unbundling of the corporation into three units to complement its disinvestment. That process awaits Parliament, and has not been fully implemented, despite EPTC having aligned itself into three entities, Eswatini Telecom, Eswatini Post and the Infrastructure Company. These units are overseen by the transformation team headed by Sharon Maziya,

Cool to hot week ahead

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE
Mbabane

WEATHER forecasts show the current week will start with low temperatures with episodes of rain showers in most places.

As the week progresses, it will be sunny and hot, temperatures will range between 13 and 33 degrees Celsius.

Today will be cloudy with a couple of morning showers followed by a thundershower in the afternoon. Thundershowers are expected in the evening. Temperatures will be between 13 and 28 degrees Celsius.

Tomorrow, heavy rain showers in the morning are predicted, becoming cloudy and cool to warm in the lowveld while a passing shower is expected in the evening. Temperatures will rise as they will reach 30 degrees Celsius.

On Wednesday, it will be partly cloudy and warm to hot in the Lowveld, while the evening will be much clearer.

Thursday will be sunny and warm to hot in the lowveld. The weather will be partly cloudy and cool to warm in the lowveld. Temperatures are expected to reach 33 degrees Celsius.

Today	Mbabane	Mankayane	Manzini	Sitoki	Mhlume	Big Bend
13/21	14/22	16/26	15/24	17/27	18/28	
Tomorrow	Mbabane	Mankayane	Manzini	Sitoki	Mhlume	Big Bend
14/22	15/24	17/27	16/25	17/29	19/30	
Wednesday	Mbabane	Mankayane	Manzini	Sitoki	Mhlume	Big Bend
13/23	14/25	16/28	15/26	17/29	18/31	
Thursday	Mbabane	Mankayane	Manzini	Sitoki	Mhlume	Big Bend
13/24	14/25	16/27	15/28	17/32	18/33	



Woman throws condom, tampon at pastor

BY SIZWE DLAMINI
Pigg's Peak

VETERAN Pastor Moses Chiyangwa got the shock of his life after a female church member threw an open condom and a tampon at him during a prayer service held at his church on Saturday afternoon.

Pastor Chiyangwa attracted media attention by banning mini-skirts from his 'Christ is Life Ministries' in late 2018.

Pastor Chiyangwa relocated his church from behind the FNB Building to larger premises behind the Pigg's



Peak Bus Rank.

It was at the new premises where the pastor was holding a prayer meeting that a female member from Vusweni 'attacked' him by throwing these used items towards the man of God.

The bizarre incident was witnessed by 10 senior church leaders who

were participating in the prayer service.

Speaking to this publication, church member Nhlanhla Vilakati said Pastor Chiyangwa was not fazed by the attack.

"We firmly believe that our sister, was just a vehicle that was being used by the devil to disturb our prayer

meeting.

"The lady is a new member of our congregation and she entered the church while we were all holding hands. She had come to Pigg's Peak to buy a few groceries.

We allowed her to join the prayer, but she decided to remain seated behind us.

"As we prayed we heard her hurling an insult but we ignored her because we were in deep prayer. A few seconds later the woman let loose another insult but we continued praying in tongues," he said.

Vilakati added that the more they prayed, the more the woman cursed until she removed something smelly

Surprise proposal shock Nompumelelo

BY SIMON SHABANGU
Manzini

A praise team member of God's Glory Ministries got a pleasant surprise when her boyfriend got on his knee and asked for her hand in marriage before hundreds of people at an all-night prayer service at Mavuso Exhibition and Trade Centre on Friday night.

Lindelani Kunene shocked many when he appeared from behind the stage and popped the question to Nompumelelo Mkhabela, who was part of the praise team on the night.

The shocked girlfriend froze and did not know what to say, as the congregation went on a jubilation ululation mood while fellow team members hugged and congratulated her. At the time, she was just standing there with her hands covering her

face, closing her eyes and sometimes covering her mouth as this came unexpected from the look of things.

It took some motivation from the congregation for her to eventually respond and accepted the proposal which was followed by the visibly happy Kunene proceeding to fit the engagement ring on her figure.

He came back and also presented her with a bouquet of red roses, which is a sign of love.

Pastor Victor MacDonald said there would be more marriages and proposals in the church he declared that

every lady who was ready for marriage would get a proposal from their loved ones. "I have said it and will repeat that no bachelor will be at peace until they propose.

God has told me that this year we will witness many weddings and this is just the beginning of more weddings to come," he said.

The special event was witnessed by visiting Pastor Zack Orji who is renowned Nollywood actor, Manzini RA Chief Gija and Senior Police Deputy Commissioner Lydia Dlamini, among others.

SERGEANT PULLS GUN AT JUNIOR OFFICER

BY STARSKY MKHONTA
Nsalitje

....visitors, locals shocked at border gate drama

MEMBERS of the public watched in awe when a senior police officer drew his gun and pointed it to a junior colleague after a misunderstanding.

It is said the junior officer, who is a constable, stared death in the face when his supervisor, a sergeant pulled out a pistol but only to be stopped in his tracks by the timely inter-

vention of another junior officer.

It is said it was around 2pm on Friday when the two had an altercation which unfolded and drew the attention of both locals and foreigners coming in and out of the border gate. Reports are that the sergeant had demanded to search a bag that the constable was carrying when he entered the gate as he was from Pongola since he was off duty. The constable, it is said was already

on the local side of the border and was preparing to proceed to his house when he was stopped by the sergeant, who harshly ordered him to hand over his bag to be thoroughly searched.

It is gathered that already other officers had checked his bag and were satisfied that there was nothing untoward he carried, hence they let him pass.

However, the constable got surprised when he heard his senior

shouting at him and advised him to stop as he needed to search the bag.

Surprised by this, it is said the constable told his senior that he had already been searched but the senior colleague insisted on doing it again.

"It was then that there was an exchange of heated words and then later, the sergeant was seen reaching for his service gun and bridged it. Just when he was about to pull the trigger, other officers close to

headed by Sharon Maziya, but without the law setting as such, they remain non-functional in law.

Dlamini joined the company at a lower position and he maneuvered his way to the top.

He joins a line of former MDs of the corporation who include Amon Dlamini, a former acting managing director, Elijah Zwane, who replaced E.Nathi Dlamini. E.Nathi now serves as Business Eswatini CEO and had replaced Vusi Mkhumane, the now Eswatini Energy Regulatory Authority (ESERA) CEO.

Dlamini occupied the position in 2013 and was given a three-year contract which was renewed in 2016 and expired last year. He was further given a six months extension which ended last Friday. Sources revealed that he vacated office on Friday.

When Dlamini was called, his phone rang unanswered and he did not respond to a message sent to him.

He joins a growing list of CEOs whose contracts have not been renewed recently in Stevenson Ngubane at Eswatini Railway, Solomon Dube at ESWACCA, Sandile Chief Dlamini at FSRA and Helmon Vilakati at SMVA.

from her handbag.

"We continued to pray and the insults got louder and suddenly one of the church leaders screamed that the pastor should look out. When we opened our eyes, we saw the woman removing a black plastic bag and threw its contents at the man of God.

Restrained

"I then approached her and restrained her while the pastor left the church because the items, being a condom and a tampon rolled in a tissue paper, had hit his shoulder and chest. I spoke to the woman who picked up her groceries before following the pastor to the Pigg's Peak bus rank where she boarded a kombi to Vusweni without speaking to me," he added.

When reached for comment, Pastor Chiyangwa confirmed the incident, saying he would not report the incident to police that he needs body guards.

However, when the woman was eventually contacted by this reporter, she claimed that she forgot the whole incident.

is renowned Nollywood actor, Manzini RA Chief Gija and Senior Police Deputy Commissioner Lydia Dlamini, among others. Another highlight of the night was a presentation of a car to a young couple who got married last year August.

During their wedding ceremony, the pastor promised them a car. He surprised them at the service when he reminded the congregation that he made a promise which he intends to fulfil on the night.

"Who remembers the promise I made to this couple?" He proceeded to say that today he had the keys as he handed it over to the pleasantly shocked couple.

KING'S TRIPS HAVE PAID DIVIDENDS - FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

FOREIGN Affairs and international Cooperation Minister Thuli Dladla has highlighted some of the country's gains from the King's trips.

The minister stated that among the gains is the eminent cure for diabetes in the country, economic and financial gains.

The minister pointed out these benefits in her preamble while presenting the ministry's annual report on Friday before the parliamentary portfolio committee.

She said these came in two-fold; one being bilateral and multilateral relations established and maintained by the country with the rest of the world and secondly through the King's participation in key international fora.

The minister listed four agreements signed in 2019 and their gains. She also highlighted some of the King's travels and the fruits they yielded in the past year.

"We all know that establishing relations with other countries is the prerogative of the Head of State hence he is expected to partake in activities with other states. His Majesty King Mswati III was able to participate in key international fora in the past year, promoting the interest, values and principles of the nation in sustained effort to raise the global profile of the Kingdom and position the country for more favourable trade, investment and tourism opportunities," she said.

The minister cited the travel by His Majesty to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) centenary celebrations, held in June in Geneva, Switzerland.

She said the King joined 45 world leaders, heads of States and dignitaries to commemorate the works and achievements of the organisation. "Furthermore, His Majesty the King participated in the 12th USA-Africa Business Forum held from June 18 to 21. The summit brought 13 00 US and African private sector executives, international investors, senior government officials and multilateral stakeholders," she added. The minister also pointed out that His Majesty accompanied by the members of the Royal family, ministers and senior government officials attended the 74th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 74) in September 2019.

The minister added that the King's travel to Cuba has started to bear fruits, particular in the area of health cooperation.

She revealed that a team of doc-

tors from that Kingdom had already visited the country and conducted an assessment on diabetes, adding that they would be back soon with a cure which would minimise amputation of diabetes patient's body parts. Dladla also hailed His Majesty's pledge to the Global Fund saying it saw the country receiving the highest grants in history.

"In October 2019, His Majesty further represented the nation at the Global Fund Replenishment Conference in France and attended the inauguration of the incoming President of Indonesia on October 20, 2019.

The King also attended the enthronement of Emperor Naruhito of Japan, the Russian-Africa Summit and Economic Forum and ultimately the 18th Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement in Baku, Azerbaijan on the October 25," she added.

Aspiring teacher freed due to absence of dagga exhibit in court

BY VUYILE DLAMINI
Magistrate's Court

ACTING Magistrate Simo Simelane cautioned and discharged a qualified teacher who was arrested and charged for possession of dagga charges after police officers failed to present the illegal herb exhibit before the court.

The 24-year-old Takhona Gwebu appeared before the judicial officer after she was arrested and charged with being in possession of 3.166 kilograms of dagga.

During her appearance, Gwebu pleaded guilty to the charge, stating that she had been job-hunting for the past two years after having spent four years studying towards a teaching qualification.

She stated that she had filed numerous job applications to the Teaching Service Commission (TSC) and



had exhausted all avenues to gain employment.

"I have been unemployed for the past two years after I completed my degree in teaching in 2018. I have a family that is dependent on the fact that I have a formal qualification, which I can use to better their lives.

"However, all doors have been closed in my face and I had no choice but to resort to selling dagga to survive," Gwebu stated.

Gwebu added that she still wished to become a teacher as it was a profession she was so passionate about.

"I understand that I have com-

mitted a crime, and I am willing to pay for it.

I just pray that I can fulfil my dream of becoming an educator," she added.

Gwebu was apprehended by border officials and police at Ngwenya Border Post.

When Magistrate Simelane questioned the prosecutor on the whereabouts of the exhibit, it was ascertained that the investigating officer did not present it before court. It is worth mentioning that a person has been arrested for possession of dagga, the exhibit is brought before the court.

"This is embarrassing. How can the exhibit not be in court, yet the accused person is in the accused dock? How can the court find her guilty and successfully prosecute her when the officers cannot be bothered to bring the exhibit to court? This is wrong on so many levels," the judicial officer stated.

The prosecution informed the court that just like the dagga exhibit, the investigating officer was nowhere to be found.

"How can this be? How can police officers 'post' this woman to come to court on her own? How difficult can it be to follow court procedures? The conduct of police officers was very wrong, and it needs to be addressed immediately. It is the court's duty to see to it that police officers' execute their duties well," he retorted.

After making his comments, the judicial officer informed cautioned and discharged Gwebu of the charges.

senior colleague insisted on doing it again.

"It was then that there was an exchange of heated words and then later, the sergeant was seen reaching for his service gun and bridged it. Just when he was about to pull the trigger, other officers close to him intervened," said an eyewitness who observed the drama.

Other reports are that the senior officer, while exchanging in heated words with his subordinate, was also heard talking to the authorities at the Hluti Police Station, alerting them that they should not

be surprised when they learn that he had killed the junior officer.

"Nsalitje Police Post is under Hluti Police Station, which means officers there report to that police station.

"The sergeant was heard calling the station commander (Bonisile Dlamini) informing her that he was about to shoot the junior officer and was ready to go to jail for what he was about to do," said the eyewitness.

He allegedly informed the perplexed junior to bid his relatives and friends fare well as he was about to die.

The situation at the border gate, it is said, became tense and employees of other departments were left shocked. "Mind you, it was Friday and it is normally busy on this day. What happened portrayed a bad image for this country as now even tourists who were there have another impression about the Kingdom.

"It's an issue that needs to be investigated and action taken," observed one of the sources.

Meanwhile, the constable on the next day (Saturday) is said to have opened a case against his senior at the Hluti Police Station.

"There is a case opened against

the senior for threatening the junior colleague with a gun," said an insider. Police mouthpiece Superintendent Phindile Vilakati only confirmed that there was a matter pertaining to what happened at Nsalitje Border involving two police officers.

She did not want to delve much into the issue.

"We are investigating what you are asking about but I must say it's not something serious as we were told it was just a minor misunderstanding between the parties concerned," said Vilakati when called yesterday.

VACANCY

LOOKING FOR A SUSHI CHEF



RES Corporation graduates third group in leadership skills

STORIES BY WONDERBOY DLAMINI
Simunye

THE Royal Eswatini Sugar Corporation (RESC), formerly known as RSSC continues to upgrade its staff in managerial skills as a way to ensure sustainability of the company.

The sugar producing company hosted a graduation event for 80 people, including their employees and non-employees with various certificates in leadership on Friday.

This was through the Leadership Academy programme facilitated by the University of Stellenbosch Business School. The programme initially meant RES Corporation was eventually made open for everyone.

Speaking during the graduation ceremony which was held at Simunye Country Club, the entity's Managing Director Nick Jackson disclosed that a majority of the graduating students were from other companies.

Some of the graduates were said to be coming from other countries such as Mozambique, Malawi and other African countries.

Jackson said the company valued the upgrading of information as it was necessary in the ever changing world. The MD said since the introduction of the



POSE: Some of the graduating workers who excelled in group-work pose for a photo with the RES Corporation MD Nick Jackson.

programme in 2017, participating companies recorded significant improvement in their various productions.

He noted that the programme also availed an opportunity to learn from each other, as the learners came from different companies.

Further, Jackson said the programme enabled the workforce to handle cases and challenges in a different way after acquiring new knowledge. He urged the graduating workers to continue upgrading their skills in all possible ways.

Meanwhile, Director of the business school Deidre Samson spoke of the unrelenting pace of change in the world and the uncertainty it brought along with it. He said it was necessary that individuals and companies prepared

for the future.

Samson said upgrading oneself with new information was one way of preparing for the future. She pointed out that some companies had faced challenges, and some eventually fell out of business due to unpreparedness and lack of new ideas.

She said for instance, a certain mobile phone company had to close down after new companies emerged with new innovations and technology. She, therefore commended RES Corporation for preparing for the future by exposing its workforce to learning new techniques of problem-solving. "The reality is that we have to migrate alongside with the change that is happening around us, or else the changing world will eventually sweep us out of business," she said.

in the media, where it informed its partners and customers about the change of name.

Jackson said the company found it proper to incorporate the country's name change, which was announced by His Majesty King Mswati III in 2018. He stated that the company had to go through a process of changing its name as per the laws governing the registration of company names, hence the eventual change of name two years

later. Jackson noted that there had been a number of innovations taking place at the company since its establishment many years ago. He said a change of name was, therefore proper to incorporate the various changes which have taken place.

"We are also happy to note that we have grown as a company over the past years, and we are certain that a change of name is in line with the improvements we have recorded," he said.

Culpable homicide teacher faces 8 counts

BY BONGIWE DLAMINI
Manzini

THE teacher who allegedly knocked dead two people in Mankayane faces eight charges.

Sibusiso Goodwill Dlamini (31) of Magubheleni appeared before Magistrate Sindisiwe Zwane at the Mankayane Circuit Court on Friday.

He faces eight charges of culpable homicide, negligent driving, driving an unroadworthy vehicle, defeating the cause of justice and failing to report the accidents to the police within reasonable time.

On the first and second counts, Dlamini, who is a teacher at Mkhondvo Primary School, is alleged to have negligently driven his black VW Polo sedan along Mankayane-Sicunusa Public Road and knocked down one Joshua Nhlanhla Mayisela (46) of Gege and Celumusa Themba Nxumalo (28) who were pedestrians.

Particulars of his negligence include that he was excessively speeding on a wet road surface and failing to avoid an accident that a reasonable driver would have avoided. The incident is said to have happened at around 18:49 hours while at Velezizweni junction.

Defeated

On the same day, Dlamini is alleged to have intentionally defeated and obstructed the cause of justice by wrongfully creating another accident scene at Fakudze area.

It is alleged that he achieved this by hiding one of his victims' body in a ditch after the realisation that he was unconscious. Dlamini did this, it is believed, so as to conceal evidence.

The teacher was arrested after a charade where he posed as a Good Samaritan who had taken an injured man to hospital. Sibusiso is said to have rushed one Celumusa Themba Nxumalo of Mankayane to hospital after he knocked him and a friend Joshua Nhlanhla Mayisela on Saturday evening at Mabovini area, Mankayane.

Information from reliable sources was to the effect that Nxumalo and Mayisela were from watching a soccer match at Sondelani Bar at around 6pm when they were involved in the accident.

It is alleged that when the teacher knocked the two men, Mayisela died on the spot, and in an effort to conceal what had happened, Sibusiso dragged him off the road and hid his body in a ditch close

by. Thereafter, he is said to have tried to save Nxumalo's life by rushing him to Mankayane Government Hospital. However, he is alleged to have concealed that he was the one who knocked him with his car.

Instead, the teacher allegedly told health practitioners that he found Nxumalo already injured while near a church known as AEC.

This place is too far from the actual accident scene.

Things are said to have taken a twist when some friends who were watching soccer with the two men at the bar got wind of the news that Nxumalo was in hospital.

They reportedly wondered where Mayisela was because he had left with Nxumalo the previous evening. The friends then involved the police in the matter.

Since news travel fast, other acquaintances from the area reportedly came forward with information that they had seen flip-flops similar to the ones that were worn by Mayisela the previous day.

Exhibit

When a search party went to where the resident had seen the flops, they found the exhibit, and it was for this reason that they combed the area until they found Mayisela's body in the ditch.

When questioned about Mayisela's death, the teacher allegedly denied knowledge of his whereabouts. He allegedly maintained that he had found Nxumalo far from where Mayisela's body was discovered, meaning he did not even see Mayisela on the said day.

However, his cunning ways did not save him as an investigation by the police yielded that he was connected to the matter, as other residents had seen him driving his car in the area close to where the accident had happened.

On another charge, Dlamini allegedly failed to stop the vehicle after its involvement in an accident to ascertain the extent of damage and injuries to Nxumalo and Mayisela.

Further, Dlamini, being the driver of the VW Polo sedan with registration number RSD970 AL, is alleged to have driven the vehicle while it was unroadworthy. Particulars of its unroadworthiness include that its two rear tyres were worn out.

The teacher is currently out on E5 000 bail and his trial is expected to commence in April 2020 at the Manzini Magistrate's Court.

RSSC changes name to RES Corporation

THE Royal Swaziland Sugar Corporation has adopted a new name to incorporate the many changes that have happened over the years.

The company is now known as Royal Eswatini Sugar Corporation, which is shortened to RES Corporation. This was revealed by Managing Director Nick Jackson when the company hosted a graduation ceremony for various people including its workers on Friday. The company has also run a statement

BIRCHCOOPER GRADUATE INSTITUTE (BCGI)

YEAR 2020 INTAKE IN PROGRESS

REGISTER NOW FOR:
ESWATINI HIGHER EDUCATION COUNCIL (ESHEC) APPROVED PROGRAMMES

CERTIFICATES LEVEL PROGRAMMES

- DIPLOMA PROGRAMMES
- PROFESSIONAL STRUCTURED LEVELS (UNDERGRADUATE) PROGRAMMES

Social Work & Community Development

Human Resource Management & Development

Accounting & Finance

Business Management & Administration

Information Communication Technology (ICT)

Public Relations & Marketing

International Relations & Diplomacy

Call Centre Management & Operations

Occupational Health & Safety (OHS)

Secretarial & Administrative Studies

Business Management & Marketing

REGISTER TO JOIN NOW!!!
Distance Learning Available

BCGI - THE HOME OF TRAINING

CONTACT OR VISIT US:

Mbabane: BCGI, Ingangweni Building, Gwamile Street, Next to Nedd Gwamile Street Branch, Opp. Pep Store & Pita, Tel: 2404 1519, Cell: 7653 5344

Email: info@birchcooper.co.za

May the budget be enough not stall project

BY BONGIWE DLAMINI
Manzini

AFTER the Minister of Housing and Urban Development Prince Simelane had toured two areas, Mhobodleni and kaKhoza, an engineer from ED Simelane and Associates, a civil engineering company, appealed to the minister for sufficient funds for the resettlement project.

The engineer Nginga Dlamini asked the minister to ensure that the budget set aside for such projects should be enough to see them through.

Dlamini said this would help in getting projects done within reasonable periods. In the event that a project is forced to be stalled due to the unavailability of finances, Dlamini said the work that would have been done would

be in vain because when funds permit again, it would call for a redo of the same work that had been done before. This, according to the engineer, dampens the efforts of contractors and wastes resources.

Likewise, in the Mhobodleni resettlement project, Dlamini said the road should be completed within two years or the work that had been done would all be for nothing.

On another note, a representative of Mhobodleni and kaKhoza, Bongani Cindzi implored the minister for speedy compensation of residents who will be moved from their homes.

Cindzi said the sooner this was done, the residents would vacate the area so as to allow the progress of the road construction.

"The residents welcome development with open arms, only if the right chan-

nels and processes are observed," he said.

He further appreciated the ministry's commitment in developing the two areas for the better as it is bound to make the lives of residents better.

The residents welcome development with open arms only if the right channels and processes are observed in as far as they are concerned



Royal Science &
Technology Park

Vacancies

ADVANCED SCHOOL OF
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



Department : Advanced School of Information Technology
Position: Hardware and Networking Lecturer (1 position)

Closing Date: 6 March 2020

Qualifications and Experience:

- MSc in Computer Science/Information Technology or Equivalent
- CCNA or CCNP qualification will be added advantage
- At least 2 years working with IT security systems
- At least 3 years teaching or lecturing students

Duties:

1. To teach Computer Science courses such as but not limited to;
 - Fundamentals of Computer Hardware and Networking
 - Windows Server Administration
 - Design and Implement Advanced Windows-Based Server Infrastructure
 - Routing Technology
 - Cloud Computing
 - Remote Access Solutions
2. Undertake learning, teaching and assessment on ASIT Hardware and Networking programmes of study. This includes, the provision of high quality teaching, assessment and support for students' learning on designated modules at all levels.
3. Review and ensure course deliverables are relevant and reflect best practice and current technology.
4. Ensure the delivery of modules through lectures, seminars, workshops, tutorials and conducting of simulations and practicals on networking scenario's.
5. Participate in departmental and organisational committees including task teams.
6. Participate in community engagement and outreach programmes; and
7. Undertake any other functions and duties as delegated by the Royal Science and Technology Park.

Department : Advanced School of Information Technology
Position : Software Engineering Lecturer (1 position)

Closing Date : 6 March 2020

Qualifications and Experience:

- MSc in Software Engineering/Computer Science/Information Technology or equivalent
- At least 2 years of programming experience
- At least 3 years teaching or lecturing students

Duties:

1. To teach Software Engineering/Programming

courses such as but not limited to;

- Software Engineering and Development
 - Mobile Application Development
 - Database Development and Management
 - Website Development
 - Java or .Net Programming
2. Undertake learning, teaching and assessment on Software engineering programmes of study. This includes, the provision of high quality teaching, assessment and support for students' learning on designated modules at all levels.
 3. Review and ensure course deliverables are relevant and reflect best practice and current technology.
 4. Ensure the delivery of modules through lectures, seminars, workshops, tutorials and conducting of simulations and practicals on programming scenario's.
 5. Participate in departmental and organisational committees including task teams.
 6. Participate in community engagement and outreach programmes; and
 7. Undertake any other functions and duties as delegated by the Royal Science and Technology Park.

Department : Advanced School of Information Technology
Section : Arena Animation Academy
Position : Multimedia Lecturer (1 position)

Closing Date: 6 March 2020

Qualifications and Experience:

- BA in Multimedia/BSc in Computer Science/Information Technology
- MSc in Computer Science/Information Technology/MA in Multimedia or equivalent
- Diploma or Certificate in 3D Animation as an additional qualification to the above
- At least 2 years of multimedia experience in 3D Animation
- At least 3 years teaching or lecturing students

Duties:

1. To teach Multimedia courses such as but not limited to;
 - Motion Graphics Techniques
 - 3D Animation and Modelling
 - Clay Modelling
 - Lighting and Texturing
 - Rendering and Editing
 - Multimedia Software's (Adobe Suite, Corel Draw, 3ds Max, Autodesk MAYA, Stop Motion Pro, Golaem, etc.)
2. Undertake learning, teaching and assessment on ASIT Multimedia Animation programmes of study. This includes, the provision of high quality teaching, assessment and support for students' learning on designated modules at all levels.
3. Review and ensure course deliverables are relevant and reflect best practice and current

technology.

4. Ensure the delivery of modules through lectures, seminars, workshops, tutorials and conducting of simulations and practicals on modelling and animation scenario's.
5. Participate in departmental and organisational committees including task teams.
6. Participate in community engagement and outreach programmes; and
7. Undertake any other functions and duties as delegated by the Royal Science and Technology Park.

Department : Advanced School of Information Technology
Position : Information Security and Ethical Hacking Lecturer (1 position)

Closing Date: 6 March 2020

Qualifications and Experience:

- MSc in Information Security/Computer Science/Information Technology or equivalent
- At least 2 years working with IT security systems
- At least 3 years teaching or lecturing students

Duties:

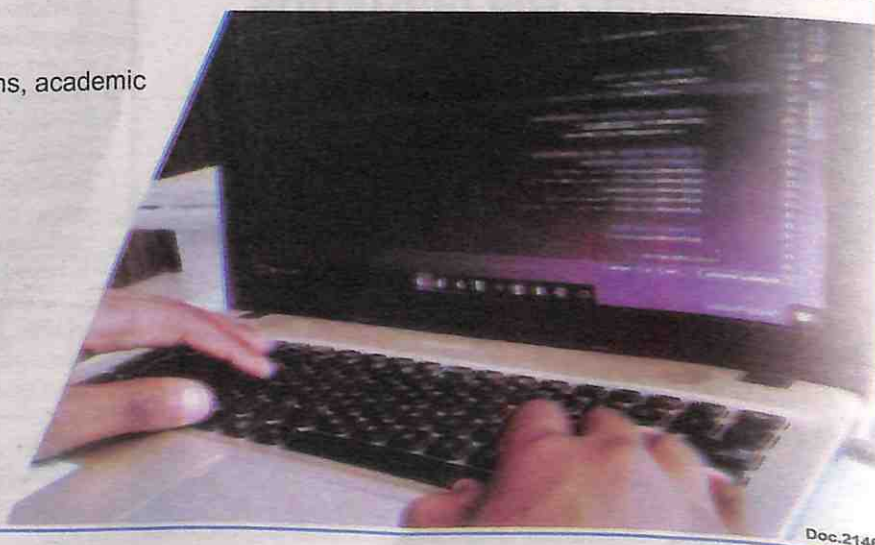
1. To teach Computer Science courses such as but not limited to;
 - Information Security and Ethical Hacking
 - Information Security and Organizational Structure
 - Cyber Security and Network Forensics
 - Hardware and Networking
 - Mobile and Cloud Computing
 - Security Architecture and Hacking
 - Mobile and Cloud Security
 - Programming/Software Development Security
2. Undertake learning, teaching and assessment on ASIT Information Security and Ethical Hacking programmes of study. This includes, the provision of high quality teaching, assessment and support for students' learning on designated modules at all levels.
3. Review and ensure course deliverables are relevant and reflect best practice and current technology.
4. Ensure the delivery of modules through lectures, seminars, workshops, tutorials and conducting of simulations and practicals on modelling and animation scenario's.
5. Participate in departmental and organisational committees including task teams.
6. Participate in community engagement and outreach programmes; and
7. Undertake any other functions and duties as delegated by the Royal Science and Technology Park.

Application:

Applications with detailed CV, certified copies of ID, academic and professional qualifications, academic transcripts and names and current email addresses of three referees should be sent to:

The Human Resources Manager
Royal Science & Technology Park
P.O. Box 2316
Matsapha
Swaziland

Email: recruitment@rstp.org.sz





CONCERNED: A view of the Parliament building in Lobamba.

MPs CONCERNED ABOUT GOVT LAND INVESTMENTS

BY SIFISO DLAMINI
Lobamba

MEMBERS of Parliament (MPs) have raised their concerns over government possibly investing in the development of private land.

Hosea MP Mduduzi 'Bacede' Mabuza enquired if all the properties government was developing, including the factory shells in Matsapha belonged to government.

Worth noting is that the MP has previously expressed his displeasure over government investing public funds in the construction of factory shells with the aim of attracting foreign investor.

He made an example of a factory shell currently under construction where government has already spent in excess of E100 million and has committed a further E250 million towards the completion of the structure.

Mabuza requested the minister of finance to clarify if the structures under development were on government property.

He also raised a concern regarding the seemingly high supplementary budget.

Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg said for the next financial year, the supplementary budget was different from the previous years as it was enormously high.

He, however said one of the reasons for the high budget was that government was in the process of settling overdue arrears.

"There are a number of things we need to focus on this financial year in order to get the economy back on track as well as creating an investor friendly environment," he said. Regarding the factory shells, the minister assured the legislators that the constructed factory shells were on government land.

He added that one of the investors had signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) that after three years, the investor would purchase the property including the land which in turn would result in government recovering the funds invested in the construction of the structure.

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE
Mbabane

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy Portfolio Committee from Senate toured energy projects in the southern part of the country on Wednesday.

The portfolio committee which was led by Senator Princess Ntfombiyenkosi, who is Chairperson was hosted by the Minister of Natural Resources and Energy Peter Bhembe, senior officials led by the Principal Secretary Winnie Stewart and Eswatini Electricity Company executive managers.

The portfolio Committee started by visiting the Phuzumoya Strategic Oil Reserve Facility site. At the site, Minister Bhembe stated that plans for securing funding were at an advanced stage and if all went well the project may commence anytime within the financial year 2020/21.

It is worth mentioning that the Phuzumoya Strategic Oil Reserve Facility is a government project aimed at improving fuel security of supply for the country through storing 30-day fuel stocks. This is mainly aimed at safeguarding the country against unplanned fuel supply disruptions that may hamper economic activity. Ground preparations for the project like fencing the project area, installation of electricity infrastructure, potable and raw water, railline and tarred



AT WORK: Minister of Natural Resources and Energy Peter Bhembe briefing the portfolio committee at Phuzumoya during the tour of energy projects. (Pic: Nonduduzo Kunene)

access road to the site are all in place.

The portfolio committee then proceeded to tour the Ncandweni Substation. Explaining about the project, the Managing Director, Meshack Kunene said the substation, currently under construction once completed would improve and strengthen the electricity output for Ncandweni and surrounding areas, which will see sugar cane farmers under the Lusip II Project benefitting.

"This is a huge substation and we are hopeful that it will be completed before the end of this year," said Kunene.

The committee proceeded to visit a completed rural electrification project at Lunkuntfu. The project benefited 81 homesteads, which were all electrified as well as the Lunkuntfu Community hall and a water pump. The total cost of the project to government is E950 000. The tour ended by visiting a site at Qomintaba under Lavumisa, where a 10MW Solar PV Project is currently under construction. The project cost is around E240million and construction work is proceeding well. The said project is expected to be completed by August this year. The MD stated that as a company they prioritised hiring of locals in all their projects, this was confirmed by the project manager of CONCO Energy Solutions Byron Sancho. "The company has hired about 40 locals and we anticipate hiring more as construction continues," said Sancho. Making her remarks the Senator portfolio Chairperson Princess Ntfombiyenkosi said they appreciated as a portfolio committee responsible for the ministry to see such big projects under the energy sector, which will take the country to a better level in terms of sustainable and energy access for all. "This will not only improve the economy of the country but will also improve the lives of Emaswati," she said. The chairperson also noted the gender equality as she appreciated the hiring of female Engineers in most of the EEC projects.

WE DO NOT ISSUE WORK PERMITS – MINISTER

BY SIFISO DLAMINI
Lobamba

MINISTER of Labour and Social Security Makhosi Vilakati has clarified that the ministry was not responsible for issuing work permits.

Following increasing concerns over the continual issuing of work permits to foreign nationals, Members of Parliament requested the ministry to re-evaluate the process of granting and extension of work permits to foreign nationals.

The minister clarified that the issuing of work permits was the responsibility of the Training and Localisation Committee and as a ministry, in conjunction with the ministry of home affairs and the ministry of commerce, industry and trade; they only inspected and made recommendations for permits to be issued.

This was during the House of Assembly portfolio committee debate of the ministry of labour and social security annual performance report for the current financial year. The committee is chaired by Ndzingeni MP Lutfu Dlamini.

In the ministry's report, the minister indicated that during the reporting period, the committee has scrutinised 2 093 applications for work permits on a weekly basis and were finalized by the immigration department.

Of the 2 093 applications, there were a total of 1154 long-term permits granted or extended, 781 short term permits, 59 deferred permits as well as 99 permits not recommended.

Mangcongco MP Oneboy Zikalala said the number of granted work per-

mits was concerning. He pointed out that in the ministry's report, there were only 13 artisans that were graded and issued certificates out of over 1 000 that were grade-tested.

He said this was not enough and the ministry needed to engage a private entity to increase the number of graded artisans, as there was currently a shortage in the country.

"More people need to be tested and the tests need to be regular not once a year," said.

He said this could be attributed to the growing trend where companies sought for employees outside the country. He added that it was not a surprise to him that there were so many work permits granted as the locals especially the youth were not adequately capacitated.

He stated there were enough qualified Emaswati who were out of employment but government continued to grant work permits to foreign nationals.

"For instance why are we still issuing permits to expatriates and teachers when there are more than enough qualified teachers and nurses without employment," he said.

He stated the relevant ministries needed to assess whether there was still a need for foreign nationals to occupy jobs that could be given to qualified Emaswati.

He emphasized that this concerned people's lives and these jobs should be reserved for locals.

Mhlangatane MP Madala Mhlanga requested the ministry to verify if all the graded artisans were absorbed into the labour force. He enquired who monitored the committee between the three

ministries as there were ongoing reports of alleged corruption in the issuing of permits.

He said after enquiries were made and it was discovered that there was corruption, only the locals would be fired while the foreign nationals would continue to roam free around the country.

The MP made an example of the growing population of Asian nationals while insisting that he was not against foreigners being employed as long as they offered unique skills that were not available in the local population.

"The influx of Asian nationals in the country was suffocating Emaswati, if I remember correctly, there was a cabinet paper that ordered the seizure of issuing permits to Asian nationals but everyday there are more permits issued to them," he said.

He mentioned there was a need to manage the current population of foreigners and should be careful of why and who was issued a permit.

Adding, he mentioned that there should be a differentiation between investors and foreign nationals looking for employment and if they were granted the work permits, they should possess skills that were not available in the country.

The MPs further requested the relevant ministry's to realign which ministry was responsible for granting the permits to avoid the current situation where each ministry pointed fingers at the other.

Minister Vilakati acknowledged the legislators concerns and indicated that there was a need to consider realigning the laws and responsibilities for issuing permits to one ministry.



REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

Landscaping Bark Mulching Material

The U.S. Embassy Mbabane invites registered companies to provide quotes for supplying **Landscaping Bark Mulching Material**. Detailed RFQ package is accessible through this link:

<https://sz.usembassy.gov/embassy/mbabane/procurement/>

JUDGMENT RESERVED IN VICTOR BURIAL COURT BATTLE

BY SANDILE NKAMBULE
Supreme Court

THE Supreme Court has reserved its judgment in an appeal application in the long raging burial court battle for the late Victor Shabangu.

This, after the court heard the appeal filed by Xolile Ntombikayise Zwane, the wife to the deceased.

The late Victor's father Pitoli Shabangu wants him buried at his home in Moneni.

His mother Joyce Nsibadze want him buried at her home in Ngculwini while his wife also wants to be accorded burial rights.

