

O SATURDAY bserver

Revived, Reliable and Read

observer.org.sz

February 15, 2020

E6.00 (VAT inclusive)

E8M TO AUDIT CAPITAL PROJECTS

PAGE 8

HEALTH WORKERS MILK GOVT E63M

PAGE 8

ESWATINI REGISTERS FIRST CORONAVIRUS CASE

PAGE 2

BUDGET SPEECH 2020...

E227M

STORY ON
PAGE 3

FOR CoLA

● E24.1 billion national budget allocation for the 2020/21 financial year tabled yesterday, ministry of education and training once again gets a lion's share of E3.2bn

● Housing frowns at getting virtually nothing

E3.2Bn



E2.1Bn



E17M



GETTING READY: Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg accompanied by his wife Barbara upon arrival in Parliament for the presentation of the Budget Speech 2020 yesterday. (Pic: Lucky Simelane)

NEW AND USED FORKLIFTS

DOOSAN FORKLIFT FOR SALE

from: 2.5 Ton
Cushion Tire

Short and
Long term
rental options
available



DOOSAN

SAFETY TRAIL

Contact - Thulani: 7802 0017 Elisha: 7802 5011 Moses - 7602 0328

Tel: 2518 5072

DOC20170

SUPER SPECIALS!!

REINFORCE
Y10 x 6m

E49.⁹⁰

REINFORCE
R12 x 6m

E69.⁹⁰

REINFORCE
Y12 x 6m

E69.⁹⁰

REINFORCE
R8 x 6m

E32.⁹⁰

REINFORCE
R10 x 6m

E49.⁹⁰

Build it

E&OE

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

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

DOC 21173

MINISTER NEAL TABLES E24.1 BILLION BUDGET

Stories by Bodwa Mbingo

...Education gets E3.2bn lion's share

Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg yesterday tabled an increased E24.1 billion national budget allocation for the 2020/21 financial year with the ministry of education and training once again getting a lion's share of about E3.2 billion.

The budget for the next financial year, beginning April 1, 2020, is E2.2 billion above the budgeted expenditure for the 2019/20 financial year and shows a 10.6 per cent increase. Deficit, on the other hand, stands at E2.88 billion.

In a speech the minister delivered in exactly one hour, six minutes and 21 seconds, without even a short water break, he asserted that this budget is one designed to improve government's delivery of services and distribution of resources to all citizens, in particular the vulnerable groups.

He also emphasised that government and the economy cannot live beyond its means year after year. Notably, Minister Rijkenberg explained that the new budget includes an amount of E2.2 billion for public debt payments. Also of note is a budgeted E113m for notching and E227m for a cost-of-living adjustment (CoLA) towards public servants.

The appropriated recurrent expenditure is set to grow by E238 million compared to the 2019/20 finan-

cial year, now standing at E16.2 billion. The capital budget allocation is E6.4 billion in 2020/21, which is an increase of 12.4 per cent compared to the 2019/20 financial year. Thus, the total expenditure for financial year 2020/21 is E2.2 billion above the budgeted expenditure for 2019/20, which is a 10.6 per cent increase.

Rijkenberg thanked Their Majesties for the confidence and trust they have placed in him as the custodian of the finance portfolio and, in particular, thanked the King for being a unifying force for the nation and giving government the mandate and direction as articulated in the Speech from the Throne. "His Majesty reminded us that time is of essence in our socio-economic transformation and that, above all else, we must 'keep moving forward'.

Echoing His Majesty's speech, there is no time to lose. "In the previous budget cycle, Cabinet outlined a strategy to resuscitate the economy. This led to the launch of the Eswatini Strategic Roadmap 2019-2022 which aims to establish a policy framework that will ensure sustainable economic development, financial stability and growth, ultimately improving the quality of life of the people of



MR SPEAKER: Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg delivers the budget speech while Prime Minister Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini and DPM Themba Masuku take notes.

Eswatini. This strategy necessitates adjustments in the short to medium term to ensure long term sustainability," he remarked.

The minister further pronounced government's commitment to fiscal consolidation by finding ways and means to improve revenue inflows while trying to contain expenditure.

However, he said, fiscal adjustment alone cannot suffice; essential structural reforms in economic policy are integral to the adjustment process. He said the focus of these reforms is on economic growth and stability, hence the need to enable all sectors of the country's

economy to attain a path of high and sustained inclusive growth.

"Even though the focus of this year's budget continues to be on building a resilient economy through fiscal consolidation, we are starting to see positive signs of growth reflecting a promise of 'green shoots'. Government has introduced measures to rationalise expenditures and make unavoidable sacrifices to ensure long term growth and fiscal sustainability.

We are rising to this challenge and nurturing the seeds of progress, while ensuring that the preconditions for positive results are created," the minister added.

THE BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 2020/21

Revenue and grants	E21.20 billion
Appropriated recurrent expenditure	E16.15 billion
Appropriated capital expenditure	E6.38 billion
Total expenditure	E24.08 billion
Deficit	E2.88 billion

THE BUDGET AT A GLANCE

Education	E3.2Bn
Health	E2.1Bn
Defence	E1.2Bn
Police	E1.0Bn
Works	E765.8m
DPM	E742.2m
Finance	E647.0m
Correctional	E509.6m
Labour	E448.9m
Foreign Affairs	E436.7m
National Treasury	E428.6m
Agriculture	E356.7m
Tinkhundla	E356.2m
Public Service	E286.0m
ICT	E206.5m

