

ESWATINI Observer

observer.org.sz

Revived, Reliable and Read

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 13, 2020

PRICE: E6.00 (VAT INCLUSIVE)

FSRA
Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Swaziland

DID YOU KNOW?

There is no shortcut to making money, use authorised financial services providers.

Further info? Call us on 2406 8000

'SIGCOKO' UNHAPPY WITH PARLY PROBE

Page 2



MAN HACKS STEPSON WITH AXE

Page 2



NDLANDLA COUPLE'S LOVE STORY THE BEST

Page 27

Patients suffer in long queues at Govt Hospital...

NURSES DOWN TOOLS

STORY ON PAGE 3



- Complain of lack of security, say their lives in danger
- Ministry aware of problem, attending to it

AFFORDABLE CAR HIRE & VAN RENTAL

You don't have to own one to drive one. We have one for you

Valentine's Special
Contact us for more details

E-MAIL: affordable@posix.co.sz

Mbabane
DOR Development
Sweet Plaza
Tel: +268 2404 9136/7 | +268 2404 2528
A/H: +268 2404 1345
Fax: +268 2404 9137

Manzini
Shop #109, 1st Floor
Riverstone Mall
Tel: +268 2503 3618
Fax: 2503 3677
A/H: 2404 1345

OK
Owners you can count on!
ESWATINI

PRICES VALID
06 FEB -
18 FEB 2020

Visit www.okfoods.co.za
for a list of participating stores.

Available at Kwaluseni, Logoba, Mhlaleni, Manzini, Mbabane, Ngwane Park, Ezulwini & Mathangeni

59⁹⁹ Eagles Nest Large eggs 60's	39⁹⁹ First Brown Sugar 3Kg	21⁹⁹ Lucky Star Pilchards 400g	74⁹⁹ Numel Full Cream Milk 6x1L	59⁹⁹ Sibheva Maize Meal 10Kg	16⁹⁹ Flowergold Sunflower Oil 750ml
42⁹⁹ Sun Sun Rice 5Kg	52⁹⁹ Tinkhuku Mixed Portions	32⁹⁹ Sunny Sugar Beans 2Kg	8⁹⁹ Squeeza Soft drink 2L	119⁹⁹ ALL 4 FOR FRUIT & VEG COMBO Potatoes 7Kg Onions 7Kg Carrots 5Kg Beetroot 5Kg	

'I WAS AWAY'

...Jomo's suspect killer says he was not in Eswatini when murder occurred

STORIES BY SIFISO NHLABATSI
High Court

THE man accused of having a hand in the murder of businessman Jomo Khumalo says he was not in Eswatini on the day of the murder and has disassociated himself with the alleged hit-men.

Maxwell Nkambule says he was in the Republic of South Africa on a business trip when the murder occurred and has nothing to do with the alleged hit-men as claimed by the investigating officers. Nkambule has since filed an urgent application for bail at the High Court before Judge Sipho Nkosi.

Represented by Manzini based lawyer Osborne Nzima, Nkambule in his affidavit filed yesterday denied ever committing the alleged offence and submitted that there is no evidence to support the allegation.

He submitted that there is no evidence that he acted in a common purpose with the alleged perpetrators of the offence.

"It is common cause and has not been denied that all the time the shooting and



BACK IN CUSTODY: Businessman Jomo Khumalo's murder suspect Maxwell Nkambule leaving the High Court after his bail application was postponed.

murder of the deceased happened, I was in South Africa on personal business and I was called by Mazibuko of Interstate Association who had been instructed by the chairman to call and inform all members of the association of the mur-

der of the deceased," he submitted.

Nkambule further denied that he stayed with the alleged hit-man at his home for a week or at all and to further prove this, he averred that on the day of commissioning of the offence, his passport will indicate that he was in South Africa.

He submitted further that the crown has failed to bring prima facie evidence that he committed the crimes alleged together with the so called co-accused persons and denied that he directed any VW Polo registered OSD 577 AL to South Africa where the alleged hit-man was fetched from.

Nkambule averred that he will never at any point kill the alleged hit-man as claimed, since he does not even know him. He submitted that all what the crown was doing was clutching at straws as there was no evidence or whatsoever to these allegations.

The ammunition found at his home, according to Nkambule, was for a licenced gun that was taken by the police.

He stated that he was once attacked twice at his home with his Iveco bus burnt by the thugs but the police did nothing.

He desires to access his traditional medicine at home

FURTHER motivating his bail application, Nkambule submitted that he now desires to have access to his traditional medicine back home since he is a sickly person.

He stated that his sickness has been exacerbated by the living conditions in the holding cells as he is meant to sleep on the floor which severely affects his

joints. He averred that he suffers from a heart attack and hypertension and relies on traditional medicine as doctors have even failed to assist him at His Majesty's Correctional facility.

"It is my humble submission that in terms of the laws of the country, I am entitled to be admitted to bail in the circumstances, once out on bail I will be

able to treat myself and be fit so as to stand trial. I am now desirous to be admitted to bail as I want to get my traditional medicine at home which I left in the refrigerator as police refused me access to it," he submitted.

The bail application is pending before Judge Nkosi and has been postponed to February 19.

MAN HACKS STEPSON WITH AXE OVER GADGET

BY VUYILE DLAMINI
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

A fight between a man and his 14-year-old stepson turned violent after the man assaulted the minor with an axe several times on the head.

The man has since been granted bail set at E3 500 after his appearance before acting Magistrate Simo Simelane yesterday. He explained that the minor, who cannot be mentioned for ethical reasons, was in possession of a gadget he had obtained, belonging to him.

"We started fighting and wrestling for the gadget and unfortunately he got hurt in the process. I am just looking to get a

lesser bail amount, on account of him being my dependant as I am currently paying his school fees. I also have other children who need me around," the man stated in his bail application.

According to court records, the accused was charged with contravening the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Act, after he allegedly assaulted the minor with a small axe on the head, several times. The prosecution led by Sakhile Khoza applied for the accused to be remanded back into custody until February 21, pending the victim's recovery.

"The victim has been admitted at the Mbabane Government Hospital and is critical. The accused is said to have used an axe in the commission of the offence,

and we would like to closely monitor the victim's recovery," Khoza applied. Before granting the accused his bail application, acting Magistrate Simelane reminded him that the circumstances surrounding his matter were serious. "Police officers should be wary of the fact that although this man assaulted his stepson with an axe, they should look at the weapon used and his intention in charging him.

This being an SODV Act case looks into only the relationship between the victim and perpetrator, and does not consider that this would have easily been an attempted murder or even assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm charge," the judicial officer commented.

WOMAN ARRESTED FOR ALLEGEDLY THREATENING BOYFRIEND

BY BONGIWEDLAMINI
Manzini

A 24-year-old woman is behind bars facing two charges relating to the SODV Act she allegedly committed against her boyfriend.

Thobile Mkhonta of Croydon area under Chief Malamlela was taken to task by the father of her child whom she allegedly assaulted and further threatened to stab.

The incident happened on January 25 at Phemba area where the boyfriend resides. The matter is pending before Magistrate Nelisiwe Hlophe.

The two charges, according to Thobile's charge sheet, are for contravening the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence (SODV) Act No. 15 of 2018 in that on the aforementioned date, she wrongfully and intentionally damage kitchen utensils and cleaning equipment, property that was in the lawful possession of the father of their child Mbongiseni Nsibandze.

On the same date, the 24-year-old contravened the same Act in that she allegedly threaten to stab her lover with a knife.

When leading evidence in court, Nsibandze said he was from work when he found Thobile sitting outside his house. Since the door had been locked,

Nsibandze said he greeted Thobile before proceeding to open the door and the woman followed him inside.

Upon getting into the house, Thobile reportedly grabbed a chair and sat by the door. Puzzled, since they had not agreed that Thobile would visit him on that day, the male survivor of the alleged abuse said he asked her business at his place of abode and her response was that he should not ask her that question. Nsibandze said he pleaded with Thobile to leave but she responded by using degrading names to call him.

Furious, Nsibandze said he went for the door and when he was opening it, Thobile allegedly grabbed a knife that

was on the table and pointed it at him.

While at it, Thobile allegedly threatened to use the knife to stab him. As if that was not enough, Thobile is reported to have further attempted to assault her lover. Luckily for Nsibandze, he managed to seize the weapon from Thobile and threw it away.

"In an effort to save myself from her, I ran out of the house and locked her in whilst shouting for help," said Nsibandze.

One neighbour and Nsibandze's step-mother responded to his call for help. The trio peed at Thobile through the window and to their surprise, they allegedly saw her smash some plates and other kitchen utensils on the floor. In the midst

of all the drama, Thobile's phones rang and in her conversation with the person on the other end of the line she was heard telling them that she would report Nsibandze to the police.

Nsibandze said he called the police through their toll free number and they referred the matter to Mliba Police Station who in turn instructed him to free Thobile since they had no vehicle to report to the scene at the time. Nonetheless, Nsibandze proceeded to open a case against his lover.

Further, Nsibandze told the court that Thobile was allegedly abusive towards him as in previous incidents she had used a spade, slasher and a knife to threaten him.

The matter was postponed to February 19 for continuation of the trial.

BRING BACK OUR CHILDREN - CHINA BASED STUDENTS' PARENTS

STORIES BY DELISA THWALA
Mbabane

PARENTS of Eswatini students studying in the People's Republic of China want their children back home safely after being exposed to the deadly coronavirus.

The parents indicated in separate interviews that they were scared for their children as anything could happen to them while outside the country since the disease is fast spreading.

Lutsandvo Vilane's mother, Precious said as a family they had been trying their best to get their child back home.

"My daughter has been calling us non-stop ever since the news broke. We are confused whether to risk everything and bring her back home or not. We are currently not sure what to do," said Vilane.

Communication

She further divulged that they had been keeping tabs on their daughter and her friends in China through constant communication and video calls just to monitor the situation.

Another parent who wanted to remain anonymous said she had two children in China and was not at ease with the situation at hand, especially because no formal com-

munication had been made by government.

"We are really not at ease; mind you no formal communication has been made to us by the government or embassy. We have two children studying in China as a family. You can imagine how we are feeling right now, more-so when we heard that they were quarantined," he said.

"We are panicking having to wait and see things out or wait for another death report which gets us worried. We trust the China government is doing all they can to ensure safety of everyone that side but as parents naturally we are worried sick," said Nomandla Mavuso.

My daughter has been calling us non-stop ever since the news broke. We are confused whether to risk everything and bring her back home or not. We are currently not sure what to do

We are not in contact with them - Minister

MINISTER of Health Lizzy Nkosi said they were not in contact with any of the students.

Nkosi said as far as she knew, they had not heard much from the students who are in China. She said they would be in contact with civil servants only.

"The ministry of health would be in touch only with civil servants sent as part of in-service training. We do not have any such employees in China. Pre-service students sponsored by government would be in touch with the ministry of labour. The ministry of health has not been asked to intervene in any case yet," said Nkosi. China government was doing all it could to keep everyone safe and nothing was amiss as yet.

"There may be parents who may be bringing their children back because of the outbreak. We would

encourage them to follow every step of advice they get on preventing infection, reporting for screening as soon as their children get home.

Wait

"We are aware that they would have been screened at so many points in the course of their journey back home, but it still remains important that they are screened again here at home and watched for another 14 days," emphasised the minister.

She said they needed to work together to prevent infection, detect early and manage as soon as possible as coronavirus was deadly and could spread quickly.

Yesterday, this newspaper reported that Emaswati students in China have been quarantined and told not to attend classes or work.



PATIENTS SUFFER AS NURSES DOWN TOOLS

...complain of lack of security at govt. hospital, say their lives in danger

BY SIFISO NHLABATSI
Mbabane

NURSES at Mbabane Government Hospital downed tools yesterday over lack of security.

For the past few months, nurses have been complaining that they no longer feel safe at the hospital because there were no security guards manning the place.

The nurses alleged that sometimes they deal with violent patients who even go to the extent of attacking them.

They said without security at the premises, they no longer feel safe. The nurses alleged that they raised the issue with the administration but their plea for security personnel fell on deaf ears.

After downing tools, the nurses demanded an audience with the administration. This is not the only issue that the nurses complained about as they stated that they are understaffed. They were also having problems regarding transport as there are not enough ambulances.

Swaziland Democratic Nurses Association President Bheki Mamba said as a union, they were fully aware of what their members are going through.

He said the security issue was a cause for concern and nurses were right to complain. He said nurses working under



AWARE: Director of Health Services Dr Vusi Magagula.

such an environment were in extreme danger.

Mamba said sometimes there were dangerous patients admitted in hospitals and sometimes individuals after the patients may end up attacking the nurses.

What he has gathered was that this predicament has been caused by government's failure to pay the security companies that were manning the place.

Mamba added that there were a number of health facilities that have been left without security.

He said government needs to address the situation as soon as possible.

The nurses have vowed that until the issue of their safety is addressed, they will not be resuming work anytime soon.

An effort to get comment from the Mbabane Government Hospital administrator proved futile as her phone rang unanswered.

Director of Health Services Dr Vusi Magagula said the ministry was aware of the issue. He said from last week they were dealing with it.

Dr. Magagula said it is just that there was a process that has to be followed which was why it is taking sometime as there were certain departments that the matter has to be reported to.

TB patients forced to leave hospital without assistance

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE
Mbabane

A number of patients left Mbabane Government Hospital without receiving full medical assistance this week. The most affected patients were those who came for tuberculosis (TB) screening.

One of the patients who were queuing Nolvazi Malinga said she visited the hospital on Tuesday. Malinga said she queued from 9am until 3pm. When she enquired about the absence of medical staff, they were told that there were no doctors.

She stated that they queued until 4pm when one doctor attended them.

Malinga said at the time the doctor attended them there were over 80 patients

queuing for medical attention. She said some opted to go because they were from far. Even then, the doctor told them he could only attend them for an hour, as he would knock off at 5pm.

"He said he will not be able to attend to all of us," she said.

Malinga said since she had to travel to Motshane, she was unable to access all the services she was expected to get. She was forced to return to the hospital yesterday to complete her treatment process.

Upon her arrival at the TB screening unit, there was a number of people who were queuing.

At the time our news crew arrived at the hospital, it was around 2pm. Some of the people who were found queuing said they were there from 8am.

Even then only a few were attended

and the doctors and medical staff upon asking around were at a meeting.

Meanwhile, Director of Health Services Dr Vusi Magagula said he was not aware of the issue.

In fact he said as far as he knew all medical practitioners who were supposed to be on duty were working.

Magagula said he was yet to investigate the issue of the queues and absence of medical staff with the hospital administration.

ETVA CEO 'SIGCOKO' UNHAPPY WITH PARLY PROBE

BY SIFISO DLAMINI
Mbabane

ESWATINI TV Authority Chief Executive Officer Bongani 'Sigcokosiyancinca' Dlamini has voiced his displeasure with the manner in which the probe by the House of Assembly Select Committee was conducted.

This concern was raised by the CEO yesterday during the select committee's visit to the station to investigate allegations of corruption, nepotism and maladministration at ETVA and Eswatini Broadcasting and Information Services (EBIS).

The select committee chaired by Gege MP Musa Kunene conducted a tour of the entities to familiarise themselves with the organisations as well as the day-to-day operations.

The CEO had no issue with the probe but raised concerns regarding the manner in which it was instituted.

His main concern was that there was no formal communication from either the ministry or Parliament regarding the tour as well as the probe.

"I only received an SMS on Monday afternoon and that did not allow me enough time to contact the other board members as it was evident that we are not all present here today," said Dlamini.

He also added that he was reluctant to allow the tour by the committee members as there was no formal communication.

Dlamini said he was also concerned by the frequency of investigations and audits into the station and said it was irritating.

"Ever since I came into office, we have been investigated every year and as a human being, one is bound to get irritated. We should not be intimidated as some of us are no longer easily intimidated," he said.

He emphasised that he had an issue with the manner in which the matter was being handled as it did not give him confidence as he felt he was not protected.

Dlamini also added that he had his own issues to address during the probe, one of them being investigated by a Parliament that also needed to be probed.

Ndzingeni Member of Parliament Lutfo Dlamini emphasised that as a committee, they were an extension of Parliament and were mandated to carry out the exercise.

He further reminded the CEO that his statements towards the committee were of a contemptuous nature as they have been assembled under the Parliament terms of reference.

He further added that the CEO would be granted an opportunity to express his concerns under oath during the probe.

Ministry of ICT Acting Under Secretary Ntombifuthi Sukati, who was representing the PS Maxwell Masuku, insisted that as a parastatal under them, ETVA should permit the committee to undertake the tour as they were sent by Parliament.

She further urged the CEO to present his grievances in Parliament under oath.

MP Kunene clarified that the probe was not a witch-hunt and they were not investigating certain individuals as no one had been charged with anything and all involved would be granted enough time to express their grievances.

The investigation followed a motion moved by Motshane MP Robert Magongo and was passed by the House in October 2019.

Consequently, the committee shall table the findings and recommendations of the report to Parliament. The probe will be conducted by the committee together with the ministry of information communication and technology as the organisations are parastatals of the ministry.

The select committee shall have access to such officers and employee's current and former and such information, documents pertaining to ETVA and EBIS and shall as it considers being necessary or advisable in order to perform its duties and responsibilities.

The committee is to investigate and ascertain the veracity of the allegations as well as investigate the persons involved in these alleged acts.

The select committee will also investigate the depth of the problem and any other matter inadvertently to the founding motion.

Kunene said their mission was to conduct a familiarisation tour of the organisations.

He advised all who wanted to make submissions to contact the committee through their Clerk Linda Dlamini on 7626 8337.

He added that the deadline for submissions was Monday at 1700 hours.



5 MPs elected to thank King on Speech from the Throne

STORIES BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI
Lobamba

MEMBERS of Parliament (MPs) yesterday selected five of their colleagues to pass their vote of thanks to His Majesty King Mswati III for the Speech from the Throne which they said was incredible.

This follows that two weeks ago, His Majesty delivered the Speech from the Throne during the state opening of the Second Session of the 11th Parliament.

Acting Prime Minister Themba Masuku yesterday moved that a humble address be presented to the King thanking him for the speech he delivered. Masuku hailed His Majesty for his speech which he summarised as the being at a higher level than the previous ones.

"Let us thank the Speech from the Throne which, among other things, highlighted the importance of Parliament in a country.

The King directed us to formulate legislation that will protect the nation and those that would help us achieve first world status as per vision 2022.

This year's speech was not only heard by Emaswati but also internationally as we were graced by the presence of the Commonwealth secretary general and ambassadors from vari-

MPs concerned with electricity tariffs hike without input

MEANWHILE, MPs are burning to debate the electricity tariffs hike which was been passed without their input.

This transpired during the first sitting of the House of Assembly when Princess Phumelele was seconding the Acting Prime Minister Themba Masuku on his motion to thank the King for his Speech from the Throne.

"It is saddening that the electricity tariffs hike was approved without us who are the people's representative making an input or debating the matter," she said.

Other legislators, including Lobamba Lomdzala

ous countries," he said.

The acting PM also recalled that the King emphasised on the need for dialogue, peace and unity as the cornerstone of the nation.

Respect

Masuku added that the speech also reminded Emaswati of respect which should be instilled at a tender age through good parenting.

"His Majesty also called for us as parliamen-

MP Marwick Khumalo, stated that the princess' concern was valid and should be brought to the House on another day.

The Members of Parliament asked the princess to present the matter on another day as they were willing to debate it as they were equally concerned. Yesterday's Order Paper only had the King's speech which the House wanted hailed.

The princess also expressed concern on the abuse of social media, saying some users were being disrespectful to the authorities and portraying the country in a bad light.

tarians to do an introspection and take stock of what we are doing. We should focus on ending HIV by 2022, support the elderly and welfare programmes. Lastly, he said we should keep moving.

This means there will be challenges along the journey and at times we may not see eye-to-eye but we must press forward," he added.

Members of Parliament seconded the acting



Acting Prime Minister Themba Masuku.

This year's speech was not only heard by Emaswati but also internationally as we were graced by the presence of the Commonwealth secretary general and ambassadors from various countries

PM and the motion was adopted, leading to the election of the five MPs who will pass the vote of thanks on behalf of the House of Assembly.

The selected MPs are Kwaluseni Member of Parliament Sibusiso 'Mabhanisi' Dlamini, Shiselweni region MP Nokuthula Dlamini, Hhohho region MP Nokunceda Bujela, Ntfontini MP Sompisi Magagula and Mahlangatsha MP Musa Ngcobo.



ON A MISSION: Some members of the probe team MPs Lutfo Dlamini and Musa Kunene who were also present.

ICT PS undermining Parliament – MP Lutfo

STORIES BY SIFISO DLAMINI
Lobamba

MINISTRY of ICT Principal Secretary Maxwell Masuku has been accused of undermining Parliament.

This was revealed yesterday by Ndzingeni MP Lutfo Dlamini after the PS failed to avail himself for the House of Assembly select committee tour of EBIS and ETVA in preparation for a probe.

This follows allegations of corruption, nepo-

tism and maladministration within the organisations.

Dlamini stated that the committee asked the PS to be present during the tour but instead he did not show up and failed to provide a valid explanation.

"We requested him to be here but he is not and this is the first sign of undermining Parliament," he said.

He said this resembled a bad start to the whole exercise and insisted that it should be clear that during the probe, the officers would be expected to appear before the committee without fail. "This should not happen again as it is under-

mining the purpose of the exercise," said Dlamini.

He stated that no one was guilty until proven so and officials and employees who wanted to make their submissions during the probe should be allowed to do so and not victimised as everyone would be given a chance to clear their names.

He further asked EBIS Director Martin Dlamini and ETVA CEO Bongani 'S'gcokosiyancina' Dlamini to afford all employees the opportunity to make their presentations to the committee.

He said the ministry of ICT's budget would be under the microscope as a result of the serious allegations regarding maladministration in some of the ministry's parastatals.



ON TOUR: Chairman of the Parliament select committee MP Musa Kunene being briefed by EBIS Director Martin Dlamini during a brief tour to the station and Eswatini TV yesterday. Looking on is MP Robert Magongo, who is also part of the probe team. (R) MY POINT: Dlamini stresses a point during a brief meeting with the probe team. (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)



ETVA board encouraged to commercialise station

ESWATINI Television Authority (ETVA) has been encouraged to commercialise operations to reduce dependency on government subvention.

Members of the House of Assembly select committee encouraged the ETVA board to form a strategic plan to formulate means of generating more income.

This was revealed during the committee's tour of EBIS and ETVA.

During the tour, Ndzingeni MP Lutfo Dlamini enquired how much revenue was generated by

the organisation in relation to the E43 million government subvention.

To this effect, ETVA CEO Bongani 'S'gcokosiyancina' Dlamini indicated that the organisation generated about E21 million annually.

Potential

The MP noted that the organisation had the potential to double their annual revenue if they intensified their revenue generation means.

"This would be crucial for the organisation to thrive moving forward as government subven-

tion will not increase but could instead be reduced," he said.

Studio

Gege MP Musa Kunene advised the organisation together with the ministry of ICT to consider including the construction of another recording and production studio as it was not ideal for the only national TV station to have one studio.

The ETVA CEO welcomed the suggestions and indicated that that as a board, they would take them into consideration and further vowed to improve their revenue generation methods.

K.K FRAGRANCES
Dubai, Al-Nuaim and Rasasi Perfume Oils

VALENTINE'S SPECIALS
Unmistakable, free gift bag with every purchase

PRICES
E120.00
E250.00
E400.00
E600.00
E650.00
E700.00
E800.00
E1000.00

A wide range available in stock.

For expert advice and sales
call Khosi 7617 0304/ 7917 0304

First National Bank of Eswatini Limited

Unclaimed Monies as at 31 December 2019



In compliance with Section 129 of the Administrations of Estates Act, we publish the below statement of all monies which have remained unclaimed by account holders for a period of five (5) years and above.

The following account holders are requested to proceed to their respective branches to claim their funds. Funds remaining unclaimed after the expiry of three (3) months from the date of the Gazette published 24 January 2020 shall be deposited in the Guardian's Fund to be administered by the Master of the High Court in terms of the Act.

Customer Name	Address	Amount (E)	Customer Name	Address	Amount (E)
Mr Lindelwe P Kunene	P O Box 2586 Manzini	500.22	Mr Njabulo S Ndwardwe	P O Box 326 Piggs Peak	1 287.61
Phaphamani Piggery Association	P O Box 2388 Manzini	500.43	Ms Hyacinthia P Msibi	P O Box 1525 Swaziland Mbabane	1 320.28
Mrs Tyeba A Khan	C/O Pro Khan P.Bag 4 Kwaluseni	505.33	Manzini Assn of the Deaf	P O Box 430 Matsapha	1 389.49
Mr Shadrack M Simelane	P O Box 23 Big Bend	509.86	Mr Phika Dlamini	P O Box 2202 Manzini	1 430.20
Mr Nhlanhla C Dlamini	P O Box 981 Mbabane	525.11	Mr Samuel S Tsabedze	P O Box 1050 Manzini	1 449.77
Mr Vulie B Hlophe	P O Box 1722 Manzini	537.65	Sibaya Saka Logoba	P O Box 30 Manzini	1 450.02
Ms Lomadirozi B Dlamini-Mncina	P O Box 30 Ntfontjeni	547.36	SWD Mental Health Society	P O Box 2134 Manzini	1 454.83
Mrs Eleanor N Matsebula	P O Box 1733 Matsapha	565.59	Mr Peter K Mbeke	Lugaganeni Thandiswa Farm Manzini	1 533.13
Miss Zanele G Ngomane	P O Box 376 Piggs Peak	570.59	Miss Nomthandazo S Khumalo	P O Box 533 Ezulwini	1 539.74
MB Metropolitan Evangelical Church	P O Box 1843 Mbabane	572.72	Felicia NK Investments (Pty) Ltd	P O Box 3107 Mbabane	1 548.41
Miss Mandisa B Mthimkhulu	P O Box 1299 Manzini	583.47	Mr Sibonginkhosi A Shabangu	P O Box 258 Piggs Peak	1 744.29
Mr Mpendulo P Dlamini	P O Box 147 Kwaluseni	586.52	Mr Brian K Cullen	P O Box 2918 Mbabane	1 784.64
Gamula Sewing Association	P O Box 33 Matata	588.58	Est Late Njabulo S Makhanya	Ubombo Sugar Pty Ltd P O Box 23	1 907.92
Miss Hlobile E Socolo	P O Box 906 Manzini	590.26		Big Bend	
Mr Congress V Mkhweni	P O Box 58 Hlatikhulu	593.00	Isando Construction (Pty) Ltd	P O Box A739 Swazi Plaza	1 911.64
Mr Fegurao E Joao	P O Box 86 Nhlalagano	595.16	Mr Eric S Dlamini	P O Box 396 Nhlalagano	1 985.72
Est Late Mandla P Mnisi	P O Box 9 Mhlosheni	598.82	Mrs Beauty P Dlamini	P O Box 1482 Mbabane	1 991.06
Miss Hapiness K Magongo	P O Box 115 Nsoko	612.47	Mrs Sibekwaphi F Kundhlande	P O Box 1997 Manzini	2 023.54
Sibambisene Bethlehem Staff	P O Box 35 Mankayane	619.48	Nhlase Investments (Pty) Ltd	P O Box 388 Malkerns	2 054.35
Mr Sikhumbuzo V Kunene	KaKunene Next To KaboBonkhe	620.10	Mr Samson F Shongwe	P O Box 5162 Mbabane	2 212.42
	Shop Msunduzi Mbabane		Mr Izak H Labuschagne	P O Box 101161 Small Craft Harbour	2 230.88
Mr Sabelo P Mathunjwa	P O Box 268 Siteki	630.02		Richards Bay	
Mr Joseph Dlamini	P O Box 4 Mhlosheni	630.74	Mr Eric M Hlandze	P O Box 1587 Manzini	2 353.99
Mr Fikeveni L Dlamini	P O Box 1 Kwaluseni	634.65	Mr Theminkosi Dlamini	Private Bag Siteki	2 413.11
Mr Simon V Ntshangase	P O Box 33 Matata	635.60	Mr Mandla A Khumalo	P O Box 1642 Manzini	2 562.39
Mr Jason H Wade	P O Box 461 Mbabane	661.31	Miss Tandzile S Bhembe	P O Box 19 Mayiweane	2 671.76
Miss Hlengiwe P Simelane	P O Box 3919 Manzini	675.75	Mr Saeed A Dasu	Mlindazwe Nxt To Pre School Manzini	2 731.50
Miss Khanyisile E Shoba	P O Box 642 Manzini	680.92	Miss Nozipho Bhembe	P O Box 19 Mayiweane	2 740.94
Mr Ian R Carmichael	Hse 22 27 Executive Houses SNPF	684.32	PCDM (Pty) Ltd	Lot 918 Mahleka Street Golf Course	2 827.42
	Ext 6 Manzini			Road Mbabane	
Mr Mcoshwa S Dlamini	Private Bag Manzini	691.08	Mr Sabelo M Msibi	P O Box 1066 Manzini	2 950.68
Miss Buhle N Bhembe	Mayaluka Village H 3 P O Box 176	692.09	Miss Lindiwe Bhembe	P O Box 19 Mayiweane	3 015.18
	Big Bend		Mr Abednego M Kubheka	P O Box 50 Mahlanya	3 296.53
Mr Melusi S Dlamini	P O Box 5 Luve	694.48	Est Late Gracious T Mndzebele	P O Box 39 Mankayane	3 497.37
Miss Theresa T Hulett	Moneni Inyatsi Street House No 575	707.72	Mr Siboniso L Vilakati	P O Box 39 Mankayane	3 709.29
	Manzini		Mr Abraham M Mavimbela	P O Box 626 Ezulwini	3 737.81
Mr Bandile V Shabangu	P O Box 258 Piggs Peak	715.27	Mr Musa A Simelane	Box 139 Hluti	3 777.47
Siyeni Farmers Association	P O Box 2561 Manzini	721.25	Mr Enock M Mkhonta	P O Box 345 Bhunya	3 808.88
Mr Phiwokwakhe L Mndzebele	P O Box 585 Piggs Peak	732.22	Usutu Forests Fly Fishing Club	P O Box 1643 Mbabane	3 828.09
Mrs Lindiwe Shongwe	P O Box 132 Simunye	750.92	Mrs Lindiwe J Hadebe	P O Box 98 Mbabane	3 919.93
Mr Joseph M Maseko	P O Box 95 Mliba Manzini	755.40	Mr Khulekani Dlamini	P O Box 123 Next Luntsantsama	4 151.98
Miss Jade N Mordant	P O Box 98 Nhlalagano	763.37		River Kwaluseni	
Mr Boy S Vilakati	P O Box 1253 Matsapha	782.55	Mr Mafihlo Sibandze	P O Box 65 Malkerns	4 236.15
Mr Michael C Okwara	P O Box 2935 Mbabane	797.82	Mrs Reginald N Kubheka	P O Box 242 Malkerns Manzini	4 303.42
Mr Abraham M Dlamini	P O Box 11 Bambanani Zone 4B Matata	824.42	Mr Mkhuleko R Mavuso	P O Box 308 Manzini	4 550.88
Mr Kamel T Kansa	P O Box 45 Hluti	826.68	Miss Tholakele P Mtsetfwa	P O Box 21 Lobamba	4 664.05
Mr Bethwell M Sereu	Fonteyn Mbabane	845.23	Mrs Beaty T Mbukwari	P O Box 64 Siteki	4 732.19
Mr Lucky B Mngometulu	P O Box 121 Bigbend	855.95	Damini Multi Purpose Association	P O Box 12 Manzini	4 904.62
Mr Paulos B Nzima	P O Box 133 Nhlalagano	862.97	The Dinkies Play Group(Pty)Ltd	P O Box 364 Ezulwini Mbabane	5 038.04
Mr Moses L Shabangu	P O Box 53 Piggs Peak	895.19	Mr Nicholas M Mdluli	P O Box 73 Tshaneni	5 942.84
Sandlane Farmers Cooperative Soc. Ltd	P O Box 134 Bhunya	917.76	Mr Sibusiso L Simelane	P O Box 672 Matsapha	6 049.75
Mr Simanga Magudulela	P O Box 253 Hlatikhulu	919.26	Network Ofusers of Scientific Equipment	P.Bag 4 Kwaluseni	6 514.10
Mr Skhumbuzo D Dlamini	P O Box 107 Nhlalagano	933.10	Est Late Absalom A Kunene	P O Box 78 Mahamba	6 820.82
Mr Mohammad Bokhari	P O Box 4158 Manzini	954.72	Miss Goodness W Dlamini	Flat No 3 Lot 564 Ngwane	7 396.19
Mr John G Sussman	P O Box 593 Manzini	961.35	Mr Albert J Nkonyane	Box 217 Bhunya	7 728.78
Mr Mpumelelo S Ndwardwe	P O Box 1462 Matsapha	966.87	Mrs Genevieve R Henwood	Farm 469 Maloma Lubombo	9 047.26
Mr Mfanzile P Bhembe	Mangcongco Ka Mhambi S Bhembe	998.15	Mr Bongani S Dlamini	P O Box 395 Manzini	9 445.59
	P O Box 2169 Manzini		Planning & Design Consultants (Pty) Ltd	P O Box A790 Swazi Plaza Mbabane	10 289.40
Mr Moses G Hlandze	P O Box 7 Siphofaneni	1 001.66	Est Late Willie Holmes	P O Box 228 Manzini	12 036.72
Mr Diffuse S Mnisi	P O Box 9 Piggs Peak	1 018.63	Mkhiweni Multi Purpose Cooperative	P O Box 72 Kwaluseni	13 069.33
Mrs Phumzile P Dlamini	P O Box 154 Piggs Peak Mbabane	1 026.41	Mrs Nomaroma Manyatsi	P O Box 1329 Nhlalagano	13 101.90
Miss Sebakhona N Dlamini	P O Box 4237 Manzini	1 031.90	Consolidated Power Projects Co.Ltd	P Bag X42 Halfway House	14 519.51
Mr Alpheus S Msibi	P O Box 15 Kwaluseni	1 049.96	Matsapha Supermarket (2)	P O Box 387 Matsapha	16 399.27
Mr Amon N Nhlabatsi	P O Box 22 Malkerns	1 117.32	Mr Albert B Mhlanga	P O Box 1132 Mbabane	28 309.00
Mr Khulungwane A Dlamini	Box 19 Ezulwini	1 164.30	Jabulani Plant Hire Limited	P O Box 29 Schgen Nelspruit South	36 891.29
Embangweni Community Project	P O Box 1921 Mbabane	1 180.91	A M C Classic (Pty) Ltd Swd	P O Box 24200 Lansdowne Cape Town	47 701.51
Masingcwabisane Fruits & Veg Mnz	P O Box 190 Sidokodvo	1 198.15	Manzini Shellhole	P O Box 395 Malkerns	55 636.40
Mr Meshack M Vilakati	P O Box 965 Mbabane	1 199.54	4 X 4 Club of Swaziland	P O Box 27 Swaziland Eveni	93 812.84

FNB

How can we help you?

'MoET should be allocated 20% of national budget'

STORIES BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE
Mbabane

EDUCATION stakeholders are hoping that the ministry of education and training will be allocated 20 per cent of the national budget.

Following that Minister of Finance Neil Rijkenberg will be presenting the national budget tomorrow, the Swaziland National Association of Teachers (SNAT) and Eswatini National Campaign for Education for All (ENCEFA) hope that the education sector would see its budget improved, which will strictly be for improving education and exclude personnel costs.

"The ministry of education and training should at least be allocated 20 per cent of the national budget and that should exclude personnel costs. By personnel costs meaning salaries and other related costs," SNAT Secretary General Sikelela Dlamini stated.

He added that the budget should only focus on other areas that are of dire need in the education sector. These include computers for schools, textbooks, exercise books, staff development workshops for educators, chalk, building of classrooms, funding of programmes such as CBE and

2020 budget should include three-year CoLA

SWAZILAND National Association of Teachers (SNAT) SG Sikelela Dlamini said a fair share of the budget should include the three-year cost of living adjustment (CoLA).