The wife filed the appeal against a decision of the High Court in its judgment handed down in November 2019. The High Court as per Judge John Magagula's ruling pronounced itself in ordering that the father (Pitoli) should be the one burying the deceased hence the present appeal application before court.

Cited as the appellant in the matter is Zwane while Pitoli, Nomvuyo Kunene (deceased's second wife), Dups Funeral Home, the national

commissioner of police, the attorney general and Joyce Nsibande have been cited as the respondents in the appeal.

The appellant is represented by lawyer Thabiso Mavuso while the respondent is represented by Thandeka Hlabangana.

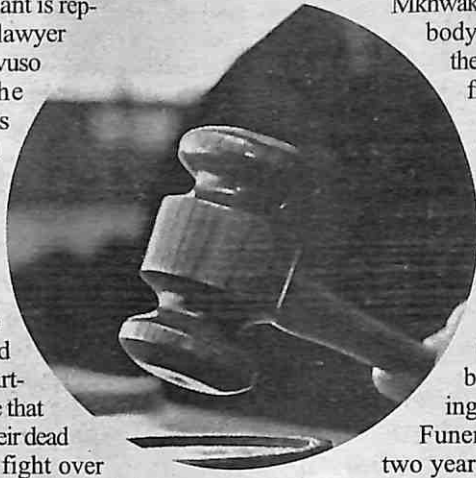
Supreme Court Judge Phesheya Dlamini on Thursday said it was disheartening to note that people use their dead relatives to fight over monetary, land and chieftaincy in the Kingdom.

Judge Dlamini was making reference to the present appeal application in the burial dispute of the late University of Eswatini employee and former sport administrator Victor Shabangu.

Judge Dlamini also cited a case of another dead body that was made to languish in the mortuary for about

five years without burial.

Although he did not mention names, one of the cases was that of the late Chief Mzikayise of Mkhwakhweni, whose body remained in the mortuary for five years following a chieftaincy dispute in that area.



Shabangu's body have been languishing at the Dups Funeral home for two years now as his father, mother and wife are embroiled in a dispute to bury him.

"The deceased should be resting in peace by now, but seemingly, his body is being used to fight monetary issues.

"For a year and a half, the deceased's body has been kept in the mortuary. As a country we are known as Christians, however, the way things are happening leaves a lot to be

desired.

"This matter is of utmost urgency hence it should be dealt with and finalised," judge Dlamini said.

The judge further stated that the court cannot be part to people who use the dead to settle their scores hence it would not allow such to happen, dismissed an application filed by the appellant to have the matter postponed.

The High Court as per Judge John Magagula's ruling pronounced itself in ordering that the father (Pitoli) should be the one burying the deceased hence the present appeal application before court.

FIVE ARMED MEN ON THE LOOSE

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE
Mbabane

Five gunmen are on the loose.

Following three robberies that were committed at gun point this past weekend, the police have not been able to make any arrest.

Information issued by the Royal Eswatini Police Service (REPS) suggests that the police are working tirelessly to arrest the robbery suspects. The robberies occurred between Manzini and Mbabane. On Friday at 7 pm, a 37-year-old man of Siphofaneni was robbed at gun-point his property valued at E14 200 by three unknown men while at Nkoyoyo.

The next day still at Nkoyoyo at 8.20 pm, a 23-year-old woman of Nkoyoyo was robbed at gun-point her two cellphones valued at E6 000 by three unknown men. The troublesome trio have not been arrested. Police are appealing to anyone who might have information that will lead to the arrest of the suspects to kindly contact the Mbabane Police at 2404 2221/2 or dial 999/9999 for emergency. The Manzini police are investigating an armed robbery that occurred on Saturday at 1:50 am, in which a 22-year-old woman of Mbekelweni was robbed at gun-point her money amounting to E8 42.90 by two unknown men while at Motruck Galp Filling Station. No arrest has been made yet. Police are appealing to anyone who might have information that will lead to the arrest of the suspects to contact the Manzini police at 2505 2221/2 or dial 999/9999 for emergency. Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Phindile Vilakati pleaded with the public for assistance.

E14 MILLION FOR DECENTRALISATION

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI
Lobamba

THE ministry of tinkhundla administration and regional development has set aside E14 million for decentralisation in four constituencies.

This was announced by minister David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala last Thursday in his preamble of the annual performance report.

"In the coming financial year, government has set aside about E14 million for operationalisation of the newly designed tinkhundla centres as fully fledged service centres.

These are: Lobamba, Mayiwane, Lugongolweni and Mhlambanyatsi," he revealed.

Members of Parliament had an interest on the matter as they wanted the minister to explain how exactly the money would be utilised and how the programme will be rolled out.

Gigal Member of Parliament Kenneth Fakudze wanted to know which services would be brought closer to the people as currently, Emaswati in rural areas need to spend about E100 on bus fare to access government services such as registering birth certificates and revenue offices.

Similarly, Princess Phumelele wanted to know how the ministry envisaged rolling out decentralisation-pointing out that some of the government ser-

vices were already decentralised. She further revealed that those who were in the forefront of the process had suggested that the ministries could alternate in bringing services to the people and there was no need for them to be permanently stationed at the tinkhundla centres.

In response, the minister revealed that the services that would be brought closer to the people were those provided by the ministry of home affairs, which include registering and issuance of birth, death and marriage certificates.

He stated that the E14 million would cater for the training and hiring of officials to render the services provided by those from the ministry of home

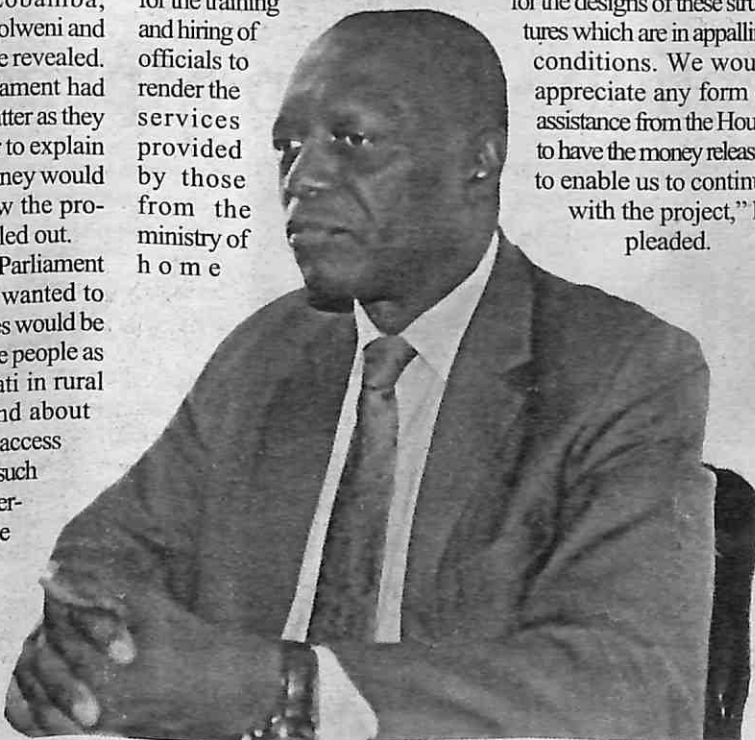
affairs in the four constituencies.

On another note, the minister requested members of Parliament to assist his ministry to get the E6 million that was initially allocated for the construction of regional offices and regional administrators' houses.

He said the ministry was faced with the challenge of shortage of accommodation for regional administrators and offices.

Ngcamphalala said the condition of the Hhohho and Shiselweni offices was appalling and not fit for human occupation.

"These funds are required for the designs of these structures which are in appalling conditions. We would appreciate any form of assistance from the House to have the money released to enable us to continue with the project," he pleaded.



DECENTRALISATION: Minister of Tinkhundla Administration and Regional Development David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala.



MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF MANZINI

ANNUAL SOURCES OF SUPPLIES FOR COMMONLY USED ITEMS 2020/2021

Tenders are hereby invited, for the purpose of registration into the Municipal Council of Manzini supplier database for the 2020/2021 financial year, for the supply of goods and services in the following procurement categories:

- Tender No: 2 Production & Installation of Exhibition Stand
- Tender No: 3 Pre-Printed Stationery
- Tender No: 4 Light duty spares, heavy duty spares and Accessories
- Tender No: 5 Design, Construction and Building Material
- Tender No: 6 Toilet Paper
- Tender No: 7 Protective Clothing
- Tender No: 8 Cleaning Material
- Tender No: 9 Brush Cutters, Spares and Accessories
- Tender No: 10 Clinic Consumables and Laboratory chemicals and Equipment
- Tender No: 11 Pound Veterinary Medicine and Feed
- Tender No: 12 Plumbing Materials
- Tender No: 13 Design and Printing of Corporate Documents
- Tender No: 14 Corporate Gifts and Promotional Items
- Tender No: 15 Road Marking Paints
- Tender No: 16 Tyres and Tubes
- Tender No: 17 ICT Support Services, Office Equipment, Computer Hardware & Software Accessories
- Tender No: 18 Catering Services & Food Items for Social Centre Feeding Programme
- Tender No: 19 Electrical Consumables
- Tender No: 20 Tree Felling and Bush Clearing
- Tender No: 21 Welding and Steel Fabrication
- Tender No: 22 Road Signs and Street Name Plates
- Tender No: 23 Plant hire and Towing Services
- Tender No: 24 Service of Fire Fighting Equipment
- Tender No: 25 Medical Services
- Tender No: 26 Office Stationery
- Tender No: 27 Maintenance Services
- Tender No: 28 Office Furniture
- Tender No: 29 Legal Support & Advisory Services
- Tender No: 30 Production of TV Adverts & General Video Recording

Terms of reference can be purchased for a non-refundable fee of E500.00 at the Rates Hall in the Municipal Council offices. The Closing date for the submission of tenders is the 23rd of March 2020. The tender documents can also be downloaded from the EPPRA website at: www.sppra.co.sz

Tender documents should contain:

- Certified copy of current Trading licence (2020)
- Original of a Valid Tax Compliance Certificate
- Certificate of Incorporation & Form J
- SHPPF Compliance Certificate
- Proof of Labour Compliance
- Receipt of Tender Purchased
- Full Particulars of the Tenderer including Contact Details (company Profile).
- Police Clearance or Affidavit of Non Conviction for Company Directors.

Any tender document submitted without these attachments shall not be considered

All completed Tender documents endorsed with the appropriate Tender number and addressed to the Chief Executive Officer must be placed in the Tender Box at the Director Finance's office, Municipal Council of Manzini Offices, not later than 12 noon on the 23rd of March 2020.

Tender opening shall be at 12 noon on March 23, 2020. Tenderers are invited to attend the official opening at the Council Chambers.

Electronic or Telegraphic tender documents will not be accepted.

Lungile P. Dlamini
TOWN CLERK



manzini news

website: www.mzcitycouncil.sz



SODV: Deputy Prime Minister Themba Masuku addressing the congregation during the Back to the Cross Crusade on Friday night. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

DPM WANTS TO TEACH SODV IN CHURCHES

STORIES BY SIMON SHABANGU
Mbabane

DEPUTY Prime Minister Themba Masuku has said he wants to visit churches to educate people about the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Act so as to capacitate churches on the issues of gender-based violence.

The DPM was speaking at Ambassador's House Ministries in Sidwashini during the Back to the Cross Crusade hosted by Bishop Mpendulo Nkambule.

Masuku requested Nkambule to allocate him time during one of the Sunday

services so that he could educate congregants about the SODV Act.

He thanked His Majesty King Mswati III for giving his assent to this law, stating that it was purely meant to protect the defenseless when it comes to issues of gender-based violence.

"I personally love this law because I do not abuse. The reason some people are bitter about this law is because they are abusers and feel threatened. I will come back to your church bishop to talk to the congregants about this law.

"I will bring my wife and put her on the spotlight so that she can tell you if I have ever abused her in any way. This

law came to protect women and children who are main victims of violence. I can say that people are still going to be arrested.

"The best thing one can do is to stop abuse," he added.

Further, the DPM commended Bishop Nkambule for hosting the annual service, stating that such crusades played a huge role in winning souls back to God. He said in turn, abuse incidents were reduced among families and crime rate minimised in the society. He said government supported such interventions which have a positive impact on the country at large.



TRIO: Bishop Mpendulo Nkambule joined by Nduduzo Matse and Mpumie Hlabisa as they worshipped in song.



WORD OF GOD: Bishop TE Twala delivering his sermon.



The brethren gesture as they worshipped God.



BACK TO THE CROSS: One of the worshippers captured during the prayer session.



LET US PRAY: The congregants in prayer.

Abusive men need mental attention - Bishop Mpendulo

BISHOP Mpendulo has said abusive men have mental issues and need to be taken for mental evaluation.

He said abuse against another person was a sign of a mental challenge. He stated that women should stay away from abusive men because the end result was usually death.

The man of God said gender-based abuse was rife even in churches.

He noted that some people would come to church with bruises and blue eyes after being physically abused by the people they love.

Bishop Nkambule advised women who were in abusive relationships to walk out while there was still time.

He said women must know that once a man beats them just once, chances are they would do it again. He said the sad part was that abused

people always made excuses for the perpetrators until they are killed.

"All I can tell you is that walk out of that relationship because the person will eventually kill you while you busy protecting him. I know of a distant relative who ended up dead at the hands of her spouse who was abusing her and she kept defending him.

Chopped

"The end result was that the man killed her and chopped her into pieces. Such people have mental issues and if you know your worth and what is good for you, just get out of such relationships," he said.

Bishop Nkambule thanked the DPM for attending the crusade to share such sensitive issues which they, as church leaders, were overlooking yet it was happening even within the



IN SONG: Deputy Prime Minister Themba Masuku his wife Dimpo with Bishop Mpendulo Nkambule in song.

church formation.

He said it was not because they

condoned such behavior but noted that in most cases, the victims would-

not want to speak out about the abuse.

He promised to invite the DPM for a session with the church where the congregants would be empowered on SODV Act and on how best people could deal with GBV.

Success

Meanwhile, the fourth instalment of the annual crusade that started last Sunday proved to be a huge success as a number of local and international men of God descended to Sidwashini to minister the Word.

Preachers included Bishop Makamu, Evangelist Gambushe Ndlovu, Bishop Nash Shongwe, Prophet Pascal Goodnews, Bishop TE Twala and Reverend SD Gumbi.

Artists who rendered thrilling performances included Nduduzo Matse, Shongwe and Khuphuka and Magawugawu, among others.

102 PEOPLE STILL MISSING

STORIES BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE
Mbabane

THE Royal Eswatini Police Service (REPS) is looking for 102 people who went missing. An annual performance report from REPS indicates that from April 2019 to January 2020, there were 633 cases of missing persons that were reported to the service. The number of missing people's cases has shown a decline from the previous reporting period as they were 686. Out of the 633 missing people who were reported, 518 people were located alive while 13 were found dead and 102 are still missing.

Notable is that there are more females missing than males. Out of the 633 missing people 393 are females and 240 are males. Most of the missing people are aged between 17 years and below and they are 313.

Meanwhile, 152 are between the aged 18 and 25 years old and while 165 are 25 years old and above. The month of May, September and December have the highest cases of missing persons. They recorded 81, 80 and 76 respectively.

While September is one of the months with the highest number of missing people, 71 of the missing 80 were located, but three of them were found dead.

December and January have the highest number of unallocated people. Out of 76 who went missing in December, three were found dead and 24 are still missing, while January has 18 people still missing.

The report states that as an intervention in mitigating against incidents of missing persons, the public is continually being educated and sensitised on the aspects of reporting promptly any missing person. These cases are mostly linked to serious crimes such as murder and human trafficking.

More males commit suicide

THERE were 114 people who committed suicide from April 2019 to January 2020.

This is contained in the annual performance report of REPS. The report suggests that 72.8 per cent of the victims are males and 27.2 per cent are females. This states that more males committed suicide during the period under review.

"There are 83 males that committed suicide while 31 were females," states the report.

The victims ended their lives through hanging, shooting themselves, self-drowning or ingesting poisonous substances.

People above the age of 25 were the most victims of suicide as compared to other age groups. There are 79 people aged 25 years who committed suicide, 22 of them are between the ages of 18 and 24 while 13 are below 17 years.

Out of the 114 suicides, 66 of them hanged themselves while 47 ingested weevil tablets and one was self-drowning.

As an intervention to curb incidents of suicide, the police have collaborated with stakeholders specialising in counselling, conflict resolution and spiritual matters. The stakeholders roll out programmes for members of the public so that they can be assisted timeously.

Meanwhile, the service reported an increase of 2.2 per cent in fatal road accidents and a 17 per cent decrease in serious accidents.

On the aspect of road carnage, the police reported that out of 141 fatal accidents reported, only 148 people lost their lives. On analysis, 57 were pedestrians and 44 were drivers.

Contributing to this state of affairs police stated that these were issues of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, excessive speeding, negligence or reckless driving.



TENDER PORTAL

sppraofficial



PROCURING ENTITY	TENDER TITLE	SUBMISSION DEADLINE	PROCURING ENTITY	TENDER TITLE	SUBMISSION DEADLINE
WORKS			Health Institutions		
Eswatini Posts & Telecommunications Corporation (EPTC)	Water Reticulation System Replacement	11-03-2020 11:00am	Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Supply of Building Blocks and Sand	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise (ESWADE)	The Construction of Ripening Facility Shed and Mobile Cold Room Slab at Lukhetseni Packhouse, Siphofaneni	13-03-2020 12:00pm	Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Supply of Linen Material	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Ezulwini Municipality	Maintenance of Road Reserve	25-03-2020 12:00pm	Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Supply of Cleaning Material	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Services			Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Supply of Computer Cartridges and Tonners	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Civil Aviation Authority (ESWACAA)	Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Training of Air Traffic Services (ATS) Message Handling System (AMHS) and Aeronautical Information Management (AIM) System Solution	16-03-2020 12:00pm	Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Supply of Building Material	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Civil Aviation Authority (ESWACAA)	Request for Proposals to Develop and Implement Transition Policy Roadmap Towards Fulfilment of Competency Based Training and Certification/rating for Air Traffic Safety Electronic Personnel (ATSEP)	27-03-2020 12:00pm	Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Supply of PPE	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Electricity Company (EEC)	Provision of Distribution Transformer Repair Services	05-03-2020 14:00pm	Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Supply of Painting Material	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Electricity Company (EEC)	Consultancy for the provision of Website Revamping, Hosting and Maintenance Service for the Eswatini Electricity Company	11-03-2020 12:00pm	Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Supply of Refuse Bags	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Electricity Company (EEC)	Request for Proposal Conducting a Quality Assurance Review Exercise Of EEC's Internal Audit Function	11-03-2020 12:00pm	Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Supply of Coal	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Energy Regulatory Authority (ESERA)	Provision of External Legal Services for The Years: 2020/2021 And 2021/2022	25-03-2020 12:00pm	Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Supply Of Gas	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Investment Promotion Authority (EIPA)	Kellogg's Tolaram Factory Electrical Installation	20-03-2020 12:00pm	Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Supply of Fuel	13-03-2020 11:00am
Eswatini Investment Promotion Authority (EIPA)	Kellogg's Tolaram Factory Heating Ventilation & Air-Conditioning Installation (HVAC)	20-03-2020 12:00pm	Eswatini Posts & Telecommunications Corporation (EPTC)	Supply and Installation of Banana Handling, Packing and Storage Equipment for Lomveshe Packhouse at LUSIP - Additional Works	06-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Investment Promotion Authority (EIPA)	Kellogg's Tolaram Factory Supply and Installation of Fire Alarm Smoke Detection System and Fire Suppression Services	20-03-2020 12:00pm	Eswatini Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise (ESWADE)	Supply and Delivery of Canal Sealing Material	30-03-2020 14:00pm
Eswatini Investment Promotion Authority (EIPA)	Kellogg's Tolaram Factory Sub-Contractors Service for Supply and Installation of Electronics Systems	20-03-2020 12:00pm	Eswatini Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise (ESWADE)	Supply And Delivery Of Canal Sealing Material	06-04-2020 09:00am
Eswatini National Housing Board (EHB)	Supply of Cash Security/Banking Services	06-03-2020 12:00pm	Ezulwini Municipality	Supply and Delivery of Road Signage	25-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Supply of Boiler Services	24-03-2020 12:00pm	Ezulwini Municipality	Supply and Delivery of Office Stationery	25-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Service, Repair and Maintenance of Fire Fighting Equipment	23-03-2020 12:00pm	Ezulwini Municipality	Supply of Promotional Material	25-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Servicing of Motor Vehicles	23-03-2020 12:00pm	Ezulwini Municipality	Supply of Gravel, Sand & Crush Stone	25-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Printing of Institution Documents	23-03-2020 12:00pm	Ezulwini Municipality	Supply and Maintenance of Computer Hardware & Software	25-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Provision of Security Services	24-03-2020 12:00pm	Ezulwini Municipality	Supply and Delivery of Building Material and Tools	25-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Provision of Managed Printing Services	24-03-2020 12:00pm	Ezulwini Municipality	Supply and Delivery of Office Cleaning Material	25-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Posts & Telecommunications Corporation (EPTC)	Rehabilitation of The Fire Suppression & Fire Alarm Systems to All EPTC High Sites and Exchange Buildings	11-03-2020 11:00am	Ezulwini Municipality	Supply and Delivery of Road Repair Material	25-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise (ESWADE)	Request for Proposals for Consultancy Service for LUSIP II Afforestation Plan	06-03-2020 11:30am	Ezulwini Municipality	Supply, Installation & Maintenance of Domestic and Street-lighting Fittings	25-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Water Services Corporation (EWSC)	RFP for Baseline Customer Satisfaction Survey	20-03-2020 12:00pm	Ezulwini Municipality	Supply of Waste Management Consumables	25-03-2020 12:00pm
Ezulwini Municipality	Brushcutter Consumables & Servicing	25-03-2020 12:00pm	Ezulwini Municipality	Supply of Personal Protective Equipment	25-03-2020 12:00pm
Ezulwini Municipality	Plant Hiring Services	25-03-2020 12:00pm	Micro Projects	Supply and Delivery of Tractors and Farming Implements to Various Cooperatives	03-03-2020 10:00am
Ezulwini Municipality	Printing of Council Documents	25-03-2020 12:00pm	Municipal Council of Manzini	Supply of Brush Cutters, Spares, & Accessories	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Motor Vehicle Accident Fund (MVA)	Request for Proposals for The Provision of Office Security Services	13-03-2020 12:00pm	Municipal Council of Manzini	Supply of Office Stationery	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Municipal Council of Manzini	Provision of Efficient Internet Services to Municipal Council of Manzini	02-03-2020 10:00am	Municipal Council of Manzini	Supply of Electrical Consumables	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Municipal Council of Manzini	Provision of Maintenance Services	23-03-2020 12:00pm	Municipal Council of Manzini	Supply of ICT Support Services, Office Equipment, Computer Hardware & Software Accessories	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Municipal Council of Manzini	Provision of Legal Support & Advisory Services	23-03-2020 12:00pm	Municipal Council of Manzini	Supply of Tyres and Tubes	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Municipal Council of Manzini	Production of Television Adverts & General Video Recording	23-03-2020 12:00pm	Municipal Council of Manzini	Supply of Road Marking Paints	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Municipal Council of Manzini	Welding & Steel Fabrication	23-03-2020 12:00pm	Municipal Council of Manzini	Supply of Corporate Gifts & Promotional Items	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Municipal Council of Manzini	Tree Felling & Bush Clearing	23-03-2020 12:00pm	Municipal Council of Manzini	Supply of Plumbing Materials	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Municipal Council of Manzini	Catering Services & Food Items for Social Centre Feeding Programme	23-03-2020 12:00pm	Municipal Council of Manzini	Supply of Pound Veterinary Medicine & Feed	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Municipal Council of Manzini	Servicing of Fire Fighting Equipment	23-03-2020 12:00pm	Municipal Council of Manzini	Supply of Clinic Consumables, Laboratory Materials & Equipment	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Municipal Council of Manzini	Plant Hire & Towing Services	23-03-2020 12:00pm	Municipal Council of Manzini	Supply of Cleaning Material	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Municipal Council of Manzini	Medical Services	23-03-2020 12:00pm	Municipal Council of Manzini	Supply of Road Signs & Street Name Plates	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Municipal Council of Manzini	Design & Printing of Corporate Documents	23-03-2020 12:00pm	Municipal Council of Manzini	Supply of Protective Clothing	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Municipal Council of Manzini	Production & Installation Of Exhibition Stand	23-03-2020 12:00pm	Municipal Council of Manzini	Supply of Toilet Paper	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Municipal Council of Manzini	The Preparation of The 2020/2021 General Valuation Roll	20-03-2020 12:00pm	Municipal Council of Manzini	Supply of Design, Construction & Building Material	23-03-2020 12:00pm
National Emergency Response Council on HIV/AIDS (NERCHA)	Request for Proposal for the Development of The Urban HIV And AIDS Sector Response Programme	06-03-2020 10:00am	Municipal Council of Manzini	Supply of Light Duty Spares, Heavy Duty Spares, Oil, Grease & Accessories	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Piggs Peak Town Council	Request for Proposals for The Provision of Security Services	11-03-2020 12:00pm	Municipal Council of Manzini	Supply of Pre-Printed Stationery	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Piggs Peak Town Council	Request for Proposals for The Provision of Electrical Maintenance	11-03-2020 12:00pm	Municipal Council of Manzini	Supply of Office Furniture	23-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini National Petroleum Company (ENPC)	Supply of Motor Vehicles	06-03-2020 12:00pm	Piggs Peak Town Council	Supply of Office Stationery	09-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Supply of Office Stationery	20-03-2020 12:00pm	Piggs Peak Town Council	Printing of Council Documents	09-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Supply of Electrical Equipment	23-03-2020 12:00pm	Piggs Peak Town Council	Supply of Road Marking Paint	09-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Supply Of Tyres And Tubes	23-03-2020 12:00pm	Piggs Peak Town Council	Supply of Computers & Cartridges	09-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Supply of Toilet Paper	23-03-2020 12:00pm	Piggs Peak Town Council	Supply of Domestic Streetlights & Poles	09-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Supply of Welding Material	23-03-2020 12:00pm	Piggs Peak Town Council	Supply of Cleaning Material	09-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Supply of Tiling Material	23-03-2020 12:00pm	Piggs Peak Town Council	Supply of Protective Clothing Equipment	09-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Supply of Batteries	23-03-2020 12:00pm	Royal Eswatini National Airways Corporation	Supply and Delivery of Office Stationery	20-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Supply of Plumbing Material	23-03-2020 12:00pm	Eswatini Electricity Company (EEC)	Expression of Interest The Supply of Mechanical Spares and Equipment to EEC's Power Stations	06-03-2020 12:00pm
Eswatini Nazarene Health Institutions	Supply of Carpentry Material	23-03-2020 12:00pm	Eswatini Electricity Company (EEC)	The Supply of Hydraulic Oil to EEC's Power Stations	06-03-2020 12:00pm
			Eswatini Electricity Company (EEC)	Registration of Survey Contractors	10-03-2020 12:00pm
			Eswatini Electricity Company (EEC)	The Supply of Water Purification Chemicals for EEC's Water Filter Plant	11-03-2020 12:00pm
			Ministry of Public Works and Transport (Buildings Department)	Supply and Delivery of Building Materials	27-03-2020 09:00am
			National Agricultural Marketing Board (NAMBOARD)	Provision of system software services to operate NAMBoard's Market and farm services operations, accounting management services, regulatory services and corporate affairs management.	02-03-2020 16:30pm

The Eswatini Public Procurement Regulatory Agency (ESPPRA) hereby invites suitably qualified and registered suppliers, eligible to participate in public procurement to submit tenders to the above listed Government departments, local Governments and state owned enterprises. Visit www.sppra.co.sz to view or download latest tenders.



FOCUS on DD cases



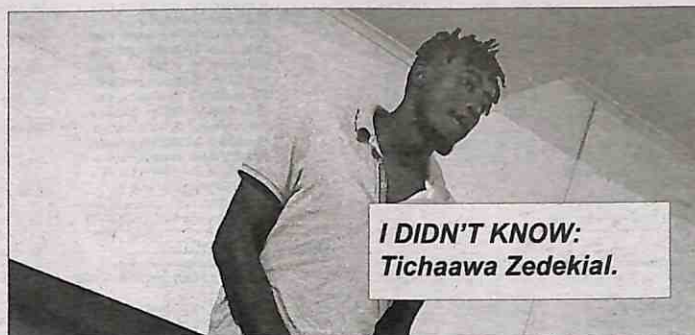
THERE IS NO DD OFFENCE IN CAMEROON - DD OFFENDER

STORIES BY SIFISO DLAMINI
Manzini

A Cameroonian international Tichaawa Zedekial (25) stunned the court when he revealed that he was surprised to be arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol.

This was because in his country, it is not against the law to do so.

"I am new in this country, and where I come from there is no such



I DIDN'T KNOW:
Tichaawa Zedekial.

an offence," he said.

The Cameroonian appeared before

Manzini Magistrate Sindisiwe Zwane yesterday.

The accused was charged with the contravention of Section 91 (1) as read with Section 122 (1) of the Road Traffic Act of 2007 in that on Sunday at or near Ndlunganye area in Matsapha, he drove a Mazda sedan registered PSD 121 CH on a public road while under the influence of alcohol or an intoxicating drug thus contravening the Act.

In mitigation, the accused pleaded for leniency, saying he was new in the country and was not aware

that driving while under the influence of alcohol was an offence.

"I have only been in the country for two months and back home it is not an offence to drink and drive," he said.

Magistrate Zwane enquired why he did not familiarise himself with the local laws, the accused responded by saying in future he would refrain from driving after drinking alcohol as he had learnt his lesson.

The magistrate informed the accused that it was a serious offence to drive a motor vehicle while drunk as this would lead to a number of accidents.

"Some people sleep while driving thus putting other motorists and pedestrians in danger hence it is strictly prohibited," she said.

The accused was sentenced to two years imprisonment with an option of E2 000 fine.



I am a respectable man your Lordship

MANZINI Magistrate Silindile Zwane showed no mercy after an excessively drunk offender pleaded for leniency.

Herbert Mngometulu of Msinda area was charged with contravening the Road Traffic Act of 2007 after he was arrested for driving an Isuzu LSV on a public road while under the influence of alcohol or an intoxicating drug with a breathalyser specimen reading of 0.50 mg/l, which was above the legal limit of 0.38 mg/l.

In mitigation, the accused pleaded for leniency, and stating that he was sorry for what he did as he was a respectable man and was a



RESPECTABLE: Herbert Mngometulu.

first offender.

"This was a horrible mistake your Lordship, as I am a respectable man," said the offender.

Refuted

Magistrate Zwane refuted the offender's claim and stated his alcohol reading indicated that he was not a respectable nor was he a responsible man as he should

not have driven the vehicle after indulging in alcohol.

The accused was sentenced to two years imprisonment with an option of E2 000 fine. Meanwhile, another offender Almon Lukhele got a lighter sentence as the magistrate pointed out that he was a responsible driver as his alcometre reading was 0.40mg/l which was only

0.02mg/l above the legal limit of 0.38mg/l.

Magistrate Zwane said she found that the offender was within the range of the legal limit which indicated he was cognisant of the law.

She, however, mentioned the accused should be responsible enough in future and refrain from driving while intoxicated. She offered the offender an opportunity to suggest how severe his punishment should be to which he pleaded for leniency and offered to pay E1 000 for the offence. However, the magistrate exerted her discretion and sentenced the accused to four months imprisonment with an option of E500 fine.

Kungonakalele your Lordship- DD offender

A drink-driving offender failed to convince the magistrate after he was slapped with four traffic counts.

Malungelo Msibi (32) of Matsapha was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol.

In his first count, the accused was arrested for driving a motor vehicle on a public road while under the influence of alcohol.

In his second count, the accused is said to have produced another person's drivers licence when requested to produce his licence by the police.

The accused is also said to have failed to produce his driver's licence and in his last count, he is alleged to have misled the police by giving false information regarding his real name.

In mitigation, the accused said he was sorry and promised not to commit the offence again.

Magistrate Sindisiwe Zwane said she did not believe the accused was sorry for com-

mitting the offence as it looked like he planned the whole thing before it happened.

"To me it looks like you planned the whole thing. Who gives a false name when asked by the police?" wondered Zwane.

The accused insisted he did not plan anything, "ngiyacolisa your lordship kungonakalele," he pleaded.

The magistrate enquired when the accused would get a licence, to which he said he would apply for one once he gets back to work.

However, the magistrate said the accused was one of the people who should never be issued with a drivers licence since he had already broken the law.

In his first count, the accused was sentenced to two years imprisonment with an option of E2000 fine. In the other counts, the accused was sentenced to five months imprisonment with an option of E800 fine per count.

His total fine amount was set at E4 400.

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE
Mbabane

Elderly farmer gets deferred payment

AN elderly man (60) was granted a deferred payment after he pleaded with the court, stating that he was only an unemployed farmer.

Isaac Msibi's angels were with him when Magistrate Lenhle Zulu granted his application for deferred payment, even after the

court told him that most people did not make good on their promises.

"Wonkhe muntfu uba ngulungile nakafika laphe eboxini. People make all sorts of promises to be better people when they are inside the accused dock. There have been many a time where the court will

grant people deferred payments and then disappear when it is time to pay. Please make sure you pay all the money to government," Magistrate Zulu warned.

Msibi was apprehended by traffic officers at Zone 2 on Saturday evening, where he was found dri-

ving while under the influence of alcohol.

When a breathalyser test was conducted on him, he was found to have a blood alcohol content reading of 1.96mg/l. Msibi was further charged with an additional count after his Toyota Hilux was

found to be unroadworthy.

In mitigation, Msibi stated that he was an elderly farmer and had six children who were dependant on him. After hearing his mitigation, Msibi was sentenced to pay a fine of E2 500, and in default of payment serve two years and five months in prison. He was further ordered to pay in instalments of E500 until the month of May 2020.



FOCUS on DD cases



112 MOTORISTS NABBED FOR DD

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE
Mbabane

ROYAL Eswatini Police Service (REPS) arrested 112 motorists for driving under the influence of alcohol.

According to a press release issued by the police, this number indicates a decline from those nabbed last weekend. Last weekend saw 118 motorists arrested for drink-driving while on February 16 there were 110 drink-driving cases. On February 9, there were 115 motorists charged for driving under the influence of alcohol. Of note, on February 2 which was the first Sunday of last month, 121 motorists were charged with contravening Section 91 (1) as



reads with Section 122 (2) of the road traffic Act of 2007.

Meanwhile, the first Sunday of March had a lesser number of drunken motorists as compared to the first Sunday of February.

Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Phindile Vilakati

confirmed the number of drink-driving cases.

"There were 112 drink-driving cases reported over the past weekend," she said.

Vilakati urged Emaswati and motorists to avoid driving under the influence of alcohol. She condemned the habit of drinking

under the influence of alcohol and narcotic drugs. She explained that some of these motorists have made appearances before magistrates in all corners of the country. She emphasised that the legal alcohol content remains 0.38 mg/l. She added that if one indulges in alcoholic beverages, they should stay at home or find a sober driver.

This is because alcohol reduces the driving ability thus putting other motorists and everyone that uses the road at risk.

Vilakati mentioned that there were no fatal road traffic accidents reported over the past 24 hours, but said traffic police officers were all over the country's roads ensuring safety of the people using the road.

I was drinking cheap wine - UNESWA student

STORIES BY VUYILE DLAMINI
Magistrate's Court

"While enjoying your wine, you should have thought of the consequences when you decided to get behind the wheel while under the influence of alcohol."

These words were uttered by Magistrate Lenhle Zulu, directed to UNESWA student Harry Masina hit a nerve, resulting in him vowing to never drink alcohol ever again.

Masina stated that he did not have the intention to drink on Saturday evening. However, he could not ignore the calls of his peers to enjoy

a night of heavy drinking.

"The university just opened its doors and I hadn't seen my peers in a long time, so we decided to spend the weekend drinking alcohol."

"Had I not given in to peer pressure, I would not be here today. I understand the repercussions of what I have done and I hope the court can forgive me for acting irresponsibly," Masina pleaded.

When Magistrate Zulu asked him what he had been drinking, Masina responded that he had been drinking wine bought by his friends, as he had not received his allowance as yet.

"You even have the money to

spend on such an expensive type of alcoholic beverage. You could have easily waited to finish school to at least buy the beverage with your own money."

Ramifications

Now, when you eventually receive your allowance, your friends will be at your door waiting for you to repay them with more alcohol. While you were drinking your wine, you should have thought of the ramifications, especially if you arrived driving a vehicle," the judicial officer advised.

A teary Masina stated that he had decided to never drink alcohol again as it caused him to make the worst decisions.

Here is a list of those who appeared before Mag. Zulu on Sunday:

Name	Alcohol Content	Sentence
1. Isaac Mabili	1.96 mg/l	E2 000/ two years
2. Mzwandile Manana	1.88 mg/l	E2 000/ two years
3. Thamsanqa Mavuso	1.53 mg/l	E2 000/ two years
4. Zweli Mkhwanazi	1.21 mg/l	E2 000/ two years
5. Harry Masina	1.01 mg/l	E1 600/ 16 months
6. Churchill Litter	1.19 mg/l	E2 000/ two years
7. Joseph Dlamini	0.88 mg/l	E1 000/ 10 months
8. Bonginkhosi Maseko	0.66 mg/l	E1 500/ 15 months

Masina was apprehended by traffic officers near Sifundzani driving his Mazda 3 while under the influence of alcohol.