CAPITAL PROJECTS

E22Bn	Rural electrification phase 26
E1.3Bn	International Convention Centre and Five-Star Hotel
E600m	Manzini - Mbadlane road
E745.1m	Lower Usuthu II Extension - Downstream Development
E367.9m	Manzini Golf Course Interchange
E222m	Construction of Factory Shells (Kellogg's, Johnson)
E204m	Nokwane Biotech, Phocweni IT Parks
E191.9m	High Value Crops
E165m	Micro-projects Infrastructure Development
E160m	Rehabilitation, construction and maintenance of State Houses
E155.2m	Ezulwini Water Supply and Sewer
E150m	E-Government upgrading
E123.7m	Construction of Likhulula - Big Bend Road
E122.5m	Manzini region water and sanitation
E120m	Rehabilitation and maintenance of feeder roads
E119m	Probosc Projects
E83.8m	Mkhondvo-Ngwavuma Dam
E83.7m	Water Harvesting, small and medium dams
E80m	Nhlangano - Sicunusa Road
E80m	Rehabilitation of Mbabane Govt Hospital
E69.5m	Link Roads (Lozitha, Ludzidzini, Milwane)
E60m	Completion of Buhleni Police Station
E57m	Construction of National Referral Hospital
E50m	Replacement of army barracks
E50m	Rehabilitation of Correctional Facilities
E41m	Shiselweni Electrification Project
E40m	Nhlangano Water Supply and Sewer
E30.9m	Livestock Development Project
E30m	Rural Water Supply
E22m	Feasibility study for Nondvo Dam
E20m	Procurement of diplomats residences (Ethiopia, Mozambique)
E19.3m	Rehabilitation of government buildings
E15m	Construction of Mankayane Home for the Elderly
E14.3m	Expansion of Matsapha Inland Dry Port
E10.8m	Rehabilitation of National Parks (Malolotja, Mantenga and Mlawula)
E10m	Design and construction of new parliament building
E10m	Phuzumoya Strategic Oil Reserve

Cash flow challenges persist in government

Government continues to face cash flow challenges, causing the country not to meet its financial obligations on time.

Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg said this has resulted in the accumulation of significant arrears which has placed a burden on suppliers of goods and services.

He said this time last year, government had accumulated an arrears stock of E4.2 billion.

He said this excluded most arrears on capital projects and what has been referred to as "invoices in the drawers". "We made it a priority to settle these outstanding payments, and last year, suppliers and service providers were called upon to resubmit these invoices and supporting documents for verification.

The internal audit team and the auditor general's office are now conducting a verification exercise for these invoices

so that the payment process can proceed.

"Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to inform this House that our efforts are showing signs of success as the total amount owed now stands at E2.2bn. This includes the old arrears, the 'invoices in the drawers' and all outstanding capital payments.

We acknowledge that while dealing with existing arrears is part of the problem, our efforts will be in vain unless we ensure that this does not happen in the future," said the minister.

To curtail and discourage any spending happening outside of the budget and to improve overall budget execution, the minister highlighted that government has instituted a new reporting structure whereby each ministry reports on execution to the Planning and Budgeting Committee once every two months.

He commended his fellow Cabinet ministers and their teams for the efforts that

have gone into this process and the great improvement that is showing in this year's budget spending.

"While Eswatini is in a year of improved SACU receipts, we are committed to stay firm on the demanding course of fiscal adjustment we have set for ourselves.

We will continue intensifying our efforts to eliminate our structural inefficiencies. "We are cognisant of how cyclical buffers in SACU receipts create an illusion which leads to increases in expenditure.

We are committed to using this temporarily larger fiscal head-room to cushion our reserves and meet our payment obligations," added Rijkenberg.

He also disclosed that government is committed to expanding the size and scope of the private sector in Eswatini, pointing out that the Eswatini Strategic Roadmap and the National Development Plan speak volumes to our ambitions in this area.

E1.3bn for completion of ICCFISH

By Bodwa Mbingo

Government has set aside E1.3 billion for the completion of the International Convention Centre and Five Star Hotel (ICCFISH) project at Ezulwini in the 2020/21 financial year budget.

This project is part of those that His Majesty King Mswati III called on government to ensure their timely delivery to guarantee that the country meets its set targets at it heads towards 2022.

This was during the Speech from the Throne to mark the official opening of the Second Session of the 11th Parliament at

Lobamba a fortnight ago.

The other projects that the king mentioned include the referral hospital, which has been allocated E57m this financial year, the new Parliament building (E10m for designs), a number of road projects; including the railway line connecting the country to Lothair in South Africa and Mozambique.

Another notable project that has been allocated a substantial amount (E600m) is the Manzini - Mbadlane road.

All these allocations are contained in the 2020/21 book of estimates prepared by the ministry of finance.

Eswatini registers first coronavirus case

By Ackel Zwane

Eswatini has registered the first suspected case of COVID-19 (a condition caused by coronavirus), yesterday.

The case was identified in one of the health facilities in the country, following which the ministry of health rapid

response team responded and blood samples were taken for further investigation. The suspected case is under clinical management in the health facility observing all infection prevention and control standards relevant for a suspected case. This is contained in a press release by Dr. Vusi Magagula, Director of Health Services. The suspected case has history

of travel to Mainland China, and arrived in the country on February 6 through Ngwenya port of entry and has been on the list of people being followed up on arrival according to the ports entry health screening protocol. "In this regard, the ministry would like to request everyone who has had recent travel to China, in particular the students studying there,

to call 977 to register as a returned traveller to China. The ministry of health would like to remind the public that the country remains at high alert for the coronavirus. You are therefore urged to observe preventive measures as listed below:

Cover nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing; wash hands regularly with soap and water; open windows in buses and venues where people congregate; if you have fever, cough, and

difficulty breathing or flu-like symptoms and a history of travel, seek medical assistance. Health workers should screen all patients and take a detailed history of anyone presenting with flu-like symptoms."

The director said the situation was being monitored closely by the ministry of health with guidance from the World Health Organisation (WHO). "The public will continue to be informed on any further developments."