Dlamini said the ministry of public service should be allocated enough money to pay the CoLA. "We are expecting money to be allocated to the payment of the three years' CoLA which currently

stands at 19.9 per cent," he said.

Some money should also be directed to the payment of allowances for civil servants, Dlamini said. On April 12, 2019 public servants associations (PSAs) tabled a demand with regards to five allowances. Therefore, Dlamini said government must cater for that so that those allowances are reviewed to keep pace with the inflation rate.

pre-vocational, supply of food to schools and more.

On the other hand, ENCEFA National Coordinator Nelisiwe Nhlabatsi said she expected an increase in funding for public education.

They expected the share of the national budget allocated to education to be in compliance with the internationally recommended benchmark of at least 20 per cent of public expendi-

ture and six per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

She added that the budget needed to prioritise allocation and use of resources in ways that focus on increasing equity, inclusion and the most marginalised populations including girls, children with special education needs and orphaned and vulnerable children.

"Overall, we expect the budget to



SPEAKS: SNAT Secretary General Sikelela Dlamini.

prioritise; provision of quality education, welfare of the educator, inclusive education, improving access to public ECCDE and improving access to secondary education for the girl child," she said.

Nhlabatsi said a sufficient share of the budget should be directed to improving the quality of education.

"Budgeting for money and then it's not used to what it has been budgeted for makes the whole budgeting exercise to be useless and not trusted," she said.

IN THE MAINTENANCE COURT OF ZIMBABWE

CASE NO. M 3908/19 FOR THE PROVINCE OF MASHONALAND

HELD AT HARARE
In the matter between

BATANAYI PRINSLOO MUZAH APPLICANT
And
YVONNE MAVENGERE RESPONDENT

APPLICATION FOR UPWARD VARIATION OF MAINTENANCE

REQUIRE AND DIRECT YVONNE MAVENGERE hereinafter referred to as the Respondent to take notice that **BATANAYI PRINSLOO MUZAH**, hereinafter referred to as the Applicant, care of his legal practitioners of record, and has instituted an Application for upward variation of maintenance against the Respondent for their minor child as set out in the main Application.

NOW THEREFORE the said Honourable court having taken the prayer of the Applicant into consideration and granted the same, accordingly by these presents now summons you, the said Respondent either in person or by proxy to enter a notice of opposition with the Clerk of the Maintenance Court at Harare and serve such notice of opposition on the Applicant within 14 days hereof to answer the claim of said Applicant, **BATANAYI PRINSLOO MUZAH** in an action wherein he claims upward variation of maintenance as set out in the main Application, from the date of this notification.

DATED AT HARARE THIS 13th DAY OF JANUARY 2020

MAKURURU AND PARTNERS
Applicants Legal Practitioners
4th Floor Nicos Diamond Building
30 Samora Machel Ave
HARARE (SMM/tm)

TO: THE CLERK OF MAINTENANCE COURT
Magistrate's Court
HARARE

TO: YVONNE MAVENGERE
Lot 192 Somhlolo Road
H103 Mbabane,
ESWATINI

DOC21287

Employment Opportunity Chief Financial Officer

A job opportunity has arisen for an experienced Finance/Accounting professional to join one of the largest manufacturers supplying products for the agricultural, building and construction industry. The Institution offers a wide scope of career opportunities and exposure to the best practices. We recognise that talented and enthusiastic people are the basis of the entity's ongoing success.

Job Purpose

As CFO, the job incumbent will be a part of the Executive Committee and responsible for the development, management and maintenance of sound financial management systems for the entity, as well as the provision of accurate and timeous financial information that supports decision making. The person will also be responsible for overseeing the Human Resources division.

Key Performance areas

- Participate in the development and implementation of the organisational strategic plan
- Develop, implement and evaluate the finance strategy
- Develop, implement and ensure compliance with internal financial and accounting policies and procedures, as well as ensure compliance with statutory reporting regulations
- Prepare annual budgets as well as relevant Board and Management reports
- Ensure the existence of sufficient audit trail for external and internal audit engagements
- Develop a reliable cash flow projection process and reporting mechanism
- Overall management of budgets, targets and reports
- Ensure the provision of accurate financial information to enable financially informed decision making
- Work with the Human Resource Manager to ensure the optimal performance of the HR function
- Optimize overall company performance with regards to efficiency in the designated unit - Finance and HR Administration

Qualification & Experience

- Bachelor's degree in Accounting or Finance from a recognized academic institution
- Eight (8) years Accounting or Auditing experience, with three (3) years at a Managerial level
- Post Graduate qualification in Business and/or a Chartered Accountant
- Experience working in the Manufacturing industry and exposure to Human Resources Systems will also be an added advantage.

Skills & Competencies

- Leader of change with good people management skills
- Good analytic and numerical skills
- Strategic agility, good planning and organising skills

A detailed CV and certified copies of academic certificates should accompany applications which clearly state the position applied for.

Applications should be received on **21 February 2020** and should be addressed to:

The Recruitment Manager
KPMG Advisory Swaziland (Pty) Ltd
Umkhiva House, Lot 195
Kal Grant Street, Mbabane
Email: recruitment@kpmg.co.sz



Late applications shall not be accepted. All applications will be acknowledged. Should you not receive further correspondence within one month of the closing date, please consider your application to be unsuccessful

DOC:21311

Quantum driver runs over passenger

BY SANDILE NKAMBULE
High Court

A public transport driver desperately wants out of jail after being arrested for running over a passenger.

This was after engaging in a fight with him.

He has been charged with attempted murder. Mncedisi Simanga Msimangu was driving a Toyota Quantum with passengers on board when the incident happened at the Manzini Nazarene traffic lights.

The driver yesterday filed an urgent application for bail at the High Court following his arrest and subsequent charge for the attempted murder of Vusi Mdluli.

Appearing before Judge Mumcy Dlamini, the public transport driver was granted bail as per his prayer fixed at E15 000 with E3 000 in cash and E12 000 in the form of surety.

Represented by lawyer Sipho Simelane of SC Simelane in Association with N. E Ginindza law firm based in Manzini, Msimangu in his founding affidavit submitted that he did not intentionally run over the passenger.

Giving an account of what happened before court, he submitted that he was a driver of the vehicle serving the Matsapha,



Manzini route on December 1, 2019 when a passenger who appeared intoxicated boarded the vehicle.

He alleged that the passenger appeared to be too drunk such that he disturbed peace amongst other passengers and he (driver) tried to reason with him but to avail.

He informed the court that when the vehicle reached the Ndlunganye bus station, the passenger who happens to be the complainant in the matter, allegedly became violent towards him as he refused to pay E5 as required.

Seeing he did not want to pay, the applicant submitted that he drove off and only stopped at Ka-Khoza station and that is when he alleges the drunk passenger started picking a fight with him.

He averred that realising that the situation became hostile, he drove off and along the way the same drunk passenger tried to grab the wheel while he was

driving nearly causing an accident and when he reached the traffic lights at Nazarene, he tried to signal other kombi drivers of his predicament but no one seems to have seen him.

He told the court that it was at that point that the alleged drunk passenger came out of the kombi and drew out a bushknife from his trousers with the intent to hack him.

He drove off at high speed without noticing that he was already in front of the kombi. "Acting out of panic, I tried to drive away from the scene not realising that he was in front of the kombi, thus running him over in the process."

I then drove straight to the police station to report only to find he was severely injured when we came back," he submitted.

He further submitted that it was not his intention to run the complainant over but was acting in panic and in fear of the unknown.

Suspended SANU students victorious, back in class

BY BONGIWE DLAMINI
Manzini

LOSING their positions as SRC members is nothing compared to the relief that they have finally been allowed back into class.

This is the situation that the seven Southern Africa Nazarene University (SANU) students found themselves in as members of the Student Representative Council. The students were on Monday allowed back into class after about three months of idling at home.

The directive was communicated to the students by the university's Senate through letters dated February 6, 2020.

The students were suspended in October 2019 and were each charged with three counts of misconduct after they were suspected to have led students in a protest action that led to an indefinite closure of the institution.

The three counts that the students faced included that of alleged misconduct in that on October 31, 2019, the SRC members called an illegal meeting without a written consent from the dean of student affairs.

On the second count, the seven students were also charged for misconduct in that on November 1 and 4, they conducted an unlawful activity on the institution's premises without following procedures as prescribed in Regulation C6 (6.3) of the university

calendar.

The other charge was that of damaging the university's property during the students' protest action.

On December 17, 2019, a verdict that favoured the students was issued but when the rest of the student body registered for the second academic semester in January, the seven students were denied the right to do so.

Findings

In the letter that notified the seven to return to class, it was also stated that although the Senate had agreed with the tribunal chairperson's findings that cleared the students of their charges, it was not entirely convinced that the students held an illegal meeting based on that there was a October

31 correspondence that was signed by the SRC's representatives.

This correspondence is said to have been used as evidence, but the chairperson failed to consider it as evidence material.

The Senate further argued that the evidence led by two witnesses on behalf of the students was a mere denial of attendance and not proof that there was no meeting.

Even so, the letter stated that despite this contention, the Senate opted to abide by the chairperson's ruling of finding the students not guilty.

Nonetheless, the university's Senate informed the students that with their record of

misconduct, they were no longer eligible to be members of the SRC.

"The Senate contends that the said action renders you as a student not in good standing, and therefore, no longer eligible to be a member of the Student Representative Council for the period of 2019/2020," read the letter to the students.

Worth noting is that this communiqué did not state anything regarding arrangements to be made for the seven students to write some tests and last semester's examination since they missed all these while on suspension.

Also, the wait continues for SRC President Tholumuzi Simelane, his Secretary General Colani Maseko and another student Sibusiso Nkwanyana as their verdicts are yet to be issued by the Senate.

SODV sting: Man gets 18 years for raping teenager

BY WONDERBOY DLAMINI
Siteki

A man of KaMkheweli has been sentenced to 18 years in a correctional facility without an option of a fine after he was found guilty of raping a teenager.

Musa Simelane (38) appeared before the magistrate's court, where he faced a charge of contravening the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence (SODV) Act of 2018.

He committed the sexual act upon a 17-year-old girl without her consent. The charge was also accompanied by aggravating factors in that the complainant was inflicted with a life-time trauma following the incident.

When the matter commenced trial, the accused person pleaded guilty to the charge while conducting his own defence.

He, however, argued that the complainant was his lover whom he had dated for a few months.

This prompted the Crown to call in witnesses to prove commission of the offence.

The complainant told the court that when of the incident happened, she had ended her relationship with the accused person.

Guilty

She said the accused person was, however, persistent, refusing to accept that she had broken up with him. The accused person was found guilty. He was handed an 18-year custodial sentence. Meanwhile, in

another matter, Mfanafuthi Maziya also faced a similar charge of contravening the SODV Act.

He is alleged to have committed a sexual act upon a 16-year-old girl, who is regarded as a minor by law and incapable of consenting to the act. When asked how he would plead, the accused person stated that he would plead not guilty when the matter commences trial.

The matter was then postponed to a later date pending setting of a date of trial.

Man guilty of 12 road traffic offences, fined E18 000

BY BONGIWE DLAMINI
Manzini

THE police's Lukhozi Unit had to be roped in to assist in the apprehension of a road traffic offender who caused two accident and fled the scenes

Justice Mfanasibili Simelane (36) of Mbuleni was arrested by the Lukhozi Unit at his workplace in Matsapha.

He appeared before Magistrate Thamsanqa Ndlovu at the Matsapha Circuit Court yesterday facing 12 counts of contravening the Road Traffic Act which he committed on Sunday near Salt and Pepper as well as near the Chinese Mission in Matsapha.

On the first count, Simelane was charged for negligently driving a Toyota sedan with registration number PSD 750 AH which bumped onto another vehicle.

The incident happened near Salt and Pepper in Matsapha on Sunday. According to the charge sheet, Simelane failed to maintain a proper following distance, failed to timeously apply brakes to avoid an accident which a reasonable driver could have avoided.

After committing the offence, Simelane failed to stop his motor vehicle to ascertain the damages he caused.

By failing to stop, he committed an additional offence of not leaving his

Sentence	
Count 1	6 months imprisonment/ E600 fine
Count 2	6 months imprisonment/ E2000 fine
Count 3	6 months imprisonment/ E1 500 fine
Count 4	6 months imprisonment/ E2 000 fine
Count 5	6 months imprisonment/ E2 000 fine
Count 6	4 months imprisonment/ E500 fine
Count 7	5 months imprisonment/ E 500 fine
Count 8	6 months imprisonment/ E2 000 fine
Count 9	6 months imprisonment/ E1 500 fine
Count 10	6 months imprisonment/ E2 000 fine
Count 11	6 months imprisonment/ E2 000 fine
Count 12	6 months imprisonment/ E2 000 fine
Counts 1 to 6 were to run concurrently same as counts 7 to 12.	



particulars to the driver of the other vehicle. Additionally, Simelane failed to report the accident to the police within 24 hours after it had happened.

Further, Simelane was discovered to have driven the aforementioned car while he was duly unlicensed to drive any class of vehicle.

Count seven stated that after he fled the accident scene near Salt and Pepper, Simelane was involved in yet another accident near the Chinese Mission along the MR103 Public Road.

He is said to have negligently overtook another vehicle and his car ended side-swiping a Honda Fit that was driven by Geina Gama (30) of Nkamanzi.

As a result, Gama's car is said to have collided with an oncoming vehicle that was driven by Bhekithemba Vilakati (46) of Ntondozi area.

Like in the previous accident, Simelane failed to stop his vehicle after the accident to ascertain the nature and extent of the damage caused. He also failed to leave his particulars to the other motorists and did not report the accident within 24 hours.

Simelane pleaded guilty to all the 12 charges levelled against him. In mitigation, he told the court that he did not intend to cause the accidents and flee the scenes.

He said he ran away because he had taken a few beers. He apologised for his actions that exposed other motorists to danger. Magistrate Ndlovu sentenced Simelane to 69 months imprisonment with an option of a E18 600 fine. However, Simelane was pardoned for 57 months of the sentence, meaning he would only spend a year behind bars with an option of E4 000 fine.



Invitation Quotation for Conference package in Manzini region Taiwan Technical Mission

Taiwan Technical Mission would like to invite the following tenders

- Conference A (March-10 to March-12)**
 - Conference room for 3 days for 52 participants (March 10-12) including morning tea(3days), lunch(3days) and afternoon tea(2days), conference necessities (PA system, jar water, sweets, note pad, pen, flip charts, markers and free wi-fi etc.)
 - Accommodation for 7 single rooms, 23 share rooms (two beds) with free wi-fi and breakfast. **(Note: check in on March 9th, check out on March 12th, No dinner included)**
- Conference A (March 23-26)**
 - Conference room for 32 participants (23-26 to March, 2020) including morning tea (4 days), lunch (4 days) and afternoon tea (1 day), conference necessities (PA system, jar water, sweets, note pad, pen, flip charts, markers and free wi-fi etc.)
 - Accommodation 6 single rooms, 13 share rooms (two beds), with free wi-fi and breakfast. **(Note: check in on 22 March, check out on 26 March, No dinner included)**

Please note:

- The quotation should cover all above-mentioned conference and accommodation available, and provide in one quotation.
- Quotation should be delivered through email via ncelelicious@gmail.com to Ms. Nonhlanhla Nozipho Mavuso before 05:00 pm, 14th February, 2020.
- For more information please contact 7999 8556, Ms. Nonhlanhla Nozipho Mavuso.

MAN ESCAPES MURDER CHARGE FOR KILLING BROTHER

BY SANDILE NKAMBULE
High Court

CHARGED with the murder of his brother, a 40-year-old man was yesterday all smiles when the High Court pronounced in its judgment that he is guilty of a lesser crime of culpable homicide instead of murder.

Phinda Tsabedze was visibly a happy man when Judge Cyril Maphanga handed down judgment in his murder case. The judge held the view that he (Tsabedze) did not have the presence of mind to subjectively foresee his brother's death under his hand, deadly and dastardly as his act might have been.

He was arrested and charged with the murder of his brother Siphosiso Tsabedze in October 2011, while at Ndlalambi and has been in custody since then.

The court observed that the accused person (Tsabedze) was clearly driven by passion during their fight over a piece of land, and that from the facts before court, they seemed to have acted spontaneously, irrationally, impulsively and even negligently.

"For these reasons his actions seem to fit the test of culpa in that on the

• Court finds him guilty of lesser charge of culpable homicide

objective reasonable man's test, he ought to have foreseen the consequences of his conduct which a reasonable person in his position would reasonably have done.

"It is my judgment that dolus eventualis has not been established beyond reasonable doubt. I, therefore, find the accused person not guilty of murder but of culpable homicide," Judge Maphanga pronounced.

He noted that the facts before court, bear on the aspect merit that from the previous evening of October 15, 2011, events unfolded that led to the tragic circumstances surrounding the deceased's death, with the accused having ploughed over a disputed piece of land the previous day.

Evidence led was that it was the deceased who went to the fields the following morning as the accused was busy sowing, with the deceased forcefully move the fencing which brought a tense situation to a head, leading to the fatal confrontation.

The deceased died as a result of a major traumatic injury to the head when he was struck by the accused with a metallic end of a garden hoe.

Material facts

The material facts pertaining to the



MY LORD: Judge Cyril Maphanga.

matter, according to the judgment, are simple and largely common cause in that on the morning of October 16, 2011, a long simmering dispute between the accused and deceased led to the altercation and violent confrontation between them.

The accused person struck his brother with the hoe with one single blow as confirmed by pathologist Dr Komma Reddy in his report.

Evidence adduced before court was that the deceased's wife largely set out in her testimony that on the fateful day, she was at home, and that the root of the events that unfolded that morning was that the accused person

had encroached over a piece of land next to the family cattle byre.

This then led to the deceased reacting by proposing to erect barbed wire fence to protect the land and isolate the cattle byre.

However, the accused person became agitated and got angered at seeing the deceased carrying out the fencing as he had already planted maize seeds on the piece of land.

According to the deceased's wife, that is when the confrontation that led to the death of the deceased ensued as the accused lashed out the fatal blow with the metallic end of the garden hoe. The deceased was rushed to hospital. The accused then called the police informing them that he was the one who had injured the deceased. When the police enquired on where to find him, he gave them directions.

The police then drove to the where he had directed them and indeed they found him waiting at the bus station where the investigating officer introduced himself and later arrested him for the murder of his brother.

The accused person was represented by Mbabane-based lawyer Xolani Mthethwa of Bhembé Attorneys in the matter while the state was represented by Prosecuting Counsel Sizwe Matsebula.

MAN ARRESTED FOR VIOLATING PEACE ORDER

BY VUYILE DLAMINI
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

A man was given a second chance at maintaining peace in his marriage after he stated that he had misunderstood a peace binding order issued by the court.

Dumsani Hlophe stated that he may have misunderstood the order issued by Mbabane Magistrate Temantimandze Shongwe to keep peace between him and his wife Zandile Dlamini.

"After the order was issued, Dlamini packed her bags and moved out of our home. When

I tried to confront her, she ran to the police station and reported that I had threatened her.

"I was under the impression that we were to continue living together in our home, not for her to move out," Hlophe stated.

Issues

Hlophe said in addition to that, one of the orders issued by the court stated that the couple should resolve their issues under the watchful eye of their elders.

"The court ordered us to involve our elders who would advise us on our marital issues. This did not happen as my wife did

not honour invitations to meet with them. I am now lost as to how this whole matter is supposed to be resolved," he added.

According to court records, Hlophe is said to have violated a peace binding order issued by a Mbabane magistrate by failing to maintain peace with Dlamini (wife) in that he threatened to kill her.

The records stated that Hlophe approached Dlamini at her rented flat at Nkwadini on Sunday, thus violating the order.

Acting Magistrate Simo Simelane warned Hlophe against violating court orders, clarifying that he could have maintained peace with his wife without resorting to violent words.

Family

"Under the order issued by the court, you could have continued living with your wife without using corrosive words. Giving you a monetary fine would be detrimental to your family as you must be able to continue to contribute towards your children's maintenance."

"You are, therefore, reminded of your responsibility to the law, which is to abide by orders issued by the court," the judicial officer said.

Hlophe was then cautioned and discharged. The court warned him to abide by the peace binding order issued by the court, which, he was reminded, still stood.

HAPPY VALLEY HOTEL
EZULWINI

VALENTINE'S Promotion

Valentine's Day Candlelit Dinner
Celebrate your love stories on Valentine's Day by enjoying a candle lit dinner for **E330 per person** with live entertainment.
(Includes welcome drink and a treat for women)

Accommodation
Book a garden room from **only E799** (Bed & breakfast) and a pool facing room from **only E1099** (Bed & breakfast)
Limited rooms available

reservations@happyvalleyhotel.com or call 2416 1199
Ts & Cs apply

LABORATORY EQUIPMENT

MARITHAS INVESTMENTS

Circuit Board
Conical Flask
Electromagnet
Magnets
Six's Thermometer
Thermometer
Tripod Stand
Wind vane
Anemometer
Bunsen Burner

SCHOOL LABORATORY EQUIPMENT AND STATIONERY SUPPLIERS
CELL: +268 7607 7297 / +268 7865 4141
Manzini Opp. VOC Tenbergen street shop #4
Nhlangano Mail Shop #3 opp. Building Society

Use internet responsibly, protect children - ESCCOM

STORIES BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE
Mbabane

ESWATINI Communications Commission (ESCCOM) has urged Emaswati to use the internet responsibly and ensure safety at all times.

ESCCOM General Manager Strategy and Economic Regulation Lindiwe Dlamini pleaded with members of the public to be careful as they use the internet and know the dangers of using it.

She was speaking on Tuesday as the world was celebrating Internet Safe Day. She said the country dedicated the day to the protection of children as this year's theme to consider safety of children as parents use the internet.

Dlamini said the theme called for parents and guardians to scrutinise the way they post their children when using the



internet in a way that will not expose them to danger or invite unnecessary attention to children, which could have

negative effects in a later stage of their lives. She noted that in most instances, parents and guardians shared pictures of their children with friends and relatives. She said sometimes parents even shared some behaviour and events of embarrassing moments of their children's lives. These sometimes bring stigma to the children when they are grown. Dlamini pleaded with parents to be extra careful in this regard.

This is because pictures can be used in a way that may abuse the child emotionally, expose them to cyber bullying or even trafficking. She said carelessly shared pictures may result to long term abuse and scars that may last for the entire life of the child even in their adult life. "Therefore the child can commit suicide after the resurfacing of old pictures that were used irresponsibly," she said.

Cyberbullies to face wrath of law

DLAMINI further spoke about taking pictures and videos of people in clubs, parties as well as other entertainment spots and share them irresponsibly.

She said these could end up in wrong hands or be seen by wrong people, thus having negative effects that may even affect a person's personal and professional life.

"These videos and pictures can derail one's employment opportunities," she said.

Dlamini said the commission was piloting a Cyber Security Bill with a clause that protects the use of material in the internet for purposes that may lead to danger and abuse or reusing it to cause damage.

The GM said she believed that this year Parliament would pass the bill into an Act so that Emaswati are safer as they use the internet.

The proposed legislation will see cyberbullies face the wrath of the law.

She added that in the coming days, the commission would be educating the public on safety as they use the internet so that by the time the bill is passed, they would be aware of it.

In a previous interview, Head of the human anti-trafficking and people smuggling unit Nompumelelo

Lukhele issued a stern warning about posting children's pictures on social media.

Lukhele during schools opening, said most parents posted every move on social media, including the time they drop off their children at school as well as when they are fetching them.

She said such could expose children to human trafficking.

In November last year, the country joined the world and dedicated the month to cybersecurity awareness.

The ministry of information and communication technology signed an agreement with Israel, which allows the two countries to work together in a cybersecurity programme that will curb all crimes committed online.

Minister of ICT Princess Sikhanyiso, speaking during the signing ceremony between the two governments, said it was one of her meaningful days since assuming office.

The ceremony was held at the ministry of foreign affairs boardroom in Mbabane. Above all, she was motivated by the country's youthful workforce that is equipped to run unique systems for development in ICT industry. The programme will capacitate government to deal with cyber crime.

»»» *Buy Any.*

BEDROOM SUITE
AND GET

20% OFF

ANY BASE SET*
OF YOUR CHOICE



OFFER VALID FROM 13 - 16 FEBRUARY 2020

*T's and C's apply

View our full range online @ www.bradlows.co.za

© Bradlows Group Ltd. and Bradlows Ltd. Registration No. 18/12/2014. Bradlows E & O.E.

B. BRADLOWS

We are not in control of issuing pupils' PINs – EPA

BY SIFISO DLAMINI
Mbabane

ESWATINI Principals Association (EPA) argues that they are not solely to blame for the delayed release of free primary education (FPE) grants.

With the schools calendar in its fourth week, a majority of primary schools have received their FPE grants while others are yet to due to minor irregularities regarding pupil's PINs.

Last month, the ministry of education and training expressed concerns regarding pupils' PINs following investigations that revealed that some of the PINs submitted were for individuals who were allegedly too old to be in primary schools. Following this discovery, the ministry requested principals to address the matter and provide them with accurate information.

EPA President Welcome Mhlanga acknowledged the ministry's proactive approach towards the release of the FPE grants and schools food rations this year.

He, however, confirmed that not all the schools had received the grants as some experienced a few hick ups as a result of inaccurate information of the pupils PINs.

"A majority of the schools have received their grants unlike in previous years where the grants were released late, affecting school operations.

However, some schools have been facing individual challenges which have delayed the release of the grants," said Mhlanga.

Mhlanga stated that as principals they were not in control of the issuing of PINs and only relied on information provided by the parents.

"The parents are responsible for obtaining the correct information from the ministry of home affairs and providing it to the principals," he said.



Eswatini Principals Association President Welcome Mhlanga.

He acknowledged that the inaccuracy of information was a result of mistakes from principals but emphasised that most of the issues did not emanate from them.

He added that they would engage the ministry of education on the way forward to come up with a final solution to the issue.

With regards to the early release of the food rations, Mhlanga thanked the ministry of education and training for keeping their promise through early release of the rations. He added that the rations were available before schools opened. He stated that a majority of schools have received the rations and those that had not, still had rations from last year.

"Some principals are still to collect the rations but thankfully they were available immediately schools opened," he said.

The parents are responsible for obtaining the correct information from the ministry of home affairs and providing it to the principals

Govt assets to be sold next financial year

STORIES BY SIFISO DLAMINI
Mbabane

AS a form of revenue mobilisation, Eswatini government will commence the sale of its assets next financial year.

During the current financial year's budget speech, Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg said there was expectation of continued growth in the domestic revenue base.

He said this would be due to higher collections in VAT, corporate tax and personal income tax which would ease some of the burden on government.

"Although we wish to move away from dependency on SACU receipts, higher SACU revenues in 2019/20 will allow us precious time and momentum to enact wider fiscal reforms," said the minister.

He added that on top of all of that, there was a need to seek the passage of new revenue measures that would increase the country's domestic revenue collection by E900 million, including an estimate of E400 million linked to the sale of government assets.

With regards to how far the process had gone, he said the holder of these shares was Eswatini National Industrial



Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg.

Development Corporation (ENIDC) and the preparatory process for the sale of the assets was ongoing.

"This might only happen in the next financial year," he said.

He said since the money had not yet been recovered, the eventual plan was to continue divesting from the private sector and were still working on the objective of selling the stock of government houses in the urban areas as well as the government shares.

He stated that with government's com-

mitment to fully enable and support a private sector-led recovery, they invite business leaders, both local and international to engage with a fresh, free market focused Eswatini.

"I appeal to all our stakeholders to appreciate the current financial strain and join us in actively engaging to address these challenges," he said.

The minister added that among the assets to be sold were government houses as well as shares which government had in various companies. Last year, the ministry of public service was tasked with identifying all government houses which would be followed by an evaluation of the property market value before their sale.

Minister of Public Service Christian Ntshangase also highlighted that the assets of E400 million did not necessarily mean the sale of government houses.

He said the ministry had concluded the exercise of establishing what government houses are there as well as establishing their occupants.

"Unfortunately, the scope of work did not include the evaluation of these properties," he said.

He added that the report had been submitted to Parliament containing all the information required.

Minister agrees with CANGO increased budget

MINISTER of Finance Neal Rijkenberg agrees with the sentiments made by the Coordinating Assembly of Non-Governmental Organisations (CANGO) with regards to increasing the budget for key priority areas.

With the budget speech scheduled for Friday; CANGO has proposed seven key priority areas government should focus on the budget this year.

These are: education, health, agriculture, leadership, anti-corruption, job creation and financial prudence.

The assembly also calls for public par-

ticipation in the development of the national budget.

Minister Rijkenberg said he was in agreement with the necessity to increase the budget for the key areas as they were essential to economic recovery.

"I agree with them," said the minister.

Speech

The budget speech is one of the significant national events following the Speech from the Throne.

The minister of finance will present in Parliament the Executive's plans to

collect and allocate scarce resources towards national development and socio-economic service delivery to the nation.

CANGO is also looking forward to Rijkenberg presenting a human-rights based budget with relevance to pro-poor budgeting, addressing gender disparities and children-centred.

Civil society wants government to demonstrate accountability; ensure integrity to effectively deliver quality services whereby health, education, agriculture and the youth are among high priorities.

SANU students in silent protest at ministry of labour

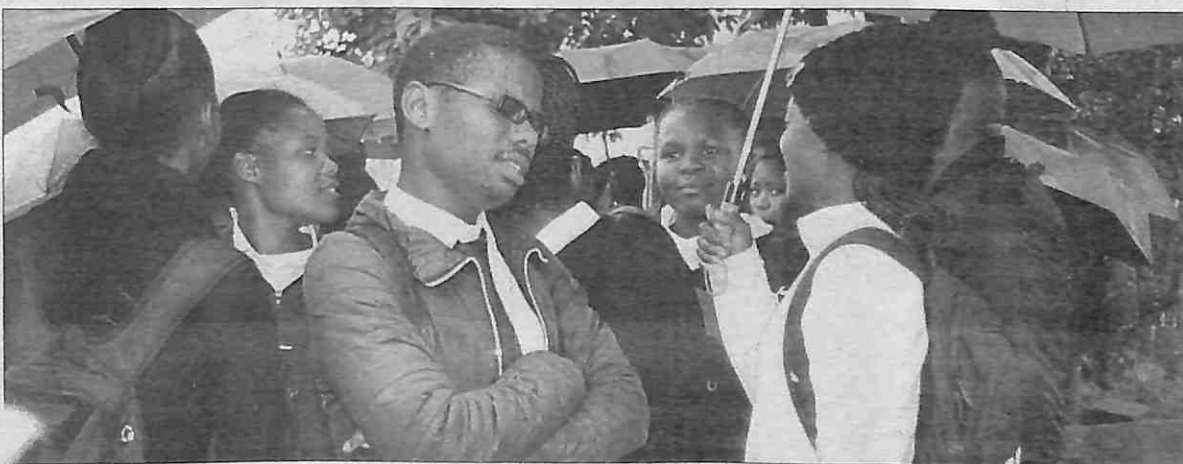
BY KHETSIWE KHUMALO
Mbabane

SOUTHERN Africa Nazarene University (SANU) students held a silent protest over unpaid monthly allowances at the ministry of labour and social security on Tuesday.

The students staged their protest in the most appropriate manner as they were seen standing at the entrance gate of the ministry's offices.

They did not cause harm, or destruction of property.

It emerged the students opted for the silent protest because they were scared to face the same scenario as their leaders. The student leaders are currently suspended after they led a violent protest at the university demanding allowances last



Students of the Southern Africa Nazarene University (SANU) in protest for the release of allowances at the ministry of labour, yesterday afternoon.

year. The students remain suspended until the completion of the disciplinary hearing which was initiated against them in November.

According to one of the students, who wished not to be named, they

were there to highlight the issue of outstanding allowances that government has still not paid.

They said they were facing challenges of owed rent monies and outstanding loans due to government's failure to

release their monthly allowances for food and books in the month of November and December. They vented their anger with the acting Principal Secretary (PS) Norman Gamedze.

The acting PS said they were able to

have a discussion with the student's concerning last year's outstanding allowances. Gamedze also revealed that they were able to reach common ground due the nature of their approach.

"It appears we still have students that have not received their outstanding allowances. This may be caused by the confusion of students with several bank accounts or missing information that was needed by the banks," said Gamedze.

Gamedze said they agreed that those students who had not received their allowances would send the information and their allowances would be released in due time. He also stated that there were only a few of the students who faced such difficulties, which made it easier to handle.

"We cannot put a time frame for when this will be done because it is not our responsibility. If the control was in our hands though, the students would receive their money soon," said Gamedze.

372 electricity faults reported in a day

BY KHETSIWE KHUMALO
Mbabane

ESWATINI Electricity Company (EEC) Head of Marketing and Communications Khaya Mavuso disclosed that they had 372 faults reported in one day.

He said despite working tirelessly to fix power lines damaged by storms last week, they had newly-reported cases

mostly affecting Mbabane and Hluti. "We are still working to fix the reported cases that were affected by the storm. The newly-reported cases are 171 in Mbabane and 152 in Hluti.

Challenge

The major challenge in Hluti is that the roads are not easily accessible owing to the rains received," said Mavuso.

Furthermore, he said since the day of the storm where they recorded 4 000 power outages, they had been on the

ground working toward restoring power in all the affected areas.

The storm that hit the country damaged transformers, conductors and burnt fuses, among others.

"From about 4 000 reported cases last Thursday, the numbers rose to 5 000 on Friday, and half of these were faults within the Mbabane and Ezulwini corridor.

Manzini and Matsapha were also affected and we managed to reduce the num-



bers to half by Saturday.

"We are currently standing at about 680 faults countrywide," said Mavuso.

Mavuso encouraged customers to continue reporting to their 24-

hour call centre through their self-service platform *8888# for speedy response.

"We continue to work ensuring that all customers' issues are resolved," said Mavuso.

MINISTER, PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE TOUR ENERGY PROJECTS

STORIES BY DELISA THWALA
Mbabane

MINISTER of Natural Resources and Energy Peter Bhembe was part of a delegation which included the ministry's House of Assembly portfolio committee which toured energy projects in the Shiselweni region on Monday.

The places visited were Phuzumoya, Ncandweni and Qomintaba transmission stations. The tour was also joined by Chairman of the portfolio committee Motshane Member of Parliament Robert Magongo.

The tour started off at Phuzumoya Strategic Oil Reserve depot, where it was explained to the minister that the project will be completed in July.

The Phuzumoya project is expected to generate a lot of money.

In his Speech from the Throne, the King informed the nation that they were looking forward to the completion of the 10MW solar power plant by the end of year.

CONCO CEO Mark Marucchi assured that the Qomintaba solar powered station was on course and 38 panels would be installed.

"The panels have a harmless surface area which

Robert Magongo fails to remain nonchalant

MOTSHANE MP Robert Magongo failed to keep calm and collected throughout the trip.

Privy to controversy and speaking when not supposed to, Magongo instantly became a mouth piece throughout the trip, others could not even tell if he was serious or his usual outspoken self.

At each tour point, the MP made ludicrous observations and asked questions. Tempers almost flared when he subtly attacked EEC Managing Director Meshack Kunene for divulging the company's profits.

Profits

"It is not right do not do it now, why are you revealing the company's profits at this stage of the economy, when there is an argument of tariffs being proposed to be raised? This will make people talk," said Magongo to the MD.

At some point, the MP said the strategic oil reserve project does not look promising and they were disappointed.

"Minister what are we taking back to the House of Assembly as this oil reserve project is not in a state we would love it to be but if you can be focused we can turn this around and make it big," Magongo said.

The minister did not, at any point, speak or ask questions.