He stated that he was heading to his uncle's house to spend the night. When a breathalyser test was conducted on him, he was found to have a blood alcohol content reading of 1.01 mg/l.

Presiding judicial officer Magistrate Lenhle Zulu stated that if Manana wanted to make his country proud, he would have to start by obeying the country's laws first.

Manana was arrested and charged with contravening the Road Traffic Act for driving his vehicle while under the influence of alcohol. When a breathalyser test was conducted on, Manana recorded one of the highest alcohol content readings of 1.88 mg/l.

After hearing his mitigation, the court sentenced him to serve two years in prison, with the option to pay a fine of E2 000.

'I thought cops wouldn't nab me'

A man's celebration at having driven from Lozitha to Mbabane without being detected as a drunk driver was short-lived when he was nabbed when he reached the capital city.

Mzwandile Manana admitted that he was driving while under the influence of alcohol, as his wife had requested him to pick her up from work on Saturday evening.

"I had been relaxing and enjoying my alcoholic beverages at

home, when my wife called and asked me to pick her up from work. She usually uses the company transport to get her home. However, she called and told me that the vehicles were out for service that day.

Law

"I then proceeded to drive from my home to Lozitha, aware that I was breaking the law," Manana admitted.

Manana added that before he could celebrate that he was able

to drive from Mbabane to Lozitha, and back to Mbabane, he was nabbed when he reached the capital city.

"My apprehension has really put a damper on things, as I was meant to be on a plane to Tanzania right now."

"I am a civil servant representing the country in Tanzania, and because I am here, I have missed my flight and an opportunity to make my country proud," he said in mitigation.

I was disgraced - MP Buthelezi

BY VUYILE DLAMINI
Magistrate's Court

DEPUTY Speaker Phila Buthelezi has taken the Times of Swaziland to task for a defamatory article, which he said left him embarrassed and disgraced.

Buthelezi, who is also Member of Parliament (MP) for Matsanjeni North, has instituted legal action against the newspaper, for an article written about his alleged illustrious affair with Assistant Master of the High Court Cebisile Ngwenya.

Ngwenya is the second plaintiff in the matter. Buthelezi and Ngwenya are both demanding an amount of two million emalangeni each for damages.

Buthelezi and Ngwenya are represented by Derrick Jele of Robinson Bertram Law Firm.

The article titled 'MP, Master's employee caught in bed' was published on October 23, 2014 in the Times of Swaziland. The article is said to have been as a result of journalist and private investigator Zweli Martin Dlamini's investigations of Buthelezi during the 2014 elections.

Ngwenya was also said to have been a presiding officer at Matsanjeni North constituency during the 2014 elections.

According to Buthelezi, the words used in the headline were defamatory in nature, as the reporter who compiled the story never called him nor Ngwenya for a comment about the said relationship.

"Firstly, the reporter who compiled the article which was eventually published for the whole country to see, never called Ngwenya and I, to confirm or deny any of the allegations made. None of what was published was factual."

"The headline did not accurately reflect what did happen that day," Buthelezi submitted before Judge Titus Mlangeni.

Buthelezi added that the article published on October 23, 2014 caused him so much embarrassment in his community to the point that he felt disgraced from it.

Integrity

"The reason I decided to take the matter to court was that the community of Matsanjeni North, including the chief of the area, had lost all confidence in my integrity. I was disgraced by it, and I would like to put it on record that the facts that were stated on that article were false, as Ngwenya and I were not given an opportunity to comment, or respond."

"Furthermore, the material contained in the article was obtained through illegal means, and cannot be factual in that way," he argued.

Advocate Patrick Flynn, who was representing the Times of Swaziland, responded that the publication only published the factual events that took place that day. One of such facts, were that 'Zwemart' invaded Buthelezi's home and thus, invading his privacy.

"The residents of your community would not have had a problem with the contents of the article if the relationship was of moral standard."

"However, in this case, the plaintiff (Buthelezi) was in a scandalous relationship with the second plaintiff (Ngwenya), who was at the time a presiding officer for his constituency."

The publication was only reporting on the facts of the events that occurred then," Flynn argued.

The matter was postponed to June 2, 3 and 4 2020 for the continuation of arguments.

SHISELWENI I FOLK FIX ROADS

BY STARKSY MKHONTA
Nhlangano

THE Inkhundla team of Shiselweni I has taken upon itself to fix roads which have been badly damaged.

The constituency team was joined by some of members of the different communities who started fixing the roads last week Thursday.

The first road that is being fixed is between Masiphula and Hhuhuma, driving along this road has become a nightmare. It is believed that the recent rains contributed to the poor state of the roads under the constituency.

According to Indvuna Yenkhundla Sifiso Khumalo, the decision to embark on the exercise came about after some complaints from motorists, as well as the other road users who stated that they were frustrated by the state of the roads.

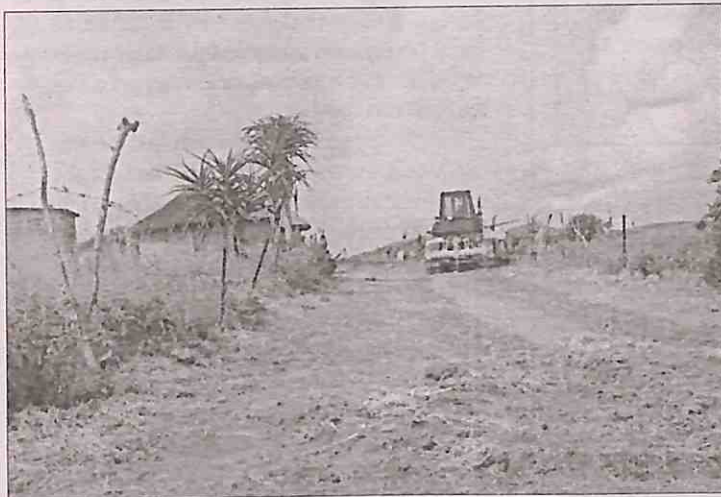
He said these were genuine complaints, as a constituency team they discussed and brainstormed what needed to be done; they resolved to mobilise the community members to join them as Inkhundla in addressing the situation.

"With everyone aware that government is still struggling economically, we decided to take it

upon ourselves to assist in fixing the roads without waiting for the economy to recover as we are not sure when that would happen. It is not all the time that we should expect government to do something for us, but we should see ourselves doing something for government as well. We have decided to do the little we can do in fixing the roads. It is not everything that government can do for us, but we have to come up with ideas on addressing some of the challenges," said Khumalo.

Khumalo said as Inkhundla, they were pleased in the manner the community members responded on the first day as over 150 showed up. "The turn up was overwhelming and we are grateful to see the community members giving support when called to do so. It is a spirit we applaud and we feel we have everyone's backing," said Khumalo. Khumalo further thanked the public works department for assisting with the machinery, including tipper trucks which were released to be used in the fixing of the roads.

"The department of public works, we appreciate the support they give us. We have never experienced problems every time we approach the department for help" said Khumalo.



FIXING: One of the roads under Shiselweni I Inkhundla where the Inkhundla team and residents assisted to fix. (Pic: Starksy Mkhonta)

'HELP US IMPROVE OUR EDUCATION SYSTEM'

BY NONDUDIZO KUNENE
Mbabane

THE Minister of Education and Training Lady Howard Mabuza has encouraged school administrators, teachers and learners to work hard in order to improve the country's education system.

The minister was speaking at Sithobela constituency, during the Indian High Commission's solar lamps handover ceremony. The solar lamps were handed over by Indian High Commissioner Radha Venkataraman to pupils from four schools under Sithobela constituency.

The minister was represented by the ministry's Principal Secretary Bertram Stewart.

She quoted the education sector policy which states: "Education is the foundation and main pillar for economic and social development, as a result the ministry of education and training continues to commit itself providing accessible affordable education of high-quality."

Mabuza added that education was the hope for the development of any country.

Further, she stated that the ministry alone was not in a position to meet the entire infrastructure and equipment that teachers and learners needed in schools to provide a proper teaching and learning environment.

In the words of Nelson Mandela, the minister said he once remarked that education was the most powerful weapon used to change the world.

She added that when looking around the world, one can notice that those countries which have advanced economy also had strong education systems.

Therefore, for a developing country such as the Kingdom of Eswatini, if it wanted to catch up with the developed world, it must strengthen the education first.

To individuals, Mabuza said educa-

...minister urges education stakeholders



EXCELLENCY: Ministry of Education and Training PS Bertram Stewart with Indian High Commissioner Radha Venkataraman other stakeholders who were present at the solar lamps donation that was held at Sithobela Inkhundla. (Pic: Nonduduzo Kunene)

tion was a way to achieve personal attainment at high level.

Support

The minister on behalf of government thanked the Government of the Republic of India for the continuous generous support that the Government of Eswatini, in particular the ministry of education and training. She said it demonstrated how concerned global citizens could work together towards a common goal.

"We, therefore welcome support from development partners such as the Republic of India to help us in providing quality education," she said.

The minister said the lamps will assist the beneficiary learners to work harder and improve conditions as they study in their respective homes. Mabuza said it was also pleasing to note that there were environmental friendly lamps which use natural resources for energy, hence inculcating the a culture of caring for the environment in young

people.

Mabuza further stated that the solar lamps donation would go a long way in addressing the education needs of the beneficiary learners, who come from disadvantaged backgrounds.

"On behalf of the ministry and His Majesty's government, I would like to express our profound gratitude to the Government of the Republic of India for providing the solar lamps. We hope this donation will continue to strengthen the good relationship that exists between the ministry of education and training and the government of the Republic of India," she said.

The solar lamps will be distributed to selected learners from four schools under Sithobela constituency, which are two primary schools and two high schools. The beneficiary schools are Mamisa Primary, Nkonjwa Primary, Nkonjwa High School and Mphelandzaba High School.

Naked man shocks community after imbibing buganu

BY BONGUMUSA SIMELANE
Mbabane

RESIDENTS of Mhlangotsini in Nkwene were shocked when a man was found naked in one of the homestead at 3am on Monday.

The man is reported to be a member of Mhlabovu Free Evangelical Assemblies. He was found in one Matsebula homestead.

According to one community police member who wanted to remain anonymous, the Matsebula family heard knocks

in almost all their houses and when they woke up they found the intruder naked. Surprised by that, they called the community police, who came to the scene swiftly and found the man there. The family had the assumptions that the man was a witch, so they needed the intervention of community police. "Together with the police we then took him to his homestead, which is located within the area, upon arrival he showed us a 10 litre bucket of buganu and his pair of trousers," said the community police. He said they came to the conclusion that the

man was drunk by the potent marula brew. However, they wondered how he passed the other homesteads, which are along the way to the Matsenjwa homestead. "The distance from his home is almost a kilometre and we still wonder how he got to choose to go to that homestead instead of the nearby ones," he added. One resident who witnessed the incident said the man was alleged to have bought the brew for his friend, who had promised to come and visit him. But the friend ended up not coming and then he decided to drink the buganu.

He is a dedicated member in church - Pastor

MEHLWABOVU Free Evangelical Assemblies leader Pastor Dumsani Shabangu said he knew the man as a dedicated Christian and he never imagined him doing such a thing.

The man of the cloth said

although he had not heard of this incident before, he could have vouched for the man as a man was of integrity and most revered.

Issue

He pointed out that he could not support him that much

regarding this issue, he suspected that he might have been attacked by evil spirits.

"I really don't understand why he could do that because we know him as a devoted Christian. But you may never know things do happen," Shabangu said.

BODY PARTS CENTRE & SPARES

MATSAPHA (MATHANGENI) Contacts: 76128651/ 7604776/ 76328640

SERVICE KIT SPECIALS:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------|
| • RUN-X / COROLLA: | 499.00 |
| • HONDA FIT: | 600.00 |
| • MAZDA 2/3: | 550.00 |
| • TOYOTA HILUX: | 480.00 |
| • QUANTUM DIESEL: | 535.00 |
| • QUANTUM PETROL: | 475.00 |

WINDSCREENS (FITTING INCLUDED):

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| • MAZDA 2/3: | 1299.00 |
| • QUANTUM: | 780.00 |
| • IVECO/SPRINTER: | 1750.00 |
| • RUN-X / COROLLA / POLO: | 899.00 |



NOW OPEN

MINOR (13) STABS HIMSELF AFTER 'SEEING GHOSTS'

BY SIZWE DLAMINI
Bulandzeni

A minor (13) from Bulandzeni shocked his mother when he stabbed himself in the shoulder while shouting 'I am possessed by ghosts'.

The minor, who had just returned home from school, used an okapi to stab himself.

Speaking after the incident, the shocked mother said her son arrived home and ate some bread before the incident.

"My son came back from school, took off his uniform before going to the kitchen to make a sandwich. While eating the sandwich, he started screaming that he was possessed by ghosts.

"The screams were so loud that even the neighbours heard. I was worried, so I ran to see what was wrong. To my shock, my son was carrying an okapi and he was pointing at the window" she said. The mother added that when she saw the knife, she ran outside and her son followed her.

"I was scared, so I ran to the gate to raise an alarm and my son followed and eventually passed me. When I arrived at the gate, he had already stabbed himself in the shoulder. Two neighbours arrived at the scene and took the okapi from him.

I used a piece of cloth to cover the



STAINS: Some of the blood of the minor outside his homestead at Bulandzeni (Pic; Sizwe Dlamini)

bleeding wound. I phoned my husband while the neighbours rushed my boy to Mkhuzweni Clinic, where he was treated.

During the drive to the clinic, my son was silent and fell asleep. I have three children and none of them has behaved in this manner. I am waiting to see if he suffers from a mental health because

he seems to have forgotten the whole incident," she added. When reached for comment, the father of the minor said that he suspected his son suffered from fits, a condition that is hereditary in his family.

Meanwhile, psychologist Ndoniyamanzi Mdlalose was not available for comment at time of compiling this article.

Man ordered to compensate NASTIC principal E50 000

BY VUYILE DLAMINI
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

A man who defrauded the principal of NASTIC Vocational Centre of over E50 000 has been ordered to compensate him, starting at the end of this month.

In October 2018, NASTIC Principal Mloni Mkhonta was said to have been seeking land to purchase, a mission which led him to Vusumuzi Dube. "I was set to meet Dube and his father to discuss the sale of the piece of land at Esitjeni. However, the meeting did not happen. The broker, a Mr Mabuza, later informed me that he had met with Dube and his father, who informed him that the land was available and was ready for purchase. Mabuza encouraged me to engage Dube about payment," Mkhonta recalled. Mkhonta said after he met with Dube, he went to inspect the land with his wife Hazel Mkhonta, where Dube had organised the local authority to 'bless' the transaction that day.

"There were five men who 'represented' the local authority. They who reassured us that they knew Dube, and that we should continue with the transaction. After that, we went to the police station to sign an affidavit cementing the transaction. We then furnished Dube with the promised amount of E50 000, and we went our separate ways," he stated.

Mkhonta recounted that before he could even start cutting the grass, or even erecting a fence, he was informed that there were outstanding issues that needed to be dealt with regarding the land. "We were told that there were certain issues that needed to be resolved, so we proceeded to Dube's home to find out what was wrong. When we arrived, we found Dube's mother, who informed us that the family was not aware of the selling of the land. At that time, Dube was not at home and we were unable to reach him on his mobile phone. In that meeting, it was revealed that the man, who Mabuza had claimed to discuss the sale of the land with, was in fact not Dube's biological father. We were even more shocked when it transpired that Dube was not in good terms with his family and used the sale of the land as revenge," he stated. Mkhonta stated that after the shocking revelations, he was able to get hold of Dube and gave him sufficient time to resolve the matter. However, after a year without anything forthcoming, Mkhonta reported the matter to the police. Dube was subsequently arrested and charged with the offence of theft by false pretences.

Appearing before Magistrate Sifiso Vilakati, Dube was convicted and found guilty of the offence. He was sentenced to serve five years in prison, with the option to pay a fine of E10 000.



A proud part of the
ABInBev family

JOB ADVERT: LABORATORY TECHNICIAN

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the above mentioned position within the Company.

THE JOB

Reporting to the Quality Specialist, the incumbent will be responsible for carrying out sampling, sample preparation and analysis of raw materials, in-process samples and packaged product.

Key deliverables also include but not limited to the following:

- Ensure and maintain a safe and healthy work environment
- Conduct analysis using standard procedures, generate accurate results and keep records
- Follow Non-conformance Policy to report and escalate any non-conformances in-process and packaged product
- Constantly engage with production teams to ensure process control
- Lead structured problem solving to determine and eliminate root causes for non-conformances
- Maintain lab equipment, adhere to equipment service and calibrations to preserve integrity of analytical results and keep records
- Management of hazardous substances
- Participation in all VPO activities
- Support implementation of Quality pillar to ensure that targets are met
- Conduct trainings on Quality topics to improve overall understanding of Quality in the plant
- Conduct internal audits, generate and close gaps to ensure compliance to Food Safety Policy

THE PERSON

The ideal candidate should have the following minimum requirements:

- Degree in Analytical Chemistry or equivalent.

Interested applicants should submit their applications and CV's before the close of business on the 06th March 2020 by email: zcc.peoplerecruitment@mu.ab-inbev.com. or deliver to the HR / People Office.

Applicants are requested to note that should they not receive any correspondence within 21 days after closing date, they should consider their application to have been unsuccessful.

Our Dream: Bringing people together for a better world



A proud part of the
ABInBev family

JOB ADVERT: BREWING OPERATOR

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the above mentioned position within the Company.

THE JOB

Reporting to the Brewing Team Leader, the incumbent will be responsible for monitoring and control the brewing process to produce a consistent product of the right quality at optimum cost.

Key deliverables also include but not limited to the following:

- Operate designated plant and equipment
- Monitor specific production processes on shift [brewing sub dept specific]
- Ensure process quality and productivity
- Ensure and maintain a safe and healthy work environment
- Co-ordinate autonomous maintenance and cleaning
- Ensure application of administration systems and procedures
- Contribute to self and team development
- Apply problem solving and decision making techniques and principles
- Maintain a safe and healthy working environment
- Autonomous Maintenance
- Optimise team processes

THE PERSON

The ideal candidate should have the following minimum requirements:

- Mechanical aptitude
- PC literacy (Microsoft/SAP)
- Diploma in laboratory science, mechanical or electrical engineering
- IBD certificate
- Completed brewing learnership
- 2 - 5 years' experience in a brewing environment previous experience in a process controlled manufacturing environment, ideally in food FMCG products.

Interested applicants should submit their applications and CV's before the close of business on the 06th March 2020 by email: zcc.peoplerecruitment@mu.ab-inbev.com. or deliver to the HR / People Office.

Applicants are requested to note that should they not receive any correspondence within 21 days after closing date, they should consider their application to have been unsuccessful.

Our Dream: Bringing people together for a better world

SHISELWENI NEWS

...With

Starsky Mkhonta

Nhlangoth office

Tobacco Complex, Cnr King George Masengule Streets
Opposite SEDCO PremisesTel: 2207 5159 Cell: 7621 5081
Email: Starsky@realnet.co.szNHLANGANO POLICE LAUDED
FOR PROFESSIONALISM

THE work that is done by the Nhlangoth Police Crime Prevention department is highly appreciated by the public, as well as organisations and learning institutions.

Schools are also full of praise for the Nhlangoth Police Crime Prevention team. Some of the principals described the officers as workaholics, who by now should have been recognised as a way of encouraging and motivating them. Schools are visited by the Crime Prevention team to educate pupils, as well as teachers on different topics, all bordering a criminal activities.

"We may be blank on how police officers are promoted but the Nhlangoth Crime Prevention team consists of hardworking officers who we feel deserve better. The way I see it, they need to be honoured in whatever way. As schools, we have benefitted both as teachers and pupils from the presentations they usually make in our schools. If it was not for these officers, the issue of drugs would have been a serious problem in our schools. Yes, the abuse of drugs still remains a challenge, but they have done exceptionally well and are determined to see the use of drugs in all schools becoming a thing of the past," commented the principal of a local school.

One of the NGOs' representative working closely with the unit said he was impressed with the way the police offi-



ANTI CRIME: Nhlangoth Police Crime Prevention team posing during the recent Valentine's Dinner which they organised jointly with NATICC.

cers conducted themselves in terms of approach and the skills they apply whenever they were doing their work. "You listen to any of their presentation, be it in schools or in communities, it is easy to tell that they were trained to do their work. They know how to tackle issues and they also know what to say and what not to say and where to say it and how to say it. They are professionals and it's a big ups to these men and women and hopefully, their superiors are also happy with the work they are doing," said one of the leaders of the NGO.

Shiselweni News has also learnt that

the recent Valentine's Dinner held at Esizalwini Auditorium in Nhlangoth was an idea of the Nhlangoth Crime Prevention department, which it sold to Nhlangoth AIDS Training and Information Centre (NATICC), the main sponsor.

Those targeted in the event were captains of industry and managers of reputable companies and organisations, who were encouraged not to keep quiet when abused as there are those who are victims but are afraid to report because of the positions they occupy. It was a well-organised event where the guest speaker was Dr Phil Mnisi.

Clean-up campaign successful at Mahamba

IT was the last Saturday of the month of February; communities under Maseyisini Inkhundla held a clean-up campaign which covered over three kilometres.

Last year, government launched the Eswatini Clean-up Campaign, where it was announced that communities should spare an hour specifically for cleaning their areas on the last Saturday of every month, a programme coordinated by the ministry of tourism and Environmental Affairs.

On Saturday, close to 50 people from six chiefdoms under Maseyisini constituency collected litter from the Mahamba Border Gate towards Nhlangoth Town direction.

The rains that poured did not deter the spirited participants of the exercise, where the office of the Shiselweni Regional Administrator (RA) was represented by Maseyisini Indvuna Yenkhundla Sishosonke Khumalo, who was accompanied by Bucopho from some of the chiefdoms under the constituency.

According to Khumalo, they had to implement the important exercise as



CLEAN: Some of the people from areas under Maseyisini constituency who participated in the clean-up campaign, which started at Mahamba Border Gate seen with the garbage in refuse bags.

planned regardless of the rains. They had to make sure they carried the mandate given by government.

"There were over 50 of us who were part of the clean-up campaign and no one was a spectator as we were all fully participating in the cleaning and were applying ourselves fully," Khumalo told Shiselweni News.

Khumalo went on to thank Shiselweni regional woman Member of Parliament

(MP) Nokuthula Dlamini for being supportive as she contributed E500.

"She (MP) could not participate as she was attending another function but after learning about the clean-up campaign, she contributed the sum of E500 which was used in buying juice and other things for those who were present. She is a kind-hearted MP who also knows her role," said Khumalo.

Mahamba Gorge entries hits 1 000

AS earlier predicted, registration for the Mahamba Gorge Hiking event has hit the 1 000 mark.

According to the organisers of the event, by Thursday last week, the number of registered people had reached over 1 000 people as earlier predicted.

The Mahamba Gorge Hiking event has become an important showpiece in the Shiselweni activity calendar and to many it has also become a family fun event. It draws people from all corners of life including those from overseas. This year's event slated for March 29 is the seventh edition.

Chairman of the Technical Organizing Committee Lucky Msibi said their intention was to have at least 5 000 people taking part in this year's event.

"Last week, we predicted that we would have hit the 1 000 mark by the end of the week and guess what, that has been achieved. By Thursday, we hit the 1 000 mark and as I am speak-

ing right now (Friday), we are heading towards 1 200 people and by the look of things by next week, we would hit the 2000 mark.

It's encouraging and it shows that people are now aware of the importance of being part of this great initiative whose purpose is to transform and change lives of our less privileged brothers and sisters," said Msibi.

Registration fee is E200 per person and a group of five people it's E950. Registration is done in the following places: In all police regional headquarters, Mahamba Gorge Hiking offices at the Eswatini National Youth Council, ENYC head office in Manzini, all Standard Bank main branches and at Nhlangoth Pick n Pay.

"For more details, people can contact this number: 7626 8000 and even those who may want to make payment through mobile money system, this is the number to contact for further information," said Msibi.

DPM's office leading in Mahamba Gorge registration

UNDER the government ministries, the Deputy Prime Minister's Office (DPMO) has taken the lead in the Mahamba Gorge Hiking registration for 2020.

There is a prize for the government ministry or department which will have a high number of participants and the DPMO might continue being pacesetters.

"So far, the DPM's office has the highest number in as far as registration is concerned. By close of business yesterday (Friday), the number was nearing 100," Lucky Msibi said.

The chairman disclosed that even the country's security forces have participating fully.

He said the Royal Eswatini Police Service (REPS), His Majesty's Correctional Services (HMCS) and Umbutfo Eswatini Defence Force (UEDF) had never disappointed when registration time came.

"There are prizes for different categories, including the best-dressed team, it is considered apart from the number of entries," said Msibi.

With churches also boasting of big figures when it comes to

congregation, Msibi said it could be encouraging to have the leaders of these churches persuading the membership to register.

"It's been All Nations Church In Zion which has been supportive as it normally registers not less than 350 each year. This year, it's likely that the church registers even more people. We would like to thank the Archbishop Bheki Lukhele for being exemplary. How we wish other church leaders can also come on board and register members of their churches to be part of this initiative. A church service is held there for those whose excuse is that they are always in church during this event," said Msibi.

The chairman disclosed that even the country's security forces had shown an encouraging in participating

NEW PIGG'S PEAK ROAD A E3.8M WHITE ELEPHANT

BY SIZWE DLAMINI
Pigg's Peak

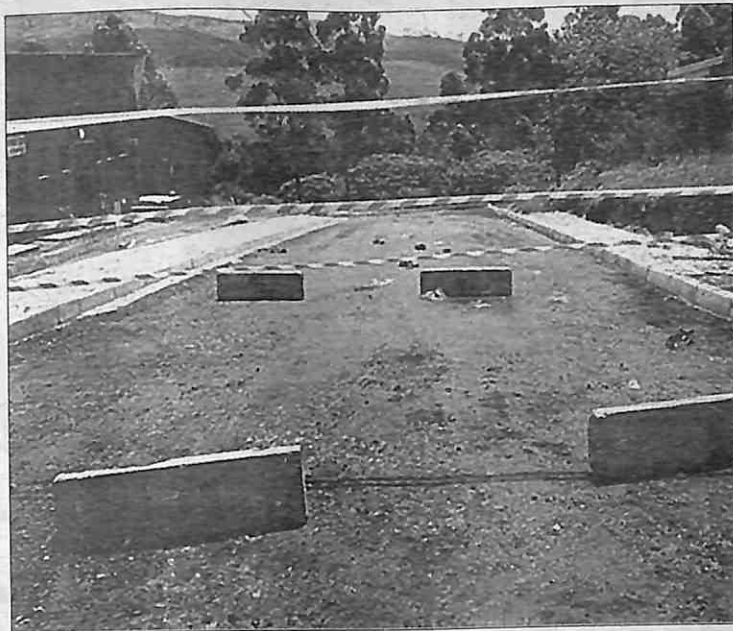
PIGG'S PEAK residents have continued to complain about the E3.8 million delivery road, calling it an expensive and poorly designed white elephant.

The 420 metres long delivery road is located on the left side of Pigg's Peak Town when driving into to the town from Motshane.

The road was designed to reduce traffic congestion along the MR1 public road by removing delivery trucks.

However, ever since the delivery road was opened in late 2018, delivery trucks have largely opted to park in front of Shoprite and the Pigg's Peak supermarket when delivering stock, resulting in traffic congestion as motorists have to wait for the truck to park in reverse.

"As you can see, a delivery truck delivers large amounts of stock, hence the truck needs to be parked in reverse because the stock is located inside the truck's trailer. Unfortunately, the delivery road was poorly designed because it is too narrow hence we cannot park the trucks and reverse



EXPENSIVE: The delivery road before it was upgraded.

them without climbing onto the pavement. Whoever was designing the road failed to consult delivery truck drivers," said one of the truck drivers.

A Pigg's Peak resident who wanted to remain anonymous said the delivery road was not being used at all.

"The delivery road is a white elephant because it is not being used by the trucks at all. We can all remember reading in print media that the delivery road was officially opened by Prince Simelane in late 2018.

"However, since that opening the road remains unused. As Pigg's Peak

residents, we view the road as an expensive waste of money that will forever bring the value of Pigg's Peak town low," they said.

When asked to comment, Pigg's Peak Town Clerk Mzwandile Ndzinisa said the delivery road was not a white elephant.

"The delivery road was upgraded from gravel to bitumen standard, more than a year ago and measures about 420 metres in length. There are about 32 plots (developed and undeveloped) that are located along this road. The existing Eswatini Water Services Corporation (EWSC) offices are a good example of a building that makes good use of the road. As a result of the road upgrade, traffic congestion has been eased since shops such as Shoprite utilise the road for delivery purposes and council encourages other business owners to follow suit," he said.

Ndzinisa added that the infrastructure development due to the road also provided a foundation for both physical and economic development, therefore through the road upgrade the Pigg's Peak central business district (CBD) will be extended through new property developments to come.

Male (17) arrested after pursuing girl (17) while naked

BY SIZWE DLAMINI
Pigg's Peak

A male teenager (17) who was wielding a knobkerrie has been arrested for chasing after a screaming female minor (17) while naked.

The incident occurred at Vusweni last Sunday evening. Due to the fact that the accused, who appeared in the Pigg's Peak Magistrate's Court last Monday is a minor, his name and the name of his mother have been withheld for ethical reasons. Speaking to this publication after the incident, a shocked police officer said the accused was charged with attempted rape as well as assault.

"Police received a phone call on Sunday evening from an unnamed person at Vusweni. The individual told police that there was a young male from a nearby homestead who was running after a female wielding a knobkerrie."

The officer added that once they began to investigate the matter, details about the incident became more disturbing as the victim is believed to be related to the accused.

"When police arrived at Vusweni, they conducted a thorough search at the homesteads. Eventually police managed to locate and arrest the accused," they added.

Meanwhile, the mother of the accused said her son had lived in South Africa for 15 years and only came back to Eswatini in January 2020. "My son has been living with his grandmother in South Africa for 15 years. He left Eswatini when he was just two years old.

"He only returned to Vusweni three weeks ago. He is currently not at school and he has no passport," she said. Pigg's Peak Magistrate Sakhele Hlophe denied the accused bail, saying he might escape back to South Africa.

Hlophe then told the accused that he would remain in police custody and his next remand will be today.



Santa Lucia to cater for elderly and people with disabilities

BY NONGCEBO DLAMINI
Manzini

SANTA Lucia Funeral Services Director Themba Makhanya has pledged to cater for funeral expenses for all destitute, elderly and people with disabilities in the country.

The Mozambican-Eswatini based businessman has formed a non-governmental organisation (NGO) known as Dignity for All.

Makhanya said his NGO was registered with the relevant structures fully operational.

He mentioned they had already assisted over 100 families in different parts of the country. "I reached this decision after I realised that most families had destitute people that did not afford decent funerals for their departed loved ones.

Our objective as a foundation is to donate coffins and caskets to the poor in communities," he said. "While in the business of providing funeral services, I saw that during trying times

like losing a family member, some families would even fail to find equipments like tents, chairs, tables, and sound system in order to put the whole funeral together," he added.

Makhanya added that the project was approved by the Deputy Prime Minister's office, since they take to heart issues that concern the elderly and people with disabilities.

He also stated that the DPM's office referred the project to the Ministry of Tinkhundla Administration and Development, and this was mainly

because the aim is to take the vision to communities. In turn, the ministry brought the idea to the Regional Administrators in all the four regions, and then a committee that consisted of Tindvuna Tetinkhundla and Bucopho was formed, which would work hand in hand with him.

Makhanya highlighted that the NGO got its funding from the businesses that he was currently running. He further added that he was doing this just from the goodness of his heart, and needed nothing in return.

Makhanya highlighted that the NGO got its funding from the businesses that he was currently running. He further added that he was doing this just from the goodness of his heart, and needed nothing in return.

Makhanya highlighted that the NGO got its funding from the businesses that he was currently running. He further added that he was doing this just from the goodness of his heart, and needed nothing in return.

Mpolonjeni Inkhundla establishes police post

BY WONDERBOY DLAMINI
Siteki

RESIDENTS of Mpolonjeni constituency will finally heave a sigh of relief and feel safe as they will now have a police post.

The constituency has had an escalation in the crime rate over the past 10 years causing sleepless nights for residents. This came proportionally with the development taking place in the area over the past few years.

This is said to have compelled residents to go an extra mile and implement a programme to counter the situation. A structure to accommodate a police post was subsequently constructed as part of the programme to alleviate crime in the area.

On Wednesday, National Commissioner of police William Dlamini visited the constituency



OFFICIAL: The National Commissioner of Police William Dlamini.

where an official handover of the structure was made. Constituency

headman Thulani Dlamini reported that the constituency handed over two structures to the Royal Eswatini Police Service. One of these structures will accommodate at least four police officers who will be deployed to the police post.

Dlamini narrated that the area had recorded a worrying escalation of crime over the past few years.

He said these were mainly house-breaking and theft, robbery, stock theft and domestic violence cases. The nearest police station has been the Siteki Police Station, which is about 20 kilometres away. Dlamini said residents pointed out that the police station was too far, resulting to criminals getting away in most instances.

The residents volunteered to contribute money and labour in the establishment of a police post. Dlamini said the constituency also directed some funds from the Regional Development Fund into the construction of the police post.



SAFETY FIRST: The block of flats to be used by police officers stationed at the new Mpolonjeni Police Post.

"The construction of the police post started some years ago, and we are happy that it is finally completed and was officially handed over to the police commissioner on Wednesday," said the constituency headman.

Dlamini thanked the Regional Commissioner Musa Zwane for playing a major role in the establishment of the police post. He said the constituency coordinated with the

Lubombo police throughout the construction of the structure.

Meanwhile, the national commissioner commended the constituency for its effort in fighting crime.

Dlamini said the constituency had proven that policing was not only for the police but for everyone in society. He urged other communities to follow suit and initiate programmes to fight crime.

GOD'S GLORY MINISTRIES ALL-NIGHT PRAYER



FULL: Pastor Victor MacDonald who leads the God's Glory Ministries ministering to the congregation during the Eswatini is for Christ Revival at Mavuso Exhibition and Trade Centre on Friday night. This was during an all-night prayer service, which marked the end of the five days revivals. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



GLUED: The visiting Pastor Zack Orji captured with his host Pastor MacDonald and his wife as they listen to a sermon by one of the pastors from the ministry.



OUT: Pastor MacDonald praying for the congregants who attended the all-night prayer service.



NEW: Pastor Victor MacDonald making remarks before surprising the newly-weds Pastor Bongani Ntshalintshali and his wife Hleliwe who got married late last year. He had made a promise of a car to the couple which he fulfilled on Friday night.



LEADERS: Pastor Zack Orji presenting a cake to Lydia Dlamini, while Manzini RA Chief Gija looks on.



MEDITATING: Congregants listening to the sermon.



GLORY: A section of the congregants who attended the service.



KEYS: The couple celebrating after they were handed the car keys by the pastor.



AMEN: Pastor MacDonald joined by his wife lead the congregation in prayer.



BLESSED: Pastor Zack Orji ministering the word of God at the revival. Pastor Orji is well-known in the Nigerian movies, where he has been an actor for over 25 years.



COLD: Congregants keeping warm as they braved the chilly night to be part of the service.



SIKA: Pastor MacDonald and his wife joined by their guest Pastor Zack Orji in cutting his birthday cake.

ESWATINI INCORPORATED: 2022 & BEYOND

'MOVING FROM RHETORIC TO ACTION'

ISSUE NO. 117



THIS TYPE OF POLITICS NEEDS TO CHANGE

HIS Majesty King Mswati III has made some profound statements since the beginning of the year, but it would seem the people in leadership roles are failing to grasp.

During the annual thanks-giving national service at Madvulo Grand Hall, the King preached about moving forward, no matter the prevailing circumstances. He charged everyone to keep his eyes on the grand objective of moving the country forward. He cited Scripture to encourage the nation not to despair in the midst of prevailing challenges but trust in the Lord and move forward.

This was before he delivered the Speech from the Throne, where this time speaking to the legislators and the country, he spoke about the importance of unity.

He said: "We should cherish our unity and family relationship that has existed since our predecessors founded this great nation so many years ago. Emaswati, since time immemorial, are known globally as a nation that embraces dialogue, peace and unity. As the nation is aware, our unity as Emaswati remains critical because it yields handsome dividends in terms of sustainable development initiatives and economic growth."

These statements speak to the importance of common purpose and vision. However, our start to the new decade is not giving me hope.

The performance of our legislators in the few sittings they have had is a cause for great concern. It appears to me they are not near in sharing the greater vision of His Majesty the King, who even implored them to double their efforts, since they now have an idea of what is expected of them to advance the country's development.