E227M FOR CoLA

WAGE BILL A RED FLAG

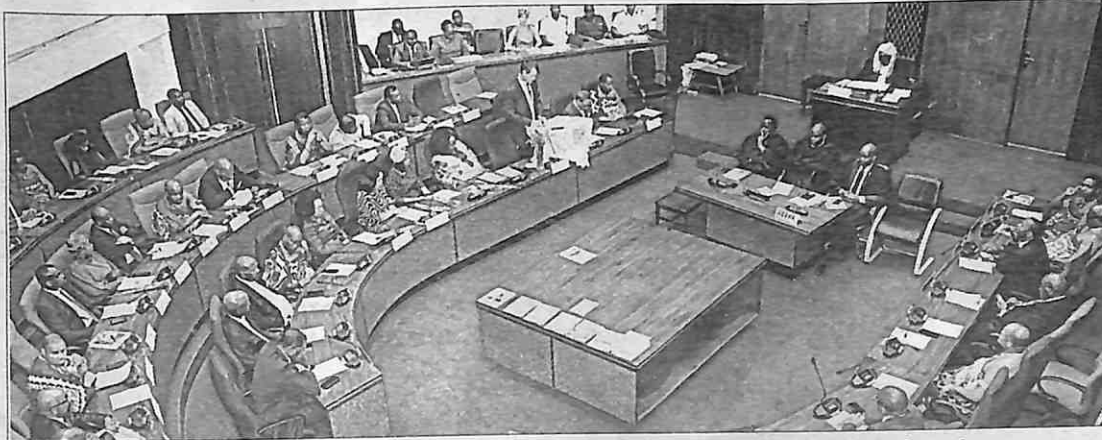
Stories by Ackel Zwane

This year government has budgeted E113m for notching and E227m for a cost of living adjustment.

This was announced by Finance Minister Neal Rijkenberg during the reading of the Budget Speech yesterday.

Despite a series of dramas of unrest by civil servants demanding the cost of living adjustment (CoLA) that spanned three years, the minister was able to give a pat at the back of the civil servants.

"I would like to thank the public service associations and its members for being tolerant and understanding of these difficult times that we are trying to overcome. We have continued to provide and pay for notching that has taken place every



WELL ATTENDED: An aerial view of the parliamentarians inside the chamber.

year, however, this has only been a benefit to some civil servants. This notching has increased the national wage bill with an average of 1.5 per cent annually.

Civil servants submitted petitions demanding a CoLA of 7.85 per cent,

to offset the loss of their real incomes, to the ministry of education and training, the ministry of public service and the ministry of labour and social security. Since 2016, while the prices, including that of basic commodities, have been on the rise,

the wages of civil servants remained stagnant, resulting in their real value reduced by almost 20 per cent, according to the Public Sector Associations (PSAs), an umbrella organisation of unions of civil servants employed in different sectors.

The five most recent IMF and World Bank country reports cautioned that Eswatini's largest budgetary "outlier" on the expenditure side, and also the single largest contributor to the fiscal deficit, is the size of the wage bill.

Therefore, the minister said "we simply cannot afford to ignore this problem."

Implementation

Since the implementation of the freeze on employment, the number of civil servants has been reduced by a little over one thousand.

As much as these policies and trends need to continue, we also must ensure that the quality and effectiveness of service delivery is not affected."

He noted that it was an unfortunate consequence of the cash flow challenge, largely a contribution of many factors, was that it had resulted in government not being able to grant a cost of living adjustment for the past three years.

PUBLIC DEBT AT E19.2BN

Stories by Ackel Zwane

As at end of December 2019, total debt stock stood at E19.2 billion, equivalent to 28.12 per cent of GDP, of which external debt was E7.1 billion, equivalent to 10.38 per cent of GDP; and domestic debt was E12.10 billion, equivalent to 17.74 per cent of GDP.

Last Tuesday, the International Monetary Fund reported that the authorities had recently taken some

policy actions toward stabilising the economy, however, reflecting expansionary spending policies and declining Southern African Customs Union (SACU) revenue, public debt is still rising, domestic arrears have accumulated, and international reserves had fallen below adequate levels. Decelerating private investment and declining external competitiveness are hindering the country's growth prospects, leaving 40 per cent of the population in extreme poverty and

unemployment high.

The minister said in the 2019/20 financial year, government signed loan agreements with different external financiers for the financing of infrastructure projects, including the Manzini Water Supply and Sanitation project, Manzini Golf Course Interchange project, and International Convention Centre project. Government continued to raise funds from the domestic market for the financing of capital investments and to devel-

op the financial market. "It is important that government manages public debt prudently in order to ensure that it is within the stipulated threshold of 35 per cent of GDP. Therefore, we will continue to exercise restraint when contracting any debt and further adopt more effective fiscal management principles and practices. In this regard, government will be getting technical assistance from the World Bank to develop the Medium Term Debt Strategy (MTDS), which will assist in evaluating the costs, risks and trade-offs associated with alternative financing strategies over the medium term."

oping a pattern of unsustainable public expenditure.

"The government recognises the severity of the situation and has made it a top priority to tackle the obstacles to economic recovery manifesting in the cash flow challenges. An arrears clearance strategy has

been prepared to address the delayed payments to suppliers of goods and services and a special committee has been established to implement this strategy. In addition to this, I am pleased to announce that we have a plan to clear the arrears," clarified the minister.

...severe cash flow constraints

Cash flow management has continued to be a pressing issue for government.

Low performance in the domestic capital market coupled with unfunded expenditure has led to severe

cash flow constraints having a negative impact on the overall economy, including crowding out private sector activities.

Arrears owed by government have accumulated over several years indi-

...Govt spent E21.8bn

Total government expenditure for the financial year 2019/20 was budgeted at E21.8 billion.

This indicates 32 per cent of GDP, which is about three per cent higher than the outturn in 2018/19.

"The deficit for financial year 2019/20 was estimated at 4.4 per cent of GDP which is lower than the 6.1 per cent of GDP for previous financial year. This reflects a decrease from E3.6 billion to E3.0 billion.