TOUR: Minister of Natural Resources and Energy Peter Bhembe touring the Phuzumoya Strategic Oil Reserve depot on Monday where he was accompanied by the ministry's staff. (Pics: Delisa Thwala)

will be glass all round with more surface area, and there would be more investors and this would fast-track the system. The overall progress for the project is 14 per cent and the completion of the power plant is August this year," said the CEO.

Minister Bhembe said he was happy with the project's progress.

"We are interested in electricity, we need to look ahead and avoid situations like where we would run out of electricity but we must plan now for the future," said Bhembe.

Locals first priority in hiring process

EEC Managing Director Meshack Kunene during all the tours emphasised that they are hiring Emaswati in all the projects.

The MD confirmed this during the last leg of the tour at Lavumisa, Qomintaba area. He said during the first phase of the project where they do a lot of clearing and building switch houses, they use local people.

After the chief granted them the area through the 'kukhon-

ta' tradition, they then found local people they could work with. "Our main priority is the people around the area. Creating employment is our priority and the local people are prioritised," confirmed Kunene.

An employee said they were grateful for landing this job as they were now able to put food on the table for their families.

"We now have jobs and it is all because of these projects and it is nice to realise we are

from the area," said Musa Mndzebele. Another employee who concurred with Mndzebele said it was a pleasure working at the sites and everything has been well.

"We are learning every day and we appreciate that they considered us for this opportunity," said Mandla Tsabedze.

The minister and legislators were informed that 45 people were hired and more would be hired as time goes on.



TOUR: Minister Bhembe and the legislators listening attentively to a briefing at the tour site.

UNESWA, students on collision course

BY NONCEBO DLAMINI
Manzini

WEEKS before the commencement of their second semester of the academic year, UNESWA students are already at loggerheads with the institution's management.

The bone of contention is the payment of caution fees by the students.

Caution fee is money paid by the either the students or their sponsors, which the institution can use in the event they damage school property.

Government sponsored students have vowed not to pay the caution fee, if push comes to shove they will engage in a protest action.

Student Representative Council (SRC) Secretary General Mthunzi Shabangu confirmed that the institution verbally insisted that the students and SRC pay E150 and E280, respectively.

He said previous government sponsored students had never paid the money because the state paid it on their behalf.

He further alleged that the university threatened that individuals who did not pay the money will be stopped from registering for the upcoming academic semester.

Shabangu said when they asked for reasons behind the sudden change, they were told that this had been the tradition since long ago as students have always paid the money from their personal allowance.

"In the past, this money would be taken from student allowances, which means that government paid it for us. Allowances went through the institution before they were disbursed to students. The sudden change by the university has left a bitter taste on our mouths, especially the government sponsored students," he said.

Meanwhile, Acting Principal Secretary at the Ministry of Labour and Social Security Norman Gamedze said government didn't pay for the caution nor the SRC fee.

"Those matters are left for the university to handle because government doesn't pay for those items," he said.

On the other hand, UNESWA Registrar Dr. Simelane said there was a misunderstanding between the students and UNESWA. He said the only students meant to fork out money for caution and SRC fees were those privately sponsored.

In the past, this money would be taken from student allowances, which means that the state paid it for us. Allowances went through the institution before they were disbursed to students



Time:
11:30 am - 5:00 pm

Entry fee:
FREE

LOVE
CONDOMS

protector
PLUS
STRONG • SENSITIVE
ORIGINAL

INTERNATIONAL CONDOM DAY

15th Feb 2020

@ The George Gardens

**Promoting
condom use**

**SAFER
IS SEXY**

**Encouraging
Safer sex
practices.**

**Condoms the only method that provides triple protection
against HIV, STIs, & against unintended pregnancies!**

Other activations:

**14th February
@ Galp Filling station**

**29th February
@ Sibebe Resort**

**7th March
@ Esibayeni Lodge**



Stop helping pupils cheat - Exams Council

BY SIZWE DLAMINI
Pigg's Peak

SUBJECT Officer at the Examinations Council of Eswatini Rachel Manana has asked teachers and members of the public to stop helping Form Five pupils to cheat during their final examinations.

Manana said it will cost pupils E2 200 to correct any mistakes made in their Form Five certificates which are sourced from the prestigious Cambridge University in the United Kingdom.

Manana was speaking at an event hosted by the Educational Youth Empowerment body (EYE) at the Gobolondlo Hall yesterday.

She said currently the examinations council had heard multiple stories about Form Five pupils going to seek professionals to help them with their practical subjects like sewing, wood-work and metal work.

"As the Examinations Council we have heard that members of the public are helping Form Five pupils cheat during their final examinations through practical subjects. It is common knowledge that many high schools in the kingdom allow pupils to complete certain practicals like tailoring and carpentry at their homes.

Upon completing the practicals that project is then marked by an adjudicator. That mark will be included in that pupils final examination results. If the practicals are not completed by the pupil it means that the examination mark is false hence members of the public stop doing practicals for the pupils," she said.

Manana added that teachers were also guilty of allowing their pupils to cheat during their Form Five examinations.

"We have heard incidents when teachers were helping pupils in their school cheat. In one school during a reading comprehension a teacher was reading in a weird way. The teacher was shout-

ing out certain words and speaking softly through other words. This was designed to aid the pupils answer upcoming examination questions. We ask pupils to report such teachers for malpractice as this is cheating.

"We are also asking pupils sitting for their final examinations to double check all the information they send for the examinations because in the past we have seen pupils misspell their names and when the examination is over that pupil receives their final certificate with a misspelt name. Such cases require parents to then pay about E2 200 for that certificate to be reprinted with the correction in the United Kingdom," she added.

Manana concluded by listing items not allowed in examination rooms like sunglasses, smart watches, smart phones even tissues brought in from the outside because in one school pupils were cheating by writing answers on tissues and passing the tissues around.



WELL ATTENDED: Pupils at the event hosted by the Educational Youth Empowerment (EYE) body at the Gobolondlo Hall on Tuesday.



Subject Officer at the Examinations Council of Eswatini Rachel Manana speaking at the Gobolondlo Hall on Tuesday. (Courtesy pics)



CALL TERMINATION MARKET REVIEW DECISION 05 FEBRUARY 2020

ESWATINI COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION DECISION NO. 01 / 2020

DECISION IN TERMS OF SECTION 37 OF THE ESWATINI COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION ACT, 2013: MARKET DEFINITION, ANALYSIS AND DETERMINATION OF DOMINANCE.

(1) DEFINITION OF CANDIDATE MARKET (CALL TERMINATION) (2) FINDING OF DOMINANCE IN THE CALL TERMINATION MARKET

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Commission acting in accordance with Section 23 of the Eswatini Electronic Communications Act, 2013 (ECA) has defined call termination as a market, conducted an analysis of the market and made a determination on dominance.
- 1.2 The Commission has noted that despite a positive growth in competition in the sector, there is still need to address pertinent elements of competition which may stifle effective competition.

2. PROCESS ADOPTED Consultation and data collection

- 2.1 The Commission requested the operators to furnish the following information; subscriptions data, Interconnection revenue data, Total Revenue data, and Traffic data used for carrying out the call termination market analysis.

3. DEFINITION OF THE MARKET FOR WHOLESALE CALL TERMINATION

- 3.1 The key features of the call termination market are defined by the Commission as constituting the following elements:
 - 3.1.1 The call termination market is a wholesale market;
 - 3.1.2 The product is termination of a voice call or SMS on a fixed or mobile network that originates on another fixed or mobile operators' network;
 - 3.1.3 The voice calls and SMS are carried over the fixed or mobile network, as applicable;
 - 3.1.4 Call termination is not supplied to business or residential customers in the retail market; and
 - 3.1.5 The geographic scope of the market encompasses the whole geographic region of Eswatini and does not differentiate between different regions within Eswatini.

4. FINDINGS

- 4.1 Given the lack of effective competition in each operators' respective call termination market, each operator in Eswatini is dominant in the market for call termination on its own network.

5. DETERMINATION Ineffective Competition

- 5.1 The Commission has determined that competition in the Voice Call Termination Market in Eswatini is currently not effectively competitive.
- 5.2 Call Termination is a natural monopoly in which all three licensees that provide wholesale call termination services are dominant on their respective networks.
- 5.3 While all licensees are dominant, the Commission has also determined that MTN Eswatini holds Significant Market Power (SMP) in the wholesale voice call termination market in Eswatini.

6. DECISION

- 6.1 According to Section 23(3) of the ECA the Commission shall identify the licensees with market dominance and impose the appropriate obligations. The Commission issues the following decision:
 - 6.1.1 Competition in the wholesale Voice Call Termination Market is currently not effectively competitive.
 - 6.1.2 MTN Eswatini is dominant in the provision of wholesale call termination on its own network and holds Significant Market Power (SMP) in the wholesale voice call termination market in Eswatini.
 - 6.1.2.1 Eswatini Post and Telecommunications Corporation is dominant in the provision of wholesale call termination on its own network.
 - 6.1.2.2 Eswatini Mobile is dominant in the provision of wholesale call termination on its own network.
- 6.2 The Commission imposes the obligations under section 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28 of the ECA 2013.
 - 6.2.1 With regards to obligation under section 24, the Commission directs that Eswatini Mobile and MTN Eswatini to Interconnect as per The Electronic Communications (Interconnection) Regulations, 2016, on or before 1st April 2020.
- 6.3 With regards to obligation under section 28, the Commission directs EPTC, MTN Eswatini and Eswatini Mobile as follows:
 - 6.3.1 To reduce overall Call Termination Rates for both Mobile and Fixed Networks over a period of three years beginning in April 2020 to March 2023.
 - 6.3.2 To apply Asymmetric Call Termination Rates system determined by the Commission.
 - 6.3.3 The Commission determines that the following Voice Call Termination Rates shall be applicable following a three (3) year glide path as shown in the table below:

Call Termination Rates

	ESWATINI EPTC	ESWATINI MTN	ESWATINI EPTC	ESWATINI EPTC	ESWATINI EPTC	ESWATINI EPTC
Current Rates	0.30	0.24	0.30	0.24	N/A	N/A
April 2020 to March 2021	0.24	0.19	0.24	0.19	0.20	0.25
April 2021 to March 2022	0.18	0.14	0.18	0.14	0.15	0.19
April 2022 to March 2023	0.12	0.10	0.12	0.10	0.10	0.13

- 1.1 This decision shall come into force on **2 March 2020**.

The full decision is published on the Commission website www.esccom.org.sz titled "Eswatini Communications Commission Call Termination Market Decision 1/2020".

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

DPM's impersonator asks for E3 000 from teacher

BY KHETSIWE KHUMALO
Mbabane

DEPUTY Prime Minister Themba Masuku has warned the public of a scammer that has an account registered as him on Facebook.

In a recent incident which happened on Monday, one teacher was asked by the fraudster to pay his application proposal as it had been approved.

The fraudster asked for over E3 000 as a way of showing that the applicant is still interested in being considered. "I would like to take this opportunity to warn all those who might fall victim to this fraudster who is using my name to try and scam people who may know me through this false Facebook account," said the DPM at a press conference yesterday.

He advised the public to be wary of this person using the account in promising them project money in agriculture and start-ups.

The DPM said it was purported that

...as the DPM again warns public about fake Facebook account.



HAVE A LOOK: Deputy Prime Minister Themba Masuku exposes the fake Facebook account which his impersonator uses to scam people. (Pic: Khetsiwe Khumalo)

this money comes from a fund called IDA in the United Kingdom which he manages. Masuku warned the public that such messages or e-mails claiming to come from these places are fraudulent and aimed at swindling the

public of its hard-earned money.

"I want to make it clear that I am not associated with this, I am not managing any fund and I am not interested in managing any other funds besides those in my portfolio.

"The person doing this is a fraudster, a scammer and someone who is out there to tarnish my name and try and get people to fall into his scam," said the DPM.

So he asked people to avoid engaging with persons posing as him, especially with requests for personal details such as e-mails, passwords, or credit card information. According to Masuku, most people have contacted him directly and he has told them several times not to fall for this trap.

Masuku urged members of the public to be alert and when in doubt of certain representations which involve his name to verify such information by contacting his office.

"For now, anyone who wants to discuss any official issues can go through our social welfare office in the regions and those are the offices that contact me in my portfolio responsibilities and we discuss whatever needs to be discussed. Anyone who comes any other way is probably a scammer," said the DPM.

He further stated that he has an official page on Facebook which they can easily identify as he is wearing traditional attire. The scammer uses a picture sourced from the internet where he is wearing a suit and tie.

Masuku also stated that the fake account has wrong details about him. He further added that social media is a good platform used by wrong people who have ulterior motives and want to insult or drag people's names through the mud. "Yet again, there are people who are in social media to share experiences and empower one another. Amongst this whole lot there are people who have issues, which would be recognised by what they write or hear what they say through audio."

Masuku asked that people be aware of social media and make sure they use the platform for good purposes not to cause problems and deal with issues that will raise problems for families, for communities and nations. He further advised the public to be aware of fraudulent misrepresentations on social media as well as individuals who name drop his involvement in transactions the he has no knowledge of.

Lastly, the DPM said the people he will accept as friends were those who would enhance and bring positivity in his life.

SORRY, NO SALE HERE - MBABANE SHOPS

BY KHETSIWE KHUMALO
Mbabane

AFTER most shops were flooded during last week's heavy down pour in Mbabane, it has since transpired that the retail stores will not be selling their spoilt items at discounted prices.

This is contrary to popular belief amongst expectant customers who were hoping they will be buying items at reduced prices in the coming days.

Most shops said they will not be giving discounts anytime soon as they were still reeling from the loss they experienced last week.

One of the shop assistants confirmed that there will be no sale at the store. This after the store manager refused to speak to the media.

She said the most affected stores were still dealing with the after-effects.

The staff member said they were still assessing the damage and have not yet decided on whether they will bring out that stock for customers.

She further stated that the reason for keeping the clothes in storage was because they were still waiting for their insurance company to assess the damage caused. The store was running a sale on promotion but she denied that the clothes were damaged.

She said the promotion started before the flooding incident and would continue till they are out of stock.



REPAIRS: The roofing of the Swazi Plaza being repaired after it was damaged by Thursday's heavy rainfall.

A customer Nontobeko Mkhali, who was also looking to get a bargain from the damaged clothes, said she was disappointed at hearing that these might not even be placed for customers.

"I was told that the clothes might end up being donated, which is for a good cause. I know there are a few other people who will be disappointed in hearing that there might be no sale at all," said Mkhali. While Simiso Hlophé with his colleague said they were looking forward to buying items for their girlfriends at a much cheaper cost.

"I was hoping to get a Valentine's gift after some people suggested that I check the stores that were affected by the floods. We are just window shopping now because

we clearly can't afford these things," admitted Hlophé.

The heavy flooding left some shops submerged in water, resulting in businesses closing early on Thursday. In another store which was affected by the floods, the rainwater leaked through the ceiling causing staff to move some of the clothing racks.

It was business as usual for some other shops immediately after the water was mopped. The heavy downpour took some debris and sand from the nearby gravel roads and swept it into the mall and into shops. This also caused a build-up of big piles of sand in the parking bays.

The damage caused by the flooding is still being fixed by the maintenance team at the Plaza.

Driver fined E4 800 for overloading on slippery road

BY WONDERBOY DLAMINI
Siteki

A public transport driver had to part with E4 800 after he was found guilty of overloading while driving through a slippery road, amongst other charges.

Thomas Maziya (40) faced five counts of contravening the Road Traffic Act of 2007 as he appeared before Acting Magistrate Lungile Shongwe.

On the first count, the accused person disregarded the certificate of a motor vehicle which he was driving by loading passengers who were above its capacity.

The accused person also loaded 17 passengers in a kombi which has the capacity to load only 14 passengers.

The accused person was arrested along the currently slippery Siteki-Mambane gravel road. The road is in a bad condition as a result of the heavy rains experienced in many parts of the country over the past three days.

On the second count, the accused person was charged with driving an unroadworthy motor vehicle along a public road, putting the lives of his passengers at risk.

The vehicle was said to have had defective brakes and other non-functional parts.

He was further charged with driving a public vehicle while not being a holder of a public transport permit. The motor vehicle was also without a certificate of fitness, warranting a fourth charge.

The fifth charge emanated from the accused person's failure to keep his public permit in the motor vehicle.

When the charge sheet was read to him, the accused person pleaded guilty to all the counts. His plea was accepted by the crown without leading evidence to prove commission of the offence.

Upon sentencing, Maziya was handed varying penalties, totalling E4 800. The sentences were ordered to run concurrently.

Meanwhile, Nhlanhla Magagula (33) of Matsapha also faced a similar charge of contravening the Road Traffic Act. He drove a motor vehicle, a Toyota sedan in a negligent manner and bumped onto a tree.

Particulars of the offence included that the accused person was speeding. He pleaded guilty to the charge, and was accordingly found guilty by the court. Magagula was fined E500 for the offence.

Man passes out in court

BY VUYILE DLAMINI
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

A man too drunk to stand trial passed out during court proceedings on

Tuesday.

Thabo Motsa appeared before acting Magistrate Simo Simelane, where he appeared intoxicated and eventually passed out in the accused's dock.

Motsa was nabbed driving his vehicle

while under the influence of alcohol, where he then knocked down a pedestrian.

During his remand appearance, Motsa stood firm before the court, however, after a few minutes he sat down and passed out where he sat.

Expressing his concern over Motsa's condition, Magistrate Simelane ordered police officers to afford him a chance

to receive treatment, stating that he may have sustained internal injuries as a result of the accident. "Motsa should have been taken to hospital as soon as the accident occurred.

He may have suffered internal injuries due to the impact and he needs immediate medical attention.

Although he is in police custody, he has the right to access medical attention

as he seems visibly ill," the judicial officer stated.

The prosecution led by Sakhile Khoza made an application for the accused to be remanded back into custody until February 21, pending the victim's recovery.

It was ascertained that the victim sustained serious injuries and was in a critical condition.

Man (50) dies in car accident

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE
Mbabane

A 50-year-old man lost his life on Monday in a nasty accident.

The man of Mabatsini in Matsapha lost control of his car at Phocweni around 6.15 pm, along Hlobile and Masundwini Public Road. The man was driving a Toyota Platz.

The car lost control and veered off the road. It further knocked an Eswatini Postal and Telecommunications Corporation (EPTC) pole, which is a few metres from the road.

According to a witness, the car was badly damaged after hitting the pole.

Police and emergency services were called to the scene and the man he was rushed to Raleigh Fitkin Memorial (RFM) Hospital where he was certified dead on arrival.

Meanwhile on Monday at 1130 am, a 38-year-old woman drowned in Matotobisi stream at Madlangempisi.

Chief Police and Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Phindile Vilakati confirmed both deaths.

"A 50-year-old man of Mahlabatsini lost control veered off the road and knocked an EPTC Pole. The driver sustained serious injuries and was rushed to R.F.M.

Hospital where he was certified dead on arrival," she said.

FAWESWA, Lutsango team up in fight against cancer

BY KHETSIWE KHUMALO
Mbabane

THE Forum for the African Women Educationalists Eswatini (FAWESWA) has teamed up with Lutsango LakaNgwane in the fight against cancer.

FAWESWA Director Khetsiwe Dlamini revealed this at the 2020 Baganu Festival at Buhleni over the past weekend.

Dlamini mentioned that they teamed up with the Lutsango, Eswatini Breast and Cervical Cancer Network and Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation (BMSF) to facilitate cancer education, early detection and treatment as early as possible.

"The project is funded by BMSF and is implemented by a collaboration between the Baylor Clinic for the screening and early treatment aspect, Eswatini Breast and Cervical Cancer Network for the cancer education aspect and FAWESWA for community mobilisation and networking," said Dlamini.

She stated that the project was mainly implemented at Ekukhanyeni, Nkwene and Siphofaneni con-



WOMEN: ECPT's Zinhle Ndzinisa and Khetsiwe Nhlabatsi were in charge of screening women and men for cancer at the Baganu Festival.

stituencies. Each constituency trains 10 women on cancer prevention and treatment (ECPT), the benefits of cancer screening on a regular basis and early detection to support treatment.

Health workers in this project screened breast and cervical cancer.

"The tripartite team was at the Buhleni Royal residence for the Baganu Festival this past weekend screening for cancers.

"The report we received is satisfactory. The team was able to screen about 35 women and men in a space

of four hours," she said.

Dlamini commended the Lutsango National Executive for an excellent job in disseminating information to the various branches.

She then urged people to get screened as the team would be at the next leg of the Baganu festival at Hlane.

Lutsango

Lutsango LwakaNgwane Spokesperson Dumsile Sigwane concurred with Dlamini, saying they would continue working with the three constituencies.

She said the same services would

also be extended to other constituencies with time.

"The screening team was at the Baganu Festival to offer services to the women from other constituencies. I am happy with the response as women were screened on the main day of the event," said Sigwane.

She further stated that they were happy with the initiative as it would reach women in rural communities, who are not well educated about cancer.

"This initiative will make it possible for a number of women and men in the rural areas to get educated on cancer and be screened," stated Sigwane.

The Breast and Cervical Cancer Network Public Relations Officer Nolwazi Dlamini said the initiative was aimed at sensitising women about cancer.

"This project will run for about three years. We aim to reach women in different constituencies, where we will teach them about cancer and then screen them. The goal is to instill knowledge in all the constituencies," said Dlamini.

Man breaks both legs crossing river

BY BONGUMUSA SIMELANE
Mbabane

A 53-year-old man got the shock of his life when he broke both legs while trying to cross Mkhumbane River in Mpuluzi.

The man is reported to have been drunk when he met the incident and was saved by herdboys who saw him being swept by the overflowing river.

Jerome Nsibandze tried to cross the river without noticing that the footbridge

had been washed away by the flooding river after the heavy rains experienced by the country.

According to one of the herdboys who rescued the old man from losing his life, the foot bridge is normally washed away when there are heavy rains.

He said they heard the old man screaming down the river as he was stuck on a log which fell in the river.

"Our friend told us that he heard someone screaming down the river. We went to inspect what was wrong and we could see him clinging on the log in the river

screaming for help," he said.

One of the boys extended a long log which the old man was able to cling on it they pulled him out of the river.

They realised that his legs were not functioning well and on close inspection they discovered that they were fractured.

"One of us went to call the elders, who came swiftly to the scene where they found him lying down grunting in agony," he said. The old man was then rushed to hospital by his family members where he is still admitted.

MAN HELD FOR THEFT OF VEHICLE AT MZILIKAZI

BY WONDERBOY DLAMINI
Siteki

A man of Mzikazi has been arrested for the theft of a motor vehicle and number of other similar offences.

Thamsanqa Tsabedze (20) appeared before acting Magistrate Lungile Shongwe, where he faced three counts of contravening the theft of Motor Vehicle Act and theft.

The accused person is alleged to have wrongfully and unlawfully stolen a motor vehicle, a Nissan Sunny belonging to Sihle Dlamini.

On the second count, the accused person allegedly broke into another motor vehicle, a Toyota Noah and stole a battery belonging to Sihle Dlamini.

The accused was charged with theft on the third count, in that he unlawfully and intentionally stole a car battery and car keys also belonging to the

same complainant cited in the first two counts.

When informed of his right to legal representation, the accused person elected to conduct his own defence. He was making his second appearance before the court yesterday following his arrest last Sunday.

The accused person filed an application to have his bail amount which was fixed at E3 500 during his first appearance reduced.

He said he was struggling to get the money hence his application for the reduction of the bail amount. The court considered his application and reduced the bail amount to E2 000. The matter returns to court for trial on March 13.

Meanwhile, in the same court, Sifiso Gumedze faced a charge of assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm (GBH).

He assaulted Mdumiseni Mkhabela by biting him in the nose, causing him

a serious injury.

The accused pleaded guilty to the charge while conducting his own defence. He was accordingly found guilty by the court after the crown accepted his plea without leading evidence.

The accused was sentenced to five months in a correctional facility with an option to pay a E500 fine.

The accused person is alleged to have wrongfully and unlawfully stolen a motor vehicle, a Nissan Sunny belonging to Sihle Dlamini.

NATION URGED TO CHECK CANCER ONCE A YEAR

BY BONGUMUSA SIMELANE
Mbabane

THE Eswatini Breast and Cervical Network (EBCCN) has urged the nation to ensure that they check for cancer at least once a year.

This comes after reports that there were 69 cases of cancer recorded in the last four years among young people.

EBCCN Communications Officer Nolwazi Dlamini said the issue of cancer should NOT only concern the elderly, but also the young people were prone to the disease.

Dlamini said that cancer was of national concern, adding that Emaswati should make sure they take the lead in the against the killer disease.

She urged Emaswati to that they live a healthy life to minimise chances of getting cancer.

Dlamini said eating a good diet;

avoiding taking alcohol and other drugs as well as exercise all play a role in minimising the risks of getting cancer.

People should not wait for the time when they are sick to check for cancer, but they need to at least do check-ups once a year," she said.

Dlamini said in their programmes they educate pupils and students about cancer in schools and tertiary institutions with the assistance of the career guidance officer from the ministry of education and training.

She also advised the nation to go to health centres if they suspect any signs of any type of cancer, it could be breast or cervical cancer.

Dlamini added that there was a lot that have been done by different stakeholders in fighting the disease. She urged the nation to be grateful to government and its partners in the health sector for the strides they have taken so far.



Probe committee tours EBIS, Eswatini TV



ON TOUR: Chairman of the Parliament Select Probe Committee MP Musa Kunene being briefed by EBIS Director Martin Dlamini during a tour to the station and the Eswatini TV yesterday. Looking on is MP Robert Magongo, who is also part of the probe team. (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)



STAFF: Some of the government officials and EBIS staff members follow proceedings.



MY POINT: Eswatini TV CEO Bongani Sigcokosiyancinca Dlamini stresses a point during a brief meeting with the probe team.



DONE: The probe team and Eswatini TV Board members prepare to leave the station.



BROTHERS: MP Lutfo Dlamini with EBIS's Ray Siboniso Dlamini.



SCRIBES: A section of the Eswatini TV staff members listen to the CEO's remarks.



CONTROLS: The team inside one of the control rooms at the EBIS.

LONLA INVESTMENTS

NEW STOCK ARRIVE

ALL SIZES OF TYRES AVAILABLE

VALENTINE'S DAY Special

185/65R14	225/40 R18 4 FOR E1200.00
175/70 R13	255/55 R19
195/65R15	205/80 R17.5
185/65R15	
185/55R16	
205/55R16	
225/45R17	
195/80R15	

RIMS COMBO

from **E2500.00**

NEW STOCK ARRIVED

www.lonlainvestment@gmail.com

Manzini: Opposite Satellite Bus Rank below Hub | OPERATING HOURS: 7:00 AM - 5 PM

Cell: +268 7639 8839 / 78122006 Tel: +268 2505 8455



LISTENING: EBIS' Simangele Dlamini and Deputy Director Gcinangaye Tsabedze listen to the briefing by the probe team.



ON A MISSION: Some of the members of the probe team MPs Lutfo Dlamini, Musa Kunene, Busisiwe Mavimbela and Robert Magongo listen attentively to briefings.



TECHNICAL: Eswatini TV technician Bravo explains some of the station's operations.

What's in Your Mind

info@observer.org.sz

Features & Opinions

Refresh What You Think

AFRICA'S PUBLIC DEBT LEVELS ARE WORRYING, CENTRAL BANKS WARN

HUELVA - Central bankers in Africa are joining a chorus of voices, which includes the International Monetary Fund (IMF), who are worried about surging public debt levels on the continent.

Nigerian Central Bank Governor Godwin Emefiele warned in January that rapidly rising debt and a lack of fiscal buffers could threaten economic growth. That same week Kenyan Central Bank Governor Patrick Njoroge said in an interview that his country was running out of room to increase its credit load.

For nearly two years, the IMF and credit ratings companies have admonished African governments about the dangers of accumulating too much debt as their revenues dwindle.

Rising obligations are depleting the fiscal space the continent's governments have to buttress economic growth, raising pressure on central bankers to do more to prevent a deeper slowdown in a region that is home to two-thirds of the world's poor. Stubborn inflation and cur-

To pay for infrastructure and public servants' wages, African governments have tapped debt markets like never before to take advantage of investors' appetite for high yields



REVEALS: Nigerian Central Bank Governor Godwin Emefiele.

rency pressures also limit monetary wiggle room in some economies. "They are sending a warning to policymakers that if your debt levels become unsustainable, then it

is going to have consequences on growth and the financial environment and that raises monetary risks," said Colin Coleman, the former CEO of Goldman Sachs in Sub-

Saharan Africa who now lectures at Yale University's Jackson Institute for Global Affairs.

To pay for infrastructure and public servants' wages, African governments have tapped debt markets like never before to take advantage of investors' appetite for high-yielding paper. Public debt as a percentage of GDP in Sub-Saharan Africa has doubled to more than 50 per cent since 2008, IMF data show.

While that's below the average for emerging markets, the continent's debt ratio rose faster than that of any other country grouping over the period.

Kenya doubled its debt ceiling in 2019 and the IMF said the government should be more cautious with borrowing.

In SA, authorities see debt jumping nearly 20 percentage points to 80 per cent of GDP by 2028 unless urgent steps are taken. While debt at 30 per cent of GDP in Nigeria is low compared with peers, the government spends more than half its revenue on repayments, according to IMF estimates.

About 40 per cent of governments on the continent face difficulties honouring their obligations, according to the IMF. The African Development Bank, however, is less worried, saying last week it did not see a systemic crisis.

Still, high indebtedness complicates the job of central banks.

Rising government debt crowds out lending to the private sector and weakens the transmission of monetary policy to boost demand, the IMF's Africa department director, Abebe Aemro Selassie, said last year. Lowering interest rates in countries with rising debt levels could add pressure to local currencies by prompting foreign investors to leave in search of higher-yielding securities elsewhere.

"Higher debt has clipped the wings of monetary policy," said Andrew Roche, managing partner at Paris-based financial consultancy Finexem.

"In Nigeria, if the governor wants to lower interest rates, that could weaken the currency and increase the debt burden, which creates another set of problems when you are trying to find a solution."

Faced with limited monetary space, Nigeria's central bank has stepped in to help cover the government's widening fiscal gap with cash advances worth 2.5 per cent of GDP, which are more expensive than debt funded on the domestic market. Moody's Investors Service warned against "opaque and costly options" to finance the government's rising debt burden when it changed the outlook on the country's credit rating to negative in December.

"High debt levels will lead to the expansion of these non-conventional policies," said Adedeji Adeniran, a senior fellow at the Abuja-based Centre for the Study of The Economies of Africa. Central banks "will be expected to print money and become more activist in policy orientation," he said. **Bloomberg**

By Amanda Visser

Innovative ways to raise taxes without breaking the back of the middle class

● *The government should adopt a corporate income inequality tax rate and an exit tax on the wealthy who emigrate*

IT is trite to say that Finance Minister Tito Mboweni finds himself in a dark corner with lots of ideas but little support for implementing them.

Many fear that on the back of political weakness to tackle the real issues — structural reforms at state-owned enterprises (SOEs) and the public sector wage bill — tax increases are looming in the February budget.

Most South Africans already feel overtaxed and underserved, and though tax is universally hated, it could be used as a weapon for good, says Patricia Williams, partner at law firm Bowmans.

Many countries have introduced innovative ways to use tax to address income and wealth inequality and even contribute to changing "bad behaviour".

One way to change bad behaviour is to consider an income inequality tax, similar to the one proposed by US Senator Bernie Sanders. He suggests that a company's corporate income tax rate should be increased by 0.5 per cent if its CEO earns 50 times more than the average worker in the company, up to a maximum of five per cent if the wage gap is 500 times.

The corporate income tax rate in the US is 21 per cent. In SA it is 28 per cent. Williams says an inequality tax may lead companies

to reconsider whether it is worth their while to have such a highly paid CEO.

Taxing the wealthy has always been a heated and hated topic. In truth there are some extremely wealthy people who are not in the tax net or who are able to plan their affairs in such a way that they pay far less tax than those who are mere salary earners.

Wealthy South Africans are emigrating to break their tax ties with the country. "People are emigrating ahead of death," says Williams. They also use trust structures to avoid paying estate duty.

Nothing illegal about this, says Williams, who is also vice-chair of the tax administration committee of the SA Institute of Tax Professionals.

The reality is that they have been accumulating wealth in SA for decades and though they pay an exit tax (capital gains tax on the

deemed asset disposals when they emigrate), those who cannot emigrate do not escape the estate duty burden.

"It does at face value look like a lovely loophole for wealthy people to take advantage of," she says.

SA is supposed to have a progressive tax system where poor people bear less of the tax burden than the wealthy. Imposing an "exit tax" on wealth on a sliding scale based on age, and not only on capital gains, could address this, explains Williams.

Another vehicle available to the wealthy to avoid estate duty is trusts. She says assets that are held in a trust — such as the shares of the family business — do not form part of the estate when the owner dies.

This similarly applies to all the beneficiaries of the trust, and there is even the possibility of escaping capital gains tax by simply keep-

ing the shares or assets in the trust. Williams says many countries have now introduced an annual tax of, for example, 0.5 per cent on the value of the assets in the trust.

Another innovative suggestion came from a participant in the cryptocurrency market who suggested a flat rate of six per cent on cryptocurrency transactions in SA — if the rate remains set for a reasonable period and there is no capital gains tax on the transactions.

This may increase SA's attractiveness as a cryptocurrency market, which could see a flood of transactions and tax collections, says Williams.

"We do not want tax increases to be a Band-Aid that we slap over a gunshot wound. We have to deal with the underlying problem as well. We have all been vocal about the fact that we are spending more than we earn. That has to stop," she says.

Delia Ndlovu, Deloitte's MD for Africa Tax & Legal, says there are good, solid and simple ideas to get SA out of its "perpetual fiscal trap". "If only the government will embrace these ideas it will take the country a long way."

Until that happens, the government is like any ordinary household that is in trouble, says Deloitte Director and Transfer Pricing Specialist Billy Joubert.

"The immediate demand on the money is so high that we cannot think beyond the current crisis."

A bold move would be to reduce the corporate income tax rate and to give companies tax breaks on the number of people they employ.

"We should be less concerned about corporate tax and more concerned about tax collections through VAT and individual income tax if unemployed people are drawn into the tax net through employment," says Joubert.

ON THIS DAY

...FEBRUARY 13

2007 - Former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney has returned to his native state of Michigan to kick off his bid for the 2008 Republican presidential nomination. His presidential bid comes forty years after his father made an unsuccessful run for the G.O.P. nomination in 1968. Romney will be following his announcement with a four-day, six-state tour that will include stops in the three crucial early primary and caucus states of Iowa, South Carolina and New Hampshire, as well as Massachusetts and Florida.

2009 - House Passes American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

The House of Representatives has voted 246 to 183 to jolt the nation's struggling economy with a \$787.2 billion stimulus package, designed to provide quick tax relief and create or save some 3.5 million jobs. The Senate passage is expected to take place later today, and President Obama is likely to sign it the following week. It will provide up to thirty-three weeks of additional jobless benefits in high-unemployment states, funds to help the poor and those with disabilities with health care costs, and payments of \$250 to retirees, supplemental security income recipients and veterans who get pensions or disability payments. The ARRA is also known as the Stimulus.

2010 - Special Envoy to Muslim world Announced President Barack Obama has named a special envoy to the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (O.I.C.). Rashad Hussain is a deputy associate counsel at the White House, and has played a key role in developing partnerships with the Muslim world. The O.I.C. represents more than fifty states and promotes Muslim solidarity in economic, social and political affairs. Obama made the announcement in a video statement to the U.S.-Islamic World conference in Doha, Qatar, which is co-hosted by the Brookings' Saban Center and the Qatari government.

2011 - Italian Women Protest Prime Minister Female protesters took to the streets in over sixty cities across Italy as a reaction to Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's sex scandals. Protesters demonstrated against what they said was demeaning behavior against women.