But it would appear to me that to some legislators opposing anything by the Executive (ministers) and criticising their programmes is what will make them appear bold and advancing the country's interests.

The country is not going to be advanced by pursuing petty politics of undermining each other and trying to display how smart we are over others.

In fact, who told them (those who seem to be critical of the Executive) that their ideas are the best and only their views should stand over what others say.

I don't believe we need that kind of politics. Whilst both the Executive and the Legislature are independent, but they all share the same vision and follow the same programme.

In fact, the Strategic Roadmap 2019-2023 is a broad government programme that is in place to advance the country towards Vision 2022 and beyond.

Parliament's role is to exercise the oversight role over the Executive and passes the laws necessary to achieve the country's objectives.

The roadmap is some sort of a manifesto or commitment to which the Executive has drawn and sought to implement in the five years.

The people whom we expect to be the foot soldiers in the implementation of this programme is the Executive, they are expected to account not only to Parliament but to the nation at large on whether they are delivering on their promise or not.

...the performance of our legislators in the few sittings they have had is a cause for great concern



OUTSPOKEN MPs: Legislators Robert Magongo, Bacede Mabuza and Marwick Khumalo.

It is disturbing though that instead of seeing the organs of State complementing each other to advance the country's development; some have made it their duty to sabotage those efforts.

I believe some MPs need to work on their tone and posture if they want to be part and parcel of nation building.

They can play a far more constructive role by holding the Executive to account other than engaging in politics of hate and undermining their capabilities.

That some MPs have been in Parliament for several years does not give them the licence to undermine ministers whom in their view are inexperienced and politically inept.

Ministers must not be frightened while executing their duties. It is a fact that they don't know everything, owing to the fact that politics is relatively a new thing to most of them, but does not mean they must be treated harshly.

Maybe the reason some MPs react in the manner they are doing is because they don't know the Strategic Roadmap.

I seem to remember that when the Prime Minister Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini presented it to Parliament early last year, it was met with some reservations. There were those who suggested that it needed to be taken to the people at Tinkhundla level for it to be endorsed there.

That was just MPs playing politics. They know very well that there was no chance for that to happen, because by the time they were done with the Tinkhundla exercise, the cabinet's term of office would be over even without putting together any programme.

It is a fact and practical that any government, in our case that comes into office, it interprets for itself the situation and put together what it believes is a programme that will deliver the broader National Development Strategy (NDS).

The national programme is there as envisioned in the Vision 2022, but the duty of each government is to break it down into workable segments for easy implementation.

We need to correct this adversarial politics; the Tinkhundla system of governance does not promote it.

In fact, it was the very reason why party politics were abolished in the country in 1973. For there is no one then expected to advance the party politics line of engaging, because we know of no other policy than the one being advanced by the Executive.

MPs must forget that the Strategic Roadmap will be taken to some Tinkhundla forums for endorsement. The programme or policy direction is already in place and

that's what Mandvulo and his team are using as a point of reference for their work.

The nation will not fault them for thinking and trying to implement their programme. We may disagree with it, but that does not make our ideas superior. This remains their programme and we must take them to task for failing to deliver on their promises. Period!

As a country, we don't need to waste any more time in arguments of whose best idea it is that must thrive, we owe it to ourselves to be united in purpose and vision to ensure that Eswatini is a better place for Emaswati to live in.

Parliament and the Executive can find common ground to work harmoniously without being a rubber stamp.

In order to achieve that goal, we must be driven by respect, one of the tenets His Majesty the King reminded us of, when he delivered the Speech from the Throne. At times some of the engagements in Parliament have lacked respect.

Any good idea delivered without respect is bound to miss the target. We will be focused on the tone than the idea that was being advanced.

The decade 2020-2030 is going to be a defining moment for this nation and so it is important how we engage and advance the country.

"The country is not going to be advanced by pursuing petty politics of undermining each other and trying to display how smart we are over others."



LEADER: Prime Minister Ambrose Dlamini.

ON THIS DAY

...MARCH 2

1986 - Corazon Aquino was sworn into office as president of the Philippines. Her first public declaration was to restore the civil rights of the citizens of her country.

1987 - The US government reported that the median price for a new home had gone over \$100 000 for the first time.

1989 - Representatives from the 12 European Community nations all agreed to ban all production of CFCs (chlorofluorocarbons) by the end of the 20th century.

1995 - Russian anti-corruption journalist Vladislav Listyev was killed by a gunman in Moscow.

1995 - Nick Leeson was arrested for his role in the collapse of Britain's Barings Bank.

1998 - The UN Security Council endorsed UN chief Kofi Annan's deal to open Iraq's presidential palaces to arms inspectors.

1998 - Images from the American spacecraft Galileo indicated that the Jupiter moon Europa has a liquid ocean and a source of interior heat.

2000 - In Great Britain, Chile's former President Augusto Pinochet Ugarte was freed from house arrest and allowed to return to Chile. Britain's Home Secretary Jack Straw had concluded that Pinochet was mentally and physically unable to stand trial. Belgium, France, Spain and Switzerland had sought the former Chilean leader on human-rights violations.

2003 - Over the Sea of Japan, there was a confrontation between four armed North Korean fighter jets and a US RC-135S Cobra Ball. No shots were fired in the encounter in international airspace about 150 miles off North Korea's coast. The US Air Force announced that it would resume reconnaissance flights on March 12.

2004 - NASA announced that the Mars rover Opportunity had discovered evidence that water had existed on Mars in the past.

2011 - Steve Jobs unveiled Apple's iPad 2.

2016 - The UN Security Council unanimously approved sanctions on North Korea that included mandatory inspections of cargo leaving and entering North Korea, a ban on all sales and transfers of small arms and light weapons and expulsion of diplomats that engage in "illicit activities." The sanctions were in reaction to the latest nuclear test and rocket launch in defiance of a ban on all nuclear-related activity.

2016 - Astronaut Scott Kelly returned to Earth after 340 days in space aboard the International Space Station.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



John Francis Bongiovi Jr. (Singer-Songwriter) born March 2, 1962



Daniel Craig (Actor) born March 2, 1968



WHAT THE LAW SAYS

Utsini umtsetfo

RADIO COMMUNICATIONS AND FREQUENCY SPECTRUM

Citation and commencement

1. (1) These Regulations may be cited as the Electronic Communications (Radio communications and Frequency Spectrum) Regulations, 2016.

(2) These Regulations shall come into force on the date of publication in the gazette.

Interpretation

2. In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires –

“Act” means the Electronics Communications Act, 2013;

“assignment” means the authorisation given by the Commission to use a radio frequency or radio frequency channel under specified conditions;

“allocation” means an entry in the National Radio Frequency Plan of a given frequency band for the purpose of its use by one or more terrestrial or space radio communication services of the radio astronomy service under specified conditions (A band is therefore allocated to a service).

“authorised frequency” means the frequency assigned to a station by the Commission;

“harmful interference” means radiation or induction which –

(a) endangers the functioning of a radio-navigation service or of a safety service; or

(b) obstructs or repeatedly interrupts an authorised radio or telecommunications service;

“International Telecommunications Convention” means the basic treaty that establishes the legal basis for the International Telecommunications Union and defines its purpose and structure including the protocols and obligations on members.

“ITU-R Recommendations” means a set of international technical standards developed by the Radio communications Sector of the ITU.

“ITU Radio regulations” means the complete texts as adopted by the World Radio Communications Conference (Geneva, 1995) (WRC-95) and revised and adopted by subsequent World Radio Communications Conferences, including all Appendices, Resolution, Recommendations and ITU-R Recommendations incorporated by reference.

“SADC frequency management plan” means a framework for the harmonisation across SADC member states on the use of the radio frequency spectrum.

“network” means two or more stations operated by a person and used or intended to be used in communication with one another;

“radio emission” means any emission of electromagnetic energy of frequency currently less than three hundred (300GHz)

Gigahertz without continuous artificial guide or such other frequency as the Commission may from time to time publish in the Government gazette.

“spectrum assignment” means the authorisation by the Commission to any licence specific frequency or frequency pairs for use within a given allocation, at a specified geographic location;

“Station” means a transmitter, receiver, a combination of transmitters and

receivers, or any accessory thereto which is used or intended to be used for radio communications;

“transmitter” means anything, irrespective of its use, function or the purpose of its design, that is capable of radio emission;

“radio communication” means all electronic communication by means of radio waves;

“user” means any person or body of persons who uses or operates radio communication services.

Application

3. (1) These Regulations shall apply to all frequency spectrum users.

(2) A frequency spectrum user shall apply for and utilise spectrum subject to –

(a) the finalisation of the Swaziland Table of frequency allocations or National band plan; and

(b) further consideration policy approach to spectrum licensing, auctions or competitive bidding or eligibility.

PART II

RADIO FREQUENCY PLANNING

National Radio Frequency Plan

4. (1) All spectrum allocations and assignments shall be considered with the current national radio frequency plan.

(2) Users of radio frequency spectrums shall comply with the provisions of the current national radio frequency plan.

National Frequency Allocation Plan

5. (1) The Commission may, in accordance with Section 34 of the Act, prepare a national allocation plan.

(2) The National Frequency Allocation Plan shall fall under the Radio Frequency Plan and shall be detailed and provide a description of how a band is allocated.

(3) Radio Frequency Spectrum Band Plans shall specify the purposes for which bands may be used, arising from Government policy initiatives or public demand.

(4) Radio Frequency Spectrum Band Plans may specify or propose –

(a) detailed frequency channelling arrangements;

(b) technical and other requirements; or

(c) principles or assignment and implementation for the detailed allocation of the radio frequency spectrum between types of services.

(5) Radio Frequency Spectrum Band Plans shall be subject to consultation.

PART III

RADIO FREQUENCY LICENSING AND ASSIGNMENT

General licensing requirements

6. (1) A person shall not possess, establish, install or use any radio communications station which requires Licensing under these Regulations in any place or on board any local vessel, aircraft or vehicle, unless that person has a valid licence granted by the Commission.

(2) A radio communication licence shall not confer any ownership rights of the frequency on the licensee.

(3) A licensee shall not transfer frequency assigned to that licensee and the rights

therein without the written consent of the Commission.

(4) A licensee shall comply with the provisions of the International Telecommunications Convention.

(5) Where the authorisation is for a period not exceeding one (1) month, the Commission may grant temporary authorisation for the utilisation of the frequency spectrum and the minimum applicable fee will be for a period of one (1) month.

RADIO FREQUENCY SPECTRUM LICENCE EXEMPTION

7. (1) The designated apparatus and frequency spectrum bands that are exempted from frequency spectrum licensing in Swaziland are –

(a) the 2.400 – 2.483GHz, 5.150-5.350GHz and 5.470-5.725GHz bands; and

(b) short-range devices designed to operate at low power levels in accordance with ITU-R

Recommendation and as well as other internationally recognised and industry based standards; and

(c) apparatus exempted from frequency spectrum licensing as set out in the schedule.

(2) Other licence exempt radio spectrum may be designated by the Commission and made known to the public.

(3) Exempted devices shall be permitted for terrestrial use only and shall operate on non-protection basis from other authorised services in the same or adjacent frequency bands and shall not cause harmful interference.

(4) Notwithstanding sub-regulation (1)(a), all eligible users providing a communications service require a general electronic communications service licences from the Commission and their operations should be in conformity with the Commission's operational guidelines for the band.

(5) The users in these bands shall not claim protection from interference and shall not cause interference to other licensed users in other bands.

(6) A user or possessor of radio apparatus and related radio frequency spectrum which are exempt shall use or possess the radio apparatus on condition that –

(a) they are type approved or type accepted by the Commission;

(b) frequencies, transmitting power and external high gain antenna of the radio apparatus is not altered without a new type approval certificate being issued by the Commission;

(c) the radio apparatus are not operated within and not exceed the technical parameters set out on the schedule with respect to the frequency band, maximum radiated power or field strength

limits and channel spacing, relevant standards and duty cycles and antennas to be used as contained in column E of the schedule;

(d) The antenna of the radio apparatus is not higher or above average ground level than the lowest point of the place where the radio apparatus operates effectively;

(e) The radio apparatus do not cause interference to any person issued with a radio frequency spectrum licence by the Commission; and

(f) The user of the radio apparatus in the licence exempt frequency operates on non-interference and zero protection basis from interference.

APPLICATION CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL

8. (1) The Commission shall, when considering an application for frequency assignment, take into consideration –

(a) spectrum availability for the type of service and proposed location;

(b) whether the proposed service can be satisfied by any other means of communications;

(c) the distress and safety radio communication services which require protection from harmful interference; and

(d) the current technical advances that ensures the most efficient spectrum use.

(2) The Commission may assign a frequency to the applicant, and shall for that purpose take into account all technical data of the equipment and associated accessories that the applicant is proposing to use.

(3) The Commission shall issue spectrum based on a first come first served basis.

(4) Notwithstanding sub regulation (3), where the Commission anticipates that the spectrum to be assigned –

(a) is in high demand, in that demand for the spectrum exceeds supply; or

(b) is considered to be of high economic value.

(5) The Commission may use market based approaches, including the competitive bidding process for individual licenses which is provided for in the Licensing regulations, to assign the spectrum.

ASSIGNMENT OF FREQUENCY

9. (1) The Commission may assign one or more frequencies when it is satisfied that such assignment will not cause harmful interference to any station or licensee operating in accordance with the Swaziland Table of Frequency Allocations.

(2) A person licensed to operate and provide radio communication systems and services shall apply to the Commission, for the assignment of the necessary frequency.

(3) Where the Commission is satisfied with an application, it may assign the applicant a frequency, which the applicant shall use in accordance with the prescribed technical and operating parameters.

(4) Where the frequency applied for is not available, the Commission may assign frequency in an alternative frequency band, subject to agreement with the applicant.

(5) The Commission may impose such conditions as it may consider necessary for the use of the assigned frequency.

(6) The Commission may impose such conditions as it may consider necessary for the use of the assigned frequency.

(7) The Commission may impose such conditions as it may consider necessary for the use of the assigned frequency.

(8) The Commission may impose such conditions as it may consider necessary for the use of the assigned frequency.

(9) The Commission may impose such conditions as it may consider necessary for the use of the assigned frequency.

(10) The Commission may impose such conditions as it may consider necessary for the use of the assigned frequency.

(11) The Commission may impose such conditions as it may consider necessary for the use of the assigned frequency.

(12) The Commission may impose such conditions as it may consider necessary for the use of the assigned frequency.

(13) The Commission may impose such conditions as it may consider necessary for the use of the assigned frequency.

(14) The Commission may impose such conditions as it may consider necessary for the use of the assigned frequency.

(15) The Commission may impose such conditions as it may consider necessary for the use of the assigned frequency.

(16) The Commission may impose such conditions as it may consider necessary for the use of the assigned frequency.

(17) The Commission may impose such conditions as it may consider necessary for the use of the assigned frequency.

(18) The Commission may impose such conditions as it may consider necessary for the use of the assigned frequency.

(19) The Commission may impose such conditions as it may consider necessary for the use of the assigned frequency.

(20) The Commission may impose such conditions as it may consider necessary for the use of the assigned frequency.



By Jia B. Kangbai
PhD Research Fellow, Center for
International Health, Ludwig
Maximilian University of Munich

S. LEONE USING LESSONS FROM EBOLA TO PREPARE FOR CORONAVIRUS



THE outbreak of the novel coronavirus disease, COVID-19, started at the end of 2019 in Wuhan, China.

It is spreading rapidly around the world and countries face many challenges in preventing and managing the spread of a new virus within and across borders.

The World Health Organization has expressed particular concerns about the vulnerability of countries with weak health systems. Resource-poor countries like Sierra Leone have faced major outbreaks of infectious diseases in the past – most notably the 2013-2016 Ebola outbreak in West Africa.

That 2013-2016 Ebola outbreak infected more people and claimed more lives than previous outbreaks of the disease. Like COVID-19, it affected multiple countries and urban settings. Sierra Leone's eastern region was the first to be affected by Ebola in May 2014. By August 2014 the outbreak had spread to other regions in the country. More than 8 000 probable and confirmed cases and more than 4 000 related deaths occurred in Sierra Leone during the outbreak.

Health officials and scientists dealing with the Ebola outbreak gained valuable experience. For example, they gained an appreciation for the role of health education, dissemination of correct information, raising awareness and sensitisation in controlling the spread of the outbreak. These lessons highlighted the gaps in the country's response and are key to preparing for emerging disease outbreaks.

LEARNING FROM EBOLA

Before the 2013-2016 Ebola outbreak, public health officials and the general population in Sierra Leone had limited information about the disease and how it's spread. This made it easy for false information to

spread.

With such limited knowledge, a large portion of the general public didn't know how to prevent, manage or control the disease. Having that experience with Ebola equipped health authorities in Sierra Leone to be proactive. There is little knowledge about COVID-19.

Health officials are educating the general public about how it's transmitted and ways to prevent and control it. They have now embarked on serial community engagements, workshops, radio and TV health programmes designed to make people aware of the COVID-19 outbreak. National COVID-19 sensitisation activities have been targeting community leaders, local chiefs and health authorities in the border towns and villages along various crossing routes to neighbouring countries. This is because local community leaders and health workers were at the front line to bring the Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone to an end in 2016.

Like Ebola, COVID-19 is highly infectious, transmittable and communicable. It can easily be contracted by coming into direct contact with infected persons.

During the 2013-2016 Ebola outbreak, Sierra Leone implemented a

"less touching" policy, which limited the frequency of physical contact between people. There is no scientific report to assess the impact the "less touching policy" had in halting the Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone. But many believe that it played a major role in reducing the transmission of the disease.

Health officials are applying this policy to preventing this new outbreak.

Officials of the Ministry of Health and Sanitation have been canvassing the country preaching the same message of "less touching".

Perhaps one of the most relevant experiences Sierra Leone obtained from the Ebola outbreak, which is now being used to prevent the outbreak of COVID-19 in the country, is the targeted quarantining of all categories of COVID-19 patients.

Targeted quarantining is the process of selecting and subsequently quarantining individuals who are at high risk for an infection without testing the person for that infection. Because of the challenges of a fragile health-care system and poorly equipped laboratory, the health authorities in Sierra Leone have been quarantining everyone arriving from China and other Asian countries since December

2019.

They are also quarantining for 14 days anyone who arrives at Lungi International Airport with a very high temperature.

People arriving at the Lungi International Airport during the 2013-2016 Ebola outbreak were quarantined only if their body temperature was above 37.2°C (99°F).

LOOKING AHEAD

Authorities are confident that Sierra Leone is well prepared to prevent an outbreak of COVID-19. But the country is still faced with major logistical challenges with regard to laboratory diagnostics of certain infectious diseases that are of public health importance. Currently, Sierra Leone doesn't have the capacity to diagnose for COVID-19 although the country's lab can diagnose other viral pathogens.

The lack of advanced laboratory diagnostic tools was crucial in the spread of the Ebola outbreak.

Sierra Leone's major strength in halting the spread of Ebola during the outbreak was massive health education and community involvement in the design of Ebola control and prevention strategies.

The Conversation

Why it's important to study coronaviruses in African bats

THE current outbreak of a new coronavirus disease, named COVID-19, raises the question of where diseases like this come from and where the risks lie.

By the middle of February almost 2000 people had died in this outbreak, which has also had a global economic impact. It is clear that the virus may have an animal reservoir. In other words, it may be permanently found in a host species of animal, where it does not normally cause disease. Viruses can spill over from the host to other animals and humans. Evidence points to a possible initial spillover of the virus into humans and other animals in an animal market in Wuhan in China. Read more: A clue to stopping coronavirus: Knowing how viruses adapt from animals to humans Bats

are prone to act as reservoir for viruses. Chinese populations of the horseshoe bat genus (*Rhinolophus*) have already been found to host viruses similar to the new coronavirus. This suggests that it's important to watch out for related viruses in this genus of bats elsewhere, including African countries. Scientists on the continent do keep a watch by doing bio-surveillance and specifically looking for pieces of coronavirus genomes in bat species. If these are found, the researchers can determine the genome sequence and analyse how it is related to other animal and human coronaviruses. If it's closely related, it may be an indication of where the spillover of new viruses came from and whether it poses a risk of a disease outbreak. The horseshoe bat genus is found



around the world and there are 40 species in Africa. But so far no viruses related to the cause of COVID-19 disease have been reported from African bat species. The lesson from SARS Global surveillance for coro-

navirus diversity in bats has expanded rapidly in the past two decades because of a previous novel coronavirus disease outbreak, severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), in China in 2002. *The Conversation*

Wit and Wisdom

I do not want the peace which passeth understanding, I want the understanding which bringeth peace.
- Helen Keller

People seldom do what they believe in, they do what is convenient, and then repent.
- Bob Dylan

Is life worth living? It all depends on the liver.
- William James

The wise man has long ears and a short tongue.
- Anonymous.

Knowledge speaks, but wisdom listens.
- Jimi Hendrix

Don't walk behind me, I may not lead. Don't walk in front of me, I may not follow. Just walk beside me and be my friend.
- Unknown, but often attributed to Albert Camus

The secret of a good life is to have the right loyalties and hold them in the right scale of values.
- Norman Thomas

Democracy is the process by which people choose the man who'll get the blame.
- Bertrand Russell

Only two things are infinite, the universe and human stupidity, and I'm not sure about the former.
- Albert Einstein

I've had a wonderful time, but this wasn't it.
- Groucho Marx

Outside of a dog, a book is a man's best friend. Inside of a dog it's too dark to read.
- Groucho Marx

Coffee isn't my cup of tea. - Samuel Goldwyn
I'm an excellent housekeeper. Every time I get a divorce, I keep the house.
- Zsa Zsa Gabor

I'm always amazed to hear of air crash victims so badly mutilated that they have to be identified by their dental records. What I can't understand is, if they don't know who you are, how do they know who your dentist is?
- Paul Merton

At my age I do what Mark Twain did. I get my daily paper, look at the obituaries page and if I'm not there I carry on as usual.
- Patrick Moore

Operator! Give me the number for 911.
- Homer Simpson

I have met a lot of hardboiled eggs in my time, but you're twenty minutes.
- Oscar Wilde

Rarely is the question asked: is our children learning?
- George W. Bush

BUSINESS UPDATE

YOUR DAILY SOURCE OF FINANCIAL/BUSINESS NEWS

CONTACTS

Qondile Ntiwane
(7806 3568 / 7946 0316)
Bahle Gama
(7806 3351 / 7946 0318)
business@observer.org.sz
Tel: 2404 9600/1
Fax: 2404 5503 / 2404 6463

VITALS

Prime Rate	10%
First National Bank	
Inflation Rate	1.6%
Central Statistical Office	
Mortgage Rate	10%
Swaziland Building Society	
Bank Rate	6.5%
Central Bank	
Petrol (u)	E13.65 per litre
Replacement	E13.70 per litre
Diesel	E13.65 per litre
Paraffin	E 9.15 per litre
Engen Garage	

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Correct as at 28 FEB 2020

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	15.5328	15.5828
British Pound/SZL	19.9829	20.0473
Japanese Yen/SZL	6.9930	7.0135
Swiss Franc/SZL	16.0695	16.1162
Botswana Pula/SZL	1.3871	1.4009
Australian Dollar/SZL	10.1460	10.1818
Canadian Dollar/SZL	11.5623	11.5961
Euro/SZL	17.0900	17.1450
Gold	1,622.7800	
Oil	53.18	

For more information contact:
Standard Bank Global Markets Department
Direct Lines: +263 2404 1543 / 1544
Email: gmswaziland@stanbic.com



Standard Bank

YOUNG GIRLS TAUGHT ENTREPRENEURIAL, LEADERSHIP SKILLS

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

OVER 50 young girls that are science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) enthusiasts were over the past weekend taught entrepreneurial and leadership skills.

This was during a two-day fellowship hosted by Women in Engineering (WomEng) Eswatini at the Lugogo Sun International Conference.

The fellowship targeted penultimate or final year of undergraduate and full-time postgraduate female STEM tertiary students.

Interviewed on the last day of the fellowship, WomEng's Bongekile Matsenjwa said they were happy with the success of the fellowship, adding that they were pleased with the hunger for knowledge that the students displayed.

"I have to firstly start by appreciating all the young ladies who ed. We had great two days with them with the main intention being to increase entrepreneurial, and leadership skills, increase connections for high-skilled graduates to employers, business mentors and seed capital as well as to develop insights on industry and employers of choice for female STEM professionals.

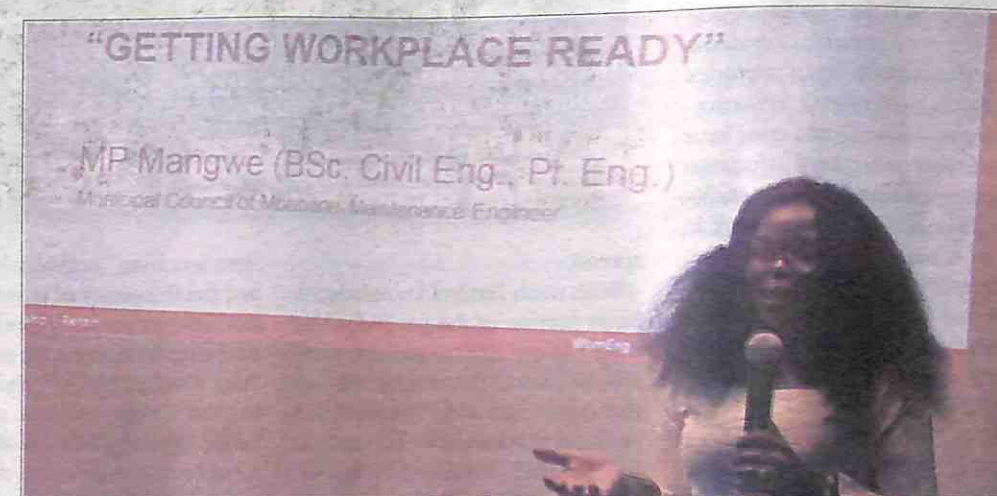
"The honest fact is that many girls who might aspire to get into the world of STEM get discouraged by a lot of factors in society, from parents, to lack of opportunities, which then tend to discourage them from pursuing their dreams.

"We have noted with concern how many young girls perform exceptionally well in high school, but because of the many stigmas they shy away from the STEM careers. To us, this is a huge injustice that must be dealt with, especially when you consider the fact that our country is struggling with unemployment.

"So over the past two days, we have sat down to talk about these problems in depth as well as we give guidance and mentorship," she said.

Matsenjwa further pleaded for financial support from the public to ensure that such forums are not a once off, rather something that they could build on.

"What we have realised is that most of the students we have such activities with need to be nurtured and



INSPIRATION: Maintenance Engineer at the Municipal Council of Mbabane Makhosazana Mangwe making a presentation on 'Getting Workplace Ready' to the students. This was during the two-day fellowship hosted by Women in Engineering (WomEng) Eswatini at the Lugogo Sun International Conference. (Pics: Sibusiso Dlamini)

that process can't be done over a two-day fellowship, so we do really struggle in terms of funding, and we would be grateful for any kind of help in that regard," she said.

Meanwhile, two students interviewed on the day shared that they had learnt a lot from the two-day fellowship.

"It's been a real learning curve for me. I am one person that's terrible at communication, so I have learnt the importance of being able to communicate with everyone, especially for us as young girls. We really just have the passion, but we aren't aware of the opportunities and we immediately give up when we face obstacles because we've had so many times that we can't do it. Personally, I always thought I was doing this course as a pre-course for medicine, but now I have realised that my purpose is more on the chemical side, I just resonate more with it," said Sinikiwe Dlamini, who is a fourth year student at the University of Eswatini (UNESWA) studying a Bachelor of Science in Biology and Chemistry.

Her words were echoed by another student, Tema Dlamini, who is also a fourth-year student studying information technology (IT).

"I am fascinated by technology and gadgets. To me, it's always super interesting to find out what solutions we can offer for our current problems using technology. I believe that if we were to provide the platforms and resources of course, we can easily use our brains to change this country's fortunes for the better.

Our current problems would be as good as non-existent. I got to learn of this fellowship on social media and I have learnt that as a young girl, you don't have to be shy about anything, especially your dreams. Even if you're in a career that is male dominated, make your presence felt. You getting to that place means you're talented enough. For example, in my field, women are always looked down upon because there's that practical side of our job that they, for some reason, never expect us women to be able to do," she said.



LET'S TALK: Facilitator of the fellowship, WomEng's Bongekile Matsenjwa handing the microphone to one of the students to ask a question.

Improved transparency can lower trade costs - WBG

BY BAHLE GAMA

THE World Bank Group (WBG) says improved transparency can lower trade costs and improve predictability.

This was said by WBG IFC Senior Trade Facilitation Consultant Dalton Nxumalo during the Eswatini Trade Information Portal (ETIP) Launch held last Thursday. He said a lack of transparency is one of the most common complaints of the private sector in many developing countries where the World Bank Group works.

"Improved transparency is a key objective of international agreements like the World Trade Organization's Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA)," he said.

He further stated that their definition of a Trade Information Portal is "a website that provides a single point of access

for all the information on regulatory requirements needed to undertake international trade".

He also mentioned that the trade portal also enables traders to see, in response to a single query, all the obligations they need to comply with to import or export a specific good.

Improve

"The development of ETIP will help Eswatini, to improve trade facilitation and generate more trade and investment. It will also make it easier and less costly for the private sector to access trade regulatory information and move goods faster across the border and increase compliance and predictability by making the regulatory requirements available to the public," he said.

Nxumalo stated that while the WBG is assisting Eswatini with the project to develop the ETIP, a challenge still remains for the Kingdom of Eswatini to maintain, update and sustain the day to day

operation of the ETIP after the project.

This includes annual subscription, appointing an ETIP Management Team and continuing to derive value from the system.

Engagement

"From our previous engagement with the NTFC and the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade we happy to be informed that government has already undertaken to look at means to sustain the operations of the ETIP Post Project," he said.

He added that the ETIP was not an end on itself. It is a good building block toward implementing other reforms like Coordinated Border Management and National Single Window, part of which the World Bank is providing support.

"It is therefore to the interest of Eswatini to maximise the opportunity to implement the trade Facilitation reforms with the IFC-WBG and other development partners," he closed.

EEC looking for hydraulic oil suppliers, distributors

BY BAHLE GAMA

THE Eswatini Electricity Company (EEC) is looking for suppliers and distributors of hydraulic oil that have the capacity, capability, technical expertise and experience with the supply and handling of hydraulic oil; to supply and deliver to EEC's power stations.

Suppliers will be required to supply the oils guided by the EEC set standards as governed internally and externally and will be supplied by manufacturers, distributors and suppliers within the Kingdom of Eswatini.

According to an Expression of Interest (EOI) found in the Eswatini Public Procurement Regulatory Agency (ESPPRA), EEC is seeking reliable, seasoned and financially stable suppliers of Hydraulic Oil, who will meet its unique supplies, quality and service demands. EEC requires that Tenderers observe the highest standard of ethics during the procure-

ment process and execution of contracts.

Hydraulic oil is a non-compressible fluid that is used to transfer power within hydraulic machinery and equipment. Otherwise known as hydraulic fluid, hydraulic oil can be synthetic or mineral-based.

EEC is a power utility, which was formed in 1963 to provide Electricity to the Swazi nation by sourcing or generating power using the least cost sources of energy.

Operates

The company currently operates in a liberalised market through the Electricity Act of 2007 and the Energy Regulatory Act of 2007. EEC imports 80 per cent of the electricity demand from Southern Africa countries through Bilateral Agreements also from the Day Ahead Market (DAM) in SAPP.

Locally the company buys five per cent from one local independent power producer (Ubombo Sugar Limited) and generates the other 15 per cent from its internal power stations.

SARFED hosts successful financial management training

STORIES BY BAHLE GAMA

The Southern African Research Foundation for Economic Development (SARFED) successfully hosted a one day life-changing financial management workshop to about 30 members of the public, who came from all walks of life where they were taken along issues regarding their personal financial management. The event was held at the Hilton Garden Hotel between 5pm to 6.30pm on Thursday.

It should be noted that this was the second event of this magnitude this year after another successful one was held with enthusiastic staff from the ministry of natural resources and energy, where 110 members filled the conference room on 19th February, 2020. Successful is an understatement to describe the feedback received from the corporate gurus and business people who attend these sessions.

Facilitating during these sessions was the Regional Director for SARFED, Dr George Choongwa, who captivated the attendants of the meeting with his finely researched truths on financial indepen-

dence and management.

He informed the audience that the aim of the public awareness on personal financial management was to create a financially-informed society.

"We believe that an economy would thrive if it had a society which understands the dynamics of personal finances. There is no economy without money, hence the more the general public is informed about how they make their decisions on the use of their personal finances in both consumption and saving, issues of investment and asset accumulation would easily have been achieved," Dr Choongwa quipped.

The level of understanding among the audience was evaluated through a questionnaire that was distributed to the attendants after the session, where questions were attempted by those in attendance.

While evaluating the attendants' understanding of the workshop, Dr Choongwa noted that 80 per cent of people don't know what to do with their personal finances.

"Statistically, the project of financial stability indicates that while the majority out of 130 people who participated in both activities, 80% indicated the lack of

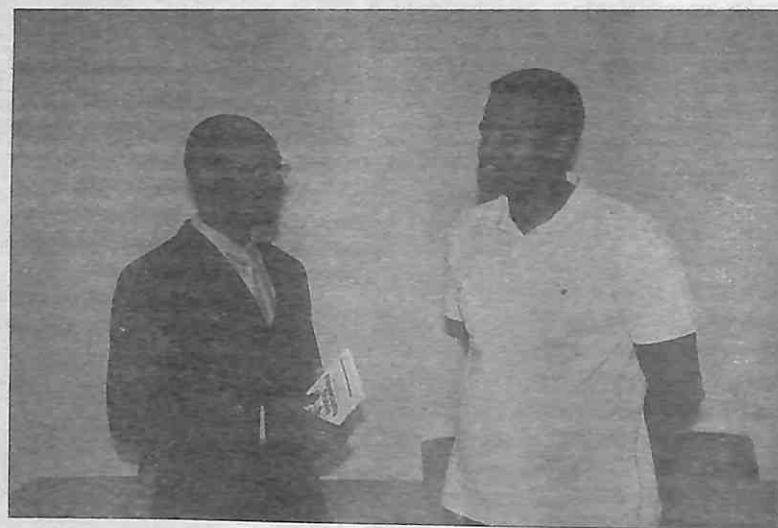
proper knowledge regarding personal financial stability. Most of the participants indicated that they were mostly affected with personal debt, which made them to live from hand to mouth," he said.

He further stated that the study also indicated that out of 130 people who participated in both trainings so far, 75 per cent of them indicated that they realised that they were not financially stable after a range of 10 years, though the highest in the percentage was 27 years of continuous employment.

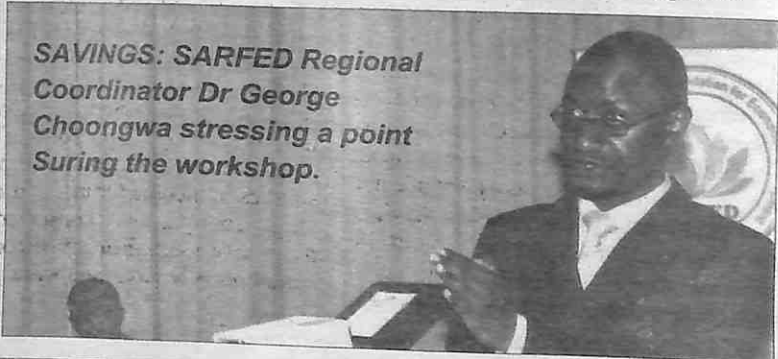
Participants

The participants also indicated that one of the contributing factors to their poor personal finance management included limited knowledge and exposure to issues of finance. The participants indicated that financial education was to be promoted most often as a means to ensuring that they attained the basic and proper knowledge regarding their personal finances.

In a nutshell, the following topics were covered; financial planning, understanding the credit and how to come out of debt, saving money and preparing for retirement, amongst others. The participants were also taken through a process on how to completely come out of debt.



I SEE: SARFED Regional Director Dr. George Choongwa having a conversation with Prince Majaha.



SAVINGS: SARFED Regional Coordinator Dr George Choongwa stressing a point during the workshop.

Prince Majaha applauds Dr. Choongwa

On the sidelines of the workshop conducted by SARFED, some members of the Royal family, led by Prince Majaha, made a brief stop at the workshop venue where the prince was also presented with a book written by Dr. George Choongwa titled *The Art of Becoming Financially Stable*.

The Prince applauded the host and SARFED for the tremendous initiative they had started, that of educating the public about financial literacy. The prince emphasised that while money or personal finance remained a central issue for human survival, very little was being done by both the private and public sectors to address the issues of promoting financial lit-

eracy among the country's citizens.

He also indicated that both organisations and individuals were to take such lessons being promoted by SARFED seriously, as they were the key drivers of economic growth and development in general, just as the country was on a campaign to resuscitate the economy. The organisation's Communications Officer Nxumalo revealed that the next session will be held in Manzini, in April at a venue yet to be confirmed.