Whilst we have been able to fund part of this through local borrowing, a major proportion of the financing gap will not need any mobilisation of additional finance because of reduced spending resulting from control measures applied by government matching expenditure to available cash."

Govt revenue, grants projected to E17.6bn

Rijkenberg said government revenue and grants were projected to amount to E17.6 billion, equivalent to 25 per cent of GDP.

This was recorded against an initial estimate of E18.8 billion and this shortfall is largely attributed to the late implementation of rev-

enue measures in the Finance Act of 2019 and non-passage of other anticipated revenue measures.

However, at E17.6 billion, the projected revenue and grants for 2019/20 is still higher than the 2018/19 outturn of E15.7 billion, which is approximately 24 per cent of 2018/19 GDP. The high-

er revenue recorded in 2019/20 reflects the improvement in SACU receipts and the collection of other tax revenues.

SACU receipts increased from E5.8 billion to E6.3 billion and contributed about 36 per cent to the total revenue which is equivalent to nine per cent of GDP.

BRINGING GOVT FINANCES BACK TO PATH

On fiscal consolidation, the minister said in 2020/21 fiscal consolidation continues to be a primary short-term goal.

The overall objective is to bring government finances back to a sustainable path and prevent further accumulation of arrears, which hampers the performance of the economy.

"Fiscal consolidation will enable us to create fiscal space through proper expenditure prioritisation, budget allo-

cation efficiency, and wider revenue mobilisation.

"The budget I present to this Honourable House reflects the on-going process of fiscal consolidation.

We have managed to reduce the budget deficit as planned in order to contain it to financeable levels.

Explore

We will continue to explore equitable measures that will improve the overall balance."

He said the budget for 2020/21 displayed an increase in recurrent expenditure by 8.4 per cent, explaining that this has reduced the deficit to 3.6 per cent of GDP, compared to 4.4 per cent of GDP in 2019/20.

Consolidation has proved to be a very challenging process considering the needs for government operations and service delivery as presented by line ministries in their budget submissions. "I believe that the work undertaken to

come up with this budget is a step in the right direction towards a low fiscal deficit."

On the revenue mobilisation, the expectation is that growth in our domestic revenue base shall continue.

Ongoing strategies for improvements in the collection of value added tax (VAT), company tax, fuel tax and personal income tax will reduce some of the revenue collection challenges we have faced in the past.

Half a loaf is better than nothing — MPs on CoLA

By Sifiso Dlamini

Members of Parliament are not entirely satisfied with the budget allocated for implementing the cost of living adjustment (CoLA).

During the presentation of the budget speech, the minister of finance indicated that this year government budgeted E113m for notching and E227m for a cost of living adjustment.

Maphalaleni Member of Parliament Mabulala Maseku said he was excited that there were funds budgeted for the implementation of CoLA. He said it was a relief as it would go a long way in minimising the numerous industrial actions between government and civil servants.

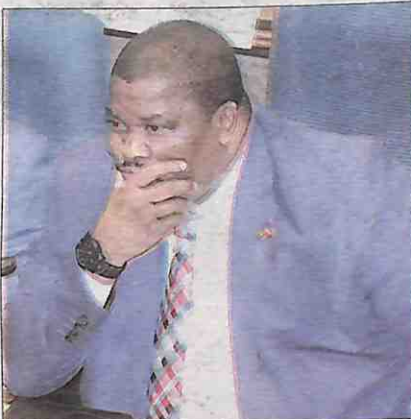
"Even though the allocated budget is not enough, as it is less than what is requested by the civil servants, however half a loaf is better than nothing," he said.

Kwaluseni MP Sibusiso 'Mabhanisi' Dlamini also stated that he was happy the CoLA issue would be addressed even though the budget allocated was not enough. He further expressed that government should ensure negotiations were done timeously in order to effect the CoLA soonest.

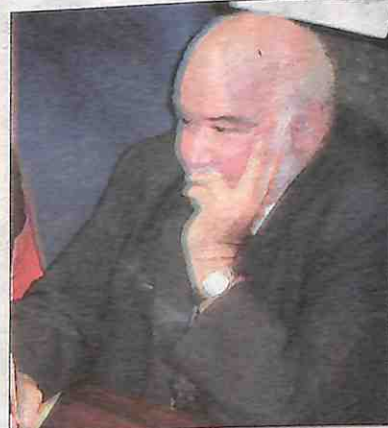
BUDGET SPEECH 2020



HELLO: Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg greets SRA Commissioner General Dumisani Masilela.



FOCUS: Minister of Public Service Christian Ntshangase and Mtfongwaneni MP Roy Fanourakis in full concentration while Rijkenberg delivers the budget speech.



RUSHING: Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Manqoba Khumalo captured upon arrival.



MR SPEAKER: Minister Rijkenberg delivers the budget speech while Prime Minister Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini and DPM Themba Masuku take notes.



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY: Minister of Economic Planning Dr Thambo Gina with Minister of Education Lady Howard-Mabuza having a light moment.



AGAINST TIME: Minister of Health Lizzy Nkosi rushes to Parliament.



ALL IS WELL: Minister of Housing Prince Simelane (2nd from left) with PS Clifford Mamba, Ministry of Commerce PS Siboniso Nkambule and Hhukwini MP Nkhanyeti Ngwenya after the event.



WELL ATTENDED: An aerial view of the parliamentarians inside the chamber.



ALL EARS: Some members of the public at the gallery who were present.



CULTURE: PS Clifford Mamba shares some ideas with MP Jomo Dlamini. (Pics: Lucky Simelane and Mduduzi Mngomezulu)



EswatiniBank
CUP

Let the GAMES begin



Open an investment account
WIN A SHARE OF
E5000
EVERY FORTNIGHT
T & C apply

THIS WEEKEND
Fri 14 - Sun 16





BUDGET SPEECH 2020



Stories by Qondile Ntwane

A budget allocation of E2.3 billion, which is 10.5 per cent of the total budget, will go towards health.