2012 - Henrique Capriles Radonski to Run Against Chavez

The opposition party in Venezuela has picked Henrique Capriles Radonski to run against current president Hugo Chavez in the first opposition primary election. The presidential election will be held in October. Chavez who has been in power since 1999 through several questionably democratic elections has declared that he is confident he will win re-election no matter who runs against him.

2013 - Man Self Immolates at Job Center 2013 : A man in Nantes, France set himself on fire outside of a job center. Police had tried to stop the man as he had alerted them to his intentions via messages to the media but they were unsuccessful.

2014 - Belgium Extends Euthanasia The parliament of Belgium voted 86 to 44 to extend euthanasia rights by getting rid of any age limit for terminally ill children. If the King of Belgium signs the bill, which is likely, then Belgium would become the first country in the world to remove all age limits on euthanasia.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!



Robbie Williams
(Born 13 February 1974) songwriter and entertainer.



Memphis Depay
Date of birth: Feb 13, 1994. Football Player



WHAT THE LAW SAYS

Utsini umtsetfo

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS ACT 2013

ACCESS TO AND USE OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PROPERTY

47. Access to and use of public property.

(1) Subject to the other provisions of this section, a licensee providing an electronic communications network or service to the public may place cables and wires, or carry out other works either below, above or by the side of a public property, including Swazi Nation Land, and may dig, construct or maintain on that public property or Swazi National Land trenches, pits, poles, stays, brackets and all other accessories essential to the proper working of the electronic communications systems, except that in doing so there shall not be undue interference with the use and enjoyment of that public property.

(2) For the purposes of this section, 'public property' includes roads, streets, road reserves, buildings, railways, footpaths, water ways and lands reserved for public purposes.

(3) Before carrying out any of the works mentioned in subsection (2), a licensee shall obtain the necessary approval from the relevant authority having jurisdiction over those works.

(4) Where approval is denied or where no authority is charged with authorising the carrying out of any works referred to in subsection (1), a licensee shall appeal to the Minister responsible for land.

(5) The Commission shall consult with the Minister responsible for land to establish procedures regarding the terms and conditions necessary for approval to use public property, including, but not limited to, the use of conduits, towers and other structures as may be in existence and such terms and conditions shall include consideration for the reinstatement of lands to be returned to the original condition.

(6) The procedures referred to in subsection (5) shall be fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory.

(7) When establishing the procedures referred to in subsection (5), the Minister responsible for land shall consider the following factors —

- (a) The efficient and economic use of public resources;
- (b) The security of officials and operations that take place on that property;
- (c) Public safety and convenience;
- (d) The economic, social and aesthetic benefits of the proposed use of the land; and
- (e) Compliance with applicable environmental laws and policies.

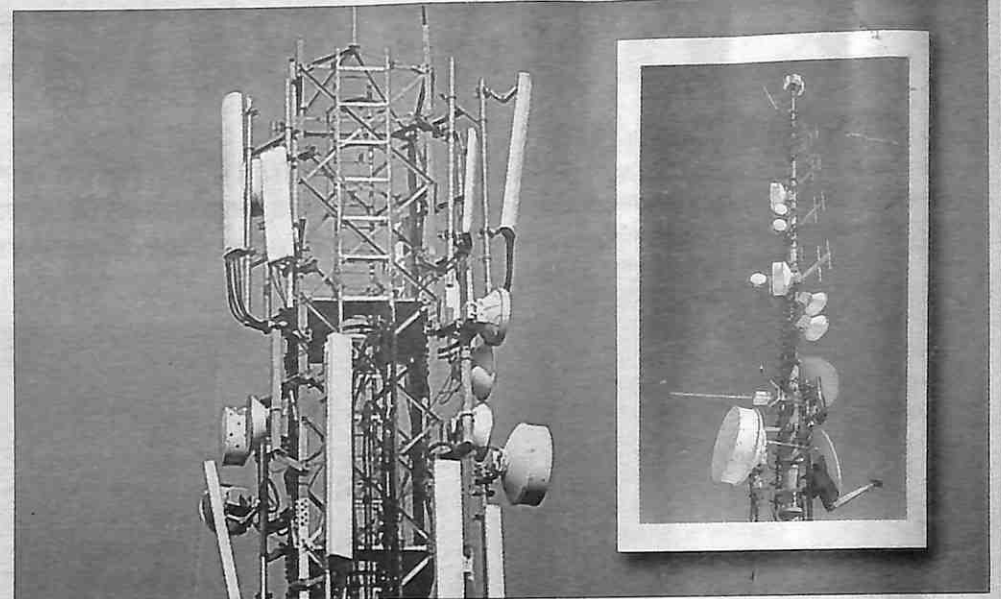
(8) A public electronic communications service provider shall not convey or in any way transfer public land or right of way to public land, including Swazi Nation Land, without the prior written approval of the Minister responsible for lands.

(9) This section also applies to approvals of conveyances or transfers of public land by the Minister responsible for land.

48. Use of private property.

(1) Where the acquisition or use of a private property by a licensee is reasonably required for the purposes of providing an electronic communications network or service to the public and no reasonable alternatives to that acquisition or use exist, the licensee shall —

- (a) Provide notice of the proposed acquisition or use to the owner of the property and other property owners who reasonably could be expected to be affected by the proposed acquisition, and seek their written comments on the proposed acquisition; and
- (b) Obtain the consent of the owner of the prop-



erty to the acquisition or use of that property.

(2) Where the owner of the private property refuses to consent to the use or acquisition of the property by a licensee or refuses to agree to the terms of purchase or use, the licensee may apply to the relevant authority having jurisdiction over those matters, to intervene as the licensee considers appropriate, either by causing that authority to acquire the property under applicable expropriation laws, or by enforcing the use of the property under other applicable laws.

(3) In reviewing the application, the relevant authority may impose terms and conditions on the licensee that may include just and reasonable compensation, under the applicable laws, for the acquisition or use of the property and for damage or loss that the owner may sustain under that acquisition or use.

(4) The licensee shall indemnify the relevant authority against all the costs of acquisition of the property under expropriation laws or other costs incurred to enforce usage of that property, including amounts payable to the owner of the property to be acquired or used.

PART XI
TRANSITIONAL AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

49. Regulations.

The Minister may, by notice in the Gazette, make regulations for the better carrying out of the provisions of this Act.

50. Prior licences and other persons providing electronic communications networks and services.

(1) The Commission shall issue new licences to existing licensees lawfully providing electronic communications networks or services consistent with the provisions of this Act immediately before the date of coming into force of this Act, except that all material terms of the previous licence shall be conformed to this Act.

(2) The new licences referred to in subsection (1) shall be issued within ninety days after the coming into force of this Act, and existing licensees shall continue to provide services under the prior licence until the date of renewal of their licence.

51. Other persons providing electronic communications networks and services.

(1) A person providing electronic communications services for which there was no requirement to be licensed before the commencement

of this Act, and which services are required to be licensed under this Act, shall apply for a licence within thirty days after the date of coming into force of this Act.

(2) A person referred to in subsection (1) shall continue to provide services pending the determination of the application by the Commission.

(3) A person who contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable to a fine of two thousand (E2,000) Emalangeni for each day during which the contravention continues.

52. Pending applications.

(1) An application for a licence pending before the coming into force of this Act shall be transferred to the Commission for determination in accordance with this Act.

(2) An applicant whose application is transferred to the Commission under subsection (1) shall be afforded an opportunity to amend the application to conform to this Act.

PART XII
AMENDMENTS

53. Amendment of Swaziland Posts and Telecommunications Corporation Act.

The Swaziland Posts and Telecommunications Corporation Act, 1983, is amended by —

(a) Substituting, for section 59, the following new section —

(1) "From the date of coming into force of the Swaziland Communications Commission Act, 2010, the Corporation shall have the exclusive right of establishing, constructing, maintaining and operating the national telecommunications backbone infrastructure within Swaziland.

(2) From the date of coming into force of the Swaziland Communications Commission Act, 2010, all other licensed operators and services shall have the right to establish the last mile interconnection to the national backbone infrastructure at interconnection rates that are subject to the regulatory control of the Commission.

(3) For a period of three years from the date of coming into force of the Swaziland Communications Commission Act, 2010, the Corporation shall continue to provide the last mile services like all other licensed operators.

(4) After three years of coming into force of this Act, the Corporation shall establish a subsidiary telecommunications service company that shall be afforded the same interconnection conditions and rates like all other licensed service operators.";

(b) Deleting sections 91, 92, 96, 97 and 98.

1 BILLION RISING REVOLUTION

DESPITE the passage of time and the perennial campaigns against violence between the genders, the scourge of abuse continues to gnaw at the very core of families and society without halt begging answers to the question as to what could be done to completely eradicate it from our midst.

If you have ever felt attacked or abused in a relationship, had a partner hold power over you through intimidation, or felt manipulated, isolated and afraid, you know fully, the impact of gender violence can have on you and those around you.

Despite so much information and huge resources poured in to educate and sensitise society about the scourge of gender violence, we continue to hear horrendously harrowing stories of incidents related to such, even during periods designated for campaigns against such.

Although it has been traditionally agreed that gender violence affects women mostly, it has become apparent that such a view was not a true reflection of the situation. Today it is being acknowledged that both men and women suffer from gender violence especially in the domestic setting.

According to varying research, both men and women have experienced gender violence and victimisation, while women have to contend with incidents of rape at some point in their lives, sometimes from an intimate partner.

Sexual abuse is a small piece of a much larger, complex picture.

Gender violence, especially of the domestic type can mean any action that may be physical, sexual, emotional, economical and psychological while any action that is intended to influence another person to gain control of any individual could potentially constitute domestic violence.

This includes actions, threats, and activities that intimidate, manipulate, humiliate, isolate, frighten, terrorise, coerce, threaten, blame, hurt or wound someone.

Gender violence is an umbrella phrase that includes many destructive behaviours, and just as each gender violence case can be unique, so too are the lasting repercussions for its victims.

Domestic violence varies from one individual case to the next, but there are five categories of abusive actions and they are; physiological abuse which is generally characterised by threats, intimidation, destruction of property, and isolation from family and

GENDER VIOLENCE CANNOT BE TAKEN LIGHTLY



● According to varying research, both men and women have experienced gender violence and victimisation, while women have to contend with incidents of rape at some point in their lives, sometimes from an intimate partner.

friends.

Then there is physical abuse which constitutes any type of physical harm caused to a victim, including the denial of medical care and the forced use of drugs or alcohol.

There is also economic abuse, which is controlling someone or making them dependent on the other person's financial income. This also includes holding money and maintaining complete control over all finances.

There is also sexual abuse which involves any sexual behaviour without consent, or forcing participation in any sexually demeaning activity and emotional abuse which includes (but is not limited to) encouraging a person's low self-esteem through criticism, name calling, or by damaging relationships with family and friends.

Violence in most cases is not limited to one single form of abuse. In many cases it is complex mixture of all the above.

In some situations victims may not even realise they are the victims of abuse because emotional, financial and psychological actions don't leave immediate physical pain.

This is why being a victim of gender abuse can be a life long struggle while also leaving a lasting scar on the victim, children, and on family and friends.

Human rights organisations have noted that a victim of gender violence,

especially the domestic type may experience chronic pain, gastrointestinal disorders, eating disorders, anxiety, post traumatic stress disorders, increased risk of sexually transmitted infections, increased risk of substance abuse, reproductive or genital health issues and even death.

Suffers

The primary victim isn't the only one who suffers however. Children in the household are not spared the consequences of abusive adult relationships.

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) indicates that children in domestic violence situations may experience many forms of abuse as a way to manipulate the adult victim.

They may also be affected with impaired growth, impaired cognitive development, excessive irritability, emotional distress, fear of being alone, immature behavior, delayed language development, trouble with schoolwork, difficulty in concentrating, increased risk of bed-wetting, depression, suicidal tendencies, increased risk of juvenile pregnancy and increased risk of substance abuse.

They may also develop bullying tendencies and practice them at school, show aggressive behavior, and become abusers themselves when they reach adulthood.

Other family relatives and friends also suffer the effects of domestic violence.

Many times family and friends may not understand why a victim becomes distant, or they may be told hurtful things by the abuser who is attempting to drive them, or keep them away from the victim. Worst of all, loved one have to watch someone they care about suffer, oftentimes out of their helpful reach.

Violence of any type touches everyone. No race or ethnicity is spared from this debilitating form of abuse.

If you are in a violent type of relationship, leaving is mostly easier said than done. Many victims of domestic violence do not feel safe enough to leave and as a result organizations have designed safety plans which victims could utilise.

But even if victims do manage to escape their abusive relationships, they should seek professional help such as a support group to start the long and arduous journey of healing. Domestic violence effects can take years to overcome, and having a support network is critical to working through problems like anxiety, depression, and post traumatic stress disorder. You are not alone.

By finding other men and women who are facing similar struggles, not only will you benefit from what others have learnt, but you may also be able to provide a little light in someone else's darkness.

Wit and Wisdom

● Learning discernment is a lifelong project, and wisdom is hard-won.
JEANIE MILEY, "Learning discernment is a lifelong project", San Angelo Standard-Times January 29, 2016

● The hours of folly are measured by the clock, but of wisdom no clock can measure.
WILLIAM BLAKE, Proverbs of Hell

● Contend not in wisdom with a fool, for thy sense maketh much of his conceit; And some errors never would have thriven, had it not been for learned refutation.
MARTIN FARQUHAR TUPPER, Proverbial Philosophy.

● A wise man heedeth all things, and in his own eyes is a fool.
MARTIN FARQUHAR TUPPER, Proverbial Philosophy

● It is a profitable thing, if one is wise, to seem foolish.
AESCHYLUS, Prometheus Bound

● The Doors of Wisdom are never shut.
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, Poor Richard's Almanack, 1755

● Where ignorance is bliss, 'Tis folly to be wise.
THOMAS GRAY, Odes on a Distant Prospect of Eton College

● Unless, we value wisdom, we are bound to suffer many things that we were never meant to suffer.
KILTON MOYO, "Teaching our children wisdom", NewsDay, March 30, 2017

● Mystical wisdom is the living awareness by faith of the Lord's personal presence in one's own life and in the world. It is relevant because this creating and healing presence holds everything together, and to live life to the full, we need to draw close to this source of life.
KATHRYN JEAN LOPEZ, National Review, March 31, 2017

● Wisdom is using your knowledge to see opportunities, risks, challenges and the things that you need to do.
JOHN BRENNAN, "Why the former CIA director is in Augusta during Masters Week", MyAJC, April 6, 2017

● Wisdom is the lost property of the believer.
MUHAMMAD, Muhammad: The Last Prophet

● None of us was born knowing or wise; but men become wise by consideration, observation, experience.
BENJAMIN WHICHOTE, Moral and Religious Aphorisms

● The beginning of wisdom is the knowledge of folly.
NORMAN MACDONALD, Maxims and Moral Reflections

● Cunning is the mere ape of wisdom, and all hate its low tricks.
JOHN THORNTON, Maxims and Directions for Youth.

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	E9.15 per litre
Engen Garage	

FLAGSHIP PROJECT TO BOOST SME DEVELOPMENT NEEDED - ECONOMIST

BY QONDILE NTIWANE AND BAHLE GAMA

GOVERNMENT needs to invest in at least one flagship project to boost Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Development.

This was one of the expectations going to the 2020 Budget Speech to be presented by Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg tomorrow.

Interviewed yesterday, an economist who preferred anonymity said the year 2020 had been declared by government as the year for SME and it was important for the budget to accommodate this factor.

"We need that one flagship project that will boost the SME development as this will also go a long way in boosting the country's economy," said the economist.

The economist, however, stated that there were

...A reduced domestic debt expected as minister of finance prepares to deliver Budget Speech tomorrow

a number of expectations from the Budget Speech not only from SMEs but others sectors.

The economist further noted that the nation was expecting a reduced domestic debt as throughout the year the minister of finance had worked around the clock to pay suppliers.

The minister, however, noted last week that the suppliers would have to wait another six weeks before being paid.

The minister explained that the office of the Auditor General and the Office of Internal Audit had been given more time to re-do the verification task and appealed for a further extension of

time for the task and payment of suppliers and service providers.

The minister stated that the initial stock of arrears was E4.2bn as calculated at the end of March 2019 and that this figure had declined to E2.2bn after the verification exercise, of which 50 per cent was for the capital programme and the balance is recurrent expenditure.

He said the public was expecting about the results of this exercise with the delays causing some frustrations and anxiety.

The economist also called for the increased investment on interventions to create increased opportunities for growth and jobs.

"During the Speech from the throne the King's directive was to prioritise tackling corruption increased interventions and support to ACC and we do hope these issues will be addressed and catered for in the Budget Speech," she added.

Accountants, auditors industry lacking by 80% in Eswatini

BY BAHLE GAMA

THE accounts and auditors industry in Eswatini is lacking by 80 per cent, depicting

the lack of guidance and the voice of these sectors.

Auditor General Timothy Matsebula made note of this during the launch of the online learning by the Institute of Accounts and Botswana Accountancy College (BAC).

Matsebula said the country was currently at 20 per cent when it comes to this profession, something he said was a devastating setback.

"We suffer from a huge short fall of the accountant profession in the country and that is devastating. We are at 20 per cent meaning there is a 80 per cent shortfall, hence we encourage everyone who aspires to be an accountant to grasp this opportunity and study online with BAC," he said.

He stated that accountants were a necessity in every business whether small, medium, large, public or private to advise on how to help grow the economy and make profits.

"The country is going down economically and that is an issue of concern which we may include the lack of accountants advising business leaders as a contributing factor.

This is an opportunity for Eswatini who aspire to do the accounting profession, whereby they can be able to do their studies online despite their location.

It will somehow reach, fulfil and boost the number of accountants in the country," he added.

Meanwhile, speaking during the launch held at the Hilton Garden Inn yesterday, Eswatini Institute of Accounts (EIA) Executive Director Barnabas Dlamini said the institute was, amongst other functions, tasked with encouraging the study of accountancy in the country.

He said a sound education and training system producing well trained accountants and auditors was a major factor that supported reliable accounting, auditing and financial reporting practices.

"During our 30th anniversary in 2017, His Majesty emphasised the importance of the role played by professional accountants in shaping the future of the country and further implored the profession to assist the country in growing its economy," he said.

He disclosed that in 2012 the World Bank conducted a report on the observance of the standards and codes, accounting and auditing.

"This was at the request of the Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini. In the course of the review the team identified that the number of



REMARKS: Botswana Accountancy College Executive Director Serty Leburu making her remarks. (Pic: Bahle Gama)

qualified accountants and especially audit practitioners in the country was relatively low in comparison with the demand which was estimated to be 600 professional accountants and 4 000 technicians.

"The number of professional accountants and technicians are far lower when compared to the demand," he said.

Also present during the launch was BAC Executive Director Serty Leburu who said accountants and their skills were needed world-wide.

She said professional accountancy programmes were the hallmark and foundation of their existence. "The profession is still considered resourceful for most countries for economic growth and diversification. Their skills are needed much more than ever as we know that the business environment has become much more volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous," she said.

She added that it was worth noting that most governments including Eswatini and Botswana emphasised on capacity building and skills development, making them amongst top priorities in their national development plans.

"The advent of technology through the 4th industrial revolution has not spared the accountancy profession as we continue to see new technologies introduced and old systems being upgraded to meet business requirements.

FinTechs and other technologies continue to penetrate the market and as accountants we must play a critical role into the transformation by aligning our profession with new changes," she said.

Tender Committees & Entity Tender Boards

A Procurement short course for those who participate in Tender Evaluation Committee (TEC) and those appointed into Entity Tender Board (ETB)

Date: 11 - 13 March 2020

Sibane Hotel, Eswatini

Registration Forms Available At
www.sppra.co.sz/training.html

Attendance Fee: E5,120.00

Per Person



Lomakhosi Magagula: lmagagula@sppra.co.sz 2404 7527

Isabel Ntuli: isabel@unisw.sz 2517 0808

One stop border for SA, Eswatini and others on the cards

BY QONDILE NTIWANE

A one-stop border post that will fast track trade between South Africa and some Southern African countries including Eswatini is on the cards.

Information sourced from Zimbabwean Mail is that the first one-stop border post will be that of SA and Zimbabwe which will be fully operational Beitbridge in 2024, according to SA Home Affairs Minister Aaron Motsoaledi while similar plans will be carried for SA Borders with Eswatini, Mozambique, Lesotho and Botswana.

The crossing is one of Africa's busiest land borders, with about 25 000 people and 500 trucks passing through daily. However, delays and congestion mean it can take as long as four days to receive clearance from customs officials, according to a Global Economic Governance report.

A one-stop border would harmonise customs clearance procedures between the two countries.

"We all know the frustration of travellers when they go through Beitbridge: the long queues, the long waiting times, the congestion," Motsoaledi said in an interview.

"Now, the one-stop border post is going to do away with all that because it involves massive infrastructural changes, not just operational changes."

It was reported that the upgrade is one of four projects that President Cyril Ramaphosa last week said the government would fast-track to facilitate greater regional and continental trade, after the country assumed the chairmanship of the African Union.

Construction will include a building for immigration officials and separate traffic lanes for commercial, private and public vehicles as well as a pedestrian pathway.

The minister didn't provide a cost estimate for the project as private companies would bear the costs.

The appointment of an international consulting firm is imminent and five consortia — SPG-CHEC JV, Border Post Consortium, Fast Post SA, Hlanganani Consortium and CSCEC Imbani Consortium — are on the short-list to undertake the project that will include a 20-year concession for the winning bidder to cover the costs, Motsoaledi said.



SA Home Affairs Minister Aaron Motsoaledi.

Liquidity position of banks decreases, now at E6.1 billion

BY QONDILE NTIWANE

THE liquidity position of banks' decreased by 8.0 per cent month on month to settle at E6.1 billion over the month under review.

According to the monthly statistical release from the Central Bank of Eswatini (CBE), this development was a result of a decline in commercial banks' balances with the CBE.

The banks' liquidity ratio closed at 36.7 per cent at the end of December 2019, lower than the 39.8 per cent recorded in November 2019. Compared annually, the banks' liquidity position accelerated by 22.7 per cent.

Meanwhile, Net claims on government with the banking sector stood at E3.3 billion at the end of December 2019, depicting an increase of 20.3 per cent from the level recorded in the previous month. This development resulted from the



combined effect of growth in claims on government and government deposits held with the banking sector by 14.1 per cent and 6.8 per cent, respectively.

Broad money supply (M2), on the

other hand, stood at E18.4 billion over the month under review, reflecting a month-on-month increase of 0.3 per cent. The expansion in M2 was observed in narrow money supply (M1) whilst quasi money sup-

ply depicted a contraction. Compared over the year, M2 improved by 1.7 per cent while Narrow money supply (M1) amounted to E7.0 billion at the end of December 2019 representing a month-on-month growth of 10.0 per cent, on account of transferable (demand) deposits.

Transferable deposits recorded an increase of 13.1 per cent to E6.3 billion whilst Emalangeneni outside depository corporations fell by 11.6 per cent to E0.7 billion.

Quasi money supply trended downwards by 4.9 per cent at the end of December 2019 to close the review month at E11.4 billion, lower than the E12.0 billion observed in November 2019.

With regards to the components of quasi money supply, both time and savings deposits depicted a contraction.

Time deposits decreased by 5.0 per cent month-on-month to E9.5 billion whilst savings deposits fell by 4.4 per cent to E1.9 billion.

MTN re-affirms commitment to stimulate job creation

BY QONDILE NTIWANE

FOLLOWING the recent launch of the company's awareness campaign, 'We're Good Together' MTN Eswatini has re-affirmed her commitment to continue supporting young people in Eswatini to launch businesses and create jobs for themselves.

This support will be mainly through seed capital initiatives like the MTN-Youth Enterprise Revolving Fund (YERF) Khula Natsi Loans for instance, where MTN is investing E100 000 to support youth-owned businesses. Already, E52 000 of this amount has already been disbursed to qualifying businesses.

During last year's 21 Days of Y'ello Care only, MTN exposed close to 300 youth to entrepreneurship. The company further injected E100 000 in the MTN Junior Achievement (JA) Vocational Entrepreneurship Programme.

MTN Corporate Affairs Manager Mandla Luphondvo said these initiatives formed part of the company's priorities this year. He stated that youth unemployment remained a spikey issue in the kingdom, and that MTN Eswatini would like to be part of the solution through corporate social investments and various sponsorship initiatives.

"It is reported that over 40 per cent of the youth is unemployed. Under the 'We're Good Together' campaign, MTN is looking at what Eswatini needs to prosper, largely through strategic part-



MTN Corporate Affairs Manager Mandla Luphondvo.

nerships.

"One of the challenges facing the country is high youth unemployment and for Eswatini to prosper, we need to stimulate job creation. Notably, the same thing that the country needs to prosper is also what MTN Eswatini is expected to deliver under our long-term strategy. So, we have an amazing alignment between what is good for the country and what's good for MTN Eswatini," he said.

He added that MTN continued to play an active role in supporting initiatives aimed at unlocking entrepreneurial potential and development in Eswatini.

"As we reflect today, MTN is excited that the first disbursement of Khula Natsi Fund is ready

to change young people's businesses.

"It is very encouraging to hear the success stories of the young people whose lives have been already impacted by taking part in these initiatives and knowing that MTN has had a role to play in this," he said. Luphondvo also mentioned that they had just concluded the second round of the 18-week MTN-SEDCO Cija Ngebhizini radio programme. MTN in partnership with the Small Enterprises Development Company (SEDCO) rolled out an entrepreneurship educational Radio Programme known as 'Cija Ngebhizini,' whose primary objective is to empower EmaSwati, particularly young people, with entrepreneurial skills. This radio program shines its light to rural communities where business information may not be readily available. Five businesses under this programme will share seed capital worth E50 000.

He further encouraged the youth to apply for the MTN-YERF Khula Natsi Loans since the YERF has invited applications for the first quarter.

"Applications opened on the 3rd of February and will be closed on the 2nd of March. We encourage the youth to make use of this opportunity," he said. Luphondvo said applications forms are available on the YERF website. He said they are also distributed to other stakeholders including: constituencies, Eswatini National Youth Council, Junior Achievement, ENACTUS, Industrial Development Company of Eswatini (IDCE) and SEDCO.

The Specialist bag E1.4m KMIII VVIP Lot 2 tender

BY QONDILE NTIWANE

RENOWNED cleaning company the Specialist has been tasked with providing cleaning services at the King Mswati III International Airport VVIP Lot 2, a tender worth over E1.4 million.

Information sourced from the Eswatini Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (ESPPRA) is that the contract is worth E1 444

380.

The Specialist recorded a total evaluation score of 93 per cent to beat two other local companies to the contract awarded by the Royal Eswatini National Airways Corporation tender Committee (RENAC).

The companies are PSSN Investments which secured an evaluation score of 90 per cent with a bid price of E1 548 000 and Lihora Investments who tabled a bid price

Name	The Specialist
Nationality	Swati
Proposed Contract Price	E1 444 380
Total Evaluated Score	93 per cent

of E9 966 360 and scored 73 per cent.

Contract

According to the ESPPRA website, it must be noted that, in terms of Section 45(2) of the Act, the above contract award decision does

not constitute a contract. Further, in terms of section 45(4), 46, and 47 of the Act, all tenderers who submitted bids are hereby notified that a period of 10 working days is hereby allowed for submission of any application.

JOHANNESBURG - Take the pressure off your wallet by doing something meaningful instead of expensive for Valentine's Day this year.

If you are just starting out in a relationship you may want to impress your partner with extravagant gifts and an expensive meal. However, this could negatively impact your finances for the month, and as the relationship is so new you might be spending money on someone who won't be in your life in two months' time.

On the flipside, if you are in a committed relationship, whether it be a marriage or a long term relationship, extravagance is again not a necessity. Find a way to show how much you care in a way that really means something to the person that you are with, while also showing that you know them and their likes and dislikes by personalising the gift.

Don't make one day special. You should make you loved one feel loved and cherished every day, not just one out of the 365 of the year. Do something a little extra on Valentine's Day by all means, but it will be just as appreciated, possibly even more so as it will be unexpected, if you do something to show you care on a different day.

If you're on a tight budget, why not cook a meal for your Valentine instead of going out to eat at a restaurant? If this is something you don't normally do it will be a lovely surprise. Make their favourite meal and set the mood for the evening with the right choice of colour, lighting and music. A little bit of old school romance can go a long way.

The cost of Valentine's Day

It is important to shop around as many shops will push up their prices for the Valentine's Day associated products. But before purchasing the first bunch of red roses that you see, consider the costs.

A dozen 50cm cerise roses from Woolworths can cost you R85, however, more extravagant arrangements can cost R165 and more.

A dozen Valentine's roses from Netflorist costs R399,95 but there are fancier arrangements that come with vases or baskets, as well as chocolates and other treats. Though, if you really want a bunch of roses, then you can pick up a simple, smaller arrangement for a much more reasonable price. The 'Sprays and red roses handbag' is R259,95, and the 'Always in my heart arrangement' of three red roses is R159,95.

The Rose Café has Valentine's arrangements from R560 to R4 140. And The Cape Town Florist has a range of Valentine's Day products available, from a dozen red roses for R329 to a mixed Valentine's rose basket for R1 200.

There are other ways of cutting costs, like visiting an online deals site that offers cus-

HOW TO AVOID BEING RIPPED OFF ON VALENTINE'S DAY



tomers deals on popular goods. One such site is Groupon. Here you can find deals on restaurants, flowers and other gifts for a discounted price.

For example, you can get Valentine's Day Roses with a personalised message for R249 from Kenly Florist in Cape Town or a Valentine's Day chocolate bouquet for R122.

When looking for deals for restaurants on these sites just phone ahead and make sure that you can use the deal you purchased on Valentine's Day, as they might be popular and fully booked.

Tips for saving money on Valentine's Day

So when did showing someone you care become so commercialised? Surely love should not be measured by how much you spend on a person? But, for some, it does.

If you'd like to save money though, we have put together the following tips:

1. If you are going to buy flowers, consider buying something other than roses, or perhaps even a different colour rose. The price of red roses over Valentine's Day

is exorbitant (as seen in the examples above), and the flowers will wilt and die within a few days no matter how much you spend on them. Try buying your loved ones favourite flower or picking flowers from your garden instead.

2. Celebrate Valentine's Day on the 13th or the 15th instead. Restaurants may be cheaper the day before and after Valentine's Day, meaning you will save money if you go out for a meal.

3. Have a picnic. The Pick n Pay website has ideas to help you plan the perfect Valentine's picnic. This is less costly than going to a restaurant and can be very romantic. Just make sure that when you are selecting your venue that there is no admissions costs for the picnic area.

4. Have dinner in. Surprise your loved one with their favourite meal prepared at home by you. It will be more special because you took the time to prepare everything yourself, and has the added benefit of costing less than going out for a meal to a fancy restaurant.

5. Another idea is to plan a movie night. Get a copy of your loved one's favourite romantic movie and

prepare snacks and meals that can be eaten while you are cuddled on the couch watching the film together.

6. Rather than splurging money on a gimmicky trinket that will end up in the bottom of a drawer, take the time to make a card or gift. It will be more personal than the items you can buy in the shops, and will be appreciated more as your time and love went into making it.

7. Set a budget and stick to it. You know how much you can afford to spend. Even though it is Valentine's Day don't go overboard and blow your budget. "Make sure as a couple you know what your monthly budget for going out for the month is. You don't need to reveal all your budget details, but come to an understanding of what you can afford to do," says Eunice Sibiyi, head of First National Bank's Consumer Education Division.

8. If you and your partner take turns paying for meals or outings, don't be afraid to remind your partner when it is their turn to pay. "[This] can be done in a loving and caring way and could be the difference between surviving the month or having to start living off

credit," explained Sibiyi.

Sibiyi adds: "Honest conversations on any matter, especially finances, are invaluable and can avoid bitterness, irritability and money fights later on."

Valentine's Day specials are not always a cost saver

In the run up to Valentine's Day shops advertise a variety of sales and specials on items that they claim show your loved ones how much you care about them. These include flowers, chocolates and other gifts and trinkets which everyone else is buying as well. And let's face it, most of these will most likely end up in the bottom of a drawer a month later.

If you still want to get something from the shops (because who doesn't like getting a present?) then make sure you pair it with a memorable event, or just a good day together.

Clicks: The Clicks Valentine's Day catalogue is filled with savings on fragrances for him and her, chocolates and other yummy treats, as well as beauty products and bathroom accessories.

Pick n Pay: The Pick n Pay website has an entire section devoted to Valentine's Day, with specials and savings on offer at the store, as well as ideas on what to do on the day, such as a picnic or a romantic meal in.

Woolworths: The website offers a selection of items that it claims are for Valentine's Day. These include chocolates, food, wine and flowers. You can get flowers from anywhere between R49,99 to R165.

When it comes to the ones we love, showing them how much we care does not have to impact wallets. Give them something from the heart, and show them how you really feel rather than splurging on expensive flowers, and restaurants.

Personal Finance

SA tourism industry needs special attention, Mr President

JOHANNESBURG - The South African Tourism Industry urgently needs President Cyril Ramaphosa to set out practical steps for addressing challenges in his State of the Nation Address today, not just broad strokes on the importance of the industry for the SA economy.

This is the call from Christelle Grohmann, director of the Specialist Tourism Division at BDO South Africa.

"The tourism sector is one of the major contributors to the develop-

ment of the SA economy. We must look for where the opportunities are, and then tackle related challenges head-on," she tells Fin24.

She would like to see, in the days after SONA, steps taken for various ministries - including police, tourism, transport, public enterprises and communications - to put heads together and come up with meaningful plans to boost the tourism industry and do everything possible to grow tourism in the country.

Jerry Mabena, CEO of Thebe

Tourism Group, says from the previous SONA, it was clear that government intended to resolve SA's economic challenges in collaboration with the private sector. However, in his view, there remain fundamental issues currently undermining these intentions. Issues such as the SAA saga, Eskom and high levels of violent crimes targeted at tourists - factors severely impacting growth in the tourism sector. "It would therefore be encouraging to hear from Mr President what the government's practical plans are to

deal with these," said Mabena.

Slower growth

Hospitality body FEDHASA Cape Spokesperson, Richard Lyon, says there are signs of slower growth in the hospitality industry. Visitors are enjoying shorter stays and are booking closer to their dates of travel. "Sentiment among Western Cape members remains positive despite challenges faced by the industry and mixed results over the Festive Season," he adds.

According to Margie Whitehouse,

newly appointed Chief Tourism Officer of Wesgro (the official tourism, trade and investment promotion agency for Cape Town and the Western Cape) and a brand marketing expert, it is important to look at South Africa as whole destination brand.

She too sees greater collaboration as a key challenge to address.

"Provinces have to work together and there must also be collaboration between local and national tourism sectors in order to unite and present the best the country has to offer to the world," Whitehouse tells Fin24.

"This is a different approach than each province or tourism body having its own silos, just focusing on getting their own offerings out there. Collaboration is the way to get more from the limited budgets available."

Focus on World News

Global News

CORONAVIRUS COULD KILL 45 MILLION PEOPLE

and infect SIXTY PER CENT of the global population if it cannot be controlled

Wuhan - Coronavirus could kill 45 million people and infect more than 60 per cent of the global population if containment methods fail, a top Hong Kong medical official has warned.

Professor Gabriel Leung, chair of public health medicine in the city, also said that even if the death rate reaches just one per cent, the potential spread means it could still kill thousands of people.

With the global population currently at more than 7 billion (7,577,130,400), that means that the virus has the potential to infect more than 4 billion

(4,546,278,240) if Professor Leung is correct and its spread continues to accelerate.

And if one per cent of those people die, that means there will be more than 45 million deaths.

However, the number of new cases reported in China each day has begun to level off, declining five out of the last eight days. It doesn't mean the outbreak has peaked, but is an encouraging sign.

Experts expect that cases will continue to increase overall, and will long be underestimated, because it's become clear that some patients have only mild

symptoms or are asymptomatic.