Speaking later to some of the participants during the photo-shoot, they expressed their gratitude towards the initiative that has been taken by SARFED, and they encouraged the organisation to put more effort in

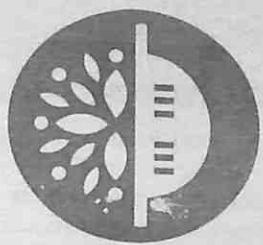


BOOKS: The attendees posing for a group picture with the copies of the latest book written by Dr Choongwa.

conducting such trainings countrywide. Some of them even encouraged other entities and the corporate sector to part-

ner with SARFED as hosting such eye-opening sessions usually cost an arm and a leg, thus the organisation would appre-

ciate any assistance to help enlighten Emaswati, including small and medium enterprises together with vendors.



OMBUDSMAN
OF FINANCIAL SERVICES
Umlamuli wetindzaba tetimali

OMBUDSDAY FREE
FAIR
FOR ALL

EVERY year on the 15th of March, the international community commemorates World Consumer Rights Day, led by an organisation known as Consumers International.

The theme for 2020 is 'The Sustainable Consumer', with the aim of raising awareness about the global environmental crisis. One of the five trends that have been identified as a critical aspect for driving towards sustainable consumption, is the increase in consumer demand for more sustainability information. It is important to be informed about what we are consuming and what effects our consumption practices have on the environment. According to Consumers International, the 'practice of 'greenwashing', where consumers are misled by unsubstantiated sustainability claims on products is becoming a big issue,' (2020). In addition to the demand for more sustainability information, effective education about the financial products that drive demand and consumer decision making is essential for influencing the relationship between consumer spending and sustainable consumption.

THE OMBUDSMAN AND SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION

It is valuable to reflect on how our financial knowledge and subsequent practices affect the way we consume, especially if it is contributing to imbalances that extend to the economy and the environment. One of the key functions of the Office of the Ombudsman of Financial Services (Ombudsman) is to educate the public on correct procedures for filing complaints and promote the principles of good business practice in handling complaints by the industry. Another way that we could think of this function, is that the Ombudsman exists to uphold economic sustainability in the non-bank financial services industry in our role as a dispute resolution body. Given the theme, 'The Sustainable Consumer', we can look at the link between having access to financial services and sustainable consumption, where financial services can be seen as a point of entry for a majority of the goods and services we consume. Therefore, we could ask the question: how can increased access and use of financial products and ser-

THE OMBUDSMAN, SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION



vices become unsustainable?

FINANCIAL SERVICES: A FOCUS ON CONSUMER CREDIT

The Ombudsman resolves disputes between consumers and non-bank financial services providers (FSP) that are licensed by the Financial Services Regulatory Authority (FSRA). The types of complaints that we investigate include retirement fund complaints; insurance complaints; investment complaints; medical cover complaints; and savings and/or credit complaints. In the 2018-2019 financial year, 33 per cent of our complaints related to consumer credit, which is the second highest number of complaints received, after retirement fund complaints at 50 per cent.

This is an indication that consumer credit is a non-bank financial services product that many people in Eswatini use, most likely for purposes of being able to increase buying power where sources of income for instance, are no longer enough. Thus, consumer credit can have a significant impact on consumption behaviour and sustainability.

CONSUMPTION OF CONSUMER CREDIT FOR ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

Having access to credit is arguably viewed by many as an advantage in cases where consumers need additional finance to purchase goods and services. More so, licensed credit providers are able to conduct business and contribute to healthy economic activity in the country. However, there are instances where the consumer and the FSP no longer see eye-to-eye, and a dispute arises.

The Ombudsman exists to level the playing field between these two parties in a fair and accessible way. The aim is essentially to bring economic sustainability by receiving the complaints and first making an effort to either conciliate, facilitate or mediate settlement between them with the view to sustain the business relationship between the FSP and the customer. Should settlement not be successful, the Ombudsman then investigates the matter with the view to make a decision on the complaint, based on what

is fair and reasonable in all the circumstances of the case for good industry practice and economic stability to be upheld. Our process for lodging a complaint is as follows:

1. First contact your FSP and submit a written complaint, giving them 30 days to respond. If you do not get a response or you are not satisfied with their response, you may come to the Ombudsman with your complaint.
2. Get a copy of our Complaint Form at our Office, a CMAC branch near you or from our **website: www.ombudsfs.org.sz**
3. Bring your completed Complaint Form together with all your supporting documentation in person, by fax or email.

CONSUMPTION OF CONSUMER CREDIT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Consumer credit and sustainability is not only relevant to the economy – it is also a relationship worth considering with regards to the environment. Having access to credit or additional

sources of money gives us the ability to acquire more goods and services. For example, Consumer International states that globally, we 'buy over 80 billion new clothing items a year and we consume 3.9 billion tonnes of food – one-third of which is lost or wasted,' (2020). Although we are not able to confirm what percentage of this consumption is purchased through credit, it should still make us think more critically about recycling, reducing food waste and avoiding unsustainable products, for instance.

WORLD CONSUMER RIGHTS DAY – SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION

Sustainable consumption is in our hands, and consumers can contribute significantly to this sustainability. Let us learn more about the forums that have been established to promote economic sustainability, for consumers and businesses alike, to strengthen our economy. Let us think about the possible environmental impact of the goods and services we purchase through the financial services we use. We hope you have a happy World Consumer Rights Day!

N.B Ombudsday is a monthly consumer education column compiled by the Office of the Ombudsman of Financial Services in the country. Do not miss the next column which will be published in this newspaper next month.

For more information, contact the office of the Ombudsman at:
3rd Floor, West Wing,
Ingcamu, (PSPF) Building,
Mhlambanyatsi Road, Mbabane.
PO Box 8490, Mbabane
Eswatini
Tel: +268 2404 7653/2404 4464
Fax: +268 2404 0636
Email: info@ombudsfs.org.sz
Website: www.ombudsfs.org.sz
Facebook: Ombudsman of Financial Services.

Mondi Group battles weaker prices for board, paper to post profit

JOHANNESBURG – Packaging and paper company Mondi Group battled a weaker pricing environment for container board and uncoated fine paper to deliver flat annual earnings, but with a brighter outlook and price stability ahead.

For year to December, Mondi said that it had posted a €1.1 billion (R18.22bn) profit, nearly unchanged from €1.1bn the previous year.

Despite this, newly-appointed Chief Executive Andrew King said that it was a robust performance in 2019 against a backdrop of challenging trading conditions as Mondi recommended a 9.2 per cent full-year dividend rise to 0.83 per share from 0.76 in 2018.

"A solid operational performance, strong cost control and a good contribution from acquisitions and capital investment projects partially offset the effects of market pressures in a number of key pulp and paper grades," he said.

He also credited the performance to strong cost control across the group, good contribution from capital investments and acquisitions completed in 2018 as well as the completion of the process to simplify the corporate structure.

Mondi plc and Mondi Ltd merged last year to simplify its business mode.

King, who was last week appointed to the helm of Mondi following the surprise resignation of Peter Oswald in

January, said the group had confidence in the structural growth drivers in the packaging sectors in which it operated.

Mondi delivered earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation (Ebitda) that was down 6 percent to €1.66bn.

Mondi said strong performances from its flexible packaging and engineered materials had helped to mitigate the margin pressures seen in corrugated packaging and uncoated fine paper in the face of market-driven price decreases.

Currency movements had a net positive impact on underlying Ebitda in the period under review.

Mondi said the negative effect of a weaker Turkish lira on its Turkish busi-

nesses was "more than offset" by the benefits to certain of our export orientated businesses of a stronger US dollar and weaker South African rand.

Its basic underlying earnings of 171.1 cents per share were down 10 percent compared to 2018, while it saw an operating profit of €1.22bn (below 2018's €1.32bn) and cash generated from operations of €1.63bn, a decrease from €1.65bn a year prior.

Group revenue was down 3 percent at €7.27bn as a result of a combination of lower average selling prices and lower sales volumes, in turn primarily due to longer planned maintenance shuts and restructuring initiatives, the group said.

Business Report



BATTLES: Mondi Chief Executive Andrew King.

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE



ELDERLY TOLD TO AVOID CROWDS

LONDON - Health chiefs have urged people aged over 60 to avoid crowds amid wide-spread coronavirus panic as an infant school worker is revealed as one of three new UK patients.

The World Health Organisation issued the drastic warning which also urged people in this age group to skip routine appointments at doctors' surgeries and hospitals.

It comes as a worker at an infant school in Berkshire was one of three further patients from England who tested positive for coronavirus yesterday bringing the total number of UK cases to 23.

Parents were sent an email advising them that Willow Bank Infant School will be 'shut for some days to allow for a deep clean' as it is revealed more than 10 000 Britons have now been tested for the deadly virus.

The other two cases - one in the Cotswolds, specifically Gloucestershire and another in Hertfordshire - are being investigated and any individuals who had contact with the patients are

Health chiefs urge over-60s to avoid crowds as coronavirus panic spreads with Berkshire infant school worker announced as one of three new UK patients and Ireland revealing its first case

now being traced.

The Cotswolds resident became infected in Italy, where more than 1 000 cases of coronavirus have been diagnosed.

Public Health England would not clarify, however, which of the Berkshire and the Hertfordshire cases had returned from Italy and which had returned from Asia.

Debra Laphorne, centre director for Public Health England South West, said Public Health England is contacting people who had close contact with one of the latest confirmed cases of Covid-19.

"The case is a resident from the Cotswolds area and became infected whilst in northern Italy.

"Close contacts will be given health advice about symptoms and emergency contact details to use

if they become unwell in the 14 days after contact with the confirmed case.

"This tried and tested method will ensure we are able to minimise any risk to them and the wider public.

"If you have not been contacted by Public Health England, you do not need to take any action at this time."

The letter to parents of pupils at the Berkshire infant school read: "We regret to inform you that we were told today that one of our members of staff has tested positive for the coronavirus, COVID-19.

"We understand that this will worry many of you, and can reassure you that we have taken advice from Public Health England, who have released the attached statements." *Daily mail*

No reason to panic at all, says Trump after first coronavirus death in US

WASHINGTON - Seeking to reassure the American public, President Donald Trump said there was "no reason to panic" as the new coronavirus claimed its first victim inside the US.

The White House also announced new restrictions on international travel to prevent its spread.

Trump, speaking on Saturday only moments after the death in Washington state was announced, took a more measured approach a day after he complained that the virus threat was being overblown and that his political enemies were perpetuating a 'hoax'.

"This is very serious stuff," he said, but still insisted the criticism of his administration's handling of the virus outbreak was a hoax.

Trump appeared at a hastily called news conference in the White House briefing room with Vice President Mike Pence and top public health officials to announce that the US was banning travel to Iran and urging Americans not to travel to regions of Italy and South Korea where the virus has been prevalent.

He said 22 people in the US had been stricken by the new coronavirus, of whom one had died while four were deemed 'very ill.' Additional cases were 'likely', he added.

Trump said he was considering additional restrictions, including closing the US border with Mexico in response to the virus' spread, but later added: "This is not a border that seems to be much of a problem right now."

"We're thinking about all borders," he said.

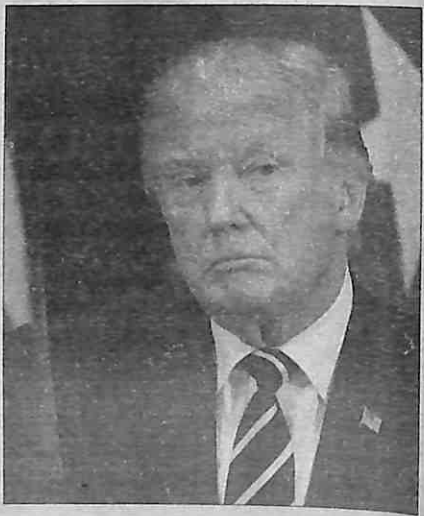
Travel to Iran is already quite limited, though some families are allowed to travel there on a visa. It is one of the seven initial countries on Trump's travel ban list, which means travel from Iran also is already severely restricted.

Robert Redfield, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, said there was "no evidence of link to travel" abroad in the case of the man who died.

The patient was described as being in his late 50s and having a high health risk before contracting the virus. Redfield said the CDC mistakenly told Trump in an earlier briefing that the victim was a woman.

On Friday, health officials confirmed a third case of coronavirus in the US in a person who hadn't travelled internationally or had close contact with anyone who was known to have the virus.

The US has about 60 confirmed cases. Trump's tally appeared to exclude cases of Americans repatriated from China or evacuated from the Diamond Princess cruise ship. *AP*



FEAR NOT: US President Donald Trump.

SA's plan to quarantine 151 citizens returning from Wuhan

JOHANNESBURG - 151 out of 201 South Africans living in Wuhan have elected to come home and are healthy, but will be quarantined upon arrival.

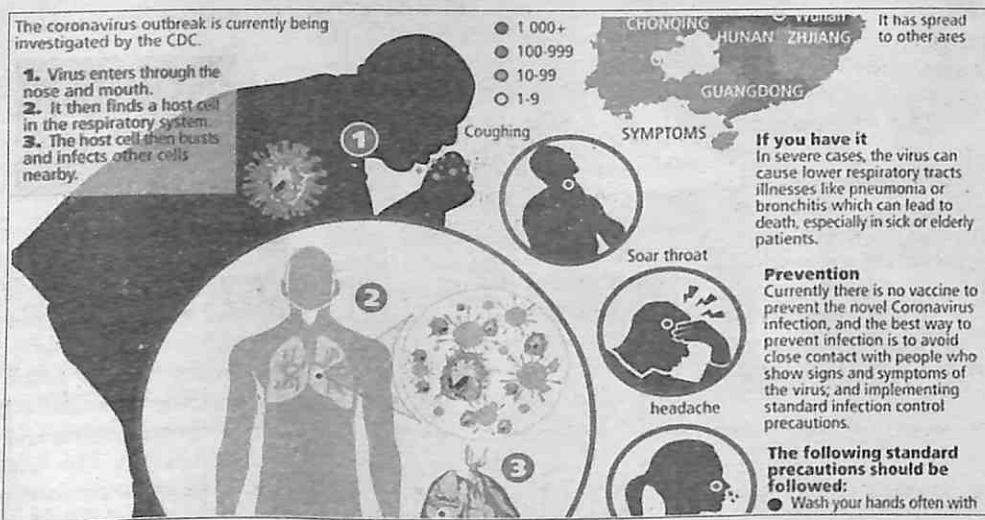
Evacuation plans will take up to 10 days.

Minister of Health Zweli Mkhize has laid out South Africa's plan to evacuate 151 South African citizens from Wuhan, China following the outbreak of the coronavirus (Covid-19), as well as government's readiness to deal with a potential outbreak.

At a media briefing in Johannesburg yesterday, Mkhize said there had been constant communication with South African citizens in Wuhan.

Through these communications, 151 out of a total of 201 South Africans living in Wuhan have elected to come home, while 16 South Africans indicated they do not want to return. The remaining must still be contacted. Mkhize stressed that those citizens returning are healthy, but will be quarantined upon arrival in South Africa.

Mkhize said President Cyril Ramaphosa wants to start the evacuation plans immediately. This will take between seven and 10 days to complete, he said. *The Citizen*



CORONAVIRUS EFFECTS WILL BE FELT IN AFRICA LONG AFTER IT'S PASSED

JOHANNESBURG - African Development Bank President Akinwumi Adesina said the effects of the coronavirus on trade are devastating.

In an exclusive interview with Eyewitness News, Adesina revealed that the bank will hold an emergency meeting next week to look at how to further support countries on the continent.

He is in South Africa to attend the African Leadership Persons Awards. Adesina said the effects of the coronavirus will be felt on the continent long after it has passed. "Supply chains are

being destroyed - from agriculture to electronics to small parts for vehicles. China used to account for 1.5% of global trade, now they account for a third." The bank was instrumental in the formation of the Africa Centres for Disease Control.

"At the beginning of the crisis, no more than two countries could screen now, 46 countries have the ability. Preparedness is rising." He said some of the preparedness assistance will be to build diagnostic capabilities, strengthening healthcare systems and providing basic supplies such as gloves and masks. *EWN*

Focus on SA Scene

Your Daily Mzansi News

Call to prosecute former ANC, PAC leaders for 'conflict of the past'

DURBAN-Calls have been made for the prosecution of leaders of the former liberation movement for offences related to 'the conflict of the past'.

The call has been made by the Foundation for Equality for Law, which wants former president Jacob Zuma and former PAC president and Azanian People's Liberation Army (APLA) commander Letlapa Mphahlele to be

among those who should be prosecuted. The foundation made the call in an open letter to Justice and Constitutional Development Minister Ronald Lamola.

In his letter, the foundation's Chairperson Johan Botha said Lamola's recent statements that the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) lacked capacity to prosecute those responsible for state capture was disingenuous.

"Millions of rand are being wasted by the NPA due to ineffective planning and politically motivated and selective prosecution of only certain persons for offences related to conflict of the past," he wrote.

He also decried the re-opening of inquests into the death of political activists Ahmed Timol and Dr Neil Aggett, saying people who were directly involved in the incidents had long

ago died. Botha charged that there was no primary evidence and 'anecdotal hearsay' presented was inadmissible in court. Botha said the NPA disregarded the provision of the constitution which provided for equality before the law.

He said members of the apartheid government and its security forces, such as former minister of defence Magnus Malan and Dr Wouter Basson

had already been prosecuted. "In stark contrast with these prosecutions, not a single member of the national executive committee of the ANC, to whom amnesty has been denied, has ever been prosecuted despite the fact that abundant evidence is available to prove that according to the principle of common purpose in our law. Neither Zuma's spokesperson Vukile Mathabala nor ANC spokesperson Pule Mabe responded to questions sent to them.

Political Bureau

Mkhwebane, Speaker threaten each other

JOHANNESBURG - The Public Protector and National Assembly Speaker Thandi Modise are threatening each other with punitive costs as they battle over the motion for an inquiry into Busisiwe Mkhwebane's fitness for office.

Mkhwebane was the first to make a threat in a letter she sent Modise via her lawyers last Thursday, accusing her of unlawful actions and insists she acts on several of her demands.

"Your failure to act as demanded will be brought to the attention of the court and appropriate relief will be sought, including punitive costs and the granting of the Part A relief on a default judgement basis," reads the letter from Seanego Incorporated.

But Modise fired back, through the State attorney, advising Mkhwebane to amend her urgent relief she is seeking in court and supplement her founding affidavit. "The State attorney warned Advocate Mkhwebane that should she persist with her application for urgent relief in its present form on 17 March 2020, the Speaker will request that the application be dismissed with punitive costs on the ground that her persistence will entail the incurring of fruitless and wasteful expenditure of public funds," Modise's Spokesperson Moloto Mthapo said yesterday.

This takes place against the backdrop of an interdict at Cape Town High Court where Mkhwebane wants Modise interdicted from going ahead with

...over motion of inquiry legal costs

the process to remove her from office. She also wants Modise, among others, to recuse herself from the court act as a conflicted person, and the court to declare the rules to remove from office heads of Chapter 9 Institutions unconstitutional and set aside Modise's decision.

The latest drama has been sparked by Modise's acceptance of the revised motion tabled by DA Chief Whip Natasha Mazzone on February 21 after withdrawing the one she submitted in December.

Mkhwebane's lawyer took a swipe at Modise's 'intransigent determination' to proceed with the motion despite the pending application for interdict.

The lawyers said Modise's acceptance of the new motion shows clear intention to act contrary to Mkhwebane relief in court.

"The application is, therefore even more urgent now than ever before."

The law firm demanded that Modise file her answering affidavit, which should respond to allegations of her unlawfulness. Apart from insisting on Modise to suspend the removal process, they demanded that she furnishes Mkhwebane with reasons to declare the revised motion as being 'in order'.

Mthapo said Modise has responded to Mkhwebane denying that she had acted unlawfully in the process to remove her from office. The spokesperson confirmed that Modise has not filed her answering affidavit. "The Speaker's answering affidavit will include giving reasons for her decision that Ms Mazzone's motion of 21 February 2020 is in order."

He said should Mkhwebane continue with her application containing her court papers in the current form, she will file papers tomorrow.

Political Bureau



THREATS: Public Protector Busisiwe Mkhwebane.

Spin doctor to contest for powerful ANC position

LIMPOPO - Former Limpopo provincial government Spokesman and now Premier Stanley Mathabatha's chief of staff, Mogale Nchabeleng, has been tipped by ANC branches to become the next leader of Sekhukhune region, the most influential region in Limpopo's ANC politics.

Nchabeleng will be joining a long list of former spin doctors, among them current Gauteng MEC for education Panyaza Lesufi, Freddy Greaver and Andries Sebola, who have gone on to occupy executive positions in the government and the ANC.

Lesufi moved from being spokesman for the basic education department to becoming deputy chairman in Gauteng and education MEC in the country's economic hub.

Greaver served the Limpopo government as education spokesman and later served in the same capacity for the provincial treasury before he led the Polokwane municipality as executive mayor. Nchabeleng's name is

among the powerful names slated to take over the leadership of the region from Stan Ramaila.

Nchabeleng is considered a favourite contender for the throne.

Nchabeleng confirmed he had agreed to a proposal by branch leaders to consider running for the chairmanship of the ANC in Sekhukhune, his home region. "They asked about my availability to lead the region and though reluctant I was amenable to persuasion. They insistently said they believe that I could add the requisite value to the organisation." Unlike Greaver, Nchabeleng said he has never been completely out of politics in his more than 19 years in government as an administrator.

The longest-serving official in the premier's office, Nchabeleng has worked under all four administrations in the province, from premier Ngoako Ramatlhodi, Sello Moloto, Cassel Mathale and now Mathabatha, who is now in his second term as premier. *Sunday World*

Royal family slams ANC MP for 'trying to hijack the dynasty'

JOHANNESBURG - The regent of the Balobedu queenship in Limpopo has accused ANC national executive committee (NEC) member Mathole Motshekga of trying to hijack the dynasty by inducting the heir to the throne and running a parallel head kraal.

Mpapatla Bakhoma Modjadji said Motshekga had turned Princess Masalanabo against the royal family and used the 15-year-old as a fundraising tool since the children's court gave him custody in September 2017.

He has written to President Cyril Ramaphosa seeking intervention to bring the princess to the royal household at Khetlhakoni Village outside Modjadjikloof, and stop "unnecessary confusion" caused by "someone who involves himself in things that do not concern him nor is he part of this dynasty".

However, Motshekga maintained that he would not hand over Princess Masalanabo to the royal family unless ordered by the court.

"I have no legal authority to give custody of the minor queen to any-

one as she was placed in my care by the order of court. Anyone who wants custody must approach the children's court and I shall abide by the decision of the court," he said.

Princess Masalanabo is the child of the late Queen Makobo Modjadji VI who died in 2005 when she (Masalanabo) was 6 months old.

Masalanabo's father, former Tzaneen municipal manager David Mogale, died in 2014 after a protracted battle with the Modjadji royal family over Princess Masalanabo's custody.

Official correspondence shows that Mpapatla fired Motshekga as Modjadji royal family's legal advisor three weeks ago, citing "poor working relations". Motshekga, who was appointed legal advisor by Mpapatla's grandmother, Queen Mokohe V, in 1996, claims he resigned to focus on his parliamentary work. In an interview with Sunday Independent, Mpapatla accused Motshekga of disrespecting him and the royal council by doing as he pleased with Princess Masalanabo, and even pushing for the application for a queenship certificate before her inauguration. *Sunday Independent*

Fort Hare students struggle to cope after 13 deaths

CAPE TOWN-Students say there is a need for additional psychologists to be stationed at the University of Fort Hare in the Eastern Cape.

They say this will assist them as they struggle to cope with the recent tragedies that have hit the institution. One of the latest was the death of Yonela Boli, who was allegedly stabbed by his girlfriend at a residence on the Alice campus on February 8. The Alice Magistrate's Court

granted Boli's alleged murderer Yolanda Nogemane bail of R1 000, National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) Spokesperson Luxolo Tyali said. She is expected to appear in court again on May 25, as the State conducts further investigations.

Another student, Olwethu Tshetu, 30, who was reportedly a close friend of Boli's, was also stabbed last Saturday on the day Boli was buried. During the 2019 academic year, the institution recorded 13 stu-

dent deaths. According to the university's Director of Institutional Advancement Tandi Mapukata, the deaths occurred both on and off campus, ranging from suicides to accidents.

Three students died at home from illness and a further three were killed in car accidents off campus. There were four alleged suicides - two on campus, one off campus and one at an off-campus residence. *Daily Mail*

JOE BIDEN WINS THUMPING VICTORY

2020
VOTE - ELECTION - DAY

NEW YORK—Joe Biden, long considered the Democrats' frontrunner, finally won a state, as South Carolina was called for the former vice president the minute polls closed.

"Just days ago the press and the pundits had declared this candidacy dead," Biden said. "Now, thanks to you - the heart of the Democratic Party - we haven't just won. We won big, and we are very much alive."

Biden used his speech at his Columbia, South Carolina headquarters Saturday night to knock around the self-proclaimed democratic socialist, who was trailing him by around 30 points with about three-quarters of the vote in. "If Democrats want a nominee who's a Democrat, a life-long Democrat, a proud Democrat, an Obama-Biden Democrat, join us," he told his crowd. He said with a Biden nomination the Democrats could take the White House from President Trump, keep the House in Nancy Pelosi's hands and grab the Senate from the Republicans. "We have the option to win it big or lose it big," he said of the November 2020 election.

"Most Americans don't want the



VICTORY: A grinning Joe Biden and clapping James Clyburn (right) addressed a crowd in Columbia on Saturday night, as Biden's wife Jill (left) smiled for the crowd.

promise of revolution. They want more than promises - they want results," he said. "False promises are deceptive. And talk of a revolution isn't changing anyone's life," Biden stated, knocking Sanders.

Biden also suggested in his speech

that with this one win, he was starting to lock the Democratic nomination up. "The moment to choose the path forward for our party has arrived. Maybe sooner than anyone guessed or wanted. But it's here," he told the crowd.

"And the decisions Democrats make all across America in the next few days will determine what this party stands for, what we believe, and what we will get done," he added.

At Biden's headquarters in Columbia, South Carolina supporters screamed when Biden was called the winner the minute polls closed, as MSNBC played on the jumbotron at University of South Carolina's volleyball center. Directly after, Jazzy Trinity, the band playing the event, started performing 'I Gotta Feeling' by the Black Eyed Peas. Biden's win was called with 0 per cent reporting because exit polls had signaled such good news for the former vice president.

More than half of those who cast ballots were black, a stronghold for President Obama's vice president.

Nearly half say that Rep. James Clyburn's endorsement - which was for Biden - was an important factor in their vote, according to the Washington Post. And about half said they wanted the next president to return to Obama's policies, rather than dramatically shaking up the country, which is in line with what Biden's has proposed. *Daily Mail*

'You cannot win 'em all'

NEW YORK—Bernie Sanders looked ahead to Super Tuesday at a Virginia rally on Saturday night as he brushed off Joe Biden's overwhelming win in the South Carolina primary.

"You cannot win 'em all," he told cheering supporters. "I am very proud that in our campaign so far, we have won the popular vote in Iowa," the Vermont senator told a crowd of cheering supporters in Virginia Beach.

"We have won the New Hampshire primary. We have won the Nevada caucus," he continued. But he reminded his followers: "You cannot win 'em all."

Sanders said he has a 'great chance' to win the Democratic nomination - with critical primaries in Virginia and other states three days away.

Sanders observed there are a 'lot of states out there.' "And tonight we did not win in South Carolina," he noted, about an hour after the polls closed.

"There are a lot of states in this country. Nobody wins them all" he reiterated, on a day when Biden racked up large percentages among African American voters and got a significant boost to his struggling and underfunded campaign. "I want to congratulate Joe Biden on his victory tonight," he said, to only a smattering of applause.

"And now we enter super Tuesday in Virginia!" Sanders has financial advantages over his rivals and a national following, with only Michael Bloomberg with his virtually unlimited resources posing a threat on the money front.

Biden is hoping to use his South Carolina win to generate free 'earned media,' and has scheduled a round of Sunday show interviews, hoping to get a burst of momentum in addition to delegates out of his victory. He'll also be appearing in Norfolk with some big name endorsers. "We are very much alive!" Biden proclaimed Saturday night in Columbia, calling his voters who gave him a commanding victory over Bernie Sanders the 'heart of the Democratic Party.' *Daily Mail*



SUPPORT: Ashley Biden (left) and Jill Biden applaud for Joe Biden, who won the South Carolina Democratic primary easily on Saturday night.



WINS: Joe Biden supporters react to the news that their candidate won the South Carolina, with the race called as soon as polls closed at 7 pm.

Billionaire Tom Steyer ends his presidential bid after poor finish

NEW YORK - Billionaire activist Tom Steyer, who poured millions of dollars into his Democratic presidential campaign, ended his bid on Saturday after a disappointing finish in the South Carolina primary.

After spending nearly US\$24 million on television advertising in the state, Steyer finished behind Joe Biden and Bernie Sanders, landing him in third place on Saturday night.

The final stretch of Steyer's presidential campaign was focused on South Carolina, where he sought to appeal to black voters by decrying inequalities in American life that he said were caused by racism. The 62-year-old, who spent eight months on the campaign trail, said after the disappointing results rolled in: "Honestly, I can't see a path where I can win the presidency."

He added: "The people who have endorsed me have stood up in a very red state where I have seen things that have broken my heart."

"This has been a great experience. I have zero regrets. Meeting you and the rest of the American people was the highlight of my life." He also couldn't resist a swipe at President Trump, saying: "Every Democrat is a million times better than Trump. Trump is a disaster."

With a net worth estimated by Forbes as US\$1.6 billion, Steyer was a presence in the Democratic contest well before he made his candidacy official in July 2019, blanketing the airwaves with US\$10 million in television ads advocating for Trump's impeachment.

Steyer said he got into the race because he didn't think racial injustice was being addressed in the country.

On Saturday, he said he will continue to work to address that issue. He also thanked his supporters and pledged that he would never forget South Carolina, where he focused most of his presidential efforts. He told his supporters at his election night party: "I'm not leaving. We are already working to figuring out ways to make sure that we stay in South Carolina."

"When the Lord closes a door, he opens a window. I will find that window and I will crawl through it with you. I promise you that. I love you very much. He added on Instagram: "Tonight, I suspended my campaign for President of the United States. I have always said that win, lose, or draw, I am in this fight. 'This primary remains a journey towards the necessary defeat of Donald Trump and his corrupt administration. Together,



BOWS: Democratic hopeful Tom Steyer decided to bow out of the race on Saturday night after the results showed he wouldn't be winning any delegates in a state he had pinned his presidential hopes to.

I still believe we will beat him and restore power to the people."

Andrew Yang, who dropped out of the race on February 11, said on Twitter: "Tom Steyer is a great American and

patriot who has spent years fighting for racial justice and addressing climate change. He is going to keep fighting. Non sibi Tom. See you soon." *CNN*

Focus on World News

Global News

Queen 'very sad' as Meghan won't bring son Archie along

LONDON - Meghan Markle is not expected to bring son Archie with her when she joins Prince Harry in Britain this week for their last round of royal engagements.

The Queen, 93, and Prince Philip, 98, are said to be 'very sad' by the news, having seen so little of Archie since his birth, according to the Sunday Times.

It is believed that Archie, who has yet to set foot on UK soil this year, will remain with the Sussexes' nanny, and with Meghan's friend Jessica Mulroney.

Archie's last official sighting was in a photograph with his father the Duke of Sussex, posted to the Sussex Royal Instagram account last New Year's Eve.

Harry and Meghan's decision to leave Archie behind is also thought to add another £50 000 to the royal couple's security bill, The Sun reports.

A royal insider told the paper: "Meghan's London jaunt is proving a real headache."

They added: "It's an expensive time just when the costs of looking after the Duke and Duchess of Sussex are under scrutiny."

Prince Harry, 35, left Meghan, 38, and their nine-month-old son in Canada as he embarked on a final round of official duties last week.

Launching an eco-friendly travel company in Edinburgh, the senior royal made headlines as he asked delegates 'just to call him Harry'.

He also performed a duet with Jon Bon Jovi at

Abbey Road Studios for a new charity single before recreating the Beatles' iconic zebra crossing photo outside.

Harry flew to Britain on a commercial flight and arrived in Edinburgh on an eco-friendly LNER train from, with taxpayer-funded Scotland Yard bodyguards. The Queen's grandson has been stung by criticism over the past six months of his frequent use of private jets while campaigning on environmental issues. Harry's flight to Britain this week was believed to have been the seventh flight the Queen's grandson has taken so far this year, following return trips from Vancouver Island to London, Miami in Florida and Palo Alto in California.

Daily Mail



Prince Harry and Meghan with their son Archie.

Sudan fires 109 diplomats with alleged links to Bashir

KHARTOUM - Sudan has fired scores of diplomats for alleged links to the administration of toppled President Omar al-Bashir, a legal committee said over the weekend.

The Empowerment Removal Committee was formed under a law introduced in November to dismantle the system built by Bashir, who was ousted in April last year after nearly three decades in power.

"One-hundred-and-nine ambassadors, diplomats and administrators were fired from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and those were appointed through political and social empowerment," Mohamed al-Faki, deputy head of the committee, told a news conference in the capital, Khartoum.

Some of the diplomats were appointed by Bashir himself and the others were picked through his now dissolved National Congress Party, said Taha

Othman, a member of the committee.

Earlier this month, the committee dissolved the boards of the country's central bank and 11 other state-owned banks and fired the managers of eight of the banks.

Assets

It also seized the assets of the former ruling party last month.

In related news, the European Union announced €100-million to support the civilian-led authorities in Sudan to meet the most pressing needs of the democratic transition.

"The European Union is fully committed to accompanying the ongoing political transition in Sudan through all the means at its disposal. Besides political support, financial assistance to Sudan remains crucial, given the severity of the economic crisis in the country," *Reuters*

COMMANDER WARNS THAT 'UNTRUSTWORTHY' TALIBAN COULD BE WAITING FOR US

NEW YORK - Veterans of America's longest war are finding themselves torn as the U.S. signs a potentially historic peace accord with the Taliban in Afghanistan.

For many, the US is long overdue in withdrawing its forces after more than 18 years of fighting. Others question the trustworthiness of the Taliban, whose hard-line government the US-led forces overthrew in 2001. Skeptics worry the Taliban's re-integration could cause Afghanistan to backslide on such issues as human rights.

"I know the Taliban, and I never thought they could be trustworthy," said Cmdr. Tom Porter of the US Navy Reserve, who oversaw media operations in Afghanistan during the US-led troop surge that began in 2010. "I know they have a different view of time and history than we do."

Porter said he's concerned the Taliban could abide by the accord long enough to see American forces leave, then try to wrest control of Afghanistan

under an assumption the US won't be willing to return for another fight.

"If you're the Taliban, people have come and gone and invaded that place for thousands of years," said Porter, head of government affairs in Washington for the group Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America. "Genghis Khan has come and gone. They've got a long view of things."

The United States and the Taliban signed a peace agreement aimed at ending the 18-year war in Afghanistan, potentially helping President Donald Trump fulfill a key campaign promise to extract America from its 'endless wars.'

"It's not worth one more American life," said Collins, 38. "Enough is enough."

Collins' unit from Missouri deployed to neighboring Uzbekistan in 2004 to run a supply warehouse for US forces in Afghanistan. Returning as a civilian contractor five years later, he concluded little had changed. *Daily Mail*



... Mike Pence warns of MORE American deaths from coronavirus after Washington man, 50, becomes first to die in US from the virus and fears grow for 50 showing symptoms at nearby nursing facility

NEW YORK - Vice President Mike Pence has warned that more US coronavirus deaths could be imminent, after a 'medically high-risk' man in his 50s in Washington state became the first person in the US to die from the rapidly-spreading disease.

In a departure from President Trump's continued line that all is well, Pence admitted 'we could have more' fatalities among the American population, in a clip from yesterday's 'State of the Union' show released Saturday night. His comments came as fears are mounting for 50 staff and residents at a nursing facility located just two miles from the deceased male after they have shown coronavirus symptoms, while Trump urged the public not to panic and two new cases - one in Illinois and another in Santa Clara, California - were confirmed Saturday night. Australia also confirmed its first death from coronavirus on Saturday. The 78-year-old male victim contracted the virus on board the Diamond Princess cruise ship, where 44 American passengers also contracted the disease and were repatriated to the US.

"We know there will be more cases," Pence

told CNN's Jake Tapper in the interview clip.

When pressed by Tapper if this means there will be more deaths, Pence - who was this week handed the job of leading the US taskforce to tackle the disease - admitted: "It is possible."

He restated the president's point that healthy individuals will likely recover from the disease.

"The reality that Doctor Fauci (the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases) and others explained to me since I took on these duties a few days ago is that for most people that contract the coronavirus they will recover," he said.

"They will deal with a respiratory illness, we'll get them treatment"

However, he conceded that for Americans that have pre-existing health conditions, there could be 'sad news'.

"For people who have other conditions that would militate towards a worse outcome," the Vice President said.

"We could have more sad news. But the American people should know the risk for the average American remains low."