From this budget, government has provided E274 million for Anti-Retroviral drugs (ARVs).

Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg said in his Budget Speech presented in Parliament yesterday that health remained a priority for the country and the allocation provided was meant to continue with the implementation of a number of programmes.

The minister said government would continue to strive for universal health care coverage (UHC). He noted that programmes and activities towards the fight against HIV and AIDS were being successfully implemented and had greatly assisted the country reduce HIV incidence from 2.9 per cent in 2011 to 1.4 per cent in 2019.

"This means that fewer people are getting infected by HIV. This success has been achieved due to government and partners' investments in these programmes. This commitment and support needs to be sustained and this

E2.3 BILLION ALLOCATION

...E274 millions of budget to go towards ARVs



ALLOCATION: Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg delivering the budget speech.

requires an expansion of the breadth of services available at clinical level, to ensure better treatment outcomes.

"We would like to give a special thanks to PEPFAR, the Global Fund, the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the UN agencies for their support,"

he said.

The minister expressed appreciation to His Majesty the King for his support in the programme towards a malaria-free Eswatini.

"In May 2019, His Majesty launched the Eswatini Malaria Elimination Fund



ONE TEAM: Some of the members of the Cabinet team follow the proceedings.

with a capital funding of E5 million. The board to manage the fund has been established and the Eswatini Malaria Elimination scorecard was then launched in September 2019. This allows us to easily identify malaria hotspots and target these for complete eradication," he said.

He said due to the decline in TB

incidence as well as prevalence in the country, the National TB Hospital recorded a low-bed occupancy rate.

He added that with an existing TB facility in Nhlengano big enough to cater for all of the patients, government was conducting an assessment to determine the possibility of alternative use of the National TB Hospital



ALL IN HERE: MPs Macford Sibandze and Bacede Mabuza were also present.

E8m SPECIAL BUDGET FOR FORENSIC AUDITS

A special budget of E8 million has been provided to undertake forensic audits for some selected capital projects.

This is contained in the 2020 budget speech.

The minister said the office of the auditor general would continue to provide assurance and accountability through audits to promote transparency and good governance.

"Government will continue to support institutional capacity building initiatives of this public office. This year's budget includes an allocation for an audit system which will expand the scope and coverage of audits to include technical, capital and other audits," he said.

The minister also addressed issues of corruption, which he said remained an impediment towards sustainable economic development of the kingdom.

He said government had reinforced the fight against corruption and crime by providing for the civil forfeiture of illicit gotten assets as guided by the Prevention of Organised Crime Act, 2018.

"This will be achieved through the establishment of the Asset Forfeiture Unit and Asset Recovery Committee under the Directorate of Public Prosecutions.

Afford

Proceeds of any criminal activity will be traced and forfeited to the state.

"As a country, we cannot afford to lose a single cent through crime and corruption if we are to achieve our objective of zero tolerance to corruption. *Inkhohlakalo yindzaba yetfu sonkhe!* We call upon the nation to assist in preventing and eradicating corruption by using whatever technology and means at one's disposal to expose the perpetrators," he said.

Reserves trending towards right direction - Minister

Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg says the country's gross official reserves are trending in the right direction.

The minister stated that there has been a steady increase in reserves from the 1.8 months of import cover recorded in March 2019.

"The gross official reserves stood at E6.6 billion in January 2020, equivalent to 2.8 months of import cover.

This is still not where we want to be, but the reserves are trending in the right direction towards the three-month benchmark," he said.

Growth

Worth noting is that the reserves reflected growth of 8.2 per cent from the level recorded at the end of December 2019.

According to the Central Bank of Eswatini (CBE) latest monthly statis-

tical release, the improvement in reserves was on account of the quarterly inflow in the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) revenues at the beginning of January 2020.

It stated that in line with the rise in reserves, the import cover went up from 2.6 months observed in December 2019 to 2.8 months at the end of January 2020. Year-on-year, the reserves increased by 4.4 per cent.

More pro-business policies to enhance private sector

Government has vowed to continue to promulgating pro-business policies in an effort to bolster the operating environment for the private sector.

The minister of finance said government endeavoured to create more employment and attract foreign direct investment with the intention to catalyse industrialisation for sustainable economic growth and poverty alleviation.

He said this would enhance the potential of the private sector to contribute towards economic growth and employment creation.

"A vibrant private sector will lead to improved food security, access to affordable internet and communication services, a thriving renewable energy industry, increased tourism and full utilisation of our preferential trade agreements," he said.

The minister noted that meaningful growth would be achieved by enabling the private sector to lead and do what it does best, growing the economy and creating employment.

The minister further highlighted that



FULL HOUSE: The joint house sitting during the budget speech delivery

the private sector was the engine for economic growth and job creation and that government's policy actions aimed to end the uncertainty that has undermined confidence and constrained private sector investment.

Rijkenberg further highlighted that the recently launched Strategic Roadmap 2019-2022 was government's commitment to catapult the country into a growth path that would channel every Eswati into productive economic activ-



BUDGET SPEECH 2020

FOR HEALTH

to better suit the needs of the population.

The minister also stated that the country had received international recognition for their management of the Mass Medicine Administration Programme.

"The country has successfully switched vaccines to introduce a vaccine that is administered fewer times and gives immunisation for life, which was not the case before.

"Going forward, this is expected to reduce costs. Preparations are also underway to introduce the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccine in 2021," he said.

Other programmes include the quality assurance external audits by African Society of Lab Medicine (ASLM) which has seen the certification of five of the country's laboratories receive provisional ISO 9001:2015 accreditation under the

quality improvement programme.

He said this initiative would continue to be rolled out to other health facilities to ensure that the services being provided are of high quality.

The minister added that the 19 health institutions currently partnering with government would continue to be supported through subventions in the upcoming fiscal year.

"The scope of RFM's operations has been expanded to take over the management of the Acts II Clinic as well as opening new services to deal with gender-based violence and provide community outreach.