The hope is that, with both knowledge of and the diagnostic test for coronavirus now more widespread, people are being diagnosed more quickly and moved to isolation to contain the spread, which should help keep infections from reaching their maximum potential.

There are more than 43,000 cases reported in the world so far, with more than 1,100 deaths due to the virus.

But Prof Leung told The Guardian during a visit to London that the priority now is to establish the size and shape of the 'epidemic iceberg'.
Daily Mail

Sudan agrees to hand over ex-president Omar al-Bashir

KHARTOUM - Sudan has agreed to hand ousted president Omar al-Bashir to the International Criminal Court to face genocide and war crimes charges.

The country's transitional authorities and rebel groups agreed the handover of the former leader yesterday, who also allegedly ordered mass killings in the Darfur region.

Al-Bashir was overthrown by the military in April following a popular uprising and has since been held in jail in the country's capital, Khartoum, on charges of corruption and killing protesters.

Mohammed Hassan al-Taishi, a member of the Sovereign Council and a government negotiator, said the council agreed with rebel groups in Darfur to hand over those wanted by the International Criminal Court to face justice in The Hague.

Al-Taishi did not say when they would transfer al-Bashir and others wanted by the ICC, and the transitional administration would need to ratify the ICC's Rome Statute to allow for the transfer of the former president to The Hague.

Daily Mail

'The Queen begged them not to rush... but it was already over'

LONDON - Peter Phillips and his wife Autumn told monarch of their pending marriage split during private visit to Balmoral last summer.

For both parties it looked like a marriage made in heaven — a classic case of opposites attracting.

Peter Phillips had all the prestige of being the Queen's favourite grandson. Handsome, confident and popular, he enjoyed every advantage of his birthright without the impediment of a title or the inconvenience of actually having to work for the Royal Family.

The young woman he married came from very different beginnings. Canadian management consultant Autumn Kelly was a hairdresser's daughter from a tough,



working-class suburb of Montreal.

One brother was a bricklayer, another a chef and there was a wayward uncle

who once ran a strip club. What both Peter and Autumn possessed, however, was a love of making money. *Daily Mail*

'They cut me while I gave birth..'

NAIROBI - The horrors of female genital mutilation suffered by tribal girls in northern Kenya has been laid bare by survivors and perpetrators of the procedure.

Women from the indigenous Pokot tribe told how they were cut without their consent on the orders of family members, or else ran away from home after finding out they would be subject to the potentially-lethal surgery.

Meanwhile a group of women who used to perform the operation told how girls were subjected to the surgery with no anaesthetic, and punished if they cried or flinched.

Their stories were revealed by British charity One Woman At A Time, which aims to help women escape from a life of FGM, abuse and forced marriage.

One survivor, identified only as Christine, told how she grew up with her grandmother in a village that doesn't practice FGM, before she met and married a man from a neighbouring village.

After they were wed she was then taken to live with him and his in-laws in a village where the practice



is common, where she was quickly ostracised.

She said: 'I wasn't allowed to cook him food or milk the cows as I was told I was unclean. Other women avoided me saying I was a bad omen and that I turned their milk sour.'

'Also, they said that I smelt, as I wasn't cut, so they would hold their noses in exaggeration when coming by me.'

'When the cows died, they blamed me. The loneliness and being treated that way, I was so frightened.'

Daily Mail

Zimbabwe's Zanu-PF in mass recruitment drive in SA

HARARE - Zimbabwe's ruling Zanu-PF party has embarked on a mass mobilisation drive on the streets of neighbouring South Africa, as the former liberation movement targets five million registered voters by the next national elections in 2023.

The state-owned Herald newspaper reported that Zanu-PF, which is aiming

to secure 65 per cent of the vote at the polls, had established a database of its members living outside Zimbabwe's borders to create a direct link between party headquarters and structures outside the country.

Meeting

Zanu-PF spokesman in South Africa Kennedy Mandaza told the newspaper

that a party meeting in Johannesburg last week attracted over 30 new members who joined its diaspora structures.

Several Zimbabwean civic groups and political parties have representation in South Africa, home to millions of Zimbabweans who fled political strife and an economic meltdown back home.
ANA

BRIEFS

Mobile hospital set-up at airport

WINDHOEK - A mobile hospital has been set up outside the Hosea Kutako International Airport in Namibia for the immediate containment and treatment of coronavirus cases. The unit was moved from the Okahandja military base to accommodate suspected coronavirus patients, and to allow for immediate treatment when detected at the international airport, The Namibian newspaper reported. The hospital has 18 beds, an intensive care unit with two beds, pre-theatre reception with one stretcher and a casualty department with four stretchers.

AFP

Military helicopter shot down

IDLIB - A Syrian Government helicopter has been shot down by Turkish-backed rebel groups in western Syria amid spiralling tensions in the region.

Video shows a Russian-made Mi-17 helicopter in flames somewhere near the town of Nerab, which was recently captured by government troops, before it breaks up and plummets from the sky. The attack comes a day after five Turkish soldiers were killed in a government attack - prompting Ankara to retaliate with strikes on 115 government positions.

Daily Mail

Woman arrested for stealing newborn

LILONGWE - A 30-year-old woman has been arrested for allegedly stealing a newborn baby girl at the Mulanje district hospital in Malawi, news website Malawi24 reported. The baby's 16-year-old mother Rhoda Charles told the outlet that she gave birth on February 8 and was discharged from hospital two days later.

Charles said her mother and guardian went to the pharmacy to collect medicine, leaving her with the newborn baby.

When a woman approached her, claiming Charles' mother had asked her to bring the baby to the pharmacy, the teenager handed over her child. *Reuters*

Hundreds of schools ban homework

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES - Pupils at more than 250 government-run schools in the United Arab Emirates are officially done with homework. A local National newspaper reports that, starting next week, the Education Ministry is abolishing homework in public schools in the emirates of Dubai and Abu Dhabi to help pupils make the most of their time in school and have more time for other activities and their families after school. Other countries, like Finland, have had success with less homework, which proponents argue allows children more time to think creatively and play outdoors.

Reuters

Focus on SA Scene

Your Daily Mzansi News

'SONA NEEDS TO SEND MESSAGE OF HOPE TO RE-ENERGISE THE PEOPLE'

JOHANNESBURG - A statement of hope that energises the people of South Africa is what the ANC expects from the State of the Nation Address (SONA) today.

Speaking to News24, the party's Spokesperson, Pule Mabe, said after its *lekgotla*, the SONA needed to reinvigorate the people.

"We believe that there must be a statement and a message of hope coming out strong, one that begins to energise our people and assures them that things are going to be better.

"We are going there ourselves, confident and looking forward to a message that will give our people hope," Mabe said.

He added the message needed to reach the poorest South Africans and give them confidence in the government's ability to provide



basic needs.

"The people of Ga-Rankuwa in Tshwane want to be reinvigorated, they want to believe that they will go to a home where there is electricity, that the young people who are roaming the streets there are going to have jobs.

"The people of Soweto need to know that there is going to be a concerted programme to deal with load shedding."

The overall message, Mabe said, needed to be one of assurance, hope and nation building.

Yes, Jacob Zuma will attend Ramaphosa's SONA for the first time

CAPE TOWN - Former President Jacob Zuma will be attending President Cyril Ramaphosa's State of the Nation Address today.

This comes after Parliament confirmed on Wednesday that Zuma will show up for the event.

Last week Speaker Thandi Modise had said Zuma had not yet confirmed whether he will

attend SONA or not.

But Modise had said they sent invitations to all former presidents and ex-Speakers of the National Assembly.

Former presidents Thabo Mbeki, Kgalema Motlanthe and FW de Klerk had confirmed their attendance of the SONA.

In a tweet yesterday Parliament said Zuma will attend the SONA.

"Former President J Zuma will attend #SONA 2020," read the tweet.

This will be the first time Zuma is seen in public after the Pietermaritzburg High Court issued a warrant of arrest for his non-appearance in court last week.

The High Court was not happy with the medical certificate sub-

mitted by Zuma's legal team.

Zuma had not attended the Zondo Commission of Inquiry last year after citing ill-health.

His legal team said it would arrange a meeting between Deputy Judge President Raymond Zondo with Zuma's medical team to explain the condition that has prevented him from attending the hearing. *Political Bureau*

Zondo satisfied complaints could lead to gross misconduct finding

DURBAN - Deputy Chief Justice Raymond Zondo has referred the two complaints lodged against each other by Western Cape High Court Judge President John Hlophe and his deputy Patricia Goliath to the Judicial Conduct Committee (JCC).

The JCC will consider whether it should recommend to the Judicial Service Commission (JSC) that the complaints be investigated and reported on by a Tribunal, the Secretariat of the JCC said in a statement yesterday.

"After considering both Deputy Judge-President Goliath's complaint against Judge-President Hlophe and Judge-President Hlophe's complaint against Deputy Judge-President Goliath, the Deputy Chief Justice was satisfied in terms of Section 16(1) of the Judicial Service Commission Act... that each one of the two complaints, if established, would be likely to lead to a finding by the Judicial Service Commission that the respondent judge in each complaint is guilty of gross misconduct," the statement said.

The committee will meet at the Constitutional Court on February 21 to consider this.

"At the meeting, the committee may decide to recommend to the JSC that the complaints or one of them be investigated and reported on by a Tribunal, or to refer one of the complaints or both complaints to the Deputy Chief Justice so that he may designate a member of the committee to conduct an inquiry in terms of Section 17 of the JSC Act to determine the merits of the complaint," the statement said.



REFERS: Deputy Chief Justice Raymond Zondo.

Parly dismisses claims of undercover police being brought in for SONA

CAPE TOWN - Parliament has dismissed claims it will be calling in undercover police officers to the National Assembly to deal with Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) members of Parliament (MPs).

The party has threatened to disrupt the State of the Nation Address (SONA) on Thursday.

It wants the president to sack Public Enterprises Minister Pravin

Gordhan.

The red berets have claimed that officers will be disguised as parliamentary security guards. Parliament's Spokesperson Moloto Mothapo: "Any member of Parliament or any party with evidence of any alleged plot to unlawfully use police in the chamber during SONA are advised to submit it to the presiding officers."

EWN



No confirmed case of Coronavirus in SA - NICD

JOHANNESBURG - The National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD) has assured South Africans it was on high alert to deal with any case of the coronavirus.

Scores of people have been tested in South Africa since the outbreak in China but all cases have come back negative.

Over 1,000 people have died in China, with tens of thousands more affected globally.

The World Health Organisation said that the first vaccine for the coronavirus could be available in 18 months.

The institute's Cheryl Cohen said that in the meantime, their detection measures were sufficient.

"We can confirm that as of 11 February 2020, 61 individuals have been tested for the virus and all tests have come back negative. Therefore there is no confirmed case of the 2019 novel coronavirus in South Africa."

The NICD has cautioned against making alarmist statements about the coronavirus as the world tries to contain its spread.

The World Health Organisation is warning people not to underestimate

the impact a virus can have on all spheres of life.

Urging the world to "wake up" and be as aggressive as possible in tackling the outbreak, the UN health agency has given a new name to the disease that has infected more than 44,600 people.

The virus has now been named Covid-19 in an attempt to avoid stigma.

Cohen said that experts were still learning more about the virus every day.

EWN

Mandela laid foundation for democratic South Africa - Ramaphosa

CAPE TOWN - President Cyril Ramaphosa on Tuesday said Nelson Mandela laid the foundation for a democratic South Africa, but the country had a long way to go to realise the former president's dream.

Ramaphosa addressed a gathering in Cape Town on the 30th anniversary of Mandela's release from prison. Thirty years ago, Ramaphosa from the balcony of City Hall held a microphone to amplify Mandela's voice for the crowd below. Thirty years later,

Ramaphosa echoed Madiba's words from the steps of City Hall. Standing next to the statue of Mandela, Ramaphosa spoke of unity and hailed the struggle icon as a symbol of resistance. He said Mandela's release was a day that dramatically changed the course of history in South Africa, saying it was an emotional and memorable moment.

"Thirty years ago, we will forever remember those first words: 'I stand before you not as a prophet but as a humble servant of you, the people,'" Ramaphosa said. *EWN*

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PRIMARY ELECTIONS

8 DEMOCRATS RUNNING FOR PRESIDENT IN 2020



JOE BIDEN

Age on Inauguration Day 2021: 78
Entered race: April 25, 2019

Career: No current role. A University of Delaware and Syracuse Law graduate, he was first elected to Newcastle City Council in 1969, then won upset election to Senate in 1972, aged 29. Was talked out of quitting before being sworn in when his wife and daughter died in a car crash and served total of six terms. Chaired Judiciary Committee's notorious Clarence Thomas confirmation hearings. Ran for president in 1988, pulled out after plagiarism scandal, ran again in 2008, withdrew after placing fifth in the Iowa Caucuses. Tapped by Obama as his running mate and served two terms as vice president. Contemplated third run in 2016 but decided against it after his son died of brain cancer.

Family: Eldest of four siblings born to Joe Biden Sr. and Catherine Finnegan. First wife Neilia Hunter and their one-year-old daughter Naomi died in car crash which their two sons, Joseph 'Beau' and Robert Hunter survived. Married Jill Jacobs in 1976, with whom he has daughter Ashley. Beau died of brain cancer in 2015.

Religion: Catholic

Views on key issues: Ultra-moderate who will emphasise bipartisan record. Will come under fire over record, having voted: to stop desegregation busing in 1975; to overturn Roe v Wade in 1981; for now controversial 1994 Violent Crime Act; for 2003 Iraq War; and for banking deregulation. Says he is 'most progressive' Democrat.



MIKE BLOOMBERG

Age on Inauguration Day: 78
Entered race: November 24, 2019

Career: Currently multi-billionaire CEO of Bloomberg PL, the financial information firm he founded in 1981 and which remains a private company. Educated at Johns Hopkins and Harvard, he became a Wall Street trader at investment bank Salomon Brothers and was laid off in 1981, walking away with \$10m in stock which he used to set up his own financial information firm, now one of the world's largest. Three times mayor of New York 2002 to 2013, running first as Republican then as independent; had to get term limits suspended for final term. Once flirted with running for mayor of London where he has a home; holds an honorary knighthood from Queen Elizabeth. Has spent large amounts on philanthropy in line with his political views as well as on political campaigns.

Family: Born in Brookline, MA, to first-generation Jewish immigrant parents whose own parents had fled Russia. Divorced wife of 18 years, Susan Brown-Meyer, in 1993; former couple have daughters Emma, who has a son with her former boyfriend, and Georgina, who has daughter Zelda with her husband Chris Fissora.

Religion: Jewish

Views on key issues: Self-professed fiscal conservative, although painted as a Democratic moderate by other conservative groups. Opposed to Medicare for all. Social progressive who backed gay marriage early, but has flip-flopped on marijuana legalisation, most recently opposing it.



PETE BUTTIGIEG

Age on Inauguration Day: 39

Entered race: Announced formation of exploratory committee January 23, 2019. Formally entered race April 14, 2019
Career: Currently Mayor of South Bend, Indiana. Harvard grad and Rhodes scholar who got a second degree from Oxford before working as a McKinsey management consultant and being commissioned as a Navy Reserve Intelligence Officer. Elected South Bend mayor in 2011 and served in combat in 2013, won re-election in 2015

Family: Came out as gay during second mayoral run and married husband Chasten Glezman, a middle school teacher in 2018. Parents were University of Notre Dame academics; his father was Maltese-American. Surname is pronounced BOOT-edge-edge

Religion: Raised as a Catholic, now Episcopalian

Views on key issues: Has said Democratic party needs a 'fresh start'; wrote an essay in praise of Bernie Sanders aged 17; backed paid parental leave for city employees; other policies unknown

Would make history as: First openly gay and youngest-ever president. First veteran of post-World War II conflict

Slogan: A Fresh Start For America



TULSI GABBARD

Age on Inauguration Day: 39

Entered race: Still to formally file any papers but said she would run on January 11, 2019

Career: Currently Hawaii congresswoman. Born on American Samoa, a territory. Raised largely in Hawaii, she co-founded an environmental non-profit with her father as a teenager and was elected to the State Legislature aged 21, its youngest member in history. Enlisted in the National Guard and served two tours, one in Iraq 2004-2006, then as an officer in Kuwait in 2009. Ran for Honolulu City Council in 2011, and House of Representatives in 2012

Family: Married to her second husband, Abraham Williams, a cinematographer since 2015. First marriage to childhood sweetheart Eduardo Tamayo in 2002 ended in 2006. Father Mike Gabbard is a Democratic Hawaii state senator, mother Carol Porter runs a non-profit.

Religion: Hindu

Views on key issues: Has apologised for anti-abortion and anti-gay marriage views; wants marijuana federally legalised; opposed to most U.S. foreign interventions; backs \$15 minimum wage and universal health care; was the second elected Democrat to meet Trump after his 2016 victory

Would make history as: First female, Hindu and Samoan-American president; youngest president ever

Slogan: Lead with Love.



AMY KLOBUCHAR

Age on Inauguration Day: 60

Entered race: Announced candidacy February 10, 2019 at snow-drenched rally in her native Minneapolis

Career: Currently Minnesota senator. Yale and University of Chicago law graduate who became a corporate lawyer. First ran unsuccessfully for office in 1994 as Hennepin, MI, county attorney, and won same race in 1998, then in 2002, without opposition. Ran for Senate in 2006 and won 58-38; re-elected in 2012 and 2018

Family: Married to John Bessler, law professor at University of Baltimore and expert on capital punishment. Daughter Abigail Bessler, 23, works for a Democratic member of New York City council. Father Jim, 90, was a veteran newspaper columnist who has written a memoir of how his alcoholism hurt his family; mom Rose is a retired grade school teacher

Religion: Congregationalist (United Church of Christ)

Views on key issues: Seen as a mainstream liberal: says she wants 'universal health care' but has not spelled out how; pro-gun control; pro-choice; backs \$15 minimum wage; no public statements on federal marijuana legalization; has backed pro-Israel law banning the 'boycott, divestment and sanctions' movement; spoke out against abolishing ICE



BERNIE SANDERS

Age on Inauguration Day: 79

Entered race: Sources said on January 25, 2019, that he would form exploratory committee. Officially announced February 19

Career: Currently Vermont senator. Student civil rights and anti-Vietnam activist who moved to Vermont and worked as a carpenter and radical film-maker. Serial failed political candidate in the 1970s, he ran as a socialist for mayor of Burlington in 1980 and served two terms ending in 1989, and won a seat in Congress as an independent in 1990. Ran for Senate in 2006 elections as an independent with Democratic endorsement and won third term in 2018

Family: Born to a Jewish immigrant father and the daughter of Jewish immigrant parents in Brooklyn, New York. First marriage to college sweetheart Deborah Shiling Messing in 1964 ended in divorce in 1966; had son Levi in 1969 with then girlfriend Susan Cambell Mott. Married Jane O'Meara in 1988 and considers her three children, all adults, his own. The couple have seven grandchildren. His older brother Larry is a former Green Party councillor in Oxfordshire, England.

Religion: Secular Jewish

Views on key issues: Openly socialist and standard bearer for the Democratic party's left-turn. Wants federal \$15 minimum wage; banks broken up; union membership encouraged; free college tuition; universal health care.



TOM STEYER

Age on Inauguration Day 2021: 63

Entered race: July 9, 2019

Career: Currently retired. New York-born to wealthy family, he was educated at elite Phillips Exeter Academy, and Yale, then Stanford Business School. Morgan Stanley and Goldman Sachs banker who founded his own hedge fund in 1986 and made himself a billionaire; investments included sub-prime lenders, private prisons and coal mines. Stepped down in 2012 to focus on advocating for alternative energy.

Family: Married Kathryn Taylor in 1986; they have four adult children who have been told they will not inherit the bulk of his fortune. Announced last November he and his wife would live apart. Father Roy was a Nuremberg trials prosecutor

Religion: Episcopalian

Views on key issues: On the left of the field despite being a hedge fund tycoon. Backs single-payer health care, minimum wage rises and free public college. Previously spoke in favor of Bernie Sanders' agenda. Aggressive backer of climate change action, including ditching fossil fuels

Would make history as: Richest Democratic president ever
Slogan: Actions Speak Louder Than Words.



ELIZABETH WARREN

Age on Inauguration Day: 71

Entered race: Set up exploratory committee December 31, 2018

Career: Currently Massachusetts senator. Law lecturer and academic who became an expert on bankruptcy law and tenured Harvard professor. Ran for Senate and won in 2012, defeating sitting Republican Scott Brown, held it in 2018 60 per cent to 36 per cent. Was short-listed to be Hillary's running mate and campaigned hard for her in 2016

Family: Twice-married mother of two and grandmother of three. First husband and father of her children was her high-school sweetheart. Second husband Bruce Mann is Harvard law professor.

Religion: Raised Methodist, now described as Christian with no fixed church

Views on key issues: Was a registered Republican who voted for the party but registered as a Democrat in 1996. Pro: higher taxes on rich; banking regulation; Dream Act path to citizenship for 'dreamers'; abortion and gay rights; campaign finance restrictions; and expansion of public provision of healthcare - although still to spell out exactly how that would happen.

Against: U.S. presence in Afghanistan and Syria; liberalisation of gambling
Would make history as: First female president.

Bernie Sanders wins New Hampshire primary

NEW HAMPSHIRE - Bernie Sanders won the New Hampshire primary Tuesday night, giving Democrats their first declared winner in the presidential nomination process - but he took the victory by less than two per cent.

Sanders had 25.6 per cent of votes when he declared victory and the race was called by the Associated Press and TV networks - putting him just 1.3 per cent ahead of Pete Buttigieg in second place on 24.4 per cent.

And the result was almost entirely symbolic since both he and Buttigieg gained nine delegates at the Democratic National Convention, the crucial measure of success in the Democratic race.

Sanders, the Vermont senator, was the frontrunner in his neighboring state but his narrow victory does nothing to settle the Democratic field - except by winning it.

Sanders appeared in front of cheering supporters to claim victory in Manchester after Andrew Yang and Michael Bennet announced they were leaving the race and Deval Patrick said he was 'considering' his position - code for dropping out yesterday.

The 78-year-old socialist hailed the result as a major victory, but the margin was hardly convincing.

Buttigieg and Klobuchar had both also hailed their performances, which give them more momentum out of the race than Sanders can claim.

Sanders and Buttigieg, although a few percentage points apart in the results, tied in the amount of delegates they earned, both amassing nine.

The undisputed big winner may for the night may have been a Democratic party desperate to bury the chaos of the Iowa caucuses, while the definitive loser was Biden, who finished in fifth with just 8.3 per cent of the votes.

Donald Trump, who live-tweeted the vote count, used the time as a chance to take swipes at his rivals, suggesting Buttigieg was 'giving Crazy Bernie a run for his money.'

"A lot of Democrat dropouts tonight, very low political I.Q." Donald Trump tweeted. Sanders emerged on stage at his primary night celebration when more than 75 per cent of precincts had reported their results and nearly everyone was calling the victory for the Vermont senator.

After almost two minutes of cheering, Sanders, with his wife Jane behind his right shoulder, was finally able to speak.

"This victory here is the beginning of the end for Donald Trump," he lauded as the few hundred attendees went wild, chanting 'Bernie beats Trump.'

But for Biden, the questions over his future are now mounting. He fled the state for South Carolina, which holds its primary at the end of the month, hours before polls closed on Tuesday, and used a rally there to say that 99.9 per cent of African-American voters have still to vote - but managed a gaffe too, saying "Iowa and Nevada have spoken." *Daily Mail*



WITH: Simon Shabangu

CHURCH NEWS



Back To The Cross moves to bigger venue at Sidvwashini

THE fourth Back To The Cross Crusade under the stewardship of Bishop Mpendulo Nkambule and Zanele Mbokazi, starts from next Sunday night to 30th February, Pastor Isaac Magagula has said.

The senior pastor for Ambassador's House in Mbabane stated that this time around the crusade would be held at their Makholokholo branch, in Sidvwashini.

"By the grace of God we are back in Mbabane for the fourth instalment of the now well-known Back to The Cross Crusade.

We are putting a huge marquee so that there is plenty of space for parking, he said.

Bishop Nkambule added "Our message of the cross must be felt in every corner of the world.

"That is what God showed me. In the week leading up to the crusade, we will start with a major evangelism campaign in schools, street corners, hospitals and more.

This is a soul winning crusade and it is not about me, my church or any ministry. It is for everyone who believes in Jesus Christ and the finished work of the cross.

"We are therefore inviting everyone who want to contribute towards the success of this crusade to join the BACK TO THE CROSS soldiers team and everyone who wants to deepen their relationship with God every night from 6pm to 21h00.

It does not matter what church you go to, this is a crusade to recharge your spirit and give



Bishop Mpendulo Nkambule and Zanele Mbokazi - Nkambule.

you divine answers."

The bishop further said they had a powerful line-up of anointed ministers of the Word of God who will bless the congregants.

He said the service would be opened by Bishop Makamu. Other preachers are Reverend SD Gumbi, Bishop Twala, Bishop Nash Shongwe and Prophet Phascal Goodnews. Also to share the Word of God is the host Bishop Nkambule and his wife Zanele.

Music ministry will be offered by various artists, including Reverend Shongwe and Khuphuka Saved Group and Mduduzi Nezinceku Zamagawugawu, among others. For more information contact Phila: 7626 2538 and Larry: 7820 6155

Second temple in SA open to Eswatini

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has unveiled their second temple which is based in Umhlanga outside Durban.

The temple was open for public viewing about a fortnight ago, ahead of its dedication to the Lord. The structure is regarded as the most sacred place to the church. The temple is now the fifth in Africa adding to 168 temples globally. As part of their strategy to educate the public about the church, the leadership opened its doors to the media to view the temple and further have a question and answer session to educate the public.

Eswatini media was also invited for a briefing about the temple where Elder Ephraim Msane explained that the church believes and still follows the biblical teachings and practices of Jesus Christ. He said this was displayed in their leadership structures which has 12 members who govern the church, which has a membership of over 16 million globally.

Msane said the church has all along had only one temple which was built in 1985 in Johannesburg. He said with the unveiling of the second temple in Durban, this would ease traf-



Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Elder Ephraim Msane.

fic to Johannesburg.

He said this would apply to their members in Eswatini, although admitting that Eswatini membership is closer to the Johannesburg temple.

"The Eswatini members are welcome to Durban if they so wish. But our members are well aware of the terms and conditions that qualify one to partake in the activities of the temple," he said. The elder said temples were holy places where individuals can make sacred promises with God, feel His spirit, and escape from the hectic demands of day-to-day life. He said only faithful members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints find opportunities for peaceful

reflection and for learning more about God's plan of happiness. He said inside temples, couples can be married for eternity, not just the usual until death do you apart weddings. Members of the church can also perform baptisms and other ordinances for their loved ones who died without receiving these blessings. Msane said temples were different from meeting houses, where members of the church worship on the Sabbath, and where visitors are always welcome to participate.

Meeting houses might include a neighbourhood chapel or even a rented space in a city building and are where members of the church gather together regularly for Sunday worship services and weekly activities.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is a global fellowship with more than 16 million members. It is organised in the same way as the Lord Jesus Christ's ancient church, with prophets and apostles. The mission of the church is to invite all people to become disciples of Jesus Christ. Its teachings and doctrines are centred on strengthening the family, building strong communities and promoting self-reliance.

Bishop Nhlapho brings anointing service to Eswatini

GOD Never Fails founder Bishop Nhlapho will host an anointing service for Eswatini at Bethany on February 29.

The service, according to the bishop, is open to all those who believe in the name of God.

He said it was important that people receive anointing at this moment since it is the beginning of the year to get God's protection to carry you through the year.

The bishop announced the local service following the suc-

cess of the one held in Ellis Park Stadium in South Africa which attracted over 15 000 congregants.

Some brethren from Eswatini travelled to South Africa for the service.

"We decided to bring a double portion anointing service to the people of Eswatini.

Everyone is invited since God has called and anointed me to be a blessing to all. That is why I invite brethren from all denominations to be part of this ser-

vice. God has called me to minister and anoint everyone who believes in the power of the cross, hence we will be anointing people from various denominations so that God's protection is upon their lives," he said.

The bishop said to make sure everyone gets the opportunity to attend, he would host the service on a Saturday during the day so that attendees do not stress about transport and other issues. He said the service starts from around 10am.

Crossworks Ministries to celebrate love

Crossworks Ministries Mbabane branch will on Sunday celebrate love under the theme 'Buya Sitsandzane', Pastor Mhlonishwa Motsa confirmed.

Motsa said the theme has been crafted based on a love song by musician Judah Selitshena, who will also be part of the service. The leader of the newly-opened branch said to them February was a month of praise and worship in celebration of the love

God showed to the world. "We usually dedicate one Sunday of the month to celebrating this love and inspire one another to love as opposed to judgement and hate. We encourage people to come and celebrate love with us," he said.

He said they would have Sibusiso Bhembe from Eswatini TV who will speak on finding love and fame for young couples.

Another speaker will be Manzini North MP Macford Sibandze

who will speak on how to sustain one's relationship.

Afro-pop artist Judah said he was excited to be part of the special service, adding that the newly-opened church was now his second home.

He believes love needs to be celebrated by everyone, including the church.

Motsa invited the public to join them at Mbabane National Library from 9.30 am until 11am.

NEW COVENANT FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL

Eswatini Healing Crusade

Hosts: Bishop I and Pastor M Mkgongo

Organiser: Bishop Dr. Nash Shongwe

Speakers: Agasta S Salaka, Bishop SM Malwaisa, Bishop M3. Mungasa

Artists: Baribula Khumalo, Meduza Mngweni, Wazara Malazo, Sipho Mkhubane

Venue: Fair View South Park (Manzini) Time: 18:00

24 February to 8 March 2020

Contact: +268 7680 5965 or 014 596 6262

HOPE RESTORATION CHURCH

NHLANGANO HOPE RESTORATION CHURCH

WORSHIP WITH US Every Sunday

@ kaMjuda Hall opposite T-junction filling station

Sunday 10:30am - 2:00pm

Wednesdays 6pm-9pm

*** Come for your Miracle, total Deliverance and Prophecy**

Contacts: 76174490/ 76210690

HOST Seer JOSHUA ANGEL

IMMUTABLE GOSPEL CHURCH INTERNATIONAL

Apostle **MFANKHONA NDLOVUKAZI**

CHANGING PEOPLE'S LIVES THROUGH A PROPHETIC WORD

VENUE: Malkerns Sentra behind Tibutsele Building.

CHURCH SERVICES

SUNDAY - 10:00AM TO 1.00PM

THURSDAY PRAYER - 6.00pm to 8.00pm

WEDNESDAY PRAYER SERVICE - 6:00pm to 8pm

LUYENGO DAIRY BOARD BUILDING

Contact 76454036 or 76088301

HOPE RESTORATION CHURCH

with Prophet Elijah Fire "The Chosen One"

PRESENTS The MIRACLES of THE HOLY SPIRIT

MBABANE CRUSADE & BRANCH LAUNCH

25 FEB to 1 MAR 2020 - 6:00pm

Special Grand Entrance (Branch Launch Service)

01 MAR 10:00am

JOSHUA 1:5 No one shall stand against you all the days of your life

VENUE MBABANE SIDVASHINI

OPPOSITE BAYABONGA BUILDING

entry FREE

ESWATINI Observer ENTERTAINMENT

REVIEWS | STAR SIGNS | CELEBRITY WATCH | CARTOONS

THE NDLANDLAS WIN #MYLOVESTORY

BY NOKWANDA SIBANDZE

SICELO and Smilwesihle Ndlandla's love story has proved to be the best.

The couple won the #mylovestory competition by Eswatini Tourism Authority.

The couple met in 2015 and in 2017 Sicelo asked Smilwesihle to marry him.

With over six sponsors, the winners of the competition walked away with amazing prizes.

The couple beat nine other couples who were chosen as the Top 10.

Second runner-up couple was Darien Dlamini and girlfriend Phetsile Nzuza and first runner

...couple beat nine others to win weekend getaway

up went to Lwazi and Phiwinhlhla Magagula.

Sponsors of the competition include Eswatini Airlink General, Ezulwini Municipal Council, Happy Valley, MTN Eswatini, Big Game Parks, Royal Swazi Spa and Sibebe Resort, to mention a few.

Luxury

Sicelo Ndlandla and his partner received a two nights luxury accommodation, dinner, bed and breakfast sponsored by Happy Valley Hotel; return flight tickets from King Mswati III International Airport to OR Tambo International Airport sponsored by Eswatini Airlink; spa treatment at Camelot Spa and lunch sponsored by

Royal Swazi Spa.

They also received two cell-phones courtesy of MTN Eswatini; a sunset game drive to the execution rock at the outdoor lover's paradise Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary, sponsored by Big Game Parks.

Winners

Second prize winners, Lwazi and Phiwinhlhla Magagula, took home a weekend getaway sponsored by Sibebe Resort.

While third prize winners Darien Dlamini and Phetsile Nzuza walked away with a Valentine's dinner for two sponsored by The George Hotel and Movie Zone tickets.



LOVE ALWAYS WINS: Sicelo and Smilwesihle Ndlandla.

'Shabalala was more than a mentor for Emaswati'

STORIES BY NOKWANDA SIBANDZE

WITH the recent passing of five-time Grammy winning group Ladysmith Black Mambazo founder Joseph Shabalala, local music advocates say the singer was more than a mentor to Eswatini artists.

According to Eswatini artists who have worked closely with the late legend, he was more than just a singer but an advocate for music all around the world.

Buddy Masango said Shabalala was a mentor who was always willing to better other musicians.

"I met Shabalala in Durban a long time ago and he gave me advice and a number of ideas regarding my music, which I cherish till this day," he said.

Masango said he was lost for words and hoped that at some point he would accept that the legend was gone.

"As a musician, it was amazing how he was able to close the gap between the different types of genres with the people he collaborated with. As *iscathamiya* musicians who collaborated with artists such as Dolly Patton, Jonathan Butler and many others, he saw no boundary when it came to music and that what made him legendary," he said.

Masango also said the late singer contributed in a number of local groups that performed back in the day.

"I recall when we were growing up, there was a group called Bhunya Bombers and their music was inspired by the legend. Even though I never



WE ARE SADDENED: Buddy Masango.

got the chance to work with him and his band, I will look at him as my idol," he said.

Music advocate Khethabehle Mthethwa was also shattered by the news.

According to Mthethwa, he brought the group two times in the Kingdom.

"I was shocked by his death. He was a down to earth person.

"He did not care that he was known internationally, he remained as humble as ever. Eswatini was his home and he loved the kingdom," he said.

Mthethwa mentioned that Shabalala had many friends in the country, whom he visited from time to time.

"When he was here we would get visits from many people as well, especially local pastors who came to just spend the day with him," he said.

Mthethwa said the entertainment industry has lost a lot, musically and otherwise.

"To his family and the Black Mambazo family, condolences," he added.

One of Eswatini's artists who have also had the pleasure to meet and work with the legend is Mshikishi.

"What we have learnt from him is that talent can be a profession. As old as he was, he taught us that being talented was enough to help someone make a living. I plead with our government to invest in the arts of the country to ensure that our children can make money through their talents," Mshikishi said.

Mshikishi also said it was imperative for youngsters, especially those who sing traditional music to continue with their passion and ensure that these genres do not die.

Traditional music group Dumako Brothers Founder Dominic Kunene said they were shattered by the news.

"The man was a legend and he was an inspiration to our young boys in the group. They looked at him and believed that they could also make it in the industry with the kind of music that they do.

"As much as we have never met him, we are very sad and wish to pass to our condolences to his family and friends," he said.

...We are hurt - Iscathamiya Association of Eswatini

ISICATHAMIYA Association of Eswatini has also shared their deepest feelings about the passing of the legendary Joseph Shabalala.

One of the members of the association, Mseni Hlanze, said they were lost for words.

"More than anything, we are wor-

ried about the future of the genre in the country.

"With Shabalala, we still had someone who the next generation looked up to.