Daily Mail

BRIEFS

Police on hunt after US woman attacked

WASHINGTON - in Maryland are looking for additional victims after learning that a syringe used to attack a woman earlier this month was filled with semen, authorities said. A woman reported being attacked February 18 in the entrance of a business in the 5500 block of Shady Side Road in Churchton with what Anne Arundel County police believed to be a syringe.

Reuters

US shuts border bridge to stop migrants

CIUDAD JUAREZ - El Paso - US authorities said they closed the busy Ciudad Juarez-El Paso border bridge after more than a hundred mostly Cuban migrants tried to cross in response to a court ruling suspending an asylum policy. Earlier, an appeals court ruled to block one of President Donald Trump's signature immigration policies the administration says has helped to curb migration on the southern border and forced tens of thousands to wait in Mexico. *DPA*

PM Johnson, girlfriend Symonds expecting

LONDON - British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and his girlfriend Carrie Symonds are expecting their first child together, British media reported. Johnson, 55, and Symonds, 31, have also got engaged to be married. The announcement means the Conservative Johnson, who took office in July and won a decisive election victory in December, will become the first British prime minister to marry in office for 250 years, the Telegraph newspaper said. *AFP*

'Teacher accused of claiming Satan was Indian'

DURBAN - A KwaZulu-Natal teacher has been accused of inciting violence against the Indian community by allegedly claiming Satan "was an Indian". The South African Hindu Dharma Sabha this week lodged complaints with the SA Human Rights Commission (HRC) and the provincial education department over an inflammatory Facebook post that demonised the Indian community. *IOL*

ESWATINI
Observer

ENTERTAINMENT

REVIEWS | STAR SIGNS | CELEBRITY WATCH | CARTOONS

HUNDREDS BRAVE RAIN, COLD FOR SAMTHING SOWETO!

- *Samthing Soweto thrills*
- *Despite chill weather, fun was the order of the day*
- *Fifi Cooper gives a surprise thrilling performance*

BY NOKWANDA SIBANDZE
AND AYANDA DLAMINI

HAVING braved the weather for hours, Samthing Soweto fans were treated to a great performance when he finally went on stage.

The South African soul singer took to the stage at around 2:30am, and to say fans were excited would be an understatement.

His music lovers filled the dance floor as soon as the singer mounted the stage.

Singing first 'Emcimbini', the singer knew just how to get the crowd energised. Fans sang along to all his songs as he chose to sing most of them in acapella.

The singer performed all his hit songs requested by the audience. This made the crowd shout random songs to him throughout his performance.

He took the crowd back in time by singing some of The Soil's songs such as



PRETTY GIRLS: Singer Lindelwa pose with Nosipho after her performance.

'Baninzi' and many others.

The former The Soil member also danced up a storm on stage, mostly doing amapiano dance moves. He took his time to perform the most requested song 'Akulaleki' as he said he wanted the best for last. The singer rendered songs such as 'Nodoli', 'Lotto', 'Ung'fonele', among others. What was shocking during his performance was the number of revelers who were at the show. As most of

LIVE: Samthing Soweto gestures during his performance at Family Fun Day event held at Sibebe Resort on Saturday. (Pics: Ayanda Dlamini and Nokwanda Sibandze)



'LERATO': Fifi Cooper wows the crowd at the show.

them hid under shelters and at the restaurant due to the rain, during his performance, everyone came out to witness his rendition. "I was shocked by the number of people who actually attended when Samthing Soweto went on stage. We are truly grateful to the people who braved the cold weather and came to support the event," said Sibebe Resort owner Issac Magagula.

However, the singer was not the only one who got the crowd in a jovial mood, as rapper Fifi Cooper, who joined songbird Symphony on stage, was also a marvel to watch. Performing her hit song 'Lerato' featuring Symphony, the rapper managed to win the hearts of many when she serenaded rellers with some of her new music.

The fun lovers were also treated to international music by Mavele and KTA Kings, who did not only dance up a storm on stage, but also performed their first single. The group from Lesotho expressed how excited they were to perform in Eswatini for the first time.

Pioneers still got the game!

THE pioneers of the music industry ; Nduduzo Matse, KrTC, Master P, MBO, Banele Dlamini and Floewe still got the game when it comes to delivering good music.

With hundreds of fun lovers waiting for the main act of the day, Samthing Soweto, these artists proved why they are award winning musicians.

They managed to pull the crowd from different corners of the venue to the dance floor which was situated very close to the stage.

Their performances, was well crafted with energy that made fun lovers from the VIP arena joining the crowd at the dance floor.



AMEN AMEN: Gospel singer Banele Dlamini performs 'Baba Siyabonga'.



FUNLOVERS: Fun was the order of the day.



YESS: A2Z duo serenading the crowd.

...NEW KIDS KILLING 'THE GAME'

WITH over 10 artists billed to perform on the night, the new and upcoming musicians were the crowd's favourite.

They seemed not only to have the ability to capture the audience, but to interact with them as well.

An example of the night would be newly formed group A2Z, who nailed their performance and managed to get the crowd dancing.

The duo performed their songs 'Dali Wam' and 'Wena', and the crowd could not stop dancing.

Refusing to be left behind was rapper Lluvid, who also showed the crowd a thing or two.

The rapper did not only have the crowd eating out the palm of his hands but also managed to perform songs that made the party animals dance.

Starting off with a heartfelt song, he ended his performance on a high and had the crowd screaming for more.

Refusing to fall behind was singer Lindelwa, who

was unveiled at the MTN Bushfire Firefly stage in 2018.

Lindelwa was the first act of the day and she managed to warm up the crowd with her soulful and traditional sound.

The singer also managed to bring a few fans closer to the stage as most of them were hesitant because of the rain.

All three upcoming artists proved why they were amongst the best in the country.

It is worth noting that South African duo Kaygee and Bizizi did not perform at the show.

The two were billed to perform in two different events in the country.

The organising team of the show tried to get them to perform at the event, but it was already too late as people had already left the venue.



AKULALEKI: *Something Soweto* during his performance at the Family Fun Day at Sibebe Resort on Saturday. (Pics: Ayanda Dlamini and Nokwanda Sibandze)

MUSIC, FUN AT SIBEBE FAMILY FUN DAY



ESWATINI WAMI: *KrTC* mesmerising the crowd during the event.



FUN: *Party animals* having a good time.



SCREAM: *Some revellers* captured the performances with their phones.



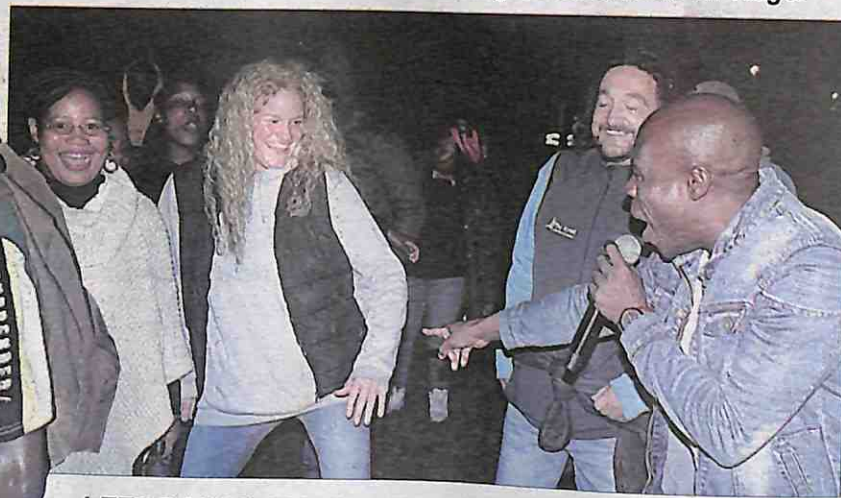
ALMOST IN TEARS: *A fun lover* reacts when *Samthing Soweto* went on stage.



ALSO THERE: (C) Artist *Greg XV*, *Malcom* and *Sipho* captured at the event.



SASSY: *Nkosephayo Dlamini* and *Lulu Howe* could not miss out.



LETS DANCE: *Nduduzo Matse* jumped off stage to dance with the revellers.



DANCERS: *Lesotho* dance group *Mavele* and *KTA Kings* display their moves.



LERATO: *Fifi Cooper* and *Symphony* in full swing during their performance.

KING TERRY PACKS CHILL 'N' GRILL

BY SETSABILE NKAMBULE

THE usually not so packed Chill and Grill hangout spot was on Friday fully packed during King Terry's Royal Night event.

People came in their numbers to support the event as they danced to every performance on the night.

Performing for the audience were Rose, Oxygen, Samton, Ncwiki flex, Karly B and King Terry to name a few.

The performers gave their outmost best keeping the crowd on the dance floor throughout the show.

In an interview, King Terry stated that he was excited to perform as people were enjoying his songs.



MAN OF THE NIGHT: King Terry performs for the crowd during the Royal Night held at the Chill and Grill on Friday evening. (Pics: Petty.aesthetic.photography and Setsabile Nkambule)

"The crowd's response was positive and seeing people get off their seats to dance to my

tunes gave me energy. Others even asked me to do a second set, so I guess they really enjoyed



my set. Seeing people dance and sing along to most of my songs has always been the greatest feeling ever," he said.

Sakhile Ndzinisa said he was glad that with his friend they decided to come to enjoy their Friday night.

"I am happy about my decision of coming to the place and the music was just what I needed to enjoy my night," he said.



CHEESE: Poet Majaha Nkonyane, DJ Master P and Karly B pose.



HAPPY: A section of the crowd listens to Oxygen while he sings for the crowd.



THE SENSATIONAL: Oxygen delivers a great performance.



ARTISTS: Mozaik, Zoe Genesis, Oxygen and Alicia spotted at the show.



SUPPORT: Melusi Simelane and friends also came to support King Terry.



MR DJ: One of the DJs who made sure revellers were entertained on the night.

Win a Ticket Competition

Answer these two questions correctly and stand a chance to win a ticket to the House Music Fest presented by SwaziBoy Entertainment. Fill in the correct answers and send the cut out to Eswatini Observer Office at Lilunga House Mbabane, P.O. Box A385, Swazi Plaza

1. Name two international acts lined-up for House Music Festival?

2. Where is the festival going to be hosted?

Name: Cell:

#HouseMusicFest #HouseMusicFest2020

7TH MARCH 2020
AT ESIKUYINI LODGE

TICKETS
AVAILABLE

CALL *007*3*126



Celebville

International Celebrity News

NOMBONA ON HIDING HER PREGNANCY

JOHANNESBURG -It's not always the right time for one to share the news that you are expecting a bundle of joy, especially when you are a celebrity as followed as Zola Nombona, and she knows that first hand.

But now that she's shared her great news, she's opened up about how hard it was to conceal her pregnancy.

"Hiding a pregnancy is not a joke, my darling," she began.

Zola remembered one time before she shared her baby bump with the world when she had to be strategic about what she wore because she didn't want the world to know yet.

"I remember going to this event and feeling like my pants were going to rip. I was uncomfortable. Everything felt tight. I couldn't even hear the

music (which was loudly deafening, if I might add).

All I wanted to do was to go home," she said.

The actress has a huge following on social media, and her fans have showered her with nothing but love since hearing there's a baba on the way. Plus she looks amazing. Her preggy glow is too much for these streets! Though Zola wasn't generous with the details of her pregnancy, or the sex of her baby, she expressed the miracle of being with a child through one of the most heartfelt Zulu love letters we've ever read. "Here is my love flourishing. My world has changed and created," her post began.

"Your voice will be like the song I've longed for, and no musician in the world could ever compose. Your



Zola Nombona.

eyes will take away the fog that has been shutting down mine. Your smile will wipe away every tear.

Your hand will sustain me forever. You gave me strength I never knew I had." *Times Live*

K.O ON REUNION WITH NTUKZA

JOHANNESBURG - K.O has responded to questions about a Teargas reunion, telling TshisaLIVE that when it comes to him and Ntukza, things are better left alone.

As the chart-topping hip-hop group Teargas, K.O, Ntukza and Ma-E seemed to be the perfect team until unresolved issues mounted, spiralled out of control and resulted in them going their separate ways.

Ever since then, fans have been calling for them to reunite.

K.O told TshisaLIVE this week that he had a sit down with Ntukza in 2018 and asked him to be part of the music video he shot with AKA, but things quickly turned sour.

"You saw Teargas for the first time since 2014 in that video. It was a great moment. I wanted to build on that but unfortunately a month or two later, things started going haywire again. He spoke out of turn on social media about me and I felt like maybe the relationship is not ready to be fixed, so I

just left it at that."

He said he had no ill feelings towards Ntukza but was not looking to work with him any time soon.

"I felt that certain things are best left," he said.

Ntukza has previously spoken about their relationship, telling SlikourOnLife they just have differing opinions.

"We are still brothers. It's not personal. It's about business and growth. We differed in opinions," Ntukza said.

K.O also poured his heart out about his relationship with Ma E.

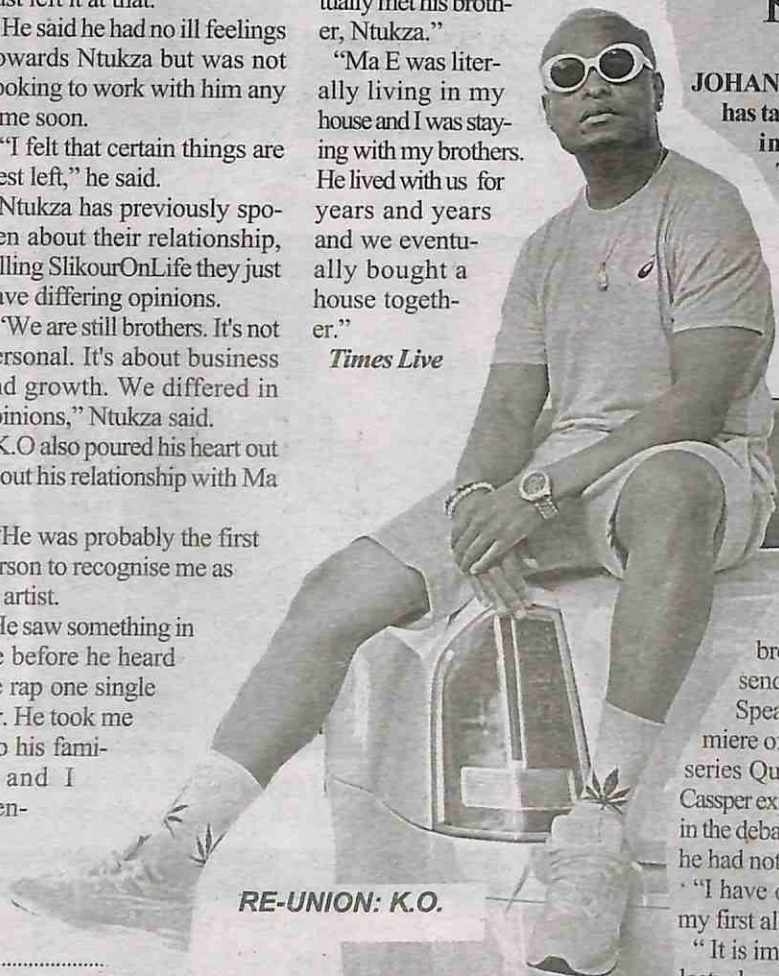
"He was probably the first person to recognise me as an artist.

He saw something in me before he heard me rap one single bar. He took me into his family and I even-

tually met his brother, Ntukza."

"Ma E was literally living in my house and I was staying with my brothers. He lived with us for years and years and we eventually bought a house together."

Times Live



RE-UNION: K.O.

Cassper on Prince Kaybee fight

JOHANNESBURG - Cassper Nyovest has taken a swipe at his rivals, including Prince Kaybee, telling TshisaLIVE that he has nothing to prove in the debate around musicians owning their masters.

DJ Maphorisa had the streets in lockdown mode and several musicians deep in their feels earlier this week when he took to Twitter to claim that Prince Kaybee, Lady Zamar and Mafikizolo don't own the masters to their music.

Kaybee hit back, starting a twar that has raged for much of the week.

At one point even Cassper was brought into the fray, with Kaybee sending shade his way.

Speaking to TshisaLIVE at the premiere of Netflix's first African original series Queen Sono on Thursday night, Cassper explained that he didn't get involved in the debate until he was fetched, because he had nothing to prove.

"I have owned my own masters since my first album.

"It is important because it is like intellectual property.

"We spend so much time making music and creating these products.

Artists didn't know and big record companies would own their masters.

Michael Jackson and them had to buy their masters back.

"Only now in SA people are starting to wake up to that conversation.

"Fortunately we did our research before and I own all my own music, unlike some people."

Cassper said he was not surprised that Kaybee had name dropped him.

Times Live

It's 2020 and I'm still blocked by Cassper - iFani

JOHANNESBURG - Though it's been years since AKA and Cassper's beef first got tongues wagging, rapper iFani has revealed that he's still blocked by Cassper.

AKA and Cassper's beef dates back to 2014 and the two remain rivals ... six years later. In April 2014, Cassper alluded that his song Doc

Shebeleza was the biggest song in SA hip-hop. iFani threw the long-standing beef back into the spotlight, when he reflected on his own feuds with both AKA and Cassper. The musician said that even though he and AKA had their differences, they were able to bury the hatchet, while he was still blocked by Cass on Twitter. *Times Live*



BLOCKED: iFani.

DAILY SOAPIE DIGEST



CATCH: Mrekza on Generations tonight.



A great tragedy strikes at the heart of the Zungus and Ndovus, leaving S'bu shocked and heartbroken. As everyone struggles to come to terms with what has happened, another mystery is revealed when Mpiyakhe Zungu's car is found abandoned on the side of the road.



Anela plays a dangerous game with Lincoln. The cracks are starting to show in Sibiya and Patience's marriage. Lefa and Phuti's one night stand begins a chain reaction in the Matabane house.



Vho-Masindi is praying that nobody reveals her secret, while Teboho's ambition goes up to another level. Mudi unwillingly revives Matsidiso's plans. Shaz is at verge of being exposed.



Mrekza knows disaster is looming but doesn't know how to stop it. Gadafi is not about to explain himself, least of all to a woman. The stalker drama ends with a shocking twist.



Harriet plots to end the war with the Theronos once and for all. Sonnyboy's scheme puts everyone in danger. Kagiso's disappearing act makes Siyanda suspect that there's another woman in his life.



Khathaza continues to haunt a enemies from the grave and Nonka is shocked by what she hears from Mazaza.



Yvonne fears that a loved one could be lost forever.

MEME OF THE DAY

friend : Yo fam take off that jacket

Me : Nahh ... MANZ NOT HOT



TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

Capricorn December 22 – January 19
If you overindulged last night, you're likely paying the price today. If your head is screaming and your blood feels like molasses, you know that too much of a good thing can make you feel rotten! Much as you feel driven to get out of bed and get on with your chores, there's no point, Capricorn. You'd be better off resting. You'll be your old self by afternoon. Your work can wait until then.



Aquarius January 20 – February 18
Without a doubt, there's a lot of work to be done around the house. With today's planetary configuration, you feel especially vested in making your home look its best. But you don't have to get everything done today, Aquarius. Rather than scrubbing floors and dusting furniture, why not invest in a few inexpensive items that will perk the place up a bit? A few area rugs and scatter pillows could make a big difference!



Pisces February 19 – March 20
You probably aren't feeling your best today, Pisces. No doubt your illness is a result of recent overindulgence. You can't blame anyone but yourself for your crashing headache and queasy stomach. Try not to take your bad mood out on the family. Just ask them to close the curtains and shut the door. You will emerge in the early afternoon feeling a bit wobbly but definitely on the mend.



Aries March 21 – April 19
There is such a thing as being too honest, Aries. You've experienced in the past how your determination to tell the whole truth and nothing but the truth can cause hurt feelings. Today try to exercise a bit of tact and diplomacy. You will still be able to get your point across, with the added bonus that your audience will still be speaking to you once you've done so.



Taurus April 20 – May 20
You want nothing more than to be alone today. For that to happen, Taurus, you need to turn off your phone, shut off the computer, and hang a "Do Not Disturb" sign on the door. Even then, your friends are likely to walk past the sign and ask what's for dinner. It's one of those days. People want to congregate and they want to do it at your house. Order your favorite comfort food and enjoy the chaos!



Gemini May 21 – June 21
Don't be surprised if a lot of uninvited visitors show up today, Gemini. You could host an impromptu social event as neighbors stop by to bring news of changes in the area. You have energy to spare right now, so you're perfectly able to accommodate your guests. But don't let



yourself get overwhelmed. Simply offer whatever refreshments you happen to have on hand and let the party take its course.

Cancer June 22 – July 22
You can expect to run a lot of errands today, Cancer, even though you would probably prefer to stay at home. You have obligations to fulfill for friends and family, and you can't bear to let them down. Try to get everything done as quickly as possible so that you'll still have the afternoon free for yourself.



Leo July 23 – August 22
You have energy to burn, Leo, and you intend to use it. Ask friends to join you in the park. Or set up a round-robin tennis match for the afternoon. Enjoy your day outdoors, but take care not to push too hard. If you strain muscles today, it could be weeks before you're fully healed. If you pace yourself and take plenty of water breaks, then you'll enjoy the day with no repercussions.



Virgo August 23 – September 22
Today you could receive word of a promotion or exciting new challenge at work. Although this is something you've wanted for a long time, you may hesitate to accept immediately. Could it be because your self-confidence is rather low right now, Virgo? Don't let that stop you! This feeling is only temporary, while the opportunity could develop into something lasting. Don't lose your chance!



Libra September 23 – October
Money and friendship rarely mix, Libra. Keep this in mind today if a friend hits you up for a loan. You'd be better off helping her strategize ways to earn more money. Much as you like to help the underdog, a temporary approach often does more harm than good. A quick loan won't help your friend's fundamental problem of compulsive spending. Offering to pay for counseling would be a gift of enduring value.



Scorpio October 24 – November 21
This is unlike you, Scorpio, but today you're a lean, mean cleaning machine. You get it in your head that this is the day for putting your house in order, and you set about single-handedly doing it. That's way too much cleaning and organizing for one person to do. Why not enlist some help? Bribe your partner or kids, play some loud music, and all of you will finish the tasks in no time.



Sagittarius November 22 – December 21
You can't help but feel a bit frustrated today, Sagittarius. There are places to go, people to see, and you can't seem to get out of the house. Your responsibilities are at home now, and the situation won't change for a while. You can, however, plan some mini-vacations without too much effort. Treat yourself one evening to fantastic take-out food and a sappy old movie.



BABY BLUES



BUCKLES



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



PUZZLE CHOICE

OCTO-CROSS 17

1	2	3	4		5	6	7
8					9		
10					11		
			12	13			
14	15	16					
17				18	19	20	21
22				23			
24				25			

ACROSS

- UNACCOMPANIED
- JEWEL
- METALLIC ELEMENT
- SIMIAN
- REPORTED INFORMATION
- PASTRY
- CHOOSE BY VOTE
- SEAWALL
- WONDERMENT
- PART OF THE EYE
- SMALL VEGETABLE
- NOT ANY
- MAKE A MISTAKE
- DNA SEGMENT

DOWN

- TRANSGRESSION
- MINERAL
- LESS THAN NORMAL
- BEGINNING
- YAWN
- LONG NARRATIVE POEM
- ENCOUNTER
- PREVARICATING
- JEST
- PITCHER
- REND
- FISH EGGS
- TAVERN
- OBSERVE

LOL

Laughing Out Loud

SOMETHING SMELLS

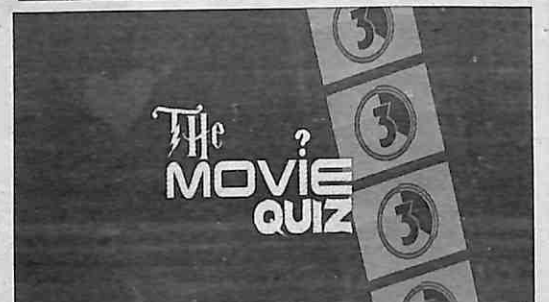
Q: What did the left eye say to the right eye?

A: Between you and me, something smells.

DID YOU KNOW

- You actually have more than 5 senses. at around 60.
- The human heart is strong enough to squirt blood 30 feet.
- Sneezes move faster than 100mph, and coughs clock in at around 60.
- Your nose can remember 50,000 different scents.
- We're 1cm taller in the morning than in the evening

MOVIE QUIZ QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



FRIDAY'S QUIZ

Which actress, in one of her early roles, played the title character in the film Amelie?

Answers:

1. Audrey Tautou

TODAY'S QUIZ

1. What is the name of this Barden University singing group in Pitch Perfect?

Answers:

A. The Barden Bellas
B. The Barden Divas



DStv
Feel every moment

NEWS



OUTSTANDING STAND-UPS:

THE #DStvMVCA FAVOURITE COMEDIAN NOMINEES

THEY'RE dishing out all of the laughs!

Tune in to see who wins on 14 March 2020 on Mzansi Magic and Mzansi Wethu to see who wins!

CELESTE NTULI

The Queen of Zulu comedy, Celeste is the first local female to record a one-woman DVD, Seriously Celeste. A regular on showcases like Blacks Only, she and fellow nominee Skhumba Hlophe earned the most nominations at the eighth annual Comics' Choice Awards in 2018, and in 2019, she won the Flying Solo Award and the Comedy G Award at the 2019 Savanna Comics' Choice Awards. She's also earned acclaim as an actress on Isibaya!

KHANYISA BUNU

Khanyisa made history in 2015 when she became the first female to win a gong at the Comics Choice Awards – she scooped the Audience Choice Award. Since then she's performed in New York and Nigeria, and on a variety of festival stages. She was resident comedian on Umhlobo Wenene and she's a regular on TV shows including Late Nite News with Loyiso Gola and SABC2's Bantu Hour. She's appeared on Comedy Central Live at Parker's and made her debut as an actress on SABC1's Ses'Top La.

MPHO POPPS

Mpho Pops has appeared on Blacks Only, Mzansi Magic's Opening Guys and Laugh Out Loud Comedy. In 2015, he landed

his first starring role on TV, in the Mzansi Magic drama series aYeYe, and he also appeared on the first season of the SABC2 comedy and variety show The Bantu Hour. He's been a competitor in MTV Africa's Lip Sync Battle Africa and a co-host of the e.tv reality series So You Think You Can Spin. He was also the co-host of the SAMAs in 2018 and 2019 and recently did a national tour titled Black In My Days. He was also a judge on Mzansi Magic's Ultimate House Vibe.

SIYANDA MAPHUMULO

Siyanda Maphumulo is the 8th SATMA award finalist in the best indigenous comedian category and a regular on stages such as 99 per cent Zulu Comedy. He was on Idols in 2014 doing the song 'iMoto'eNtshontshimali' and he performs in both IsiZulu and English. Siyanda recently shot his one-man show at Carnival City, titled the Single Partner show – a reference to the time he

appeared on Date My Family show failed to find a partner!

SKHUMBA HLOPE

Skhumba won this award last time around. He recently finished his national tour #IMeanBizness – his fourth solo venture! Post-that, he returned to showcasing younger comedians with a brand-new tour, Big Banger Comedy. He appears on Kaya FM on Friday mornings, and his annual charity run called Walk With Me supplies wheelchairs to the less fortunate – last year they were able to purchase 565! The Savanna Comics Choice winner also has a role in the comedy series Thandeka's Diary and is a YouTube sensation.

Tune in to see who wins on 14 March 2020 on Mzansi Magic and Mzansi Wethu to see who wins!



FAVOURITES: Siyanda Maphumulo, Mpho Pops, Celeste Ntuli and Khanyisa Bunu. (Above)

Moore will see the demise of RHOA! - Leakes

THEIR feud reaches boiling point!

They've never really gotten along, but the gloves have really come off between Nene Leakes and Kenya Moore on season 12 of the Real Housewives of Atlanta.

The reality show stars, who've been vying to take the centre stage on the show for eons, are currently on a media tour publicising the grave magnitude of their long standing feud.

In the latest blow, Nene Leakes revealed that she feels 'nasty' and 'mean' Kenya Moore, who she said 'deserves to be spat on', will lead the highest rated show from the franchise right down the drain. In a recent interview with Entertainment Tonight, Leakes chatted about rumours that she's being 'phased out' of the show. The tea, which was denied by show executive producer Andy Cohen,

was spilled by Miss Twirl herself, Kenya Moore. "She's fighting to keep her place on the show", Kenya said.

It's a plausible blast. Viewers of the reality show would have noticed that Nene did not appear on the first two episodes on the latest season. Additionally, the number of the scenes she's appeared in overall, is far less than her peak 'Queen of the show' days.

Nene and Kenya's feud has gotten so heated that the two recently came to blows during filming. As Kenya came kept on her interrogation of who's the snitch in the 'snakegate' scandal, Nene lunged at her and threatened to get physical.

Keep an eye on our website and social platforms on when season 12 of The Real Housewives of Atlanta will premiere on your screens!



Enugu state's extra-ordinary culture – Ultimate Love

IN their latest weekly task, the Love Guests take us on a cultural journey to Enugu state.

There's nothing quite as beautiful as the depth of Nigeria's various cultures and no one knows that better than the Ultimate Love, Love Guests! So as they prepared to wrap their third week in the Love Pad, they were instructed to work towards presenting a play based on the traditional wedding practice in Enugu state. Happy to show-off their creative skills, the Love Guests dove into the task head first!

The process of practicing for the presentation happened over the course of the week with everyone taking multiple hours out of their day to rehearse the script, their lines and the overall storyboard. Perhaps with Auntie throwing several curve balls at them this week, they suspected that a lot was at stake and maybe even a delectable prize at the end of

it all.

Once Saturday night arrived it was time to get ready to display the fruits of their tireless labour and they surely didn't disappoint! With Iyke and Theresa playing the role of the couple-to-be, the Love Guests took on various characters as in-laws, MCs and delighted family. Plus just to make their production even sweeter, Auntie threw in a whole live band! The end result was a spectacular exhibition that once again reminded us just how multi-talented all the Love Guests truly are!

Which of the Love Guests plays has been your favourite thus far?

Ultimate Love, airs 24/7 on DStv Ch198 and GOtv Ch29. Tune in daily and play your part in shaping Naija's most epic love story yet. For more updates, like our Facebook Page, light up our Twitter mentions using #UltimateLoveNG and get immersed in all the TLC on our Instagram.

CLASSIFIEDS

2404 8699 / 2404 3807 / 2505 2320

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Clients are advised to please check their adverts on the first publication day, for we will not be held responsible for any errors after the first day of publication. If it happens that you note any errors, please call 2404 3807 / 8671 immediately and it will be corrected as soon as possible. Failure to adhere to these terms, we assume no financial responsibility. Thanking you in advance for we assure satisfactory services.

INDEX

1. NOTICES
 - General Notices
 - Legal Notices
 - Church Notices
 - Announcements
 - Change of Surname
 - Sales & Foreclosure
 - General Items
 - Auctions
2. BUSINESS SERVICES
 - Special Services
 - Business Opportunities
 - Restaurant, Catering & Office
 - Equipment
 - Garage sale
 - Other Business Items
 - Maintenance & Construction
 - Motoring and Transport
3. JOBS or VACANCIES
4. MISCELLANEOUS
 - Medical & Natural Healing
 - Tuition & Courses
5. HEALTH & BEAUTY
6. PETS & PET ACCESSORIES
 - Pets & Adoptions
 - Cats & Kittens
 - Dogs & Puppies
 - Birds & Poultry
 - Fish & Aquarium
 - Other Pet & Accessories
7. ELECTRONICS
 - TV's, DVD Players, Decoders & Satellites
 - Household Appliances
 - Music Equipment, Amplifiers, Equalizers & Speakers
 - Mobile Devices, Smart Phones
 - Tablets
 - Computers, Laptops, Cameras
 - Optics
 - Games, Gaming Consoles & Software
8. HOUSEHOLD
 - Domestic
 - Clothing
 - Baby and Kids
 - Furniture
 - Hobbies, Model Toys, Handcraft
 - Wanted
10. BUILDING, GARDENING & DIY
 - Woodworking
 - Machinery & Tools
 - Plumbing & Electrical
 - Other Building & DIY
 - Plants, Trees & Flowers
 - Garden Furniture & Appliances
 - Other Gardening
11. FARMING EQUIPMENT
 - SPARES
 - Car Spares or Parts
 - Bike Spares
 - Truck, Bus and Trailer Spares
 - Stripping for Spares
 - Farming Equipment & Machinery
 - Livestock
 - Other Farming
12. LEISURE, SPORT & EVENTS
 - Fitness
 - Tennis & squash
 - Watersport
 - Karate, Boxing & Judo
 - Angling & Cycling
 - Other Sport
 - Caravans, Campers and Trailers
 - Leisure, Community and Events
 - Music and Instruments
 - Camping and Outdoor
13. PROPERTY
 - Residential
 - Commercial
 - Farms and Vacant Plots
 - Holiday & Accommodation
 - Apartments / Flats / Houses to Rent
14. VEHICLES
 - Cars
 - Bikes
 - Classics and Custom Builds
 - Trucks
 - Buses Farming
 - Trailers
 - Aircraft
15. DEATH NOTICES

B Training Centre

APPROVED BY EHEC

2020 - REGISTRATION

Still Open | 4 weeks | 6 months | 1 year Courses

- Electrical Wiring
- Plumbing
- Motor Mechanics
- Auto Electrical
- Panel Beating & Spray Painting
- Diesel Mechanics
- Air Conditioning & Refrigeration
- Health & Safety
- Catering & Hotel Management
- TLB Lessons

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:
- Previous experience in the relevant course.
- Inborn talent or passion.
- Form 5 minimum education.

Contact Details:
Mbabane | Manzini | Ngwenya 7832 4746
24040639 | 2505 7476 | 24424944 7602 5418
Email: bctrainingcentre@gmail.com

Doc: 21409Dx 18 marc 2020

KUSILE KITCHEN HOSPITALITY SCHOOL

REGISTRATION FOR 2019 ON-GOING DAY, EVENING & WEEKEND CLASSES

- FULL CATERING COURSE (Now with Deaf Interpreter) (Include Waiting & Décor)
- DÉCOR AND VENUE SET-UP
- GENERAL OFFICE CLEANING
- HOUSE HELPERS AND NANNIES
- HOUSE KEEPING FOR HOTELS
- GARDENERS & JANITORS
- KIDDIES COURSE (Basic Cooking & House Cleaning)

MBABANE 2404 7750/1 2404 2832 7617 1632
MANZINI 2505 9689 7614 8564 7603 6455

RN 173724 Dx 7/03/20

MAHLE EMANTUNGWA TRANSPORT

AVAILABLE FOR HIRE ACROSS SADC REGION



MM Dx 13/03/2020

Mahleemantungwa
FOR BOOKINGS: CALL
76034157/78602164/ 76147343
email: mahleemantungwa13@gmail.com

MISCELLANEOUS



HERBS FOR:

- Diabetic Patients
- BP
- Ulcers
- Sexual Problems
- Mvusa Nkunzi

Call: 7611 0334
(next to Fire Station, Mbabane)

RN 173762 DX 12 MAR 2019.

PROPERTY



Mafutseni 247h farm. Good for breeding livestock. E 7.5 Million, call 76054274

Mm dx 02/03/20

RENTAL

3-bedroom house at Dalrich West E 4 500 Per Month
Executive Residence At Nkoyoyo E30 00 per month

SUPER MOTORS

NOTICE



Owners of Madza MPV NSD 966 AL, Renault Clio VPW 49 GP, Opel Corsa Lite ASD 461 AH should collect their motor vehicles from Super Motors premises within 15 days or else it will be sold to recover cost.

BY MANAGEMENT

SUPERMOTORS
Mbabane, Sidwashini Industrial Site
Tel: 2422 0024/ 7693 3171

MASTER TILES

CERF 254 MLAKUVANE STREET MANZINI OPPOSITE BANDAG TYRES
CELL: 76478651/76238538 TELL: 25056139
EMAIL: mastertiles1@gmail.com
P.O. BOX 4173 MANZINI

Clearance Sale!!

GRANITE & TILE PROMOTION

- Granite kitchen top natural 2m x600m E999.00
- Porcelain tiles 600x600 E 150.00
- Melamine white E 530.00
- Melamine cherry E 730.00
- PVC ceiling 3.9 x300 cm E 55.00
- Super wood E 499.00
- 6,8,10 panel door E 799.00

Dx12/03/20 Doc:21318

XOLISWA NHLEKO (Pty) Ltd

We design and repair school desk, we do school science and computer labs fittings, we also do kitchen fittings.



Mm Dx15/03/20

Contact: Muzi Nhleko 76221144
Mbuso Mazibuko 76877186

Disopi Herbalist Remedies "super shat"

Phytochemical natural therapist. Biochem Herbs, Power Tonic, Libidolising and Rejuvenation for lost lovers back, cancer, infertility.

Call Mazikho 7623 0357 Manzini

RN 169840DX22/03/2020

FOR SALE



Toyota corolla 1.6 E 23 000.00

CALL 78299410

RN 169846 dx 06/03/20

FOR SALE



Honda Edix 6 seater
2004 model, low mileage one owner

RN173840 DX 04/03/20

Call: 76224229/7922429

www.observer.org.sz

Classifieds

CALL OUR OFFICES @ 2404 3807 / 2404 8699



LIVERPOOL'S UNBEATEN PREMIER LEAGUE RUN OVER AT 44 GAMES

LONDON - Liverpool's remarkable unbeaten run in the Premier League came to a shuddering end on Saturday night as Watford crushed them 3-0 at Vicarage Road.