"Baylor Children's Clinic has also been tasked with scaling up paediatric TB and cancer services to curtail the costs of Phalala referrals to South African health facilities," he said.



HAPPY VALENTINE: Ministers Dr Thambo Gina and Lady Howard-Mabuza in a conversation.

ities.

He said electricity and internet affordability remained key priorities for government to stimulate private sector growth and productivity.

"Therefore, government will expedite the national plans for promoting local production of electricity to reduce the cost of power," he said.

On another note, the minister said they would also continue to foster the development and promotion of MSMEs.

He mentioned the Manzini Trade Hub construction, Informal Traders Revolving Fund, leather and leather products development and participation in international forums advancing the agenda of MSMEs growth and promotion as some of the notable milestones in the sector.

He stated that the promotion of MSMEs was dependent on support to access affordable finance, advisory services, infrastructural support and the availability of a skilled labour force.

"MSMEs face a relatively acute

challenge in terms of retaining and attracting their workforce. Inability to meet systematic and internationally accepted quality standards remains one of the major challenges for our MSMEs with regards to penetration or access to international markets for their products," he said.

The minister said government had not only entered into various trade agreements but has taken innumerable steps to encourage the growth and promotion of the industrial sector. "In order to assist MSMEs to access international markets, a national quality assurance infrastructure has been set up to strengthen their capacity to provide international best practices and standards.

"New trade opportunities are being created for the business sector to take advantage of trade agreements such as the Economic Cooperation Agreement (ECA) between the Kingdom of Eswatini and the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the African Continental Free Trade Area, which will become operational in July 2020," he said

BUDGET COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

COMPARATIVE BUDGET SUMMARY, 2017/18 - 2022/23						
[E'000s]	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Projection	Projection
	Actual	Actual	Preliminary Estimate			
Revenue	14,859,102	15,314,050	17,357,186	20,646,801	21,164,914	21,406,907
Grants	535,856	455,088	551,682	553,118	580,774	609,813
TOTAL REVENUE AND GRANTS	15,394,958	15,769,138	17,908,868	21,199,919	21,745,688	22,016,720
Statutory Expenditure (excl. Redemption)	733,409	884,244	1,162,849	1,545,025	1,622,276	1,703,390
Appropriated Recurrent Expenditure	15,076,993	14,998,969	15,911,318	16,149,451	16,956,923	17,804,769
Capital Expenditure	4,034,941	3,143,685	4,768,687	6,380,672	6,699,706	7,034,691
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	19,845,343	19,026,898	21,842,854	24,075,148	25,278,905	26,542,851
NET BUDGET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	-4,450,385	-3,257,760	-3,933,985	-2,875,229	-3,533,217	-4,526,131
Drawdown on foreign loans	1,106,503	1,200,000	3,187,360	2,013,000	2,377,000	2,401,000
Redemption of public debt	-494,053	-498,258	-518,840	-2,014,783	-2,200,000	-2,411,000
Net domestic borrowing	1,609,180	715,742	924,870	1,050,000	1,050,000	1,050,000
Other net domestic financing*	2,228,755	1,840,276	340,595	1,827,012	2,306,217	3,486,131
TOTAL FINANCING	4,450,385	3,257,760	3,933,985	2,875,229	3,533,217	4,526,131
GDP	59,806,995	63,152,149	67,301,231	72,937,561	77,851,571	
	83,356,604					

*Other net domestic financing is pending policy decisions on financing and includes financial asset flows, arrears flow, and extra-budgetary operations, such as trading accounts.

CBE reviews anti-money laundering, CFT supervisory framework

The Central Bank of Eswatini (CBE) has reviewed and deployed its anti-money laundering (AML) and counter financing of terrorism (CFT) risk-based supervisory framework, a move aimed at ensuring that the financial system is not used to launder illicit funds or finance terrorism.

The framework will also ensure that if it does, such practice is quickly monitored and perpetrators are detected and deterred from such conduct.

Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg said in addition to this, government has passed legislation which provides a mechanism for civil forfeiture of the proceeds of crime.

He said this was a process that would run parallel to the criminal prosecution and sought to separate offenders from their ill-gotten gains.

"The Eswatini Financial Intelligence

Unit has continued to play an important role in the anti-money laundering (AML) and counter financing of terrorism (CFT) efforts, both from a policy and technical perspective through its distribution of information to law enforcement agencies," he said.

Adoption

He added that to ensure prudent administration of exchange controls, the Central Bank phased in a risk-based approach, resulting in the adoption of a financial surveillance function.

"Stakeholder engagements with the authorised dealers increased to ensure ease of implementing the surveillance function. The Central Bank will be revising the simple guide to exchange controls to further enhance the understanding of the foreign exchange system by the public," he said.

RDF allocation increased by E67million

The allocation of the Regional Development Fund (RDF) has increased from E110m to E177 million.

This shows an increment of E67 million. This was revealed by Minister Rijkenberg in Parliament yesterday.

"Improving the quality of life and economic well-being of our people remains a priority for this government. I am pleased to report that the allocation for the Regional Development Fund (RDF) has increased from E110 million to E177 million. This is to ensure that there is equitable development for the different Tinkhundla," he said.

Govt to review student study loan management system

In the coming financial year, government will undertake a comprehensive review of the student study loan management system and propose a new institutional arrangement and a sustainable public private partnership based financing model.

Government has also introduced a new online study loan application system in line with the e-Government strategy.

Minister Rijkenberg said the use of the system by applicants commenced in February 2019 and that government has further introduced a new 30 days' intervals study loan disbursement system effective September 2019. In dealing with labour issues, the minister revealed that government had suc-

cessfully developed the national labour migration policy for the Kingdom of Eswatini.

He said the policy sought to recognise the historic role of migrant workers in the economy of the country and the sub-region.