"It is hard to accept that he has left us but we hope that the generation would continue to embrace the genre," he said.

Hlanze also said it has been hard to inject the genre to the new generation because they felt it was old and outdated.

"It is now going to be harder for us to encourage young people to take up the genre.

"We used Joseph Shabalala as an example every time we encouraged

young people, we just hope the group will continue his good work," he added.

He said although most of the members in their association have never met or seen the group perform, but their fore-founders Bhunya Bombers had the opportunity to meet the legends.

Soaring Singles

Unique, Whole & Separate
Dinner

HOST
Theme: Know Your Worth!

Speakers

Mrs H Simwaba

Pastor L. Dlamini

Advocate Pastor S. Masuku

Date: Friday, 14 February 2020
Venue: City Court Guest House, Mbabane
Time: 6.00pm
Fee: E230.00/person
Dress Code: Evening Wear with a Fascinator

For more information call +268 2404 0088/9 or visit @EaglesWingsSwaziland on Facebook

Valentines

**SNACKS + DANCE
YOUTH CLEAN FUN**

15TH FEBRUARY 2020 - 10AM

APOSTLE JUSTICE
The Ministry

TOPICS/DEBATE & GUIDANCE

*RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD & RELATING WELL WITH OPPOSITE SEX
*NUJOLA/DATING/SEX/DRUGS & ALCOHOL FREE LIFE
*CAREER/EDUCATION/JOB/BUSINESS SUCCESS
*RISING ABOVE PAST FAILURES & DISAPPOINTMENTS & MORE

BRING ESO - FOR SNACKS/DRINK & OTHER GOODIES

DRESS CODE-RED T-SHIRTS + JEANS OR SKIRTS

MBABANE WORSHIP CENTRE - EVENI OPP GALP

CALL 7626 7698 / 7680 4983



SLOTTA MEETS MICASA

BY NOKWANDA SIBANDZE

AFTER winning the Mi Casa #LovelsRemix Competition, Slotta and South African band Mi-Casa finally met.

The producer, singer and deejay entered the competition ran by the group for a remix of the song 'Love is' last year.

Slotta managed to beat over 100 entries.

It is worth noting that he made the remix in two hours.

During the 'meet and greet' with the band, Slotta said they managed to share ideas on their collaboration.

"We listened to some of my music which they liked. I gave them music from my EP 'Sweet Temptation' and the new single I

worked on by Msimisi featuring Sands 'Zumbu'," he said.

He said they also made him listen to one jam, which would probably be on their album.

"They also explained the delay in our studio session since I won the competition last year," he said.

"Although the session took longer than I anticipated, but being the patient lad that I am, it's not a problem at all because I will wait as long as it takes," he said.

Adding, Slotta said the group was also impressed with him for doing the mix in two hours. "They asked how I approached my remix and now I did it in two hours; they were impressed. They made mention of how the previous winners also accomplished such a feat in limited time," he said.

Slotta said he was looking forward to that studio session as it would be a crazy time with all these musical minds in one space.

The singer, producer and photographer has also released an EP titled 'Sweet Temptation, The Remixes'.

"This baby is a new twist to my very first EP ever, which was under Deeper Shades Of House (DSOH) in 2016. The original EP had four tracks, whereas the remixes package has five," he shared. Mi Casa is a South African group known for their hit song 'Jika' and many more. The group have several awards under their belt.

GRACES: Minister of Tourism and Environmental Affairs Moses Vilakati and the Xchange Shisanyama owner Mxolisi Waxola Mabuza.

Minister Vilakati praises the Xchange

BY PHETSILE MAMBA

MINISTER of Tourism and Environmental Affairs Moses Vilakati on Monday graced the Xchange Lounge and Shisanyama.

The minister with great enthusiasm said he wanted to see the place that was the talk of town.

The minister congratulated the entity's owner Mxolisi Mabuza, for such an establishment in township. He was in awe with the beauty and class of the place.

Vilakati encouraged Mabuza to attend to the accommodation crisis.

Mabuza assured him that he was working on that as the place was still in the building process and they had already secured land for new developments.

The minister was accompanied by Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade Principal Secretary Siboniso Nkambule and Eswatini Tourism Authority (ETA) Head of Marketing Siboniso Madlopha.

It is also worth noting that the Xchange Lounge and Shisanyama owner has donated towards the sanitary pads drive as he donated 300 sanitary towels to the minister.

Mabuza said his mandate was to assist and uplift the youth, hence he was keen on keeping the girl child at school.

"Eswatini has impeccably supported us and we promise to improve in areas that need improvement. Our plan this year at the Xchange is to support local acts and help them monetise their talents and to give back to the community," said Mabuza.

ARCHIE JNR IS COMING!

BY ANDILE DLAMINI

SIX-year-old deejay Archie Jnr is coming to Eswatini on March 28 for the Pre-Mahamba Gorge Hiking Family Fun Day.

This was confirmed by the organiser of the event, Manene Khoza, yesterday.

Khoza said the reason they chose to have the young deejay as a headlining act was to empower children.

"It will be a family fun day, which means there will be children around the deejay's age," he said.

He said children should not have a starting age for having big dreams, adding that he hoped the young ones would be motivated to go after their dreams.

The fun day is a charity fundraising event that will take place before the hike scheduled for March 29.

Khoza said they welcome all donations towards this cause, adding that proceeds from this event would go to the Mahamba community.

He said local artists would not be left out of this

event as they were still engaging them.

"There are a few artists who are still making name for themselves in the industry that we have engaged, but we would love to have established artists as well," he said.

Oratilwe AJ Hlongwane, popularly known as DJ Arch Jnr, is a Johannesburg-born young talent from South Africa, who won the South Africa's Got Talent and he remains the youngest person to win the show.

He is the resident deejay for the McDonald's U/14 Schools Soccer League, he performed at the SAFTA's (South African Film Awards), AFRIMA's in Nigeria (All Africa Music Awards) as well as on radio stations and television shows.



LINDA DLAMINI TO DROP 'OLD REVIVAL' IN NO TIME

BY PHETSILE MAMBA

ESWATINI Gospel artist Linda Dlamini will be dropping his latest offering titled 'Old Revival' soon.

He shared this news on social media.

Linda said they had three months to prepare for the release of the album, adding that the production of the project cost E500 000.

Dlamini said in the project he had

featured South African renowned gospel artists such as Keke and Nomandla.

Industry

"I would love to thank all my music fans locally and outside the country for supporting me. The album will be out on February 27," Dlamini shared.

The past decade has been fruitful for Linda as he has performed alongside renowned gospel artists such as Dr Rebecca Malope, Joyous Celebration, Benjamin Dube, Spirit

of Praise, to mention a few. His second album 'Lona Ngumnyaka Wethu' is currently on top the 100 chart of the iTunes Africa.

Linda's music has been embraced in the country and throughout the SADC Region.

He has performed in corporate and private events. He also performs for social and commercial promotions.

Linda is a brand that has worked with knowledgeable people in the industry.



e-TV SCANDAL'S GRACE WANTS TO HELP ESWATINI ARTISTS

BY NOKWANDA SIBANDZE

LOCAL creatives will be treated to a one of kind service that will help them better their craft.

This is a plan set by Larry Mhlanga, Zimbabwe Music Awards CEO Reason Sibanda and South African actress Bathabile Mashigo known as Grace Medupe on e-tv's Scandal.

The three parties said they were working on closing the gap between African countries when it came to the arts industry.

They said they have realised that African countries could achieve more if they worked together.

Mashigo said as a creative she wanted everyone to understand the space they operate in.

"We want to break down frontiers. I am passionate about the creative space, not just acting but being a creative as a whole, and having been in the industry for some time, I know that Africa is far behind as compared to other continents. With that I hope that I can contribute what I have learned to create supportive structures, talk about issues and outline the rules that creatives live by," he said.

She also said their main purpose was to create an open dialogue that would allow all creatives to learn and understand the industry.

According to Mhlanga, they met and have a plan to close the gap between creatives and the knowledge that they should possess as artists in the industry.

"Working with the two and HALA media, we want to work with local creatives to ensure that they understand the industry in which they operate."



BREAKING BORDERS: Artist Manager Larry Mhlanga, South African actress Bathabile Mashigo and Zimbabwe Music Awards CEO Reason Sibanda at the Observer offices yesterday. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

Mhlanga also said they want artists and creatives not to make the mistakes that they made when they were still starting off in the industry.

"As an artist you pass certain stages especially when you are still starting out, we want creatives to know everything there is about the industry so that they will not have to go through what the previous generation did," he said.

Sibanda said even though he was more passionate about music, he hoped this collaboration would allow them to break borders.

"I have worked in many countries in the SADC region and I believe we can work together to

create a borderless Africa when it comes to music and creativity. ZIMA should not just be about Zimbabwe which is why we hope to collaborate with SWAMA, and award shows from many other countries," he said. Sibanda said they want to invite local artists to perform or even present awards in Zimbabwe and also create links and be able to collaborate without any issues.

Mhlanga said they have already started discussing how they will bring all this into action and local creatives should be on the lookout for the projects they plan on bringing to the country.



SMILE: The team with Eswatini Observer staff members after their interview at the offices.

QIBHO INTRODUCES NEW GENRE; SWANGOMA

BY ANDILE DLAMINI

MUSICIAN and wordsmith Qibho Intalektual has started his own genre of music called Swangoma.

According to the musician, Swangoma can be best described as Swati Neo-ethnic music.

"It marries indigenous instruments, melodies and chants with modern spoken word, trap, singing and instruments," he said.

He said the reason behind him creating this genre was because he was a leader in the creative arts.

He said creating the Swangoma genre has been a positive response to a need that he identified over the years for an immediately recognisable and common Swazi sound in secular music, such as other cultures have done in the form of afrobeat

Jazz (USA), reggae, britpunk, amapiano and many more.

"Swangoma is an intrinsically Swati music genre created by myself and being developed with the assistance of numerous Swati artists. It is stylistically characterised by the traditional Sonics of umgubho, sibhaca, ingadla and lusango songs," said the musician.

He said the genre was intended stories in Eswatini's own language, on its own terms, and through the influences of Emaswati.

He also said he was influenced into doing this by creatives such as the iconic Smiles Makama, Sgubhu Sebalozzi, Phola Mamba, Bholoja, Jabu Khanyile and Continental Drift.

He has a few artists that he would like to work with on his genre.

"My biggest collaborators are first and foremost my band, S Cubed Project. My equally

important collaborators are my two young understudies, Jay Mondlane and Samkelo Dlamini, as well as established culture-weaving Eswatini artists, namely, Black Rhino, Thobile Makhoyane, Bhekizo, Ralf Smit, Velemseni, Gcobani, Bongwiwe Dlamini, Celumusa," he said.

Swangoma is an intrinsically Swati music genre created by myself and being developed with the assistance of numerous Swati artists.

SarNilo leaves WORDiS, joins Antidote

BY ANDILE DLAMINI

SOUL and Trap artist singer SarNilo has left her recording stable WORDiS.

The singer signed with the stable after she won the MTN Bushfire Firefly competition last year.

Speaking to the Entertainment Desk, she said she left the stable after she and her then manager Velefini Mngomezulu were no longer seeing things eye to eye.

"I did not leave on good terms although I would rather not say what happened between him and I," she said.

Mngomezulu disputes this.

"She decided to end our contractual agreement. There really is not a story behind it, it was as simple as that," he said.

He also said he does not know her reasons for terminating their contract.

SarNilo revealed that she is now working with Antidote Music and she believes that they would take her musical career to where she wants it to go.

Antidote Music Founder Mmeli Hlanze confirmed the fact that they were working with SarNilo.

"She is a great talent the opportunity availed itself for us to work with her. There isn't any official agreement between the two of us yet but if there is a chance, we'd consider signing her," he said.

Antidote Music, is a deep and soulful House music label that has signed !Sooks, Mzwaa, Parcel who have made quite an impact on their appearances on remix jobs and original projects.

They have come to offer a wide and versatile platform of innovative releases from new upcoming and renowned artists around the world.

SarNilo has performed at various events around the country including Tevin Campbell's launch last year.

Launched in 2017, MTN Bushfire Firefly is a competition that aims to create a music space that has no limitations for the youth to share their musical creativity and lyrical authenticity, while encouraging them to freely express themselves through their music.



NEW SOUND: Qibho Intalektual.



Celebville

International Celebrity News

WADE, UNION INTRODUCE TRANS DAUGHTER ZAYA

HOLLYWOOD - Compassionate, world-changer and wise.

These were some of words used to describe Zaya Wade, who was formally introduced to the world as being transgender by her father, retired basketball star Dwyane Wade and stepmother Gabrielle Union on Tuesday.

Wade spoke about his daughter's journey and their support for her and the LGBTQ+ community in a moving interview with Ellen DeGeneres.

"First of all, me and my wife, Gabrielle Union, we are proud. When I say proud, we are proud parents of a child in the LGBTQ+ community. And we're proud allies

as well. And we take our roles and our responsibility as parents very seriously ... So once Zaya, our 12-year-old, came home — first Zion everybody, I don't know if everyone knows, named Zion, Zion born as a boy — came home and said, "Hey so I want to talk to you guys. I think, going forward, I want to live my truth and I want to be referenced as she and her." Wade's interview and Union's post garnered much reaction online, with celebrities and social media users praising Zaya for her bravery and her parents for supporting the youngster.

Union, meanwhile, took to social media to introduce 'compassion-



ate, whip-smart' Zaya. She also shared a video of Zaya encouraging people afraid of being

judged to 'not even think about that' and 'stay true to yourself'. **TMZ**

SKHUMBA HITS BACK AT 'NOT FUNNY' CLAIMS

PRETORIA - Comedian Skhumba Hlophe is not fazed by what people think about his kind of humour, telling TshisaLIVE that Twitter trolls can go jump off a cliff because he knows he has his market.

Skhumba was trending for much of Tuesday night after a Twitter poll suggested that he is no longer funny and his jokes are dry. The comedian packed a hot clapback, revealing that he's booked and securing all types of money bags.

"I've done five one-man shows which were sold out countrywide. I have two television shows, 'Tripping with Skhumba,' a radio show at Kaya FM, 'Throwback Thursday' and got many awards. I can't control how people think or feel about me. First of all, Twitter is a small group of people, not the entire country, so I can't focus on what they say," Skhumba said.

The comedian also felt that with everything happening in the coun-

try, the subject of whether he was funny really shouldn't be a thing.

"There are a lot of things that are happening in the country. For instance, yesterday we celebrated 30 years since Nelson Mandela was released from prison, and people are worried that my jokes are not funny? I'm minding my own business and people are talking about me. Am I the only comedian in the country they know?"

"What I know about myself is that I'm good at what I do and don't need people's opinions. In the past five years in the whole country who bought disabled children more than 500 wheelchairs? I didn't trend for that but now I trend that my jokes are not funny?" he said.

Meanwhile, the Skhumba army was not willing to let any hate flourish on the timeline. They came out guns blazing for their comedian. **Times Live**

Jussie Smollett faces six new charges related to 'false attack'

NEW YORK - Jussie Smollett is facing new charges relating to his January 2019 'attack'.

Actor Jussie Smollett is facing six new charges in relation to an alleged homophobic and racist attack in Chicago last year.

A special prosecutor assigned to investigate how local prosecutors handled the case confirmed the charges against Jussie would be followed up.

The move comes after police accused Smollett of orchestrating the incident, paying two brothers to allegedly carry out the attack.

Smollett was arrested, but later released after an emergency court

appearance, where all charges were dropped.

The six new charges come more than a year after the incident, a move Smollett's lawyers have called 'political.'

Deadline reports his legal reps have slammed the decision to have the case reopened.

"The attempt to re prosecute Mr Smollett one year later on the eve of the Cook County State's attorney election is clearly all about politics not justice," said his lawyer, Tina Glandian.

Smollett is due in court on February 24.

Sowetan Live

Unathi returns to 'radio girl'

CAPE TOWN - Unathi Nkayi is going back to her first love - radio - after a three-year hiatus.

The self-proclaimed 'radio girl' is set to make her comeback on Kaya FM on March 2.

She will take over Bridget Masinga's old time slot between noon and 3pm, Mondays to Thursdays.

It took some convincing from Kaya FM Managing director Greg Maloka in December to bring her out of her sabbatical. Maloka gave Nkayi her first radio job on youth radio station YFM 19 years ago.

Nkayi, an Idols SA judge, said Kaya FM is the perfect radio home for her as it was

in tune with her digital ethos.

"The reason I stayed away from radio for so long is I felt that radio in SA had not caught up with the Fourth Industrial Revolution," she said. "Then when I was less hateful towards radio and started consuming it again, I loved that Kaya, visually and digitally, it was on par with what it was giving us on radio."

"That was so sexy and seductive to me because I'm a radio girl - that's my first love. I watch the Howard Sterns of this world and so forth. I wanted that for SA and Kaya is giving us exactly that." **Sowetan Live**



GOING BACK: Unathi Nkayi.

DAILY SOAPIE DIGEST



Watch Lungi on Isidingo tonight.



Word gets out about the Zungu divorce, and Mpiyakhe finds out Fenyang is advising Phumelele. Skheleni gets very exciting news.



Just when they think they're so close to the end, one family learns they're too far. When it rains it pours for one she-been queen and almost doesn't count for two ex-lovers.



The royal council does not consider Mulalo's request. KK is unable to hide his condition, his symptoms are manifesting. Warona realises that she might have made a big mistake by buying an expensive car.



Jack is shocked when Abeo shows up beaten and bloodied. The Pharmacist is playing a dangerous game and loves every minute of it. Palesa witnesses something at Mocha Mamas which prompts her to act.



The Khozas are forced to split up and look for Welma just as their new clients gather for the big meeting. Goodness goes for broke in her fight against Sonnyboy.



MaNgcobo is forced to tell the truth, Khehla manipulates Mrs Madlala, and Lilly solves yet another problem with considerable ease..



Boniswa allows the proverbial devil through the door, even though she is warned about what she is letting herself in for.

I know we're dating the same man, but sending me friend request is crossing the line sis.

Follow Us @
No Chill in Mzansi



TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

Capricorn December 22 – January 19

Today is a good day to be receptive to other people's energies, Capricorn. You'll find that a sensitive attitude toward the people around you, combined with a bit of hard work and willingness to fulfill your responsibilities, will make for an unstoppable winning combination. Use this day to collect data and plan your goals. Take responsibility for your actions and don't be afraid to admit your mistakes.



Aquarius January 20 – February 18

You'll find that your mind is sharp and penetrating today, Aquarius. Make sure you stay focused and organised. You have the power of discipline behind you that will help you manifest quite a bit on a day like today. Keep in mind that your openness to others and your incredible sensitivity are some of your greatest gifts. Use your power to create prosperity for yourself, but do it without hurting or manipulating others.



Pisces February 19 – March 20

There is a rough stubbornness to the day that you may find hinders your progress, Pisces. There may be undercurrents of opposition that are slowly wearing away at your psyche. Make sure that you don't fall into the trap of feeling guilt or regret. These are useless emotions that you simply can do without.



Aries March 21 – April 19

There are forces working in your favor that you should be sure to latch onto and take advantage of, Aries. You'll find that your sense of duty and ability to plan are paying off in a very positive way. You'll find that you're able to check quite a few things off your list today. Think before you act and take a time-out to rest and regroup if you need to.



Taurus April 20 – May 20

Missed connections and unfortunate misunderstandings will happen less frequently if you slow down and focus. Remember that you can do things yourself, Taurus. Don't feel like you absolutely need approval from others before tackling the projects that you wish to complete. Your mind is urging you to take the initiative today, so feel free to do so.



Gemini May 21 – June 21

Things that require restriction and discipline on your part may be causing tension and opposition in your world today, Gemini. The good news is that your mind is clear and you should feel in tune with the people around you. Know your allies and take care of them. Remind others of how much they



mean to you.

Cancer June 22 – July 22

Your internal fire may be feeling a bit smothered by a fierce reality check today, Cancer. Give people the benefit of the doubt. They are more perceptive than you may think. In fact, it may behoove you to get some honest feedback today from some people you trust. It could be difficult for you to sort out the truth in your present situation, since you're the one caught in the middle of the maelstrom.



Leo July 23 – August 22

Your internal fire may be feeling a bit smothered by a fierce reality check today, Cancer. Give people the benefit of the doubt. They are more perceptive than you may think. In fact, it may behoove you to get some honest feedback today from some people you trust.



Virgo August 23 – September 22

A little foreign culture could be the thing you need right now to spice things up a bit, Virgo. It could be that you aren't feeling a very strong connection with the environment around you. You could be anxious to spread your wings and explore your freedom. Start small but think big. Get out of your rut and do more exploring on your own.



Libra September 23 – October 23

Some days it may be hard for you to get motivated, Libra, but if ever there were a day in which it was easier than others, this would be the day. You'll find that your mind is quite attuned to the situation around you and that your sense of grounding is helping you manifest that which you wish to bring to life. There's a sense of time restriction and limitation to the day that is prodding you to act now.



Scorpio October 24 – November 21

You may feel a bit of restriction working to hold you back from your current plans today, Scorpio. It could be that your mind is feeling restless and that you're anxious to go, but there's a feeling of discipline and caution nagging you and urging you to slow down.



Sagittarius November 22 – December 21

You'll find that a sensitive mind that's open to everything and every possibility is exactly the thing you need at this time in order to be successful in reaching all the goals you're working toward, Sagittarius. You'll find that your sense of duty and need for plans and solid goals are key elements for getting to where you need to be.



BABY BLUES



BLONDIE

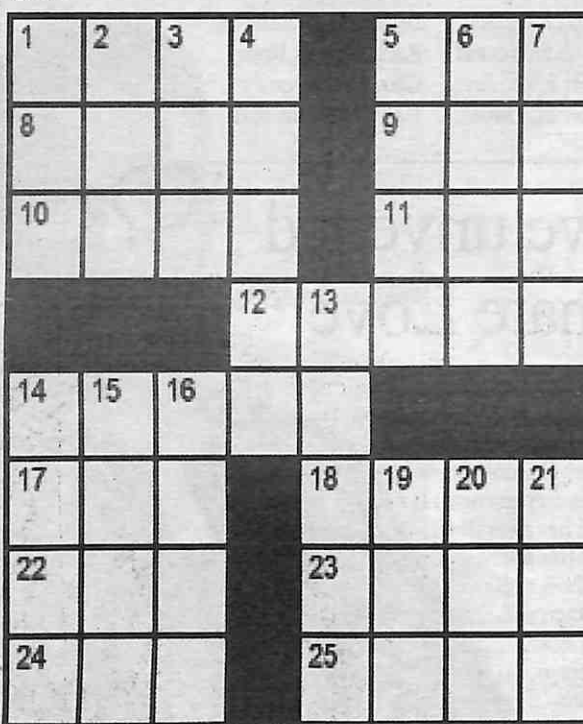


HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



Octo-Cross 03

Can you fit the words from the list correctly into the grid?



Down

1. Offer
2. Poem
3. Brew
4. Replay
5. Garment
6. Impulse
7. Look searchingly
13. Latin-American dance
14. Transcript
15. Long-eared mammal
16. Golf club
19. Tree
20. Litigate
21. Decimal base

Across

1. Male hog
5. Small drinking container
8. Not working
9. Metal-bearing mineral
10. Cervid
11. Historic period
12. Speak
14. High quality porcelain
17. Paddle
18. Cosy or secluded retreat
22. Argument for
23. Adhesive
24. Japanese currency
25. Portent



Blind Man

A man goes to his doctor and says, "Please help me, doctor. I think my eyesight is really worsening." The doctor asks the man to come and look out of the window.

there," says the doctor and points. "I see the Sun," answer the man. The doctor turns to him and asks, "Sweet Jesus, how much further do you want to see?!"

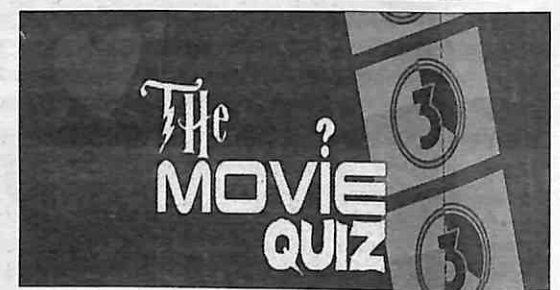
Did You Know

1. Plastic Easter eggs and plastic Easter grass were invented by a man who holds more patents than Thomas Edison.
2. Redheads aren't actually going extinct.
3. Human beings may dominate the planet with our sprawling

cities and far-reaching technology, but we are, in fact, just one species among some 8.7 million that live together on planet Earth.

MOVIE QUIZ

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



Yesterday's Quiz

1. Which American actor starred alongside Kim Basinger in the film 9½ Weeks?

Answer:
B. Mickey Rourke

Today's Movie Quiz

1. The Best Picture award went to which film?

Answers:
A. Green Book B. The Yellow Queen



DStv
Feel every moment

NEWS



THE JOURNEY TO LOVE BEGINS AS ULTIMATE LOVE PREMIERS ON DSTV AND GOTV

VIEWERS from across Africa on Sunday night watched the premiere of the brand new reality TV show, *Ultimate Love*.

The show will run for eight weeks and will be broadcast live 24/7 on DStv.

The show's co-hosts, Dakore Egbuson-Akande and Oluwaseun Olaniyan took viewers through key elements of the show which include: the 'Love Guests', what the contestants will be called; 'Aunty', their resident counselor; the 'Parent Figure', a parent or family relative of the love guest and the 'Love Pad', the house



where the love guests will get to call home for the next 8 weeks!

The 16 love guests on their quest to find love include: Iyke, Jay, Louis, Nkechi, Theresa, David,

Michael, Cherry, Ebiteinye, Bolanle, Obichukwu, Kachi, Arnold, Kosie, Chris and Jenny. Each of them had

their Parent figure, who were for some an actual parent, wish them well and leave them with some words of encouragement.

The Aunty of the Love Pad, Adesuwa Onyenokwe also made an appearance on stage to share what her role will be as well as her expectations from the love guests.

She noted that she won't be physically present all day but will have her trusted butlers on hand to attend to them, ensuring that their stay in her Love Pad is truly comfortable.

Also, announced on stage was the grand prize for the winning couple which is a fully paid for traditional wedding ceremony and a house. However, they will only get the sponsored traditional wedding if they get married six months after the show and the house, after they have stayed together for a year.

They will also win a cash prize of N5 million. Meanwhile, Dakore and Oluwaseun also revealed that next week's live show will see the love guests pair up as well as a surprise scheduled for Valentine's Day. It was also a night of music as Johnny Drille, Nigerian singer and songwriter entertained studio audience and viewers with some of his well-loved songs including *Romeo and Juliet*.

The *Ultimate Love* reality TV show is available on DStv Premium, Compact Plus, Compact, Confam and Yanga (Family and Access) packages and on GOtv Max and JOLLI (Plus) packages. Visit www.dstvafrica.com and download *MyDStv* to subscribe or switch packages.

Adesuwa Onyenokwe unveiled as 'Aunty' in Ultimate Love

MULTICHOICE Nigeria has announced that veteran broadcaster, Adesuwa Onyenokwe, will play the role of 'Aunty', a central character on its latest reality TV show *Ultimate Love* a first of its kind pan African show which premiered Sunday, 9 February at 20:30 CAT on DStv and GOtv.

Onyenokwe is the Editor-in-Chief of TW magazine, a lifestyle magazine for women and the host of the TV show, 'TW Conversations' on Africa Magic. Her vast experience as a broadcaster spans over 25 years where she has risen to become one of the respected voices in Nigeria's broadcast industry.

A prominent and respected figure on topical issues like relationships, health and wellness, Mrs Onyenokwe will bring immense experience and knowledge acquired as a renowned broadcaster, businesswoman, cultural icon, mother and wife, to bear as 'Aunty' on the show. She will also steer the singles in the right direction, grooming and coaching them on lessons to live by during and outside the competition. "We are absolutely excited that Adesuwa Onyenokwe is part of the *Ultimate Love* family," said Chief Executive Officer, MultiChoice Nigeria, John Ugbe.

"She brings to bear years of experience as a seasoned professional with many achievements working first in national television before charting a new course as a media entrepreneur. Mrs Onyenokwe has over the years successfully balanced an enviable career with her role as a wife and mother, and she will bring this amazing mix to her role as 'Aunty', ultimately serving as the anchor that the contestants need during their stay in the competition," Ugbe added.

For more information, please visit www.africamagic.tv, and follow the social media updates on *Ultimate Love* @ultimateloveng on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook using the hashtag #UltimateLoveNg. *Ultimate Love* is available on DStv Premium, Compact Plus, Compact, Confam and Yanga (Family and Access) packages and on GOtv Max and JOLLI packages. Visit www.dstvafrica.com



A history of Mariah's coldest comebacks - Married to Medicine

HERE'S the thing; when it comes to the cast of *Married To Medicine*: Atlanta, failure to deliver swift and effective shade is like being in a war zone with no weapons in your arsenal.

The ladies know how read each other up and down, and it's often done on the spot. And while the doctors and wives of doctors are certainly no linguists, they are really versed in dragging their foes with some carefully selected words.

Mariah Huq is one such Queen, and we are here for all of the shade. In the show's seven seasons, the reality show star has proven that she's not one to be messed with.

Clearly loving that, Bravo, the parent network of the *Housewives* franchise, has treated viewers to a delicious dish of Mariah's most savage clawbacks on the show.

Catch the *Married To Medicine*: Atlanta season 7 reunion on 1Magic, Mondays to Thursday at 18:00. Refer to our social media account for any #schedulechange updates!



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
9. BUILDING, GARDENING & DIY
 - Woodworking
 - Machinery & Tools
 - Plumbing & Electrical
 - Other Building & DIY
 - Plants, Trees & Flowers
 - Garden Furniture & Appliances
 - Other Gardening
10. FARMING EQUIPMENT
- SPARES
 - Car Spares or Parts
 - Bike Spares
 - Truck, Bus and Trailer Spares
 - Stripping for Spares
 - Farming Equipment & Machinery
 - Livestock
 - Other Farming
11. 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
12. PROPERTY
 - Residential
 - Commercial
 - Farms and Vacant Plots
 - Holiday & Accommodation
 - Apartments / Flats / Houses to Rent
13. VEHICLES
 - Cars
 - Bikes
 - Classics and Custom Builds
 - Trucks
 - Buses Farming
 - Trailers
 - Aircraft
14. DEATH NOTICES



KIDNEY CLEANSER
Plant Based Supplement

1.5Litre E525

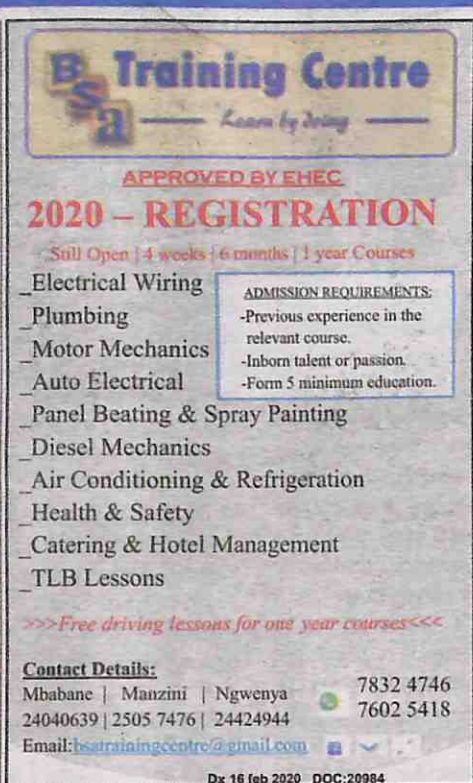
KIDNEY CLEANSER is a Powerful unique blend of herbs that has detoxified kidneys and other organs to filter waste from the body since ancient times.

Kidneys filters blood, eliminating salt and harmful poison in the body's system. Over time this salt accumulates and requires cleaning treatment. KIDNEY CLEANSER with natural cleansing properties ensures kidney disease is no longer a "silent killer."

KIDNEY CLEANSER is the remedy that provides kidneys with the required key nutrients, flushes out toxins, supports urinary health and provides overall health.

1.5Litre. E525

(+268) 7847 0894



Bsa Training Centre
Learn by Doing

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

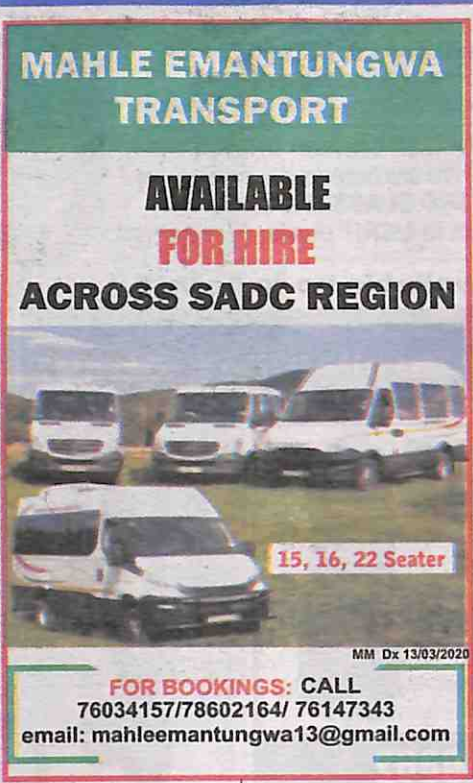
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:
-Previous experience in the relevant course.
-Inborn talent or passion.
-Form 5 minimum education.

>>>Free driving lessons for one year courses<<<

Contact Details:
Mbabane | Manzini | Ngwenya
24040639 | 2505 7476 | 24424944
Email: bsatrainingcentre@gmail.com

7832 4746
7602 5418

Dx 16 Feb 2020 DOC:20984



MAHLE EMANTUNGWA TRANSPORT

AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

ACROSS SADC REGION

15, 16, 22 Seater

MM Dx 13/03/2020

FOR BOOKINGS: CALL
76034157/78602164/ 76147343
email: mahleemantungwa13@gmail.com



CAR FOR HIRE

CAR FOR SALE
V8 with engine, negotiable
Contact 76120847 or 76144117

RN 173749 Dx 15/02/20

MISCELLANEOUS




UNATSI ACADEMY
2020 ADMISSION NOW OPEN

We offer an english medium pre-school at lower Vusweni-Ndlangeni (Hohho region) for 3-5 years

For enquiries contact
(-268) 7667 3916 (-268) 7995 2716
Enquiries@unatsiacademy.com
visit: www.unatsiacademy.com
P. O. Box a273 buheni

Operating hours: 7:00am - 01:00pm

Dx 23/02/20 RN 169 700



Special quick sale

2010 Toyota Quantum - 10 seater - Reserve E120 000.00
2014 Toyota Quantum 14 seater E200 000.00
2015 IVECO - well serviced Reserve E320 000.00

Vehicles well serviced and in good condition

Call: 7611 5288 for viewing



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 173762 DX 12 MAR 2019



Peacefield International School

Offers Primary and Highschool Education:
Grade 1- 7
Form 1-5

Contact : 7607 9682
Email: peacefieldinter3170@gmail.com
Physical address: Manzini, Moneni.