The shock defeat won't make a dent in their title aspirations but it did have Arsenal fans breathing a sigh of relief.

That's because Liverpool's undefeated sequence has ended at the 44-game mark, five short of Arsenal's top-flight record of 49 which ran from May 7, 2003 until October 24, 2004.

Liverpool's previous league loss came 422 days before this one - a 2-1 reverse to eventual champions Manchester City on January 3 last year.

In losing to Watford, Liverpool also failed to set a new best for consecutive Premier League wins - their final tally of 18 only equalled the record set by Manchester City in 2017.

Nonetheless, Liverpool have become only the third team to go unbeaten for more than a year in the Premier League.

Arsenal's 'Invincibles' achieved the feat, going the entire 2003-04 season without losing, and Jose Mourinho's Chelsea didn't lose a game between October 2004 and November 2005.

However, a debate has been raging on social media about the respective merits of that Arsenal side and the present Liverpool one.

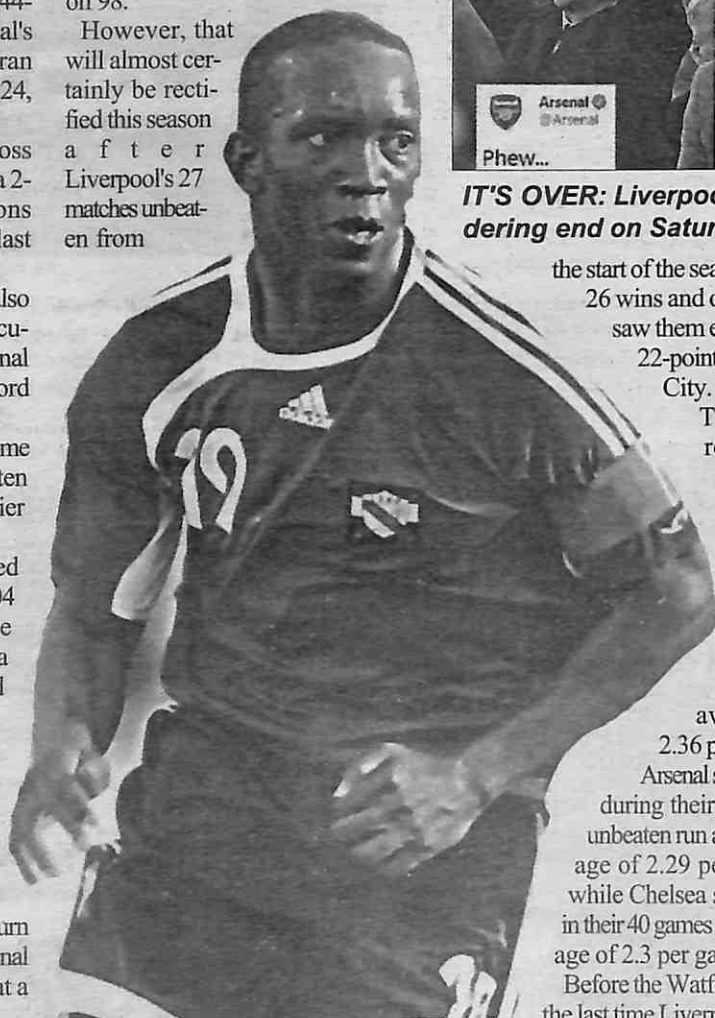
Liverpool won 39 of their 44 matches at a pretty phenomenal return of 2.77 points per game, while Arsenal won 36 and drew 13 of their 49 at a return of 2.47 points per game.

The aforementioned Chelsea side had a return sandwiched between the two at 2.65 points per game from their 40 unbeaten games.

Of course, it didn't escape the attention of many on social media that unlike Arsenal and Chelsea, Liverpool's impressive unbeaten run failed to deliver a trophy.

They finished last season with 97 points, the third highest tally in Premier League history, and yet still finished second to Manchester City on 98.

However, that will almost certainly be rectified this season after Liverpool's 27 matches unbeaten from



SCORE: Dwight Yorke scores in Manchester United's win over Coventry to seal the title in 2001.



IT'S OVER: Liverpool's remarkable unbeaten run in the Premier League came to a shuddering end on Saturday night as Watford crushed them 3-0 at Vicarage Road (centre).

the start of the season (with 26 wins and one draw) saw them establish a 22-point lead over City.

The Reds registered 104 goals in total during their 44

games at an average of 2.36 per match.

Arsenal scored 112 during their 49-game unbeaten run at an average of 2.29 per match, while Chelsea scored 92 in their 40 games at an average of 2.3 per game.

Before the Watford game, the last time Liverpool failed to find the net in a Premier League fixture was their goalless draw at Everton on March

3 last year, some 36 games ago.

In that time, it comes as little surprise to learn that Sadio Mane has been their leading scorer with 27 of the 104 goals, with Mohamed Salah not far behind on 24.

Roberto Firmino chipped in with 12 and Virgil van Dijk seven, with other goalscorers including Divock Origi and Georginio Wijnaldum (five each), James Milner and Jordan Henderson (four each) and Naby Keita, Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain and others contributed one or two during the sequence.

The leading assist-makers during this time were Trent Alexander-Arnold on 21, Robertson on 14 and Firmino on 10.

So how will Liverpool's 44-game run be remembered in the wider context of world football?

Twelve teams in Europe's leading five leagues have gone over a year undefeated with the longest sequence belonging to AC Milan, who went 58 games and 672 days without a loss between May 1991 and March

1993.

Bayern Munich went 53 unbeaten in the Bundesliga between 2012 and 2014, while Juventus matched Arsenal's record of 49 without defeat in 2011 and 2012.

Liverpool slot into No 5 in that list just ahead of the Barcelona team that went 43 unbeaten in 2017 and 2018.

In the English football league, Liverpool just pipped Huddersfield Town's 43-match run in League One in 2010 and 2011.

Also, Nottingham Forest went 42 games without losing in 1977 and 1978.

The British record is held by Celtic, who went 62 league games unbeaten between November 1915 and April 1917. They went 56 without losing in the Scottish Premiership from May 2016 and December 2017.

Liverpool were never likely to break the European record, which is held by Romanian club Steaua Bucharest, who went 104 league and 119 domestic games without tasting defeat over three whole seasons between 1986 and 1989.

RECORDS LIVERPOOL CAN STILL BREAK

THE unbeaten run may be over, but Liverpool can still establish a number of records this season.

They can break the European points record if they continue accumulating at their current points per game average of 2.82, which would see them finish on 107 points.

That would trump the 106 of Celtic in the 2016-17 Scottish Premiership and the Welsh league records of 105 set by Barry Town in 1996-97.

Manchester City won 100 points in the 2017-18 season en route to winning the trophy, but that looks set to be surpassed by Liverpool.

One record already achieved that Liverpool will hope to extend is the Premier League best for consecutive home wins.

They are on 21 games, dating back to February 9 last year, and can extend this when they host Bournemouth on Saturday.

They would also take satisfaction from beating Manchester United's record for the earliest the Premier League title has been wrapped up - April 14 in the 2000-01 season.

Liverpool need four wins from their remaining 10 matches to get over the line and their fourth game from here is against City at the Etihad Stadium on April 5.

That is unless their game against Crystal Palace at Anfield on March 21 is rescheduled because of progress to the quarter-finals of the FA Cup.

Daily Mail



POINTS: Manchester City accumulated 100 points in winning the 2017-18 Premier League title.

'MY CAREER COLLAPSED AFTER CHAKRAVERTY'S ADVICE'

LONDON—A former elite athlete believes her thyroid medication was mishandled by current England football team doctor Rob Chakraverty and caused eating disorders, overtraining and stress fractures which ended her career at the top level.

Emma Jackson, fourth over 800m at the 2010 Commonwealth Games, has chosen to speak out after watching Monday night's BBC Panorama, which featured a section on how banned coach Alberto Salazar encouraged athletes to use thyroid drug thyroxine seemingly as a legal performance-enhancing drug.

The documentary also featured Dr Chakraverty, who was doctor at UK Athletics from 2009-2016 before joining the FA, focusing on how he infused quadruple Olympic champion Mo Farah with controversial supplement L-carnitine but failed to record the levels.

Jackson, 31, has raised fresh concerns. She was given levels of thyroxine which she says were described as 'through the roof' when she sought a second opinion from another doctor.

Much of the Salazar controversy has been over inappropriate use of thyroxine with athletes who have only marginal need of the drug. Jackson is different in that she was born without a thyroid gland, which produces the natural thyroxine to regulate the physiological processes in the body, which allows people to exercise effectively.

Jackson therefore needed thyroxine replacement medicine to bring this level to normal, so there is no suggestion that Chakraverty gave her the drug without good reason. The questions are over

the levels at which he told Jackson to take thyroxine over a sustained period.

Chakraverty took over Jackson's supervision of thyroxine use in 2011 at a time where her levels were variable, which had led her GP to prescribe 250mcg of thyroxine per day, which was intended to be for a short period.

When Chakraverty took over, he lowered the levels to 225mcg per day and later to 200mcg per day - but for two years. Jackson then continued the dosage for an additional year because no one told her to stop.

Dr Nicky Keay, a sports endocrinologist at Durham University, said: "A high dose for a slim young person with accompanying report of significant symptoms is potentially suggestive of over replacement."

Over the next two years, Jackson's health, mental state and training deteriorated to such an extent that Barry Fudge, now UKA Head of Endurance but then a sports scientist with the English Institute of Sport, asked her

father if she had an eating disorder.

Her body fat was 9.5 per cent and skin folds were 35mm in March 2013, causing one nutritionist to comment she was 'the leanest

female 800m runner he has ever encountered."

She ran her personal best in early 2012 but failed to make the London Olympic team that year, after suffering a rib stress fracture and losing form.

During that period, Jackson says she was experiencing personality changes, becoming obsessive about food and training, constantly eating but always hungry.

"I was just training all the time and I was always hungry."

"You know when you have to eat because you're so hungry? It was like that all the time. It wasn't a nice feeling. I was obsessed with what I was eating."

Sports Mail



BELIEVES: Emma Jackson.

Gerrard hints he could quit Rangers

GLASGOW—Rangers boss Steven Gerrard has hinted he could walk out of his post at Ibrox after his side were dumped out of the Scottish Cup by Hearts.

The Gers are trailing rivals Celtic in the Scottish Premiership and the latest setback in the quarter-final stage delivered Gerrard's 'lowest' moment since he took the reins in 2018.

The Liverpool legend said he was considering his future at the Scottish outfit and would make a decision 'in the next 24-48 hours'. "It's the worst I've felt by a long way since I came into the job," he said.

"I need to think. The plan was to have a day off tomorrow [Sunday] but I need to think hard about where we are at as a group. "I need to do some real serious thinking in the next 24-48 hours."

Rangers were below par as Oliver Bozanic struck in the second half to send Hearts into the semi-finals, leaving Gerrard waiting for his first piece of silverware as a manager. The 39-year-old came close to lifting a trophy after an agonising 1-0 defeat to Celtic in the Scottish League Cup this season. Gerrard said he was in 'pain' because he and his staff were so desperate for success - but questioned the desire of his players. "I just need to think, I am feeling pain right now because I want to win here," Gerrard added.

"I am desperate to win here, but looking from the side today I didn't get the impression that the feeling among my players was the same."

"Me and my staff have given these players absolutely everything for 20 months and held their hand on and off the pitch and improved everything but it is tough when with every other performance you feel the way I feel."

Sports Mail

Antonio Felix Da Costa wins Marrakesh E-Prix

MARRAKESH - Antonio Felix Da Costa won an exciting Marrakesh E-Prix to go top in the Formula E championship's standings.

The Portuguese driver is the fifth different winner in the first five races of the season.

Da Costa, who drives for DS Techeetah, had finished second in the previous two races of the season in Chile and Mexico but led from pole here to claim victory by the third-biggest winning margin in the sport's history - 11.43 seconds.

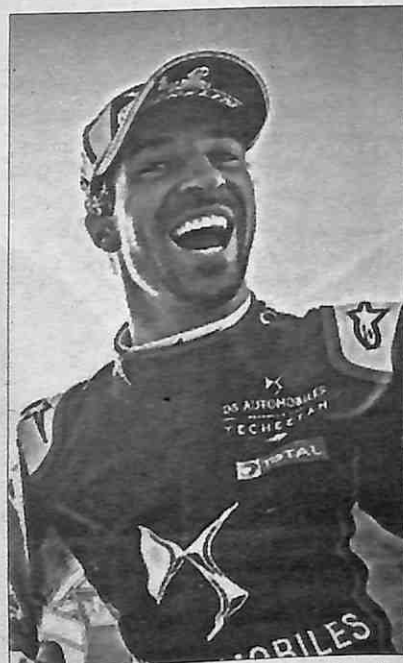
Most of the drama happened behind him, however.

A sensational battle for the other podium places saw German driver Maximilian Günther overtake Da Costa's team-mate Jean-Eric Vergne moments before the final corner to claim second place.

Meanwhile, New Zealand's Mitch Evans, who had led the championship coming into this race, started at the back of the grid but climbed an astonishing 18 places to finish sixth.

The 25-year-old Jaguar driver failed to register a lap time in qualifying, as he didn't cross the line at the end of his warm-up lap quickly enough.

Evans said he was 'furious' after qualifying but recovered from the setback



WON: Antonio Felix Da Costa.

to storm through the field and claim eight points.

Britain's Sam Bird, who had never finished off the podium in three previous races in Marrakesh, came 10th and earned a point after starting 14th on the grid. Despite claiming five places from

the grid, the experienced Bird was hugely disappointed and partly blamed other cars that 'will do anything not to let you pass'.

The 33-year-old said: "They just expend all their energy not letting you pass. It wrecks their race and it wrecks your race - it's a waste of time."

I caught a car that clearly wanted to be a mobile chicane. I had a puncture for the last six laps.

"It's a point - it's not what you want and it isn't ideal."

The lack of points will be extra frustrating for the Envision Virgin Racing driver as he told Sportsmail before the race that he was 'confident of scoring decent points in Marrakesh and taking his pace from previous races into the weekend.'

Bird, who won the first race of the year in Saudi Arabia and has driven in every Formula E season since its inception in 2014, sits 10th in the drivers' standings - 38 points off leader Da Costa.

The next Formula E race is in Rome on April 4, with the Chinese race that was scheduled for March 21 cancelled due to Coronavirus.

The Telegraph

'I'm happy, I'm at the best club in Italy'

JUVENTUS—Juventus star Cristiano Ronaldo has denied claims that he could leave Juventus and link up with David Beckham's new MLS side Inter Miami.

Beckham suggested on Wednesday that the new franchise have a chance of signing Ronaldo or Barcelona's Lionel Messi in the years to come.

Reports in Italy also suggest that the Juventus squad are struggling to understand Manager Maurizio Sarri's instructions with the Italian's future at the club in doubt. But Ronaldo has insisted that he is happy in Italy and is hopeful of adding to his Serie A and Supercoppa Italiana titles that he won with the Turin side last season.

"I'm happy," Ronaldo told Sky Sports. "I'm in the best club in Italy, I'm playing alongside the best players. I'm happy we won trophies last year - and this year I hope to win as well."

"As an individual I am happy. I went to Juventus to score goals



DENIES: Cristiano Ronaldo.

and do my best and I am very happy." Ronaldo's comments come a few days after Beckham failed to dampen excited speculation that Messi and Ronaldo, widely considered as the world's two best players, could one day line up for the club.

"Well you know what, we've got great opportunities down in Miami," Beckham said on The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon on Wednesday."

Sun Sports



WE WILL GO AGAIN, I PROMISE - KLOPP

LIVERPOOL-Jurgen Klopp vowed that his Liverpool team would bounce straight back from the shock 3-0 defeat by Watford that ruined their chances of going the entire Premier League season unbeaten and matching the Arsenal Invincibles of 2003-04.

Liverpool's unbeaten run was brought to a juddering halt after 44 games – five short of Arsenal's record run of 49 – by a Watford team battling against relegation in the biggest shock of the season so far, although Liverpool remain 22 points clear of Manchester City at the top of the table.

Klopp said that although he and his players, who had only dropped two points in their 27 games before Sunday night, were disappointed by their first league defeat since January 3, 2019, he expected the loss to liberate them from the pressure of trying to safeguard their shot at history.

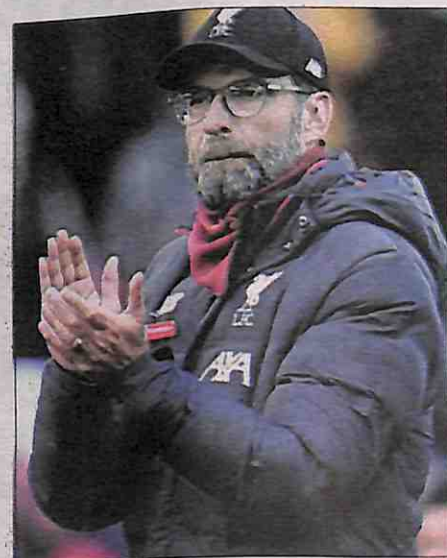
"I am not upset about not going the season unbeaten because I don't think you can break records because you want to break records," Klopp said. "You break records because you are 100 per cent focussed on each step you have to do, whatever record it is, a marathon or what-

ever. But tonight we were not good enough.

"That's not now a plus for me that in history when they look back in 500 years, they will say 'Liverpool nearly did it' but we cannot change that. Some time we will lose a game. We did not wait for it but tonight it happened. I see it rather as a positive because from now on we can play free football again. I'm not bothered but I'm not sure how other people think about it. We don't have to try to defend or try to get the record. We just have to try to win football games again and that is what we will do. 'We don't think

it's not so important because we won so many games but we don't feel it's the biggest catastrophe in the world of football. We feel the defeat. Now we have the chance to show a reaction again. Some people saw it coming. Did I see it coming? No. 'We have to stay on track. What the boys did so far is exceptional. But it's not over. That's the only thing I am interested in. It's not over. We will go again. I promise. One hundred per cent and then we will see where it leads us to. It will never be easy so let's carry on.'"

The Telegraph



NOTHING LOST: Liverpool Manager Jurgen Klopp.

UEFA to hold crisis talks

AMSTERDAM-UEFA will hold crisis talks this week over fears coronavirus could KO the Champions League's final stages and Euro 2020.

Football chiefs want talks with all 55 member associations at the annual Congress in Amsterdam.

Italy's Serie A postponed five games yesterday, including the top-of-the-table clash between Juventus and Inter Milan.

They will now not be played until May despite the clubs being told just three days ago their matches must be played behind closed doors.

In France, Health Minister Olivier Veran banned meetings of more than 5 000 people 'in a confined space'. It puts Paris Saint-Germain's Champions League last-16, second-leg tie with Borussia Dortmund on March 11 at risk.

And it could KO France's potential Six Nations decider against Ireland on March 14.

Worried Six Nations chiefs meet tomorrow to thrash out plans for the final two rounds of games. But the tournament is unlikely to be finished by the end of the season. Ireland's

... as coronavirus threatens KO Euro 2020 and final stages of the Champions League



game in Italy next weekend, and the women's equivalent, has already been cancelled and England's Rome trip on March 14 is in doubt. FA of Wales Chief Executive Jonathan Ford admitted they might not be able to play their final Euro 2020 group game as planned if the spread of the virus continued.

HEALTH FIRST, SPORT SECOND Ford said: "We're due to be playing Italy in Rome during Euros but it has to be health first – sport second." UEFA chief Aleksander Ceferin arrives in Holland today ahead of Tuesday's congress.

The Sun

RASHFORD SET TO HAND ENGLAND EURO 2020 BOOST

LONDON-Marcus Rashford is set to give England's Euro 2020 assault another boost by returning in time for the finals.

The Manchester United striker, 22, has been out for a month with a double stress fracture in his back. His chances of being fit for the Three Lions looked bleak when United boss Ole Gunnar Solskjaer said there were

doubts he would play again before the summer. Yet the Norwegian revealed his forward should return before the end of the season, putting him in the frame for England. Harry Kane, out with a hamstring injury since New Year's Day, also plans to return in early April for Tottenham. And Solskjaer gave England boss Gareth Southgate more good news, saying: "The scan came back quite positive but we will give him time. 'He's desperate to come back, of course, but it'll be another couple of months before we see him. Cakir' 'We can't rush it, but when he is fit he will be stronger for it and it's going to be a big boost for us. 'He wants the boys to do well so he can return and play the Euros.

"Hopefully we get through in the FA Cup and we've got the league – he wants to be there at the business end."

Sun Sports

'There will be some changes next year'

LONDON-Referees in the Premier League will be told to use pitchside monitors next season to rule on controversial offside calls in a bid to end the VAR misery.

Currently, there is a reluctance to have officials use the devices amid fears it may slow the game down.

Football lawmaker David Elleray has disclosed he would be 'astounded' if that situation remained next season. Speaking at the annual International Football Association Board (IFAB) meeting, the former referee and current technical director said: 'We did a survey of 6,000 matches from the top competitions and the average was 75 per cent of

reviews are pitchside monitors. 'Any competition significantly outside that is clearly out of step.'

Ahead of the start of this season, the Professional Game Match Officials Limited (PGMOL) instructed referees to use the monitors 'sparingly', claiming it could take at least 90 seconds for each review.

'The English situation is that if something goes wrong during the season you have to decide whether you can make a major adjustment without compromising the integrity of that,' added Elleray. 'You should expect there will be some changes next year. *Sports Online*

'I will give my blood to get it

LONDON-Manchester United new-boy Odion Ighalo has vowed to give everything to seize his chance at Old Trafford after netting his first goal for the club.

The Nigerian bundled home against Club Brugge in the Europa League Last 32 to get himself off the mark after his shock loan move from Shanghai Shenhua on transfer deadline day, and is now desperate to push on and work hard to impress.

Ighalo started against the Belgian side on Thursday night and played the full 90 minutes, but the 30-year-old has no plans to stop there after joining the club he supported as a boy.

"This is what I am working for," he told the club's official website.

"This is what I dream of and what I dreamt of when I was a kid. Now it is in my hands so I have to fight for it. I will give my blood to get it.

"I am still working hard in every train-

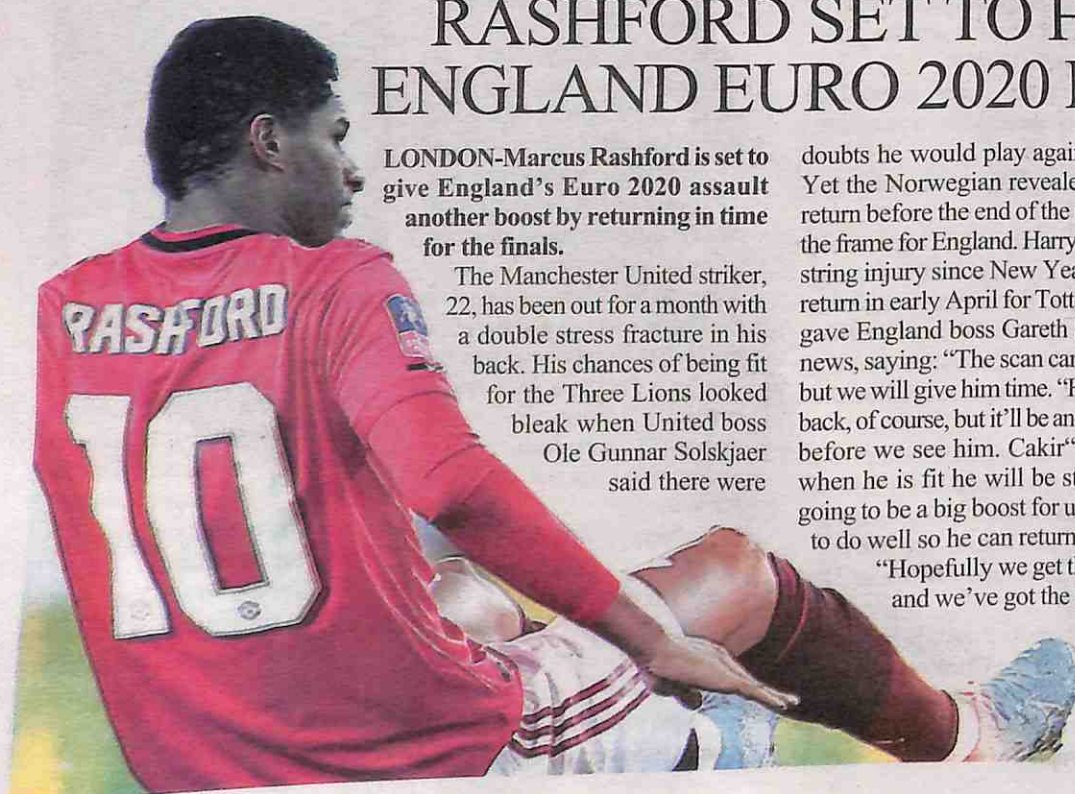
ing session and doing some extra to make sure I get up to the level. When I'm called upon, I will give my best.' Adapting to a new team is never easy but Ighalo was quick to point out how welcoming his team-mates had been since he arrived in January and said he had been left in awe of the quality on the training pitch.

"It's been great here," he said. 'The lads are all great guys. It's a happy dressing room, the coach and everyone around the club make me feel at home. I'm really enjoying my time

here. We have quality players in the team. Martial is on fire, scoring goals. Bruno Fernandes is doing well, Daniel James too, everybody from the goalkeeper to the top is working really hard. So I think this is very good for the team.

"We need to keep the momentum going and keep winning games and fighting in every match, to make sure we get our objectives at the end of the season."

Sports Mail



I WAS THREATENED WITH DEATH - BILLIAT

JOHANNESBURG - Kaizer Chiefs forward Khama Billiat has been granted a protection order against the alleged mother of his child, according to a report in the Sunday World newspaper yesterday.

The paper says that Billiat was granted the protection order at the Randburg Magistrates Court against an alleged 22-year-old Baby Mama, saying she cannot make any contact with him or make mention of anything about Billiat to the media or any person.

In papers obtained by the Sunday World, Billiat claimed in a statement that he had received death threats against him and his family.

"They (his family) are suffering from depression (brought on by the fact) that threats were made to them



PROTECTION ORDER: Kaizer Chiefs forward Khama Billiat.

that they will be sorted out when I get killed.

"They are also afraid to go (out)

in public, because they are always followed by unknown people. Whenever they go out, my daugh-

ter cries when she sees people following (them)," says Billiat.

"She is very violent and aggressive (in her efforts) to destroy me. The threats and false media were published that I got stabbed. She had an article posted in Sunday World claiming I'm useless.

"My family is not at peace at home, they are afraid, I'm also afraid to work because we are always followed by unknown people. I was threatened with death and my family is suffering from depression. At work I can't concentrate."

Billiat came on as a second half substitute for Kaizer Chiefs in Saturday's Soweto derby against Orlando Pirates, which Chiefs won 1-0.

The Citizen



Chiefs have quality - Zinnbauer

JOHANNESBURG - On the back of his first Soweto derby, Orlando Pirates coach Josef Zinnbauer says Kaizer Chiefs have quality in their squad after his side's 1-0 loss to the Glamour Boys at the FNB Stadium on Saturday.

The Pirates coach believes his team had the opportunity to win the game had they utilised their goal-scoring opportunities, but was proud of the performance of the team.

"Very tough game, Kaizer Chiefs have a very good team and good quality, we saw this today. But, it's not that we have a chance in this match. We were not so much in the game in the first 15 minutes, we tested the opponents but they came a bit better as the game progressed and the game changed. We had a big chance to score, Luvuyo Memela gave the ball back to Gabadinho Mhango, and Mhango had a chance. But we saw in the game he didn't use the chance," said Zinnbauer.

"The opponents had good pressing, good transition, counter attack and they scored the goal. We did our best in the first half

to score and it was the same thing in the second half.

We came out from the dressing room in the second half with good self-confidence and good plan.

We had a lot of chances but when you don't score you won't win. But the performance of my team was good in this game. I know you need goals to have a chance to win a game, but we did all that we can in the last minute but it was not enough. We didn't have the luck we needed to win against Kaizer Chiefs."

The loss to Amakhosi was Zinnbauer's first in the League since he started his job as Bucs coach with a win against Black Leopards last year before the Christmas break.

Pirates are now nine points behind Chiefs in the race for the championship with Amakhosi topping the log with 48 points, while Bucs are on 39. *Soccer Ladum*



'I'm going to be fired again'

DURBAN - Maritzburg United coach Eric Tinkler has commented on his currently successful spell at the club on the back of a series of good results, but knows it is 'unavoidable' that he will be fired again.

The Team of Choice under Tinkler have transformed from fighting relegation to playing in the Telkom Knockout final and competing for a top-eight spot in the ABSA Premiership.

The coach says the club's Chairman Farook Kadodia is a happy man, as the team currently enjoys top billing in KwaZulu-Natal and even moved to fourth place on the log after a 3-0 victory over Stellenbosch on Friday night.

"Definitely, I've got a happy chairman. Last sea-

son you look at where we were, this season that pressure doesn't exist you know," Tinkler says.

"Which is great because the atmosphere you create in training is far better, so I'm very proud of the technical team, the support I've been given by the chairman and the support from everybody. "We work as a team, that's what gets us where we are, it has nothing to do with individuals, it's a team effort."

The former Bafana Bafana midfielder, who has coached at Orlando Pirates, Cape Town City, SuperSport United and Chippa United, is aware that in football anything can still happen, especially as a coach.



SPEAKS: Maritzburg United coach Eric Tinkler.

Nthethe backs Khenyeza to succeed

NELSPRUIT - Former Mamelodi Sundowns defender Thabo Nthethe is backing his new coach Mabhuti Khenyeza to succeed at TS Galaxy.

Ex-Amazulu assistant coach Khenyeza landed his first gig as a full-time coach after being appointed to lead Galaxy in the GladAfrica Championship this season.

The former Kaizer Chiefs striker has replaced Dan Malesela, who was relieved of his duties a few weeks ago. Nthethe, 35, will now play under Khenyeza, 37, after signing for the Rockets this week. "I think what the chairman Tim Sukazi did there was okay to give the young man a chance and platform," says 'Mr Cool'. "Mabhuti with his character is very aggressive.

AKPEYI SPEAKS ON KHUNE 'RIVALRY'

JOHANNESBURG - Kaizer Chiefs goalkeeper Daniel Akpeyi says his teammate Itumeleng Khune is still Amakhosi's first choice shot-stopper.

Akpeyi is annoyed by the constant comparison between him and Khune.

Akpeyi turned his attention to the Chiefs fans who booed him a week ago for costly mistakes against Maritzburg United in a league game.

The Nigerian international dedicated his man of the match award to his coaches.

"I would like to dedicate my man of the match award to my coaches, who believed in me following what happened two

weeks ago when these people (fans) turned against me," Akpeyi told SuperSportTV. "They need to have at the back of their minds that we are the ones on the field, they only support us when things are good.

But we have to have the mindset to pick up this point.

"Khune is still the number one, he is the legend, I am fortunate to play, they should stop supporting individuals, we are a team, that is the problem we are having right now.

I tell people who support me to stop looking down at Khune, we are a team, they should support all the team."

The Citizen



SUPPORT US: Itumeleng Khune excitingly runs to Daniel Akpeyi after the stopper's excellent display at the Soweto derby on Saturday.

Former Cape captain finds new home

CAPE TOWN - A former Ajax Cape Town and Cape Town City midfielder has finally joined a new club.

Travis Graham, who left the Urban Warriors back in July 2018, joined up with the Citizens a year later in February 2019, although, his stay at the Mother City-based club was short lived.

City secured Graham's signature on a short-term deal in 2019, which quickly came to an end on June 30 that same year.

The 26-year-old, who was undergoing rehabilitation for an injury at the time, thereafter remained with the Citizens, although as a tri-athlete training under the watchful eye of Head Coach Jan Olde Riekerink and his technical team.

However, after several weeks of training, the Citizens opted against adding the player to their books.

Graham has since joined up with Cape Umoya United in the GladAfrica Championship.



WINNER Heather Watson.

Watson returns to the World Top 50

MEXICO CITY - Heather Watson has won the Mexican Open after defeating Canada's Leylah Fernandez 6-4 6-7 (8) 6-1.

The British No 2 served up six aces on the way to victory over the 17-year-old, with the pair battling it out for almost three hours.

Watson squandered five championship points in the second-set tie-break but eventually wrapped up a fourth WTA title on her 10th match point.

'I'm so happy to get my fourth title,' Watson said in quotes reported by wtennis.com. 'It's been a few years, so I'm just really, really happy I came through that match.'

'It was heartbreaking losing the second set, but I also reminded myself that I also saved a lot of set points before that. It was so close, both of us had our chances.'

'I just had to leave that set behind me, even though I had my opportunities, and just remind myself that it's just a tennis match and it won't be the end of the world if I don't win. Just play every point and focus on just that one point, that next point.'

Watson had to defeat another teenager, China's Wang Xiyu, to reach her fifth WTA Tour final in Acapulco.

She last won a title in 2016, also in Mexico, and it has been a tough road since. The 27-year-old has dipped in and out of the top 100, but she ended last season by reaching the final of the Tianjin Open and has not looked back.

Sports Mail

HEARTBREAK FOR YAFAI'S LOSS

TEXAS - Mikey Garcia earned a unanimous points victory over Jesse Vargas on Saturday night to set up a summer bout with Manny Pacquiao, while Britain's Kal Yafai suffered his first professional defeat to lose his WBA super flyweight title.

Garcia took control in the fifth round, when he knocked down Vargas with a hard right to the left side of the face. In the seventh, Garcia pummeled Vargas against the ropes in the closing 10 seconds.

Judges Catherine Leonard and Steve Morrow scored the bout 116-111 while David Sutherland had it 114-113.

'He definitely lost his power after that (first knockdown),' Garcia said. 'I really started to get into a rhythm of things, and I just kept going.'

Through four rounds, Vargas had



SUFFERED: Kal Yafai.

led 3-1 on two of the three judges' cards. The Los Angeles-born fighter conceded he didn't put his foot down from that point on.

'I thought I hurt him in the fourth,

but I seemed to lighten up,' Vargas said. 'Mikey's a great fighter. His timing was pretty good. I fought my heart out. I thought it was closer than what the judges thought.'

Eleven months and 40 miles separated from the darkest day of his professional boxing career, Mikey Garcia now feels comfortable with the weight class he considers home.

Last March in Arlington, Texas, Garcia moved up two weight classes as lightweight champion to challenge Errol Spence Jr. for the IBF 147-pound championship in an attempt to claim a title in his fifth weight class. Spence won a unanimous decision, taking every round.

With the win in his second fight at welterweight, Garcia said the weight class is 'a good option' and will now aim for a matchup against Manny Pacquiao.

'I think it's very likely that we are considered a likely opponent,' Garcia said.

Meanwhile, Britain's Kal Yafai suffered his first professional defeat to lose his WBA super flyweight title to Roman Gonzalez. The previously unbeaten Yafai was stopped in the ninth round via TKO.

Gonzalez knocked down Yafai in the closing seconds of the eighth round.

The Guardian

Westbrook, Harden shine to combine for 62 points

NEW YORK - Russell Westbrook scored 41 points and James Harden had 21, including a pair of free throws with 25 seconds left in overtime, to give the Houston Rockets their sixth straight victory.

The 111-110 win over the Boston Celtics on Saturday means the Rockets have now beaten the LA Clippers, Los Angeles Lakers and the Celtics since adopting a small-ball line-up permanently following the trade of center Clint Capela.

Boston rallied from a four-point deficit in the final 20 seconds of regulation and sent the game to overtime on Jaylen Brown's 3-pointer at the buzzer.

The hosts then scored the first basket of overtime and led 110-109 but failed to score in the final 2:49 of the game, missing their last six shots and that cost them victory.

Acquired

Robert Covington, acquired as part of the trade to send Capela to Atlanta, added 16 points and 16 rebounds for the Rockets, who have won 10 of their last 12 games and beaten the Celtics five times in a row.

Jayson Tatum had 32 points and 13 rebounds, Marcus Smart scored 26 points and Brown had 22.

Daniel Theis had 15 rebounds for Boston, the last in the final seconds of overtime to set up

a short baseline jumper that was released after the buzzer before harmlessly swishing through the net.

The Celtics had won 14 of their previous 17 games and could have moved into a tie with Toronto Raptors atop the Atlantic Division with a win.

Boston led by as many as 17 in the first half, but the Rockets scored 13 straight points near the beginning of the second to take their first lead of the game at 66-64.

Boston missed nine straight shots in the fourth quarter and still trailed 102-98 when Westbrook hit one of two free throws with 19 seconds left.

DPA

'I'd like him to beat Joshua, then stop'

LONDON - Paris Fury wants her husband, Tyson, to make a mega-fight victory over Anthony Joshua his final bout, retiring as the undisputed heavyweight champion.