"It is forward-looking and embraces the challenges and opportunities of a global interconnected labour market. The overarching objective is to manage labour migration so that it protects workers, develops the country's economy, and strengthens skills and development, and benefits society at large.

"Government has also finalised a national social security policy (NSSP) and implementation plan, which will establish the Workmen's Compensation

Insurance Fund (WCIF), the Eswatini National Pension Fund (ENPF) and the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF)," he added.

The minister further mentioned that the national human resource development policy and implementation strategy was set to be operationalised by the end of the current financial year. He said the policy was designed to facilitate the development of relevant skills and competencies to meet current and future labour market needs for increased labour market participation and thereby spurring economic growth.

"This policy will address issues of lifelong learning, culture of productivity, work-based learning and skills mismatch," he said.

Auditor General Report 2019:

E8m TO AUDIT CAPITAL PROJECTS

...ICC Hotel, Sicunusa- Nhlangano Road, Mbadlane Lot 2 Road



COME SHARE THE LOVE!

Platter for two
11. Carafe Select Cooler,
Strawberry tiny Treat
and our Complementary
Bread & Sauce Trio for
only **E450.00**

Queen Esther

SWAZI PLAZA
2404 5377 / 7694 2697

GABLES
2416 1428 / 7602 8293

MANZINI
2505 9830 / 7850 6612

DOC21023

By Zwelethu Dlamini

Minister of Finance Neal Rijkberg has announced that government has set aside E8 million for the audit of selected capital projects.

This follows recommendation of the Public Accounts Committee which instructed the prime minister's office, the ministry of finance, the ministry of economic planning and development and the ministry of public works and transport to engage consultants to institute forensic audits of these various capital projects.

The minister said the office of the audi-

tor general would continue to ensure assurance and accountability through audits to promote transparency and good governance.

"Government will continue to support institutional capacity building initiatives of this public office. This year's budget includes an allocation for an audit system which will expand the scope and coverage of audits to include technical, capital and other audits. A special budget of E8 million has been provided to undertake forensic audits for some selected capital projects," said the minister.

Auditor General Timothy Matsebula revealed that these projects include the ICC Hotel, Sicunusa-Nhlangano Road

and Mbadlane Lot 2 Road which are in complete.

The unfinished Nhlangano-Sicunusa (MR- 13) Road has already cost E576 101 574.86.

The auditor general in his 2018 report stated that, at inception, this project was supposed to cost E465 990 202.85 and take only 24 months to complete but over 60 months later it was still not complete yet payments made had already exceeded E576 101 574.86. He further noted that, before the project stopped, there were a number of irregularities noted like loan requirements, contractual obligations and construction standards.

Health workers milk govt E63m in claims

Stories by Ackel Zwane

The Auditor General has decried a whopping E63 843 908.48 paid to medical personnel, this being an expenditure due to on-call and standby allowances paid to certain health personnel who are expected to be available beyond normal working hours.

In his report on the consolidated government accounts for year ended March 31, 2019, the AG says on-call is claimed using a formula that was approved by government, which is 1 per cent of the officer's annual salary and paid for every 20

hours on the on-call worked.

"The following cadres have been approved through the ministry of public service to claim for on-call, as long as they are on the facilities duty roster: medical specialists, senior medical officers, medical officers, staff nurses in theatre, laboratory technicians, laboratory technicians, radiographers, ultra-sonographers, pharmacies, pharmacy technicians, and biomedical staff," says the AG.

The AG adds that the expenditure has been increasing due to: the increasing number of personnel, especially doctors, coupled with the increasing demand for

new services, such as renal dialysis, chemotherapy, which means more doctors on-call even in the new departments. Further, increases in salaries through notching or cost of living adjustments resulted in an increase in the on-call amount since the formula is based on basic salary.

Previously on-call was paid through the utilisation of vacant posts.

"But as these posts are being frozen or filled up, the expenditure on personnel costs escalates. As a result, with effect from the financial year 2019/10, on-call and standby allowances are now budgeted for."

E48m from scholarship recovery omitted

By Zwelethu Dlamini

Auditor General Timothy Matsebula has raised four issues with government's books, which emanate from the misstatement of revenue, assets, and liabilities in the Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2019.

In the first instance, the AG discovered that revenue from Scholarship Loan Recovery amounting E48 984 218.49 was not recognised as revenue in the Detailed Statement of Revenue. This collection was deposited at Standard bank and First National Bank with total collections amounting to E48 525 314.77 and E458 903.72 respectively. Matsebula also qualified the statements due to the misstatement of assets which happened in three forms namely: Misstatements of Bank Balances, Undisclosed Bank Balance and Misclassification of Assets.

"Bank balances were misstated by E124 131 554.20 due to non-reconciliation of the Government cash books with bank statements. Some bank balances were overstated by E107 449 273.42 and other bank balances were understated by E16 682 280.78 in aggregate; thus, reflecting an incorrect cash position of the Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini at year end," states the report. The misstatement of assets also came in the form of an undisclosed bank balance.

"A closing bank balance amounting to E977 358 482.61 for IMF Special Drawings Rights Account was not disclosed in the Detailed Statement of Assets. The account was also not captured or recorded in the Government Accounting System (Cash Book). This has resulted to an understatement of bank balances in the Detailed Statement of Assets," reports the AG.

Government assets were also misstated due to misclassification of assets and as a result assets amounting to E1 954 593.78 were incorrectly classified as liabilities in the Detailed Statement of Liabilities. These bank balances were reported as overdrawn bank accounts whereas bank statements showed that the accounts had positive balances,

as at the year end.

There were no reconciliations, of these accounts, prepared by the Accountant General, reconciling the bank statement balances to the cash book balances. The third issue raised by the AG is the misstatement of liabilities.

Liability balances were misstated by E490 462 912.33 in the Financial Statements, due to non-reconciliation. Overstated liability account balances amounted to E403 077 663.94 while understated liability account balances amounted to E87 385 248.39.