Dx 21 Feb 2020



DEAF UPHOLSTERY EXPERT

Trained in South Africa
CHEAP, FAST & VERY NEAT

7844 5984 - whatsapp / 7655 6850 - voice



NEED A MAKEOVER?
ABS beauty zone

- Wash E30 (Organic Shampoo)
- Kids Condrow from E60
- Plain from E100
- Bob E150
- Fishtail from E150
- Hot oil treatment E70
- Retouch and get free treatment E130
- Doing Nails/Makeup? Space available for rental

For bookings call/whatsapp: 7680 2864/7691 1256/7987 4510



DISOPI HERBALIST REMEDIES

- High blood sugar and sex weakness
- Early ejaculation
- Full, sexuality power-SUPERSHAFT
- Full energizer libido
- Total flatness
- Infertility, Asthma, BP, Heart problems, epilepsy, urinating in bed at Night.
- Calling your lost brother or friend protection.
- Anytime of chronic disease
- Painful legs

Disopi with full phytochemical Botanic medicine natural remedies

Call: M Disopi 76230357



TRINIDAD BIBLE SCHOOL

Hosea 4:6
Opening: 1st February 2020
Day(s): Saturdays
Venue: Liberty Community Centre Manzini

Opp Manzini City Council
Contact: 7867 1134 WhatsApp/Call
Anyone from anywhere is welcome
We also provide Counseling and Prayer

Trouble finding a job, you are sick, problems in Marriage, Business, Bonkhe labafuna kutsatsana kanye nenhlalakahle emindenini yabo a b e t e ngitobakhulekela kuNkulunkulu. I can pray for you. I have been doing this since 1984. Prophet Henry Ndwandwe, Mbabane PTS Ethangeni. God can heal you now.
Contact: 7614 2654.
RN 173762 DX 12 MAR 2019.

For Advertising your business, Call our office @ 2404 3807 / 2404 8699

www.observer.org.sz

Classifieds

CALL OUR OFFICES @ 2404 3807 / 2404 8699





FUTURE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Registration for 2020 **NOW OPEN**, places are available from, Pre School, Grade 1 to 6, Form 1 to Form 5

TOP 5: 100% pass rate on Grade 7 results in 2019

Our School Offers the best of the following:

- Qualified and Motivated Teachers
- Inclusive and friendly learning environment
- Transport available to all neighbouring places in Mankayane
- Excellent Sporting facilities: **Football, Tennis & Volleyball**
- Practical subjects ie: **Computer (IT) and French**
- Boarding facilities for both boys and girls
- Money should not be a problem come to the school

We **BRIDGE** the **GAP** between **URBAN** and **RURAL** Schools. We are here to **Wipe your Tears** Bring your **3RD CLASS PASS** pupils, we will groom them to **MERIT** pupils. **Guaranteed.**

*** Places available up to Form 5 ***

Find us in Mankayane, Along Ngcoseni Road, next to Zimeleni
Tel: 2530 1101 Cell: 7614 4117 / 7672 8616/ 7612 0847

FOR SALE

**100%
HUMAN
HAIR
DREADLOCKS**

CALL: 7605 9862

VACANCY

Position: Front Desk Officer
Reports to: Director
Applying Deadline: 18/02/2020

Background
Groening and Associates Tutoring Services is a subsidiary of Groening and Associates Enterprises PTY LTD. This is a Registered Company with the registrar of companies incorporated in August 2016. It is currently offering a job position for a fulltime Front Desk Officer (FDO). The FDO will be stationed in Manzini. Please visit our Facebook page for more details. "Groening & Associates Tutoring Services".

DD Dx 16 FEB

ESTATE LATE:

JOHN GUNSON DLAMINI
ESTATE NO. EH 244/2019

Debtors and Creditors in the above mentioned estate are asked to lodge their claims and pay their debts with the under-signed within **thirty (30) days** after the date of publication of this notice.

LOMBUSO AGNES DLAMINI
P. O. BOX 100
MBABANE

R/N 173769 Dx 13 FEB 2020

CLASSIFIEDS

LET US HELP YOU INCREASE
YOUR BUSINESS PROFITS

Call 2404 3807 For more DETAILS

ADVERTISING

Observer
SATURDAY
Observer
Observer



OUR CONDOLENCES TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE LOST
THEIR LOVED ONES



DEATHS



**Samson Msungelwa
Zubuko**

Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba Samson Msongelwa Zubuko kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa baka Sukati esibhomeni ekhakhakhe baka Tfwala ekhabonina nabaka Zubuko bonkhe. Inkondzo yesikhumbuto itoba se Sevent Holy Founders Catholic nga 2pm, Friday 14 February 2020. Afihlwe nge Mgcibelo ekuseni nga 5am ekhaya enyakeni. Simemetelo sikhishwa yindvodzana yakhe Joseph Mphumelelo Zubuko egameni lemndeni. Rest in Peace Ncaba.

*Death brings pain that
time can only heal, no
words could ease what
we truly feel but with
God, her joy is
eternally sealed, and
cherish her memories
that death can't even
steal*

Condolences



**Sellinah Khalile Kunene
uLahlophe**

Kwatiswa tihlobo ta Sellinah Khalile Kunene uLahlophe wase Mtfunini eMagubheleni kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kuyawulindzelwa ngeMgcibelo ekhaya lakhe aphihlwe ngelisonfotfo ekuseni. Kwatiswa baka Mazibuko ekhabonina nabaka Hlophe. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngu Simangele Dlakudze egameni lemndeni.



**Thabsile Felicitia
Maseko**

Relatives and friends of Thabsile Felicitia Maseko are notified of her sudden death she will be laid to rest at Ncabaneni, Mahluma stesh. She will be laid to rest on Sunday 16 Feb 2020. Announcement by her family.

REST IN PEACE



**Zanele Palesa
Mhlanga**

Relatives and friends of Zanele Palesa Mhlanga are notified of her sudden demise. She will be laid to rest on Saturday 15 February 2020 at her parental home, Shewula. Announcement by her mother, Maria Mhlanga on behalf of family.



**Ngcebase Rejoice
Bhembe**

Friends and relatives of Ngcebase Rejoice Bhembe are notified that has answered to the Lord's call on the 7th February 2020. Funeral service will be held in Ngwane PARK PLOT 1070 Lituba street on 15 February 2020 at 6.00am.

JOB 13:15

Though He slay me,
yet will I hope
in him; I will surely defend
my ways to his face.

The LORD is close
to the broken-
hearted; He
rescues those
whose spirits are
crushed.

It's almost unbearable
when so much hope
turns in deep sorrow
wishing you much
strength

Welcome to the most trusted funeral service provider in Eswatini.

Serving all families with dignity, honour and respect

Our Services:

- State of the Art Mortuary
- Dignified Funeral Procession
- Cremation
- Body Repatriation
- Flower Arrangements
- In-house Chapel
- Tombstones



Traditional Values, Modern Principles

Contact: 2505 2028/ 7602 6417
Email: info@dupsgroup.com
Website: www.dupsgroup.com

Kobe Bryant, daughter Gianna buried last Friday

NEW YORK - Kobe Bean Bryant and his 13-year-old daughter Gianna have been laid to rest in a private family service two weeks after their deaths in a helicopter crash.

The funeral service was held quietly on Friday at Pacific View Memorial Park in Corona del Mar, California with no photographers present.

Information about the ceremony was revealed in death certificates issued by the County of Los Angeles

Department of Public Health, which listed burial as the type of disposition for both Bryant and Gianna.

The certificates listed the causes of death as blunt trauma and indicated that they died in a 'rapid' manner in the January 26 crash in the hills of Calabasas.

The Blast was the first to report the death certificates.

Seven others on board the helicopter died in the crash, and on Monday a public memorial service was held for three of them: base-

ball coach John Altobelli, his wife, Keri, and daughter Alyssa.

Several thousand people poured into the stadium in Anaheim, California, Monday for a public memorial honoring the award-winning coach of Orange Coast College baseball, who was known for leading his team to four state titles and helping his young players grow and develop on and off the field.

Scores of them were in the stadium, along with members of current local college teams, wearing

their jerseys.

"We have no clue how many teachers, police officers, firefighters, dads and husbands that he helped develop along the way," his longtime friend Josh Belovsky told the crowd. "Those are the wins that he cherished the most."

The 56-year-old coach known as 'Alto' won more than 700 games during his 27 years coaching the team and was named coach of the year last year by the American Baseball Coaches Association.



Chinese Grand Prix to be called OFF

BEIJING - The Chinese Grand Prix has become the latest sporting event to fall victim to the coronavirus.

Formula One bosses are expected to confirm in the next 48 hours that the race, scheduled for April 19 in Shanghai, will not go ahead due to growing fears over the outbreak.

It remains to be seen if the race will be staged at a later date, but it will not be easy to find space in a packed calendar that will still number 21 rounds even without Shanghai.

Shanghai is 500 miles from Wuhan where the

outbreak began last month. The number of deaths from the virus rose to 1 000 on Tuesday.

All domestic football has been suspended in China, and among the events either cancelled or postponed are the World Indoor Athletics Championships and Tokyo Olympics qualifiers for boxing and women's basketball.

Meanwhile, Lewis Hamilton's chances of finishing his career at Ferrari were handed a major setback on Tuesday night.

At the launch of their 2020 car, Ferrari team principal Mattia Binotto claimed that his priority is to stick with Sebastian Vettel as team-mate to Charles Leclerc.

Both Hamilton, the six-time world champion, and Vettel, the four-time winner, are out of contract at the end of the season, which starts in

Melbourne on March 15.

Ferrari had previously confirmed their interest in the British superstar, admitting chairman John Elkann spoke to him tentatively about a move a few months ago.

But on Tuesday, Binotto said: "Seb is our first choice at the moment. It (his next contract) is something we are discussing with him now and we will continue to discuss with him. He is our first choice."

Asked if Hamilton, 35, was a fall-back option, Binotto said: "It's not something we are considering at the moment."

That sounds like music to ears of Hamilton's existing Mercedes team, who are opening contract talks about his future this week.

Sports Mail

I'm ready and waiting - Pochettino

LONDON - Mauricio Pochettino has admitted he has a burning desire to manage in the Premier League again.

The former Tottenham boss, who has been out of the game since being sacked by Spurs last November, is still regarded among the world's elite bosses and has been waiting for the right opportunity.

"To be honest, I would love to work in the Premier League," he told Sky Sports.

"It's going to be difficult, I know, and for now it's a moment to wait and we'll see

what happens.

"It's a moment of recovery, to think about yourself a little bit, and to be ready because in football always something can happen and you need to be ready.

"I'm ready and waiting for a new challenge. I have the belief and confidence that the next challenge will be fantastic."

Pochettino took Tottenham to the Champions League final and delivered consistent top four finishes, before results and performances dipped

this season.

Jose Mourinho took the hot-seat at Spurs but speculation is still rife about where the man he succeeded will end up.

It seems likely that the 47-year-old will work in either LaLiga or the Premier League again.

Atletico Madrid are understood to be interested in his services, particularly with the team struggling under Diego Simeone this term.

And Manchester United have also been connected with a move for Pochettino, though they recently reiterated their faith in Ole Gunnar Solskjaer.

Pochettino confessed to being aware of speculation surrounding him: "I was in Argentina, I was in Qatar, I was in Spain and I have Jesus [Perez, assistant manager to Pochettino at Spurs] who follows the news a little bit but I notice the rumours," he said.

"All of the coaching staff accept that there are rumours. We deal with rumours naturally."

Having taken time out to travel and relax, the Argentine now reflects on a job well done at Spurs. "Of course I feel very proud about everything I achieved at Tottenham and when I analyse my time there, plenty of positive things happened," says Pochettino.

CENA TO MAKE SHOCK RETURN

LONDON - John Cena will make his return to the WWE this week on SmackDown Live.

The 42-year-old has not been seen in a wrestling ring since returning last July for RAW Reunion.

He has been out filming in Hollywood, as his acting career goes from strength-to-strength. And the WWE icon will be back tomorrow to set up a WrestleMania 36 match in April.

The 16-time world champ's appearance will all-but sell out the TD Garden in Boston, Massachusetts.

A WWE statement read: "As first reported on #WWEBackstage, @JohnCena returns to #SmackDown on Friday, Feb. 28!"

It has been rumoured he will face Universal Champion The Fiend at the Showcase of the Immortals. Cena is a regular at Mania, and is all set for a showdown in his residential home of Tampa Bay, Florida.

The Ruthless Aggression-era legend has been busy in-between his stints in the film industry.

Barca receive injury boost

BARCELONA - Luis Suarez has provided Barcelona with some good news as the injured striker is expected to be back in action before the end of the season.

The Uruguayan forward was expected to be out until the summer due to a knee injury but reports have now suggested he has responded well to surgery.

Suarez aggravated a previous injury on January 9 during Barcelona's Spanish Super Cup defeat by Atletico Madrid which led to the former Liverpool man needing surgery.

Sources have told Goal Suarez is expected to be back before the end of the season as he is already walking normally which has given the club a boost.

Barcelona's attack is threadbare due to Suarez and fellow forward Ousmane Dembele being out of action.

The club are trying to sign a new striker despite the transfer window being shut.

Barcelona will be allowed to sign an emergency replacement for Dembele by proving his hamstring injury will keep him out for the season.



TO BE BACK SOON: Luis Suarez.



BARCLAYS

ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP



I TOOK ANOTHER PATH - COUTINHO

LONDON - Philippe Coutinho has ruled out an emotional return to Liverpool in the future, insisting he is now on 'another journey' after quitting Anfield two years ago.

It was reported on Tuesday that Jurgen Klopp looked into the possibility of re-signing Coutinho before he joined Bayern Munich in a £19 million loan move last summer.

But despite enduring a frustrating 18 months at Barcelona prior to his switch to Germany, Coutinho claims he has no intention of going back to Merseyside.

He told Sports Illustrated: "I don't look back. I took another path, and now I am on another journey, much like everyone else."

"I'm focused entirely - just like them - on reaching my dreams. I'm happy with what I did in the past, and now I can only look forward."

Barca paid Liverpool an eye-watering £145 million for Coutinho in January, 2018, but he failed to settle at the Nou Camp and was soon shipped out.

He was also forced to watch his old side, who are on course to win their first Premier League title, knock Barca out of the Champions League on their way to winning the competition last season.

However, the former Inter Milan star insists that he has nothing but positive feelings towards his old club as they chase domestic and European glory.

"Liverpool is flying, and it doesn't surprise me," he added.

Sports Mail

Mourinho 'plotting £120m summer spree'

LONDON - Jose Mourinho is to be backed to the tune of £120 million in a bid to add pace and youth to Tottenham's defence this summer.

According to the Express, the Portuguese manager has a list of targets, including Benfica's Ruben Dias, ready ahead of the summer transfer window.

Strengthening Spurs' backline did not take priority in January and so it is the summer when Mourinho is expected to try and reduce the age of the defence with Norwich's Max Aarons, Bournemouth's Nathan Ake and Leicester City's Ben Chilwell all under consideration. Dias has previously attracted attention from Manchester United, Manchester City and Liverpool and remains highly regarded following his performances in Portugal.

At the age of just 22, Dias fits the profile of player Mourinho appears to be searching for this summer as he looks to add even more youth to his defensive options. A potential issue for suitors of Dias, including Tottenham, is that he penned a new deal with Benfica back in November, raising his buy-out clause to £80m. The hope for Tottenham and Mourinho is that the manager's close relationship with Jorge Mendes, the agent of Dias, could prove beneficial in any move.

Dias has 16 caps for the Portuguese national team and is expected to be a key part of Fernando Santos' side for the European Championships this summer.

The Telegraph



LIVERPOOL GIVE UPDATE ON £60M ANFIELD STADIUM EXPANSION PLANS

LIVERPOOL - Liverpool are confident plans for their £60m Anfield expansion will be completed by the summer of 2022.

The European champions want to take their current capacity of just over 54 000 to beyond 60 000.

Liverpool released an update on their website yesterday revealing the second stage of public consultation has begun.

Local residents, representatives, businesses and supporters have been invited to review the club's updated plans that have already been reshaped following an initial public consultation last December.

Over 800 responses were received back then and

Liverpool claim fans were 'supportive of the club's vision' and

provided 'constructive feedback' on the impact of the proposed closure of a section of Anfield Road.

Liverpool's chief operating officer, Andy Hughes, said: "There are still some really big steps to get through."

"This consultation is a really important process and I think we've demonstrated that through the first round; there have been some concerns raised and we've relooked at the design and we need to go through that process again through this second round."

"Planning is a really big hurdle for us and we'll be working really heavily on that through the next four, five or six months."

"And ultimately, the finances need to make sense in terms of the build cost when we finally understand that and the schedule."

"I think it's a bit early to say it's definitely summer 2022 but, assuming everything goes to plan and there are no major hurdles on the way, then that is our target date."

Based on the feedback, the club's second-stage plans see Anfield Road realigned around

the original proposal to factor in the suggestions made by fans.

The club state an outline of the number of general admission seats within the stand would be 5 200, with around 1 800 lounge/sports bar-style hospitality.

Hughes added: "The feedback of our local residents has been essential to the planning process of this proposed expansion."

"We have been very clear from the start that we will only proceed with this project if we have their co-operation, we have a financial model which offers economic stability and we can navigate the complex planning landscape."

"These updated plans reflect that we have listened and we thank all of those people who took the time to share their views with us in the initial stage of this process and look forward to more thoughts on the updates we have made."

Fans have now been invited to attend any of the three public drop-in events planned to take place this month. *Mirror*

Pogba 'desperate' to play

MANCHESTER - Paul Pogba is determined to play a leading role in Manchester United's crucial run-in as he closes in on a return to fitness.

Sportsmail understands the France international is hopeful of recommencing outdoor training at United's Carrington training complex within a fortnight.

From there, it is hoped Pogba - provided the final stages of rehabilitation from ankle surgery goes according to plan - could be available for selection within another two weeks.

That throws up the intriguing prospect of the midfielder being available for the Manchester derby on March 8. Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's side face Tottenham the following week in a game that could be crucial in the race to make the top four, with Pogba determined to prove his fitness in time to play in one or both of those two games.

The World Cup winner has spent the most recent period of his recovery in Dubai ahead of his imminent return to Manchester.

The 26-year-old's future is under intense spec-

ulation amid talk of a summer departure.

Nevertheless, Pogba is determined to play a key role in United's season finale as they look to qualify for next season's Champions League by finishing in the top four or winning the Europa League. United also remain in the FA Cup.

His future is sure to be an issue for United this summer given he effectively enters the final two years of his deal.

But Pogba is focused on returning to full fitness for United and, of course, France ahead of Euro 2020 before deciding his future at the end of the season.

The midfielder hasn't played since Boxing Day, but his pending return to fitness will come as a key boost to Solskjaer ahead of the season finale.

Meanwhile, United are considering a pre-season tour of India as they finalise their summer plans. Sportsmail revealed last week how a number of Premier League sides have been forced to delay confirming potential tours of the Far East, which has become a popular destination for United in recent seasons, due to the coronavirus.

Sportsmail





Sundowns reschedule league fixture

PRETORIA - Mamelodi Sundowns have rescheduled their league fixture against Bloemfontein Celtic to a new date.

Sundowns were set to host Celtic at Loftus Stadium on April 8 but now the game has since moved forward to next week Wednesday, 19 February at the same venue. Kick-off is set for 19h30.

The Brazilians are set to host Vaal University of Technology on the weekend of 22-23 February in the Nedbank Cup before travelling to Egypt for the CAF Champions League clash against Al Ahly the following weekend. Sundowns are chasing both the Nedbank Cup and league after already winning the Telkom Knockout last year.

Keeping with tradition, Chiefs have quality between the sticks

JOHANNESBURG - A question that was complementary in nature turned Ernst Middendorp grumpy, even using the word sh*t in his response as he remembered Kaizer Chiefs' troubles last season.

Itumeleng Khune's injury in the last campaign left Amakhosi in a ditch. Bruce Bvuma was forced to grow up faster than the club anticipated while the club's management made what looked like a panic buy at the time in signing Daniel Akpeyi, who had erratic tendencies.

The club renowned for having quality goalkeepers - dating all the way back to the days of Eshele Botende, followed by Brian Baloyi, Rowen Fernandez and Khune - was suddenly thrown into a goalkeeping crisis.

A year later, Amakhosi are sitting comfortably at the summit of the ABSA Premiership

and Middendorp has a good goalkeeping headache - having to choose between Khune and Akpeyi.

Khune is the most capped Bafana Bafana goalkeeper in history and the club's longest serving player. Akpeyi has been brilliant this season, providing a safe pair of hands and first in line in the consideration for the Premiership Goalkeeper of the Season award. But Middendorp didn't enjoy being asked about the good job goalkeeper coach Lee Baxter is doing at the club this year. "Dealing with this department, comparing to what happened last year, and I still stick to it, if we had these goalkeeping performances in January and beginning of February, it would have been a different season," Middendorp said. *The Star*



McCarthy SNUBS CHAMPIONSHIP COACHING JOB

JOHANNESBURG - Former Cape Town City mentor Benni McCarthy has revealed he was offered a job in the

GladAfrica Championship but he turned it down.

The club that offered McCarthy the job is believed to be Ajax Cape Town, who recently parted ways with coach Andries Uderink.

"If it's the right club, the right chairman and owner, someone I can work with then sure, I'll be up for it," McCarthy told BBC Sport. "But I'm not just going to take a job for the sake of taking it if it's not the right move for both parties. The Ajax Cape Town job was probably mine if I wanted it. I had a few discussions with the club's CEO Ari Efstathiou - we had great conversations. The project could have been good but the timing wasn't right for me." The former Bafana Bafana

striker says he would prefer a coaching job closer to his family in Scotland but says he is open to moving to another country if a right offer comes along.

"As much as I'm South African at heart being closer to my family is very important to me," he continued. "Given all the time I spent playing in Europe, I know the football culture and the mentality there."

"It would make more sense if my next move would be a European club whether it's in Portugal, the Netherlands, Belgium, England or Spain, which I doubt because people of my colour don't get to coach there. But I won't limit myself to Europe because if the right offer comes from anywhere in the world I would be happy to take it." *The Citizen*

NO RUSH: Former Cape Town City mentor Benni McCarthy.

AmaZulu suspend 5 players for 'negative attitude'

DURBAN - AmaZulu have suspended five of their senior players because of the negative attitude they've been displaying over the past few months.

Independent Media was reliably informed that Usuthu have suspended Lehlohonolo Majoro, Jabulani Ncobeni, Michael Morton, Thembele Sikhakhane and Nhlani Vilakazi. "Yes, it is true that these five players you've mentioned have been suspended," a source confirmed.

"They are no longer training with the team. They were complaining that they are not given a chance but they got it this past weekend. What did they do? They failed to make an impact. You expect more from them. They were called and informed that they are not fired but they have to train on their own until further notice."

Usuthu were trounced 4-1 by Bloemfontein Celtic in the last 32 of the Nedbank Cup last weekend. Another source also confirmed that these five seasoned players had been shifted away from the

team because of their negativity. "You can call all of them, they won't take the blame. Some are complaining that they are playing out of position. Some are complaining that the coach is playing youngsters. You expect positive input from these players. But they are not giving the team that. They are coming with negative remarks."

"Obviously, the Nedbank Cup wasn't very important for us but we expected more from them because they've been complaining about lack of game time," the source elaborated. *The Mercury*



Facts that led to Chiefs' transfer ban

JOHANNESBURG - More information surrounding Kaizer Chiefs' transfer ban handed down by FIFA over the dispute with Malagasy side Fosa Juniors has since come to light.

Chiefs were handed a two-window ban, which comes into immediate effect, after they lost the case with the FIFA Dispute Resolution Chamber (DRC) relating to the signing of Malagasy midfielder Andriamirado Aro Hasina Andrianarimanana back in 2018.

KickOff.com has since obtained further information explaining details surrounding the case as presented to the FIFA DRC, and how Amakhosi ended up on the wrong side of the battle.

Fosa Juniors claim that 'Dax' signed a contract on November 1, 2016, "valid from date of signature until October 31, 2020".

On June 7, 2018, Chiefs and 'Dax' entered into a pre-contract for the player to join the club "for a duration of two years plus one year in option", valid from the following season starting July 1, 2018.

According to information, "On 15 and 29 June 2018, Fosa contacted Kaizer Chiefs via email, informing it that it was aware of its interest in the player's services, but that Kaizer Chiefs should contact Fosa directly since the player had a professional contract with Fosa."

On June 29, Chiefs replied that "the player informed it that he was an amateur player, free of any professional contract" and "explained that 'the premier league football in Madagascar is not a professional league and that clubs are playing with an amateur status'." On July 4, Kaizer Chiefs contacted Fosa again: "After consultation with our Board of Directors and Football Manager the compensation offered to Fosa Juniors Fc is USD 25,000. Trusting you will accept our offer for which we wish to thank you in anticipation."

However, Fosa declined this offer as it "is far below the expectation of our Board of Directors."

Chiefs and 'Dax' then proceeded to sign an employment contract, as previously agreed in the pre-contract, from "July 1, 2018 until June 30, 2021".

Fosa Juniors welcome Chiefs' transfer ban

JOHANNESBURG - Malagasy club Fosa Juniors say they are pleased that justice has been done following the FIFA ruling in the matter involving former player Andriamirado 'Dax' Andrianarimanana's move to Kaizer Chiefs.

This comes after the world football governing body banned Chiefs from signing new players in the next two transfer windows and Dax was banned for four months for breaching his contract.

In a statement, the Malagasy side described the FIFA ruling was a victory not only for Fosa Juniors, but was a victory for Malagasy football.

"Following FIFA's decision on the transfer we detained from Dax, Fosa Juniors FC takes note of this historic decision, and we are pleased that justice is being done," read the club statement.

"From now on, no illegal transfer of a Malagasy player will go unpunished. This victory of Fosa Juniors is a victory for all clubs in Madagascar, and a victory for Malagasy football."

Meanwhile, Chiefs have indicated that they would appeal the FIFA ruling at Court of Arbitration for Sport. *BackPage*

REGIONAL 100

STANDINGS

Col'sile Sacolo

Dabulamanzi Manzini Super League

No	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Sisonke	18	13	3	2	41	10	31	42
2	Louis XIV	18	10	8	0	22	9	13	38
3	Royal Swallows	18	10	5	3	28	14	14	35
4	Villa Stars	17	9	3	5	29	17	12	30
5	Fairview Chiefs	17	9	2	6	19	18	1	29
6	Stumbo's XI	17	8	3	6	21	14	7	27
7	Nsuka United	17	7	6	4	19	13	6	27
8	Hub Sundowns	17	7	4	6	19	11	8	25
9	Timbutini	17	7	4	6	24	19	5	25
10	Luve Cosmos	17	6	7	4	21	17	4	25
11	Lozitha Spurs	18	7	4	7	20	22	-2	25
12	Ludzeludze Brothers	17	5	2	10	18	33	-15	17
13	Vickery Nomads	18	3	6	9	19	28	-9	15
14	Moyeni United	18	3	6	9	16	28	-12	15
15	Colani United	18	3	2	13	15	34	-19	11
16	Mhlaleni United	18	0	1	17	16	60	-44	1

Manzini Promotion League

No	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Wonderful Touch	18	14	2	2	51	10	41	44
2	Kholwane Flying Birds	18	11	3	4	42	21	21	36
3	Maliyaduma United	18	10	4	4	30	13	17	34
4	Manzini United	18	11	1	6	36	24	12	34
5	Green Way	18	10	3	5	38	21	17	33
6	FC North	18	8	4	6	24	14	10	28
7	The Bones	18	8	3	7	34	20	14	27
8	City Eagles	18	7	6	5	18	17	1	27
9	African Chiefs	18	6	6	6	21	31	-10	24
10	Home Sparrows	18	6	5	7	17	15	2	23
11	Ngwane Park	18	7	2	9	24	29	-5	23
12	Combine Stars	18	6	4	8	25	34	-9	22
13	Bad Boys	18	6	4	8	19	29	-10	22
14	Two Sticks Comrades	18	2	5	11	7	24	-17	11
15	Siboniso Selwandle	18	3	1	14	14	39	-25	10
16	Superstars	18	2	1	15	14	73	-7	7

KPMG Manzini First Division

No	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Bradford University	9	8	1	0	48	8	40	25
2	Young Tigers	10	6	3	1	20	10	10	21
3	Chaos LTD	9	5	2	2	16	10	6	17
4	Healing Boys	10	5	2	3	15	15	0	17
5	God's Property	10	3	4	3	15	18	-3	13
6	New Generations	10	4	0	6	22	19	3	12
7	Brema United	10	3	0	7	17	27	-10	9
8	Shali	10	3	0	7	16	37	-21	9
9	Sunrise	10	1	0	9	6	31	-25	3

OK Foods Kwaluseni Promotion

No	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Kwaluseni Rebels	16	9	7	0	33	18	15	34
2	Gum Valley	16	10	3	3	29	17	12	33
3	Fashion International	16	10	2	4	32	18	14	32
4	Dark City	16	9	4	3	29	19	10	31
5	Zombodze United	16	7	3	6	27	20	7	24
6	Supersport	16	6	4	6	33	33	0	22
7	Kwaluseni United	16	5	4	2	23	27	-4	21
8	Umtfunti FC	15	6	2	7	22	20	2	20
9	Sacrament	16	5	1	4	32	32	0	19
10	Real Professionals	16	5	2	9	14	21	-7	17
11	Mhlaleni United	15	4	5	6	20	30	-10	17
12	Nsenga Comrades	16	3	6	7	20	23	-3	15
13	Gcwini Trompies	16	3	4	9	15	29	-14	13
14	Zama United	16	2	2	12	20	42	-22	8

OK Foods Kwaluseni First Division

No	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Giant Clockwork	17	15	1	1	48	10	38	46
2	FC Logoba	16	15	0	1	62	16	46	45
3	Ludzeludze Celtics	16	10	4	2	48	28	20	34
4	Matsapha Town	17	10	4	3	35	21	14	34
5	Mahashulane	16	10	2	4	37	21	16	32
6	Ngonini United	17	7	6	4	23	15	8	26
7	Juniors Eagles	17	7	5	5	28	22	6	26
8	Swazi Wire	17	6	5	6	32	31	1	23
9	Mhlaleni SuperStars	17	6	4	7	26	37	-11	22
10	Ludzidzi	17	4	9	4	28	26	2	21
11	Bafana bafana	15	5	2	8	23	33	-10	16
12	Boyane United	16	3	2	11	24	44	-20	11
13	Ludzeludze Kicks	17	2	1	2	19	44	-25	9
14	Zero Boys	17	2	1	4	20	46	-26	7
15	Nsenga Shagari XI	15	2	0	0	14	42	-28	7
16	AFC Heroes	17	2	0	0	8	39	-31	7

S&S Malkerns Promotion League

No	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Don Don	18	13	1	4	31	13	18	40
2	Mahlanya United	17	11	4	2	30	10	20	37
3	Swzican United	17	11	3	3	32	13	19	36
4	Ndinda Volcano	18	9	5	4	34	22	12	32
5	Red Swallows	17	8	5	4	32	21	11	29
6	Geben	17	7	5	5	32	21	11	26
7	Ngodini	18	7	5	6	23	21	2	26
8	Cutter Cosmos	16	7	4	5	24	33	-9	25
9	Troublemakers	15	6	5	4	14	14	0	23
10	Malkerns FC	18	5	7	6	31	25	6	22
11	Current Toasters	17	6	2	9	19	31	-12	20
12	Vuka Aces	17	3	7	7	26	29	-3	16
13	Golden Arrows	17	3	7	7	15	28	-23	16
14	Ntandozi FC	17	2	7	8	26	36	-10	13
15	Phondo	18	2	5	11	20	38	-18	11
16	Star Point	17	0	2	15	9	43	-34	2

Malkerns First Division

No	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Malkerns Chiefs	14	11	1	2	33	14	19	34
2	FC Navara	14	10	2	2	36	18	18	32
3	Dynamite Hotspurs	13	8	4	1	28	12	16	28
4	Mdonjane Arsenal	13	8	2	3	30	14	16	26
5	Bethany United	14	6	3	5	13	19	-6	21
6	Survivor	13	4	6	3	18	16	2	18
7	Makhungutsha	14	5	3	6	13	16	-3	18
8	Mphofane United	14	5	1	8	12	17	-5	16
9	Magwaza	14	3	5	6	19	20	-1	14
10	Power Sparks	14	4	2	8	15	20	-5	14
11	Malandela Cyclone	13	2	5	6	16	18	-2	11
12	Usuthu Rangers	14	1	0	0	12	41	-29	7
13	Home Boys	12	1	0	0	10	30	-20	5

Premier Bakeries Mkhweni Promotion

No	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Bantu City	20	14	2	4	50	24	26	44
2	Luve Stars	20	13	5	2	52	28	24	44
3	Mbusheni Brothers	20	11	5	4	42	20	22	38
4	African Wolves	19	11	5	3	39	23	16	38
5	Sangcofo	20	12	2	6	31	15	16	38
6	White Killers	20	11	4	5	46	33	13	37
7	Liverpool	19	10	4	5	40	20	20	34
8	Luve Suncity	19	10	1	1	34	25	9	34
9	Moyeni	19	9	3	7	42	25	17	30
10	All Nations	19	9	3	7	46	37	9	30

11	Zama United	20	6	9	5	33	27	6	27
12	Luve Classic	19	8	1	10	41	41	0	25
13	Manchester United	20	7	4	9	35	38	-3	25
14	Mliba Rangers	20	6	4	10	28	33	-5	22
15	Mantshonga FC	20	6	3	11	37	46	-9	21
16	Mantshonga United	19	5	4	10	27	35	-8	19
17	Mliba United	20	5	0	3	28	70	-42	17
18	Step Ahead	19	4	0	4	23	54	-31	15
19	All Stars	20	2	2	16	17	52	-35	8
20	Luve Home Defenders	20	1	3	16	18	63	-45	6

Kukhanyeni Promotion

No	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Nyakeni United	16	11	3	2	38	12	26	36
2	Nyakeni Cosmos	16	11	3	2	40	21	19	36
3	Young Killers	16	11	3	2	23	10	13	36
4	Nyakeni Heroes	16	11	0	6	40	25	15	34
5	Kukhanyeni	13	8	4	1	32	13	19	28
6	Umsihla We-Dortmund	16	8	3	5	31	23	8	27
7	Ngwazini	16	7	1	2	29	20	9	25
8	Lion Heart	17	7	1	9	22	26	-4	22
9	Mphola Celtics	15	6	1	4	26	26	0	21
10	Bhekinkhosi	15	6	3	2	23	23	0	20
11	Nyakeni Ravens	17	4	6	7	24	26	-2	18
12	Brave Lion	14	5	2	7	19	24	-5	17
13	Mdayane	15	3	2	7	16	20	-4	15
14	Nyakeni Trompies	15	2	4	4	13	24	-11	13
15	Mbhijwana	15	4	0	6	20	33	-10	13
16	1995 Mbuluzana	14	3	1	4	18	29	-11	12
17	Diakadla	16	3	2	6	16	34	-18	11
18	Estate Classic	14	0	3	11	12	53	-41	3

MP Vilakati Usuthu Promotion

No	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Othandweni Swallows	12	9	3	0	27	9	18	30
2	Mhlangeni B Rhinos	12	9	3	0	26	11	15	30
3	Luhleko Flyers	12	8	2	2	24	13	11	26
4	Mhlangeni Buffaloes	13	6	4	3	20	13	7	22
5	Luhleko Classic	12	5	5	2	22	17	5	20
6	Lamgabhi Peacemakers	13	4	5	4	27	24	3	17
7	Internationals	12	4	5	3	17	15	2	17
8	Mhlangeni United	12	4	4	4	15	18	-3	16
9	Ngogodla Young Stars	13	4	2	7	13	23	-10	14
10	Luhleko Revengers	12	3	3	6	19	25	-6	12
11	Zondwako Killers	13	3	1	9	21	29	-8	10
12	Dudusini	12	2	2	8	15	21	-6	8
13	Zamalek	11	1	5	5	9	16	-7	8
14	Comandos	13	1	2	10	14	35	-21	5



SHUKUMA



ESWATINI

BY DUMISANI NTIWANE (ESRC Media Officer)



COME GET YOUR 'TRADING' LICENCES

BY DUMISANI NTIWANE
(ESRC Media Officer)

Shu...Shu...Shukuma Eswatini! Sanibonani, greetings and welcome to yet another edition of your favourite read, Shukuma Eswatini.

We are the Eswatini Sport and Recreation Council (ESRC) and we pride ourselves in the fact that we are here for the nation. We want to develop our lovely nation through quality sport and recreational activities.