Tyson deconstructed Deontay Wilder in seven rounds on February 22 to take the WBC heavyweight belt, setting up the 'Battle of Britain' showdown with Joshua.

The Gypsy King's five-fight contract with ESPN will be up after two more ring-walks, and Fury is set to retire at its expiry. He could be set for a fairytale finish to his career.

'I'd like him to beat Anthony Joshua and then stop,' Paris told the Mirror.

'He's in the ring with supreme boxers and it is a dangerous sport. We both know the risks. 'I know one shot can change everything. I'd like him to take that one fight and retire undefeated.'

Fury joined Tyson in the ring as he belted out a version of 'American Pie' to the Las Vegas crowd in celebration of his win.

Fury dominated Wilder in the rematch, after the first fight in December 2018 featured one of the most memorable rounds in the division's history in the 12th.

To be considered alongside the greats, Fury must unify the division by fighting Joshua. With Fury the last of the 'big three' left undefeated - after Joshua was beaten by Andy Ruiz in 2019 - he is the favourite to come out on top.

'If they put all the belts on the line it would be such an amazing fight,' Paris added.

Sports Mail

Tiger Woods faces race against time to be fit

NEW YORK - It would be hard to conceive of a more perfect warm-up tournament for the Masters for Tiger Woods than the Arnold Palmer Invitational in Florida this week.

Talk about an event that ticks all the boxes.

A course he likes? Yes, you could say that - he has won the event eight times.

Decent weather? There is no rain forecast for Orlando, with temperatures predicted to be in the high 20s.

And the tournament at Bay Hill is just a two-hour drive from Woods's home.

So when Tiger was confirmed as a no-show on Friday, with his agent Mark Steinberg revealing his back was still 'sore and stiff' following his appearance at the Genesis Invitational three weeks ago, it was hardly surprising that the US media went into overdrive.

At best, how ready he is going to be for his defence at Augusta in a little over a month's time? At worst, is there more to this latest back ailment than we are being told? 'It's the new normal,' Steinberg told various US outlets. 'Things are week to

week. He's very much good to go when he's healthy, and he's not when he's a little sore.' Who knows whether Tiger will be fit to play in the PGA Tour's flagship event, the Players Championship, next week?

The hope must surely be that he can at least play there, as well as the WGC Match Play Championship in Texas at the end of the month, where he is guaranteed three group matches. In 10 events on the PGA Tour this year Woods has played just eight competitive rounds.

Sports Mail



I know one shot can change everything. I'd like him to take that one fight and retire undefeated

MAN CITY WIN CARABAO CUP

LONDON - Manchester City have been crowned League Cup champions for a third straight season after defeating Aston Villa yesterday's final at Wembley Stadium. Pep Guardiola made wholesale changes with only Ilkay Gundogan, Kyle Walker and Rodrigo remaining from the UEFA Champions League win over Real Madrid but there was a return for Sergio Aguero and Raheem Sterling.

Villa were fashioning chances in the early stages but it was the Citizens who drew first blood in the 20th minute after Aguero fired home a volley into the far corner from Phil Foden's headed knock down.

Guardiola's charges were two goals up ten minutes later after Rodrigo guided home a towering free header in the six-yard box from Gundogan's corner.

Just when many thought City would run over Villa, Dean Smith's side pounced on a mistake by John Stones at the back with five minutes left of the first stanza as Anwar El Ghazi delivered a well-weighted cross to Mbwana Samatta, who nodded past Claudio Bravo.

City were unable to find passing rhythm early in the second stanza which resulted in Guardiola introducing Kevin De Bruyne just before the hour-mark in place of Gundogan.



De Bruyne gave the Citizens a new dimension after coming on as Rodrigo almost restored City's two-goal advantage with 16 minutes left after but Nyland produced a superb save to keep out the midfielder's header.

Aguero had a chance to wrap up the game for Guardiola's men in the last 10 minutes after Bernardo Silva, who had just come on, made a galloping run on the left channel and dinked a pass on the far side but the Argentine's volley hit the side netting.

Villa came very close to snatching the equaliser in the last two minutes after Bjorn Engels powered a header towards goal from a corner but City shot-stopper Claudio Bravo tipped his effort into the outside of the post.

The game stretched from end to end in the latter stages, with Villa pressurising City and threatening to snatch the equaliser but Guardiola's men held on to clinch a 2-1 win and were crowned champions for a third straight year.

Daily Mail

Celtic boost top-eight hopes with Baroka win

BLOEMFONTEIN - Bloemfontein Celtic boosted their top-eight hopes in the Absa Premiership with a 2-1 victory over Baroka FC yesterday afternoon. Siwelele made only two changes from their Nedbank Cup last 16 win over Maritzburg United, with Mpusana Tani and Given Mashikinya being recalled.

Meanwhile, Bakgaga showed four alterations, as goalkeeper Elvis Chipeze, Denwin Farmer and Goodman Mosele returned after missing the cup action alongside Ivan Mahangwahaya.

Despite booking a spot in the quarter-finals of the Nedbank Cup, Celtic were in danger of being dragged to the relegation battle after losing three of their last four league matches. Dylan Kerr's troops were also looking for redemption after two consecutive defeats in the league put them back squarely to the relegation dog fight.

The home side had a better start in the first stanza as Tebogo Potsane broke the deadlock on the half-hour mark and Lehlohonolo Seema's charges were in the driving seat going to the break.

The Limpopo side came back fired up from the break and Manuel Kambala levelled matters for them four minutes inside the second stanza with a strike from the centre of the box after he was setup by Mahangwahaya.

Celtic were also not lying down and they restored their lead with 21 minutes remaining thanks to a solo effort and strike from the centre of the box by Ndumiso Mabena. Seema was already closing shop in the last ten minutes, as he brought on defender Ryan De Jongh in place of attacker Potsane while in the same moment Kerr made an attacking change, bringing on striker Ranga Chivaviro in place of midfielder Mosele. *Kick-Off*

'Serie A risks not finishing due to coronavirus'

MILAN - The Serie A season runs the risk of not finishing if more matches are postponed because of the coronavirus outbreak, Inter Milan Chief Executive Giuseppe Marotta said yesterday.

Inter's match at Juventus, which was to have been played later yesterday, was one of five which were postponed by Serie A on Saturday. The games, all in regions where sporting events have been banned by the government, had been due to be played behind closed doors. Italy has registered more than 1 100 confirmed cases of coronavirus since the contagion came to light in wealthy northern regions on February 20 and at least 29 people have died. Inter's match at home to Sampdoria was one of four which were postponed last Sunday and Marotta said a crowded fixture list meant they were running out



of dates to reschedule the games. The Serie A league called an emergency meeting for Wednesday to discuss the consequences of the government measures and the rescheduling of matches.

"If more matches are called off then, yes, we run that risk," Marotta told Gazzetta dello Sport when asked if the champi-

onship might not finish. He added that, because some matches had been postponed and others had not, the "balance of the championship has been altered. It's a distorted tournament."

"You just need to think of injuries and suspensions. And there is the psychological aspect when you look at the standings." Third-placed Inter's two postponements have caused them to drop eight points behind leaders Lazio who have played and won two games during the same period.

Team Talk



Jose Mourinho.

Wolves come from behind to beat Spurs

LONDON - Willy striker Raul Jimenez struck a superb 73rd-minute winner as Wolverhampton Wanderers twice came back from a goal down to beat Tottenham Hotspur 3-2 and leap-frog them into sixth place in the Premier League table yesterday.

Steven Bergwijn gave Jose Mourinho's Spurs, who lost 2-1 to Chelsea last week, the lead in the 13th minute by slamming home a rebound to spare the blushes of Dele Ali, whose weak shot with the goal at his mercy was parried by Rui Patricio.

The visitors struck back 14 minutes later through Irish international Matt Doherty, who took advantage of some poor defending to score after Spurs failed to clear

Ruben Vinagre's cross.

Serge Aurier restored the lead just before halftime, collecting the ball just inside the box before curling a sublime left-foot shot inside the far post, but again Wolves came back as Diogo Jota scored from close range in the 57th minute.

With Spurs striker Ali spurning several decent chances, Jota then set up Jimenez for the winner, sliding the ball into his path in the 73rd minute for Jimenez to cut swiftly inside before curling a sweet left-foot strike into the net.

The win lifts Wolves into sixth spot with 42 points after 28 games, just behind Manchester United on goal difference, while Spurs slip to seventh, two points behind Wolves.

With Manchester City set to be banned from the Champions League for breaching UEFA's financial rules, Wolves striker Jimenez said he and his teammates were setting their sights on a spot in Europe's premier club competition.

"This is our spirit, it's what characterises us.

We fight to the end in every game, keep going and keep winning. We're proud of this game and we have to keep going to achieve more goals, we are looking at top five" he said.

For Mourinho, the defeat makes the task of qualifying for the Champions League that little bit more difficult but he did not see his side as being second-best against Wolves.

Goal

Polokwane clinch derby spoils

LIMPOPO - Polokwane City claimed the bragging rights in Limpopo derby at the Peter Mokaba Stadium yesterday afternoon, but the game will also be remembered for a Black Leopards player refusing to take off his neck-lace before coming on.

Rise and Shine had three alterations from their win over Cape Town City, as Thabiso Semenya and Ayanda Nkili were recalled alongside Denis Chembezi.

Meanwhile, Leopards brought back the tried and tested after the Nedbank Cup action, with the likes of Edwin Gyimah, Tshwarelo Bereng and Mwahe Musonda returning to boost the side.

City were on the front foot in the early exchanges and they should have been 1-0 up in the 12th minute after Salulani Phiri broke away free on the left side of the box but he dragged his shot wide.

Jalulani Maluleke also came close to breaking the deadlock for Polokwane in the 23rd minute after letting fly a pile-driver from the edge of the box that was parried over the bar by Leopards shot-stopper Rotshidzwa Muleka.

Lidoda Duvha were getting into their rhythm in the latter phase of the first stanza and Musonda found the back of the net four minutes before the break with a diving header inside the six-yard box but his

effort was disallowed for offside and the first stanza ended goalless.

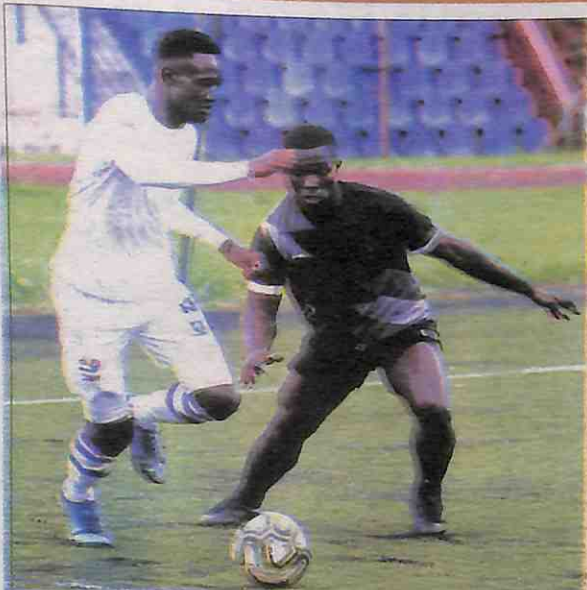
Alan Clark's men were creating chances early in the second stanza and they were rewarded on the hour-mark after Nkili diverted Mogakolodi Ngele's cross into his own gaping net.

However, Charlton Mashumba levelled matters for City immediately from the restart with a powerful strike from the left side of the box that found the bottom corner.

Soccer Laduma



MTN Premier League 2019/20



MOVE: Royal Leopard's Thabiso Mokenkoane negotiates to go past Mbabane Highlanders' Ndumiso Mamba during their MTN Premier League match at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday. Leopard won 3-0. (Pics; Lucky Simelane)



CAN'T PASS: Leopard's Lungelo Tsabedze controls the ball while Highlanders captain Jimoh Moses closes in.



TIGHT MARK: Highlanders' Simphiwe Manana marks Leopard's Sikhumbuzo Magagula.



INGWE MABALABALA: Best dressed Royal Leopard fan Lindiwe Mamba receives her gift from MTN's Afi Dlamini.



CONGRATS: Leopard players celebrate one of their three goals.



GWAZWA NKUNZI: Dejected Highlanders supporters in a sombre mood.



ON TARGET: Leopard's Junior Magagula being blocked by Highlanders' Ndumiso Mabuza.



TELL ME: Highlanders coach Koki Vilakati chats with Leopard team doctor Gcina Hleta as he goes past their bench.



FACE TO FACE: Thabiso Mokekoane dribbles Highlanders goalkeeper Khanyakwezwe Shabalala before scoring the team's second goal.



GALLOPING: Leopard players celebrate their first goal scored by Junior Magagula.



IN PAIN: Injured Highlanders' Menzi Mamba sprawling on the turf after being rough-played by a Leopard player.



MTN Premier League 2019/20



PUSHING: Manzini Wanderers' Johnson Mensah and Young Buffaloes' Lindo Mkhonta in a fight for the ball during the MTN Premier League game at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday. Buffaloes won 3-1. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



TWO AGAINST ONE: Wanderers' Sicelo Simelane and Njabulo Magongo mark Buffaloes' Bongwa Matsebula.



BLOCKING: Buffaloes' Ali Matse being blocked by Wanderers' Houessou Adoudou.



EVERYWHERE YOU GO: MTN's Afi Dlamini flanked by best dressed fans Mbongiseni Dlamini of Manzini Wanderers and Philile Gamedze of Young Buffaloes.



WE ARE ONE: Highlanders and Buffaloes supporters having fun.



YES: Man of the Match Bongwa Matsebula of Young Buffaloes celebrates after scoring the team's third goal.



OOPSI! Bongwa Matsebula dribbles past Wanderers goalkeeper Innocent Obodai as he scores the third goal.



CHANGE OF CAMPS: A Highlanders fan clad in Young Buffaloes colours.



CELEBRATION: Buffaloes players celebrate their first goal scored by Ndoda Mtsetfwa.



FOUL: Troublesome Buffaloes' Bongwa Matsebula rough-played by Wanderers' Houessou Adoudou.



STILL CELEBRATING SA DERBY: Some of Wanderers supporters clad in SA Kaizer Chiefs outfits at the stadium.



ASAKHULILE AMATHOLE: Young Buffaloes players celebrate their second goal against Wanderers.

9-man Bull beat Birds in EswatiniBank Cup Under-20

Mbabane Highlanders..... (0)2
Mbabane Swallows..... (0)1

BY NOMALUNCELO PHIRI

SOCCER - MBABANE
Highlanders have knocked out rivals Mbabane Swallows in the EswatiniBank Cup Under-20 tournament.

The nine-man Highlanders were all out as they beat Swallows 2-1 during a match played at Manzini Club yesterday.

The teams matched each other pound for pound in the opening minutes of the match, but it was Highlanders who created more scoring opportunities. Swallows did not sit back as they would also now and again launch threatening attacks, only to be let down by the final pass. Swallows eventually took the



ONE MAN DOWN: Mbabane Highlanders Under 20's Mandla Dlamini wins the ball from Mbabane Swallows' Thando Maziya. (Pic: Lucky Simelane)

match to the opposition as they dominated possessions for prolonged stages of the first half, but again failed to find the back of the net.

The match went to break with the teams locked at 0-0. The second half saw the Lwazi Simelane-led side missing numerous chances.

Highlanders eventually broke the deadlock through Mavela Dlamini, who scored from close range in the 53rd minute.

Seven minutes later, Swallows equalised through a penalty that was scored by Andile Dlamini to make it 1-1.

It became an entertaining affair with both teams coming hard at each other but it was Highlanders, who scored the second and winning goal through Msimisi Malindzisa.

Highlanders were reduced to 9-men after Mancoba Dlamini and Thando Mkhwanazi were given marching orders.

However, Highlanders were able to protect their lead until the end of the match.

Wanderers Under-20 through to Idlala Kamnandzi next round

Mhlume Peacemakers ... (1)0
Manzini Wanderers..... (0)2

BY COLISILE SACOLO

SOCCER - MANZINI
Wanderers are through to the next round of the EswatiniBank Cup Under-20 after beating Mhlume Peacemakers 2-1.

This was during the knock-out match played at the Manzini Club yesterday.

The games were fairly attended as a number of parents came out to watch their children.

Coming to the match, both teams started on a high tempo as they attacked each other from the first minute.

Peacemakers created better scoring chances but failed to convert them.

They eventually found the back of the net on the ninth minute via the boot of Khayelethu Zitha, who dribbled past defenders to beat the goalkeeper with ease.

Wanderers did not despair after conceding as they also pushed numbers forward in search for the equaliser.



JOY: Manzini Wanderers Under 20 players celebrate their first goal against Mhlume Peacemakers during the EswatiniBank Cup Under 20 tournament at Manzini Club yesterday. Wanderers won 2-1. (Pic: Lucky Simelane)

They would now and again visit the opposition's 18 area box, but only to miss clear cut chances.

Mhlume Peacemakers also pushed for another goal but this time around the Wanderers defence was resolute.

The match went to break with Peacemakers leading 1-0.

The second half was a replica of the first stanza, with teams launching a number of attacks as it became an entertaining match.

Wanderers had the upper hand at this stage of the match, as they eventually scored the equaliser in the 67th minute through Mayibongwe Lushaba

after receiving a through a pass from Thando Zwane.

The Weslians continued to pile pressure on the opponents, who were getting tired as the match progressed.

It was no surprise when Wanderers scored their second goal in the 80th minute through Sebenele Gamedze to win the match. Wanderers are now through to the next round of the 'Idlala Kamnandzi' Under-20 tournament.

RESULTS:

Mba Swallows 1-2 Mb Highlanders
Tambuti 2-1 Moneni Pirates
Royal Leopard 4-1 Milling Hotspurs
Wanderers 2-1 Peacemakers

Impressive showing by Kelly, Sihawu

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

CYCLING - THE 4Ever Cycling Club pair of William Kelly and Sihawu Dlamini gave great performances on foreign territory.

The seasoned duo secured top 10 finishes in the Sabie Ultra105km race held in South Africa yesterday.

Kelly finished at position nine with a time of five hours 45 minutes, while Sihawu came eighth after clocking four hours 19 minutes.

The two riders also clinched the best master and best elite rider awards for their good showing in the annual international race.

4ever Cycling Club Principal Clint Mcamara congratulated the two riders for their achievement. "We are happy and proud of the two riders as they represented the country well. It was a challenging and taxing race, but they both managed to display great performances against international riders.

"We are confident they will continue working hard in other upcoming local and international races," he said.

Worth noting is that this was Kelly's second international race in 14 days after previously competing in the Dischem Pharmacy in Gauteng last weekend.

The pair is expected to lead the 4ever Cycling Club in the 2020 National Road Championships scheduled for next month in Nhlanguano

Sifiso Zubuko scoops UHI Monthly Mug

BY JONGILE XUBA

GOLF - SIFISO Zubuko was crowned the champion of the second United Health Insurance (UHI) Monthly Mug Golf tournament played at Manzini Golf Course on Saturday. There was a field of 35 golfers

from Manzini, Mananga, Usutu and Mbabane, who came out to grace the tournament, where Zubuko topped them all with a gross score of 72. The runner-up was John 'The best in town' Fakudze with a gross score of 77, while ME Dlamini came third with a net score of 73. Elwyn Dlamini came fourth after scoring 74 points.

Ivan Groening, Richard Dlamini and Moses Dlamini also finished with a score of 74 for fifth, sixth and seventh, respectively. Novelty prizes were also awarded on the day with Mandla Chauke getting nearest 9/18, while OB Macwele got nearest to 1/10. John Fakudze also took home the longest drive award.



UHI Golf Tournament Monthly Mug winner Sifiso Zubuko with UHI Group Marketing Manager Mcolisi Dlamini. (Courtesy pic)

United Health Insurance Monthly Mug results

Gross	Net
1. Sifiso Zubuko	72
2. John Fakudze	77
3. ME Dlamini	73
4. Elwyn Dlamini	74
5. Ivan Groening	74
6. Richard Dlamini	74
7. Moses Dlamini	74
8. Nkululeko Dube	75
9. Ben J Simelane	76
10. Eerlaan Dada	77
11. Simon Motsa	77

Nearest 9/18
Mandla Chauke
Nearest 1/10
OB Macwele
Longest drive
John Fakudze

● Barcelona are keeping a close eye on Arsenal striker Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, 30, who is out of contract at the end of next season. (*Sunday Express*)

● Arsenal are ready to pay a £42m release clause for the summer transfer of Atletico Madrid's Ghanaian midfielder Thomas Partey, 26. (*The Mirror*)



● Atletico Madrid will make Wolves boss Nuno Espirito Santo their number one target if Paris St-Germain lure Diego Simeone away from the Spanish capital. (*The Sun*)

● Portuguese superstar Cristiano Ronaldo, 35, says he is happy at Juventus and has no plans to join David Beckham's Inter Miami side. (*Sky Sports*)

● Manchester United are ready to offer £150 000 a week to Aston Villa captain Jack Grealish for a summer move to Old Trafford. (*Sun*)

● Chelsea have joined Liverpool, Manchester United and Tottenham in watching the progress of £20m-rated Canada striker Jonathan David. The 20-year-old forward has scored 23 goals for Belgian club Gent this season. (*Sunday Express*)

● Liverpool will bolster their attacking options in the summer with England international Adam Lallana, 31, and Switzerland international Xherdan Shaqiri, 28, both expected to leave at the end of the season. (*The Athletic via Express*)

● Watford midfielder Abdoulaye Doucoure, 27, should be a target for Liverpool, according to former England international Owen Hargreaves. (*Daily Star*)

● Everton manager Carlo Ancelotti is prepared to offer Mason Holgate, 23, a new contract to fend off Manchester City's interest. (*The Sun*)

● Borussia Dortmund striker Erling Braut Haaland is Real Madrid's favoured option as they look to bring in a new striker for the third successive summer. The Spanish giants know they will have to pay about £65m for the 19-year-old Norwegian. (*Marc, in Spanish*)

● RB Leipzig striker Timo Werner, 23, is also on Real Madrid's list, meaning Liverpool could face competition for the £51m-rated Germany striker. (*Daily Mail*)



● Sheffield United manager Chris Wilder says midfielder John Fleck, who signed a new contract last week, was 'wanted elsewhere'. The Scotland international, 28, had been linked with Arsenal. (*Sheffield Star*)

BUFFALOES ADD TO WANDERERS' WOES

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

Manzini Wanderers..... (0)1
Young Buffaloes..... (2)3

SOCCER - MTN Premier League pacesetters Young Buffaloes extended Manzini Wanderers losing streak to three consecutive matches in all competitions after condemning the hub giants to a 3-1 defeat yesterday.

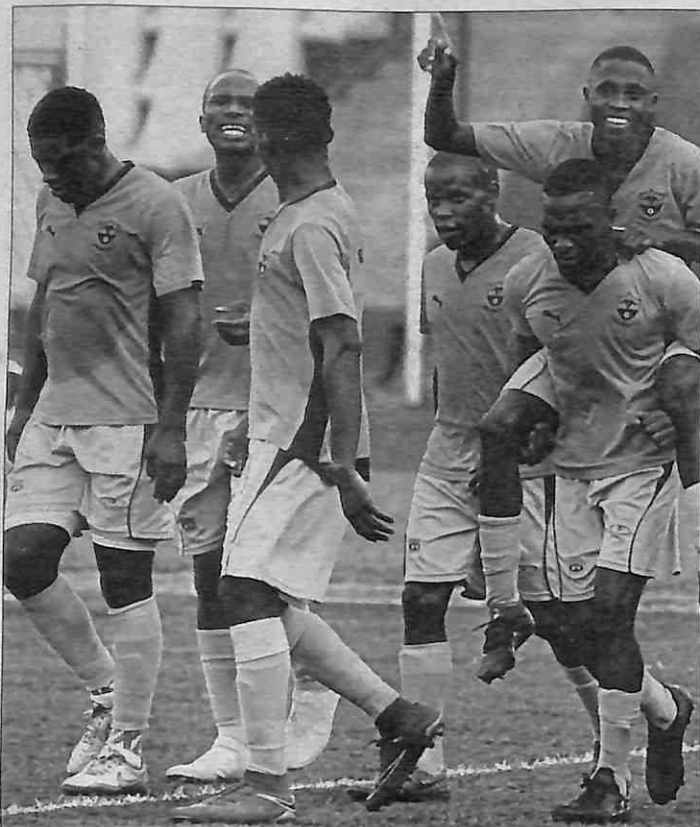
The army side needed a brace from Bongwa Matsebula and a Ndoda Matsebula strike to add the misery of the 'Weslians, who are yet to taste victory in 270 minutes during a Ye'lo Sunday main match played at Somhlolo National Stadium.

The victory helped 'Amathol'ezinyathi' keep their tile hopes alive as they stretched their lead to nine points from close contenders Mbabane Swallows.

Buffaloes were off to a perfect start, as they took the lead 18 minutes into action via the boot of former Wanderers striker Ndoda Mthethwa.

Mthethwa silenced his childhood club's supporters with a powerful ground shot from outside the box to beat the diving opposition goalkeeper Innocent Adja with ease.

The army side were denied a two-goal cushion two minutes later when a Siboniso Ngwenya's header was ruled offside by referee Mbongeni Shongwe after he connected an Allie



ASAKHULILE AMATHOLE: Young Buffaloes players celebrate their second goal against Wanderers during the MTN Premier League game at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday. (Pic: Lucky Simelane)

Matse cross.

Wanderers struggled to impose themselves in the match by allowing Buffaloes to dominate play.

Buffaloes doubled their advantage

11 minutes before the breather through their youngster Bongwa Matsebula, who tapped home a rebound from an Allie Matse corner.

The visitors enjoyed a healthy two

goal lead going to the break.

Wanderers came out bit recharged in the second half as they invaded the opposition's half with some swift attacking moves.

The maroon and white ensemble pulled one back 10 minutes into the resumption of play from the spot kick after midfielder Neliswa Dlamini was hacked inside the box by Siboniso Ngwenya.

Wanderers captain Lwazi 'Shana' Maziya took up the responsibility and converting to make it 1-2.

Buffaloes coach Sabelo Mnisi introduced Derrick Sifundza for Ndoda Mthethwa.

The change nearly paid dividend in the hour mark when the former Tambankulu Callies player Sifundza forced a fine save from Adja with a well taken shot inside the box.

Former Madlenya FC player Bongwa Matsebula sealed the victory for his team a minute before fulltime when he completed his brace with a low shot following a break attack that orchestrated by second half substitute Sifiso 'General' Mazibuko.

Teams

Wanderers - Adja, Junior, Sihle, Umukoro, Lwazi, Mpendulo, Dombo (Mancoba), Chaffiou, Mhlengi (Njabulo), Neliswa (Ngidi), Johnson

Buffaloes - Nhlanhla, Lindo, Fanelo, Sihlangu, Siboniso Mamba, Siboniso Ngwenya, Allie (Sifiso), Wandile, Ndoda (Derrick), Banele (Dumisani), Bongwa

Black Swallows, Green Mamba share spoils

BY JONGILE XUBA

Black Swallows..... (1)1
Green Mamba..... (0)1

SOCCER - PIGG'S Peak Black Swallows and Green Mamba played to a 1-1 draw during their MTN Premier League match at Killarney Stadium yesterday.

A first half goal from Swallows' Jonathan Bafoe and a second half strike by Green Mamba's Mbutfo Dlamini ensured the match ended in a draw.

The first half was a real thriller with Black Swallows showing early intentions to win the match. It took just 12 minutes for them to finally get a goal through lanky striker Jonathan Bafoe, who lobbed the ball over keeper before scoring in an empty net. Green Mamba's Phinda Dlamini almost found his side's equaliser two minutes later but was denied by the woodwork. A few more chances fell for both sides but none were able to score. The match went to break with Leopard leading 1-0. The second half saw Green Mamba make two early substitutions as they looked for fresh impotence. The changes paid dividends as the Correctional Services side eventually got the equaliser in the 51st minute through Mbutfo Dlamini. This was after the player made a cutting run into the box from the right flank to smash in a low shot at the keepers near post.

This opened up the game more with Black Swallows looking to regain the lead. Mbuso Dladla had a great chance to regain to do exactly that but his effort was saved by keeper. Inyoka Eluhlaza grew more confident as the game wore on getting more chances but were unable to capitalise on them. Izinkonjane played more defensive in the last 20 minutes shutting up shop to secure the crucial point at home in their relegation battle.

Teams:

Black Swallows - Isaac, Wandile, Lihle, Amos, Siyabonga, Sibusiso, Mfanufikile, Mbuso, Jonathan, Wethu, Sdumo

Green Mamba - Thokozone, Timanga, Banele, Kwenzokuhle, Phinda, Mbutfo, Mcolisi, Mpendulo, Thabo, Siyabonga, Banele

LEOPARD THRASH BULL

BY MELUSI MLOTSI

Mbabane Highlanders..... (0)0
Royal Leopard..... (0)3

SOCCER - ROYAL Leopard thrashed Mbabane Highlanders 3-0 in an MTN Premier League match played at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

This was a heavy defeat for the capital city giants ahead of the Ingwenyama Cup final scheduled for this weekend.

The victory saw Royal Leopard leading the chasing pack with nine points.

The police side was the better team for almost the entire first half. They were compact in the midfield and did not give Highlanders some space to breathing.

They nearly scored in the second minute but Sifiso Matse dilly-dallied inside the box until he was dispossessed.

Sikhumbuzo Magagula's shot at the edge of the box also missed the target by few inches a moment later.

The black and white outfit got a rare chance in the 18th minute when Sabelo 'Sawa' Gamedze outpaced Royal Leopard's defence before shooting wide.

'Ingwemabalabala' continued to pile more pressure but goals were not coming.

Mbabane Highlanders goalkeeper Khanyakwezwe Shabalala was called to action in the 35th minute

when he parried a Bongani Ndzimandze shot for a fruitless corner. The match went for break with both sides locked in a stalemate. Royal Leopard coach Edwin Matsebula introduced Bonginkhosi 'Manyovu' Dlamini for Sifiso Matse in the second half as they continued to enjoy more ball possession.

Highlanders' Siboniso Lukhele hit the post with Mlamuli Makhanya well beaten between the Leopards poles. Coach Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati rested Banele Ndzabandzaba for Lindani 'Rio' Matsenjwa.

Leopard eventually found the back of the net in the 74th minute through Junior Magagula, who beat Khanyakwezwe with a hard shot from 35 yards.

Leopard continued to launch incisive attacks against the unimpressive Mbabane Highlanders. Junior Magagula, who had a good game hit the post in the 82nd minute.

South Africa-born striker Thabiso Mokenkoane doubled the lead for Leopard in the 85th minute, while Sikhumbuzo Magagula hammered the last nail in Mbabane Highlanders' coffin in injury time as the match ended 3-0 in favour of the police side.

Teams:

Mbabane Highlanders - Khanyakwezwe, Ndumiso, Vukile, Simphiwe, Jimoh, Menzi, Phumlane, Banele, Siboniso, Mlamuli, Sabelo

Royal Leopard - Mlamuli, Muzi, Sikhumbuzo, Machawe, Mlamuli, Sifiso, Thabiso, Junior, Lungelo, Bongani, Sifiso

Bongwa, Junior happy with man of the match award

BY COLISILE SACOLO

SOCCER - FORMER Madlenya winger Bongwa Matsebula said he was happy to score his first goal for his new team Young Buffaloes.

The player said this after the army side beat Manzini Wanderers 3-1 during an MTN Premier League match played at Somhlolo National Stadium, where he was named man of the match.

The 22-year-old, who scored a brace, joined the team in the January transfer window.

Matsebula said he was very happy to score his first goal and

was looking forward to score more. "I am very happy with my performance as I was also named man of the match. I just have to keep working hard as I want to score more goals to help the team."

He said it was his first time to start a match as he had been used as a substitute in the previous games. "I want to thank the management and the technical bench for giving me a chance. I also want to thank my teammates because without them I would not have been named man of the match." Meanwhile, Royal Leopard midfielder Junior Magagula, who was also man of

the match in the first match where they beat Wanderers 3-0, said he was happy with his performance. He said this was a tough match as they had to fight for the entire 90 minutes.

"I would like to thank my coach for guiding us. I am happy we were able to stick to the game plan." He said the man of the match award would give him courage to continue working hard. "I want to also thank my teammates for always pushing me to do better. They are always there to support and encourage me." He said this was a good result for them and they would continue working hard.



HAPPY: MTN's Afi Dlamini presents the Man of the Match awards to Bongwa Matsebula of Young Buffaloes and Royal Leopard's Junior Magagula.

RESULTS

CARABAO CUP FINAL

Aston Villa 1-2 Manchester City

PREMIER LEAGUE

Everton 1-1 Manchester United
Tottenham Hotspur 2-3 Wolverhampton

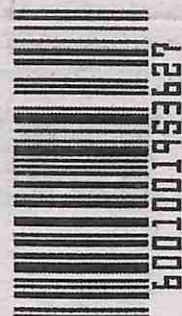
ABSA PREMIERSHIP

Polokwane City 2-1 Black Leopards
Bloemfontein Celtic 2-1 Baroka FC

Eswatini Observer Sports

Your Dedicated Sports Feed

Monday March 2, 2020



BULL, WESLIANS FALL

BY MPHIKELELI MSIBI
Sports Editor

SOCCER - IT was always going to be tough playing against the security forces teams.

Crowd-pullers Mbabane Highlanders and Manzini Wanderers lost their games against police side Royal Leopard and army ensemble Young Buffaloes respectively during the MTN Premier League Y'ello Sunday games played at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

The first match was between Highlanders and Royal Leopard, where the 'Black Bull' were thrashed 3-0.

These games were watched by a sizeable crowd, with mostly Highlanders and

...as security forces teams rule in Y'ello Sunday

Wanderers fans, who were joined by Prince Masitsela and Prince Hlangabeza, among others. The first match of the double header saw Mbabane Highlanders take on Royal Leopard, where the 'Black Bull' were out-classed, especially in the second half, where the police side scored all their three goals.

The match started on a high note with Leopard dictating terms as Highlanders were only chasing shadows. The police side was unlucky not to score in the first half as they completely dominated play. The match went to break with the teams locked at 0-0.

Ingwemabalabala scored their first goal in the 74th minute through Junior Magagula, who beat Khanyakwezwe Shabalala with a powerful curler. The other goals were scored by South Africa-born striker Thabiso

Mokenkoane an Sikhumbuzo Magagula to give Leopard an easy 3-0 win. The second match saw Young Buffaloes brush aside Manzini Wanderers 3-1. This was also an easy match for the army side, who came with a proper plan.

This is one match where Wanderers looked clueless for prolonged stages of the first half.

It would seem the players are still getting used to know each other, which made it difficult for the team to click, hence they were punished by Buffaloes. The army side needed a brace from Bongwa Matsebula and a Ndoda Matsetfwa strike to add to the misery of the 'Weslians, who look like a team that has got so much ground to cover, judging from their play. Wanderers' lone goal was scored by captain marvelous Lwazi 'Shana' Maziya, who marshalled the back-line on the day.

It would seem the coaches are also letting down the players, as they field almost a new team every week. Buffaloes were able to stick to the plan, hence they did not struggle to beat the hub giants 3-1.

RESULTS:

Mweni Pirates	0-3	Mbabane Swallows
Milling Hotspurs	0-2	Tambuti
Malanti Chiefs	1-0	Mhlume P
Denver Sundowns	2-2	Manzini Sea Birds
Black Swallows	1-1	Green Mamba
Mbabane Highlanders	0-3	Royal Leopard
Manzini Wanderers	1-3	Young Buffaloes

MTN PREMIER LEAGUE LOG

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1. Young Buffaloes	18	14	3	1	46	10	36	45
2. Mbabane Swallows	17	10	6	1	28	7	21	36
3. Royal Leopard	18	10	5	3	25	11	14	35
4. Mweni Pirates	18	9	4	5	25	17	8	31
5. Green Mamba	18	8	4	6	26	14	12	28
6. Denver Sundowns	18	6	7	5	19	20	-1	25
7. Mbabane Highlanders	18	4	11	3	12	13	-1	23
8. Tambuti	18	4	9	5	22	29	-7	21
9. Milling Hotspurs	18	4	7	7	13	22	-9	19
10. Sea Birds	17	4	5	8	18	25	-7	17
11. Manzini Wanderers	18	4	5	9	19	32	-13	17
12. Malanti Chiefs	17	5	0	12	13	27	-14	15
13. Mhlume Peacemakers	17	3	4	10	14	25	-11	13
14. Black Swallows	18	3	2	13	17	40	-23	11

Action packed...
idiski lemnandzi!

PREDICT THE UNDER 20 CHAMPIONS &

**WIN A SHARE
OF E40,000**

Eswatini Bank and Eswatini Observer employees as well as contestants under the age of 18 are not eligible to enter competition. Only original entries will be accepted.

Drop entry form at any Eswatini Observer office or any Eswatini Bank branch.

ANSWER: _____

NAME: _____ CELL: _____

Terms & Conditions apply

1ST PRIZEE15,000

2ND PRIZEE9,000

3RD PRIZEE7,000

Consolation: E600 each for 15 winners

Deadline: 24 April 2020