Earlier on in the year, we did inform our national sports associations of the pending review meetings with our office and of course with our strategic partners the Eswatini Olympic and Commonwealth Games Association (EOCGA).

No need to emphasise on the importance of such meetings really because our associations should know by now that we liken this exercise to one renewing his/hers trading licence. It follows that they cannot operate legally without getting the green light from the council. It is as simple as that really. By now our sports associations should be aware that the review meetings are actually meant to help them. These meetings are no monster to be feared. Our associations should actually be looking forward to them.

...sports associations need to come for review meetings for them to operate legally

Since we have already entered the last quarter of the Eswatini Sport and Recreation Council's financial year, which ends in March. This obviously means they (Sports Associations) have to meet their obligations.

Please note some of the key documents, which are essential when coming for the review meetings as follows:

- (i) Constitution
- (ii) Strategic plan
- (iii) Recognition by IF
- (iv) Operational plan
- (v) AGM report
- (vi) WADA code Anti-Doping Policy

Some of the questions to be expected in these meetings include but not limited to examples like these. "Does the association have an Athletes Commission? Does the association have a Coaches Commission? Does the association have a Medical Commission?"

These are just examples.

We have already forwarded the proposed schedule of the review meetings to the respective associations.



COME ALL: Eswatini Sport and Recreation Council's Darius Dloomo.

SHUKUMA WITH CAUTION

We are always pleased to see our people getting out of bed to exercise.

We have noted with great pride and delight the ever increasing number of people using the roads for their walks and runs early in the morning or late in the evening.

It is testimony that indeed our people have heard the Shukuma Gospel and are actually practising it. However, let us all be warned. In as much as we encourage healthy living, which include regular exercise, we want to warn our people to do so cautiously, especially those that use the public roads to do so.

It is crucial to always use the right side of the road. This means facing the oncoming traffic instead of turning one's back to traffic. It is also a must to wear reflective clothing for the drivers of the vehicles to easily see a runner on the road. We know that most tend to want to use the tarred parts of the road, which is fine but these must make sure they are always beyond the yellow line to make it easier for motorists to avoid them. For those that organise mass participation for such initiatives, it is always advisable to seek advice



from our office first before hosting a number of people because that could be dangerous in a number of ways. It is not as easy as it looks, hence the need to seek clarity from our office how to go about doing it. We can even come and assist if time and resources permit but please ensure safety measures are taken before people can exercise together. Some people have high cholesterol levels, which can prove deadly during intense physical workouts, hence the need to test the blood sugar levels first before engaging them in any physical exercise.

Also, the police need to be informed of that particular activity beforehand, so they can obviously keep a lookout on that particular activity. Amongst other things, the organisers of that particular event also need to ensure that they have lots and lots of hydrating liquids, especially water and probably some energy drinks for the participants. Fewer things are more deadly than a dehydrated person, who can collapse and die in a twinkle of an eye.

We encourage our people to live healthy lifestyles but let us be warned to do so with caution.

ATHLETICS ESWATINI AT IT AGAIN!

THE year 2020 is really proving to be a very busy year for the ambitious and pace setting Athletics Eswatini, which is led by attorney Zakhele Dlamini of the TZD Sports fame.

Starting this Friday, February 14, the association will be hosting a Talent Identification Course, which will kick off in two regions simultaneously. It will run over three days and the first to benefit will be the Lubombo and Hhohho Regions respectively.

This important course will see the training of coaches and technical officials. This is part of the establishment of the supporting pillars of the project, which will ensure sustainability of the project. It is worth mentioning that the courses are part of the Regional Youth and Sub Youth Programme of Athletics Eswatini.

The Talent Identification Programme

targets 2024 and 2028 Olympics for the Together for Gold Vision. The Athletics Eswatini will for a start, train a minimum of 20 officials in each region. Hhohho and Lubombo regions, as stated above will be the first to go with courses to be conducted at Pigg's Peak Club and Lubombo Central at Siteki from Friday to Sunday. The courses are Pre-level 1 courses and candidates who will do well will be eligible for Level 1 course to be conducted in September and will be expected to conduct practical, including hosting of age appropriate competitions within the regions.

The Athletics Eswatini is no doubt confident that this project will unearth new talent and will decentralise Athletics in the country. Way to go!



Basketball awards not to be missed

BASKETBALL, one the fastest growing sports in the land will be hosting their awards this evening at the MTN Auditorium.

Expect to see shining stars and teams receive their merit awards on the evening.

Outstanding teams and individuals will be recognised for excellence. This is what we want in sports. Those that deserve to be rewarded for their exploits on the field (court in this instance), must duly be rewarded.

Expect to see the crowning of amongst others:

- Men's Promotional League Champions 2019
- Men's Promotional League

Runners Up 2019

- Men's Promotional League Regular Season MVP
- National Women's League Champions 2019
- National Women League's Runners Up 2019

For comments/suggestions and inquiries contact the author at 7669 1992/7969 1992/2404 1590

Or alternatively email to ntiwane@sportscouncil.org.sz Our marketing officer Zwakele Simelane can be reached at 76072323/24041590 or email to zwakelegr@gmail.com or zwakele@sportscouncil.org.sz



UP THE BUCS
Moneni Pirates



Moneni
Amabhakaniya



CHEERS TO THE BEST SUPPORTERS ...UP THE BUCS!!!

BY MHLONISHWA MOTSA
(Corporate Affairs Manager)

GREETINGS to all the mighty Moneni Pirates Football Club supporters and partners, and welcome to our first edition of the 'Up the Bucs' column.

First let's thank the Eswatini Observer Sports Desk for the opportunity to scribe in the sacred pages of this honourable 39-year old newspaper.

This one goes to the most effective, the most flamboyant, and the best of all supporters in the whole of football in the Kingdom of Eswatini. The Premier League of Eswatini (PLE) has seen them all come and go but none has been as faithful as Moneni Pirates fans over the years. The Buccaneers never left the stands even when the team got relegated to the National First Division.

SPONSORS

Since the beginning of the season the numbers have increased in our stands and this is not just good for the Peter 'Touch' Magagula-led PLE board but is also good for corporate sponsors carried alongside the mighty skull bones logo in our kit. The number of fans cascading the stadiums every weekend could be a good factor for the PLE to rake in more sponsors and empower the teams.

When we started the sea-

son we promised our sponsors and partners an improved and better Moneni Pirates that will be ready to take care of business both on and off the field and we have delivered just that. The supporters are an integral part of the transformation at the buccaneer's camp, not just by coming to the stadiums but by also being a part of all our sponsors and partners. The supporters we have are not just supporters but are customers and brand ambassadors of all the brands that are supporting the team, and for that we say Cheers to you Buccaneers!

We encourage those social media posts of the brands that support Pirates and those screenshots of items bought from our partners. We appreciate how the supporters have embraced the Marketing Plan presented by the Brian Dlamini-led marketing committee. The General Secretary of the Committee, Terence Matse always says "there is no brand like a Pirates brands" and true to that we became the only team in the history of the PLE to host a successful roadshow and



sponsors activation at Manzini Bus rank, thanks to our Events Manager Menziwokuhle Mthethwa. The sales team led by the energetic Gugu Dlamini came up with all strategies of generating income for the team.

INGWENYAMA CUP

Our supporters once again proved to be the emotional backbone of the team

after our semi-final loss to Green Mamba last weekend. The supporters once again motivated our players after the game by their now ritual financial donation.

When everyone from the technical bench and the players loathed that final whistle, when every shoulder dropped and tears streamed the faces of every buccaneer, it was the supporters voices reverberating from the East stand that brought back the reality that we are Bhakaniya, just as the song said.

Let me also take this time and credit Green

Mamba for the win, it was a fair win and we did all we could but unfortu-

nately it was not for us. Credit also goes to our young troops for coming as far as the semi-finals of such a huge cup competition, only class can take you this far.

BEHAVIOUR

It would unfair to put the column to bed before applauding the behaviour of our supporters. It has been known over the years that Pirates fans are rowdy and we once christened as hooligans by the media, a tag that was not far from the behaviour back then. We have seen and we noticed the change in behaviour, we applaud the 'gracious in defeat' spirit that we have seen so far and how you have stayed calm even when match officials seem to rob us.

It was during our Pre-Season 52 Years Celebration Dinner where the Chairman of the Marketing Committee, Brian Dlamini promised the PLE Chairman that there will be no violence cases for Moneni Pirates this season and true to his word, there has been none so far.

SIDLALA KAMNANDZI!

The newly launched Eswatini Bank Cup slogan must have been crafted by one of our fans. The slogan, *Sidlala Kamnandzi*, is a clear description of our *kasi* flava style of play and it's an inspiration for us to do better in this tournament. It is a known fact that no one plays exciting football than Moneni Pirates in the whole of PLE and we are looking at reliving the 2015 victory in the then SwaziBank Cup.

To all those that will face Moneni Pirates in the Eswatini Bank Cup we wish to announce that we do have time to lick wounds but we will definitely inflict wounds. FASA!!!



ACTIVE MATRIX GYM OFFICIAL OPENING



LIKE THIS: Participants belting it out during the official opening of the Active Matrix Gym near the Satellite Bus Rank in Manzini over the weekend. The gym which is now fully operational is owned by businessman Sikhumbuzo Mohamed. (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)



UP: The participants doing some kicks as part of the aerobics exercises.



FULL FORCE: Another body builder S'fuba from the Correctional Services in full action.



VARIETY: The gym is fully equipped giving its customers a wide variety of options.



UNDER CONTROL: Poet Majaha Nkhonyane taking it easy on the treadmill.



STRETCH: The attendants going through the paces during the session.



CREW: Alicia Horton poses with Soweto's Finest crew who were the main attraction during the ceremony.



TEAM: Mohamed poses with the instructors Muzi Lushaba and Mzwandile Dlamini.



PUSH UPS: Some ladies doing the full body stretch.



SUPPORT: Samu Magagula, Mncedi Dladu and Sabelo Dube were also there to support their friend Mohamed.



POWER: Body builder Maqualf doing what he knows best on weights.



■ Manchester United are planning a £160m swoop for Aston Villa's Jack Grealish, 24, and Leicester City and England midfielder James Maddison, 23, this summer. (*Sun*)

■ Manchester United are determined to beat Chelsea in the £120m battle to sign Borussia Dortmund and England forward Jadon Sancho, 19. (*Mirror*)

■ Liverpool are preparing to offer Netherlands defender Virgil van Dijk, 28, a new deal worth more than £150 000 a week. (*Football Insider*)

■ Tottenham are preparing a £40m bid to try to sign Bournemouth's Dutch centre-half Nathan Ake, 24. (*Express*)

■ Napoli and Belgium striker Dries Mertens, 32, is increasingly likely to move on a free transfer in the summer - with Chelsea, Manchester United and Arsenal all vying for his signature. (*Mail*)

■ Chelsea will watch Morocco's Hakim Ziyech for the remainder of the season after failing with a bid to land the 26-year-old Ajax winger in January. (*Telegraph*)

■ Chelsea are also considering a £12.7m deal to buy back Sassuolo midfielder Jeremie Boga, 23. The Ivory Coast international left Stamford Bridge for Serie A in 2018. (*Express*)

■ Ajax are considering a summer approach for Tottenham and Belgium defender Jan Vertonghen, with the 32-year-old out of contract at the end of the season. (*Guardian*)

■ Manchester City, Manchester United, Liverpool and Atletico Madrid are all interested in Verona and Albania defender Marash Kumbulla, 20. (*Gazzetta dello Sport, via Sport Witness*)

■ Southampton and Republic of Ireland striker Shane Long, 33, is expected to sign a new contract to stay at the club, with his existing deal expiring at the end of the season. (*Southern Daily Echo*)

■ Tottenham boss Jose Mourinho watched Bayern Munich's goalless draw with RB Leipzig on Sunday, with Leipzig's French defender Dayot Upamecano, 21, one of the players he was interested in. (*Mirror*)

■ Aston Villa are prepared to offer Crystal Palace £15m for Norway striker Alexander Sorloth, 24, who is currently on loan with Turkish club Trabzonspor. (*Turkish Football*)

■ Premier League and Championship clubs are charging up to £700 for children to be mascots at games, according to MPs and fans groups. (*Telegraph*)

■ Liverpool are keeping a close watch on Benfica's Brazilian striker Carlos Vinicius and are growing increasingly interested in signing the 24-year-old. (*O Jogo, via Sport Witness*)

ESA ANNOUNCE CANA ZONE 6 BOUND SQUAD

BY COLISILE SACOLO

SWIMMING - ESWATINI Swimming Association (ESA) has announced the squad that will take part in the CANA Zone 6 at the University of Botswana in Gaborone.

This was revealed by Eswatini Swimming Association head coach Welcome Nhlabatsi, who said the association would be sending 11 swimmers and two officials.

Mhlanga said the competition would run from February 20-23.

The squad is expected to leave the country next week for the competition that would also feature 14 countries. These are Eswatini, South Africa, Zambia, Mauritius, Namibia and Zimbabwe to mention a few.

"We want the youngsters to get international exposure hence we have sent a team comprising of juniors. We believe they can gain more experience so that they can do better in other upcoming competitions," Nhlabatsi said last year they performed badly in the tour-



RISING STARS: The CANA Zone 6 bound squad posing for a group photo.

nament and their aim was to do better this time around.

"We hope the squad will bring back medals as they have been preparing for this competition. I must say that the team has been working hard during their trainings and the gala held last weekend at Enjabulweni saw most swimmer displaying great performances."

Swimmer Simanga Dlamini will use this competition as preparation for the 2020 Olympic Games to be held in Tokyo.

TEAM IS AS FOLLOWS:

Coach - Welcome Nhlabatsi
Team Manager - Michelle Hoy
Girls 12&Under
Tianna Barbosa
Hayley Hoy
Girls 13/14
Lauren Young
Raya Young
Swakhile Dlamini
Girls 15/16

Senamile Dlamini
Girls 17 and Over
Robyn Young
Boys 12 and Under
Luca Fraser
Tiano Fraser
Boys 13/14
Damien De Sousa
Boys 17 and Over
S'manga Dlamini

Eswatini boxers off to Senegal on Monday

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

BOXING - ESWATINI boxing duo of Zweli Dlamini and Thabiso Dlamini will on Monday jet off to Dakar, Senegal for the 2020 Olympic qualifiers.

The pair will be under the guidance of coach Fanana 'Tyson' Dlamini and reputable administrator Vincent Sihlongonyane during the continental assignment scheduled for February 18 - March 2, 2020.

The 2018 Commonwealth Games participants will be looking to make a cut in the 52-

57km and 63-69kg categories in their quest to qualify for this year's Olympic Games billed for Tokyo, Japan from July 24 to August 9.

Eswatini Boxing Association Secretary Thabsile Mngometulu confirmed the news when contacted yesterday.

"The team will leave the country on Monday for Senegal where they will be competing in the Olympic qualifiers. We are confident they will make it through to Japan. Thabiso is currently on a training programme at the Pretoria Transnet Engineering Academy in preparations of the qualifiers."

Squad coach Fanana 'Tyson'

Dlamini could not be reached for comment as his cell-phone rang unanswered when tried yesterday.

The Eswatini Boxing Association is also in partnership with the South African Boxing Association that gave birth to the on-going exchange of programmes between the two neighbouring countries.

Phumlile shines in AGN League 4

BY NOMALUNGELO PHIRI

ATHLETICS - ESWATINI top athlete Phumlile Ndzinisa won the Athletics Gauteng North (AGN) League 4 200m with an impressive time of 11.89 seconds.

This was revealed by Athletics Eswatini Secretary Thoba Mazibuko in an interview yesterday.

Mazibuko said Ndzinisa's next competition would in the Athletics Gauteng North (AGN) League 6 set for February 25 in BestmedTuks Stadium, Pretoria.

Ndzinisa will be joined by local athletes in Sibusiso 'Swazi Bolt' Matsenjwa and Andile Lusenga among others.

He said the AGN 6 would help the association to do rankings of these athletics for the upcoming World Olympics.

When sought for comment, Ndzinisa said this was her first race this year and was happy to finish first.

"This shows that I am on the right track and I will continue working hard." She said she would be working on improving her finish time.

"I will be training hard for the upcoming races," she added.

Ready

Meanwhile, Andile Lushaba said he was also ready for the competition.

"This will be my first competition outside the country and I want to win," he said.

Lushaba participated in the AE Track and Field event last Sunday and clocked an impressive 10:63 seconds to beat Manzini Athletics Club Banele Dlamini, Dlamini Sebenele, Manana Nqobizwe, Mkhwanazi Sikhanyiso and Mngometulu Mzamo in the 100m.

AE to host Regional Youth, Sub-Youth Programme

BY NOMALUNGELO PHIRI

ATHLETICS - THE Athletics Eswatini (AE) will host the 'Regional Youth and Sub-Youth Programme' on February 14-16, 2020.

This was revealed by AE Secretary Thoba Mazibuko yesterday.

Mazibuko said the training was part of the AE courses where they would start by training a minimum of 20 officials in each region.

"Hhohho and Lubombo regions will be the first to go with courses to be conducted at Pigg's Peak Club and Lubombo Central in Siteki tomorrow," he said.

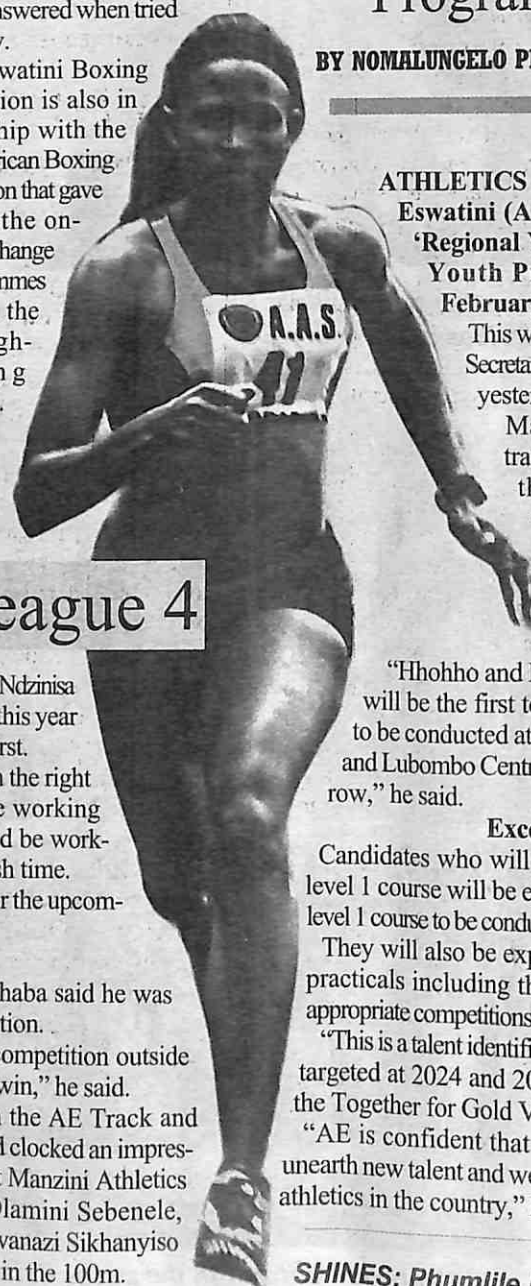
Excel

Candidates who will excel in the Pre-level 1 course will be eligible to start the level 1 course to be conducted in September.

They will also be expected to conduct practicals including the hosting of age appropriate competitions within the regions.

"This is a talent identification programme targeted at 2024 and 2028 Olympics for the Together for Gold Vision.

"AE is confident that this project will unearth new talent and we will decentralise athletics in the country," he said.



SHINES: Phumlile Ndzinisa.

We will defend EswatiniBank Women's Cup - Makhukhula

BY COLISILE SACOLO

SOCCER - MANZINI Wanderers coach Bongani Makhukhula says they will defend their EswatiniBank Women's Cup title.

Makhukhula said this during an interview with the publication following the launch of the E175 000 worth tournament. The sponsorship package was announced during the official launch of the 17th edition of the tournament at the Royal Swazi Spa Convention Centre on Tuesday. The new sponsorship has shown an increment of E25 000 from last year's E 150 000. The first eight teams to clash in the tournament were also drawn on Tuesday during the launch. Makhukhula said they would do their best to defend the EswatiniBank Women's Cup just like they did last year.

"We are aware of the challenges we are facing as a team, but we will prepare well for the EswatiniBank Cup



FOR LADIES TOURNEY: Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs Harries 'Madze' Bulunga, EswatiniBank MD Zakhele Lukhele, EFA President Adam Bomber Mtsetfwa (r) and Premier League of Eswatini Chairman Peter Magagula (l) display a E175 000 cheque for EswatiniBank Women's Cup.

games.

It will not be easy, but we are looking forward to defending our title. We will fight for positive results in each and every game we will play in this tournament." He then thanked their management for ensuring that players

attend training. Makhukhula said the team's management was always supportive. "I would also like to thank the players for always coming to training, especially those who are still at school as they are able to juggle school and football."

PLE COO APOLOGISES FOR TICKETS CONFUSION

BY COLISILE SACOLO

SOCCER - PREMIER League of Eswatini Chief Operations Officer Pat Vilakati has extended an apology to the nation following the confusion over the SMAVF Ingwenyama Cup semi-finals tickets.

This was during the semi-final games played at Somhlolo national stadium on Sunday. Vilakati said there were aware that things did not go according to plan in as far as the tickets were concerned. "We are really sorry to the nation for the tickets confusing, which was caused by the changing of the outlets." Vilakati said they did not communicate on time where the tickets would be available. "It was a mistake on our part and we will not repeat the mistake again." He said they would add more outlets where



Premier League of Eswatini Chief Operations Officer Pat Vilakati.

the tickets would be available. "We will add more outlets in the Shiselweni and Lubombo regions. We will increase the number of vending points so that the tickets are easily accessible. Otherwise, we would like to thank the public for being patient with us and we promise that this will not happen again." Vilakati said they would also use the media as their stakeholder to distribute information about the tickets.

EFA TD 'Bizzah' off to Morocco

BY NOMALUNGELO PHIRI

SOCCER - ESWATINI Football Association (EFA) Technical Director Bhekisisa 'Bizzah' Mkhonta yesterday left the country for Morocco to attend the Confederation of African Football's (CAF's) Technical Directors' Workshop.

This was revealed by EFA Communications and Marketing Officer Muzi Radebe, who said the workshop would run from Saturday to Monday. "The objective of the workshop is to apply the coaching courses using the CAF's Central Management System (CMS) and how to apply the new CAF coaching convention signed by CAF member countries," he said. Upon undertaking the situation on the entire coaching development systems within the confederation, the new CAF administration halted the organisation of CAF Courses in the member associations to pave way for a newly structured and regulated system under CAF Coaching Convention that will ensure top quality delivery of courses in terms of content.

The CAF Coaching Convention was signed in July last year and was finalised by CAF experts together with the CAF Football Development Directorate.

Radebe said as part of the workshop, the TD is expected to present the 2019 EFA's Technical Report and the 2020 action plan. He is expected back home next Wednesday.

In several capacity workshops organised by CAF mostly in Morocco and Cairo, CAF has been updating associations on the development and the procedures for application, organising and running of its accredited Courses for Diploma for PRO, A, B and C.

The objective of the workshop is to apply the coaching courses using the CAF's Central Management System

ESIBAYENI LODGE UNDER-17 LEAGUE IN FULL SWING

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

SOCCER - ESIBAYENI Lodge Under-17 League defending champions Green Mamba will be out to consolidate their top spot on the log when they take on Mhlume Peacemakers at the Trade Fair Ground on Saturday.

Green Mamba have 14 points in six game, followed by Royal Leopard, who have 13 points after the same number of games.

The full fixture:

Saturday at Trade Fair Ground		
Green Mamba	vs	Mhlume Peacemakers 11am
Saturday at UNESWA Sports Ground		
Sea Birds	vs	Mbabane Swallows 10am
Royal Leopard	vs	Mbabane Highlanders 12noon
Moneni Pirates	vs	Manzini Wanderers 2pm
Saturday at Tambuti Sports Ground		
Tambuti	vs	Denver Sundowns 12noon

Second placed Ingwemabalabala will be aiming for a win against Mbabane Highlanders during the quadruple header billed for the Trade

The Esibayeni Lodge Under-17 log:

Teams	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1. Green Mamba	6	4	2	0	21	4	17	14
2. Royal Leopard	6	4	1	1	16	9	7	13
3. Moneni Pirates	6	3	1	2	24	12	12	10
4. Manzini Wanderers	6	3	1	2	16	18	-2	10
5. M. Swallows	6	3	1	2	10	14	-4	10
6. Denver Sundowns	6	2	3	1	10	5	5	9
7. Mbabane Highlanders	6	2	2	2	10	13	-3	8
8. Tambuti	6	2	1	3	11	15	-4	7
9. Mhlume Peacemakers	6	1	0	5	8	16	-8	3
10. Sea Birds	6	0	0	6	10	30	-20	0

Fair Ground.

Matches

Other matches of the quadruple will see the traditional hub derby

between Moneni Pirates and Manzini Wanderers while Mbabane Swallows have a date with basement side Sea Birds.

SIVE DLAMINI WINS UGI LEG OF LAMB

NOMALUNGELO PHIRI

GOLF - MBABANE Golf Club member Sive Dlamini beat close to 20 golfers to win the United General Insurance (UGI) Leg of Lamb competition played at the Royal Swazi Spa Golf Course last Friday.

A well-known sharp shooter with a number of triumphs under his belt, Dlamini seemed to have taken advantage of the cool weather condition to be counted among the highest point-earners in this nine-hole tournament. Outstandingly, he is the third player since the tournament's inception in November last year to have recorded 23 points, which is the highest score thus far. The others who scored the 23 pinnacle are Pastor Phil Mnisi and veteran golfer Jurie Mentz.

Playing of a nine handicap on the day, Dlamini reckoned that his game was on point compared to his previous ones on the same course.

He was three points better than his runner-up Raymond Mathonsi, who is one of Eswatini's admired golfers. Not only did Dlamini win the main prize, but he was also the nearest to the pin on the tricky hole 18.

"My driving and irons were all



WELL DONE: Sive Dlamini receiving his prize from United Holdings Marketing Manager Mcolisi Dlamini.

doing what I required of them. I've been out of golf for quite some time and missed it so much due to academic commitments.

So when I got here, I wanted to kill the course. Overall, it was a good game," he said.

Dlamini recalled that he was introduced to golf way back in 2012 by his friend Mduduzi Mtsetfwa.

He said he enjoyed the game from that time despite its innumerable challenges. "Most of the time we practise and play at the Royal Swazi

Spa and it is like our home-ground. I have most of my competitions on this course. Since the UGI Leg of Lamb's inception here, I think I have only played twice and hope to feature more regularly going forward."

He aspires to practise consistently and play more games with the aim of improving his handicap. He added; "It's one thing to dream of lowering your handicap and it's another to actually realise the target because golf is certainly not an

RESULTS:

1. Sive Dlamini 23
 2. Raymond Mathonsi 20
 3. Ricky Saulus 19
 4. Nicholas Vilakati 18
- C/O
5. Sifiso Nxumalo 18
 6. Moses Masilela 18

NOVELTIES

- Sive Dlamini Nearest The Pin 18th hole
Ricky Saulus Longest Drive 12th hole

LUCKY DRAW

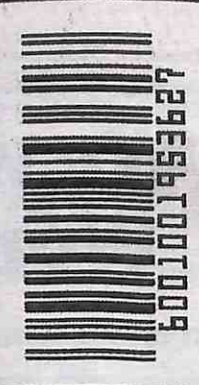
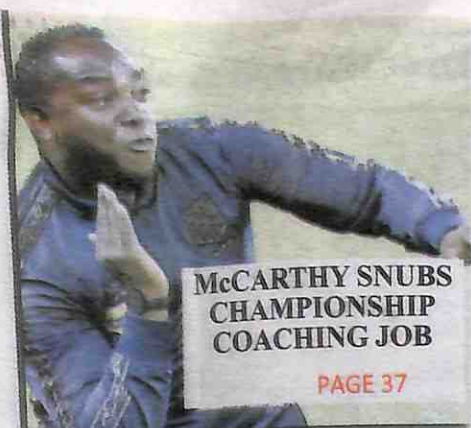
- Pius Perry
Marks Malekutu.

easy sport."

Meanwhile, United Holdings Marketing Manager Mcolisi Dlamini thanked the golfers for embracing the UGI-sponsored tournament. He said the support received thus far, has been crucial in the company's market access initiatives.

"With so much beneficial engagements UGI will always look to engage with the golfing community so to grow the sport," Dlamini stated.

The 13th edition of the tournament will be played at the same venue tomorrow and golfers are encouraged to come warm up for their respective Valentine's Day celebrations later in the evening.



Idlala Kamnandzi...

BIG THREE IN GRAND OPENING

- Last 32 games start tomorrow until Sunday
- E50 to watch Sunday games, E40 for Saturday games
- Grand opening will feature a number of entertainment activities

BY COLISILE SACOLO

SOCCER - THE country's big three teams Mbabane Swallows, Mbabane Highlanders and Manzini Wanderers headline Sunday's EswatiniBank Cup grand opening matches.

This is according to the fixture released by the Premier League of Eswatini yesterday.

PLE Chief Operations Officer Pat Vilakati said they looked at games that had the potential to bring more spectators at the stadium in the interest of the sponsor.

"The MC has the discretion to choose teams that will feature in the grand opening games. And it should be clear that being the defending champion is not a guarantee to participate in the grand opening."

He also announced that the last 32 round begins tomorrow with a double header at Somhlolo National Stadium pitting Seven Dreams against Tambuti at 6:30pm before the match between Tinyosi vs defending champions Young Buffaloes at 8:30pm. There will be 11 games on Saturday spread across the country.

The grand opening matches will see Rail United take on Manzini Wanderers while Mbabane Highlanders face play-off two winners while Sisonkhe have a date with Mbabane Swallows.



FIXTURES:

Tomorrow at Somhlolo National Stadium

Seven Dreams	vs	Tambuti FC	6:30pm
Tinyosi FC	vs	Young Buffaloes	8:30 pm

Saturday at Prince of Wales

Umbelebele	vs	Green Mamba	1:30pm
Mbabane Citizens	vs	Denver Sundowns	5:30pm

Saturday at Somhlolo National Stadium

Vovovo	vs	Madlenya FC	2pm
Hlatikulu Tycoons	vs	Moneni Pirates	2pm

Saturday at King Sobhuza II Stadium

TP Mazembe FC	vs	Milling Hotspurs	2pm
Nsingizini Hotspurs	vs	Royal Leopard	4pm

Saturday Mayaluka Stadium

Magwayane FC	vs	Tambakhulu Callies	2pm
Illovo FC	vs	Mhlume Peacemakers	4pm

Saturday at Mavuso Sports Centre

Louis XI FC	vs	Malanti Chiefs	2pm
Ludzeludze Killers	vs	P/P Black Swallows	4pm

Sunday at King Sobhuza II Stadium

Play-off 1	vs	Manzini Sea Birds	2:30pm
------------	----	-------------------	--------

Sunday at Somhlolo National Stadium

Rail United	vs	Manzini Wanderers	noon
Play-off 2	vs	Mbabane Highlanders	2:05pm
Sisonke Fc	vs	Mbabane Swallows	4:05pm

'DU' Makhanya new Sitsebe coach

BY NOMALUNGELO PHIRI

SOCCER - MBABANE Highlanders assistant coach Dumsani 'DU' Makhanya has been appointed the new Sitsebe head coach.

The former Green Mamba coach replaces Anthony Mdluli, who has just been appointed new Sihlangu goalkeeper coach. The Eswatini Football Association (EFA) confirmed Makhanya's appointment through a statement. Following the appointment of the senior men's national team Sihlangu technical bench, the executive committee of the EFA met and reviewed the coaching staff of the other national teams.

'DU' will be assisted by former Sitsebe head coach Fisiwe Hlophe and Bongumusa Mdluli, who is the physical fitness coach while Nonhlanhla Shoulder is the goalkeeper coach. Makhanya's first assignment is the Sitsebe against Malawi game in the 2020 Africa Women's Senior Champions qualifications. Meanwhile, former Sihlangu assistant coach Velekhaya Mthethwa has bounced back as national Under-20 coach where he has replaced Dominic Kunene, who is now the senior men's national side head coach.

Royal Leopard head coach Edwin Matsebula has filled in the void left by Gcina 'Magiyane' Dlamini as Under-17 head coach. Former Royal Leopard head coach Sifiso 'Nuro' Ntibanane has retained his position as the Under-23 head coach. He will be working alongside Clement 'King Clay' Mdluli, who will be the assistant coach while former Sihlangu physical fitness coach Dennis Fakudze has bounced back to his previous position.

NEW COACHES FOR NATIONAL TEAMS:

Sitsebe	coach
1. Dumsani Makhanya - Head coach	U-13 men's national team
2. Fisiwe Hlophe - Assistant coach	1. Bongani Makhanya - Head coach
3. Bongumusa Mdluli - Physical fitness coach	2. Lwazi Simelane - Assistant coach
4. Nonhlanhla Shoulder - Goalkeeper coach	3. Sibusiso Fakudze - Physical fitness coach
U-23 men's national team	4. Percy Shongwe - Goalkeeper coach
1. Sifiso Ntibanane - Head coach	
2. Clement Mdluli - Assistant coach	U-20 women national team
3. Dennis Fakudze - Physical fitness coach	1. Aaron Mavimbela - Head coach
4. Bright Nxumalo - Goalkeeper coach	2. Simphiwe Simelane - Assistant coach
U-20 men's national team	3. Ronnie Gindza - Physical fitness coach
1. Velekhaya Mthethwa - Head coach	4. Bongani Dladla - Goalkeeper coach
2. Sindiso Gama - Assistant coach	U-17 women national team
3. Siphiso Dlamini - Physical fitness coach	1. Nkosinathi Lukhele - Head coach
4. Njabuliso Simelane - Goalkeeper coach	2. Zandile Bulunga - Assistant coach
U-17 men's national team	3. Christian Thwala - Physical fitness coach
1. Edwin Matsebula - Head coach	4. Artwell Dladu - Goalkeeper coach
2. Sabelo Mntsi - Assistant coach	
3. Mduduzi Nxumalo - Physical fitness coach	U-15 women's national team
4. Mphikheleli Dlamini - Goalkeeper coach	1. Gerald Shields - Head coach
U-15 men's national team	2. Siphephile Mahlalela - Assistant coach
1. Sifiso Dlamini - Head coach	3. Best Dlamini - Physical fitness coach
2. Xolani Sigudla - Assistant coach	4. Ngqobile Dladla - Goalkeeper coach
3. Mduduzi Shongwe - Physical fitness coach	
4. Lucky Masuku - Goalkeeper	

MALANTI GOALKEEPER IN SA TRIALS

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

SOCCER - MALANTI Chiefs goalkeeper Xolani Gama is currently in South Africa where he is undergoing a one-month assessment with the Stars of Africa Soccer Academy.

The lanky goal minder is trying

his luck under the guidance of the reputable mentor Farouk Khan, who is also the founder of the academy.

Malanti Chiefs Public Relations Officer (PRO) Lungile Dube confirmed the news when contacted yesterday.

"It is true our goalkeeper Xolani is in South Africa where he is attending trials with Stars of Africa Soccer

Academy. We are confident that he will make the grade at the academy at the end of the assessment," Dube said.

The academy's Khan could not be drawn for comment on the matter as his cellphone was on voice-mail for the better part of the day.

Gama will miss Malanti Chiefs' EswatiniBank Cup last 32 match

against Louis XVI at the Mavuso Sports Centre on Saturday.

The youngster last season helped the Pigg's Peak based side to reach the semi-finals of the SMVAF Ingwenyama Cup under the guidance of Raymond Dlamini.

The Stars of Africa Academy has produced top South African players such as Oupa Manyisa, Luther Singh and Bradley Ralani, among others.