The liabilities were also misstated as a special fund account captured as "recovery for Meridian Bank debtors" was misstated in the Financial Statements by E704 207.88. This account was shown as a liability in the Detailed Statement of Liabilities, whereas, the bank statement showed a nil balance.

The AG states that there were no other supporting documents for this liability balance while liabilities are were overstated by the same amount.

"Liabilities amounting to E1 931 478 131.41 presented in the Detailed Statement of Liabilities were not supported with source documentation that could confirm their existence.

The issue of unsupported Liabilities was raised in my previous Audit Report. Effort to trace the existence of these debts and to ascertain the supporting documentation of these Liabilities is not known," the AG reports.

The fourth issue that the AG raised is that of the misstatement of Capital Expenditure and Consolidated Fund which resulted from three errors. The first was the misclassification of Capital Expenditure Items.

"Foreign capital expenditure amounting to E19 176 179.99 was erroneously classified as local capital expenditure in the Statement of Receipts and Payments and Statement of Surplus and Deficit. This error resulted in an overstatement of Local Capital Expenditure and Consolidated Fund - deficit by the same figure of E19 176 179.99," reads the report.

UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI

"The University of Choice in Africa"

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION, 2020

The University will, with effect from August 2020, launch two new programmes: the Post-Graduate Certificate in Education (Science Specialisation) to be offered through the Institute of Distance Education (IDE), and the Bachelor of Education Secondary in Humanities (French Specialisation), offered by the Faculty of Education on a Part-Time basis. The latter programme (B.Ed-French) will be open to Primary Teachers' Diploma holders and Secondary Teachers' Diploma holders who have French as one of their major subjects.

Application forms may be obtained from any of the University's three campuses (Kwaluseni, Luyengo and Mbabane) or downloaded from:

Undergraduate

Application form

[http://www.uniswa.sz/sites/default/files/admissions/undergraduate 2020.pdf](http://www.uniswa.sz/sites/default/files/admissions/undergraduate%2020.pdf)

Prospectus

[http://www.uniswa.sz/sites/default/files/admissions/Undergrad 2020.pdf](http://www.uniswa.sz/sites/default/files/admissions/Undergrad%2020.pdf)

Applicants are encouraged to download both the application form and the prospectus from the University of Eswatini Website.

Applicants are encouraged to email scanned application material and a clear proof of payment as outlined in the application form,

to applications@uniswa.sz or mail to the Admission's Secretary, Private Bag 4, Kwaluseni.

The closing date for submission of applications is Monday 2nd March 2020.

DR. S.S. SIMELANE
REGISTRAR

DOC21380



BUDGET SPEECH 2020



'NO MORE SWEAT OVER FUNDING FOR SMMEs'

By Zwelethu Dlamini

Central Bank of Eswatini Governor Majozo Sithole has assured micro, small and medium enterprises (SMMEs) that the bank will ensure that their challenges to access funding was a thing of the past.

Sithole said this would be achieved by extending the bank guarantee loan scheme which was only accessible through banks to other financial institutions in the businesses funding SMMEs, including Eswatini Development Finance Corporation (FINCORP) and IDCE, among others.

The governor was responding on the holistic financial sector reform to ensure stability and integrity as per the minister of finance's budget speech.

Sithole said among other things, it meant removing barriers to access to funding of SMMEs as alluded to by the minister.

"We encourage banks to assist SMMEs in the country because they can drive the economy and develop the country. We provide guarantee schemes for those SMMEs, we are saying to banks they should lend them the money if they need guarantee, the Central bank of Eswatini will provide it. We also have funds for those



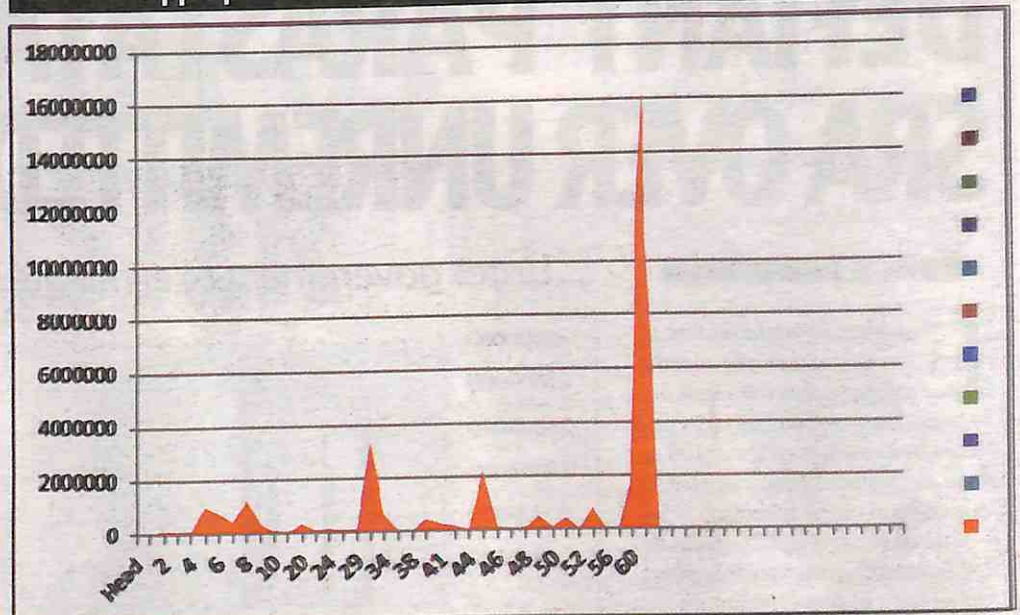
ALL IS WELL: Governor of the Central Bank of Eswatini Majozo Sithole shares a light moment with MP Macford Sibandze.

who want to produce for exports, this fund is underutilised.

"We want to extend the bank guarantee to other financial institutions," he said.

Sithole revealed that the bank was sitting with

Appropriated recurrent expenditure, 2020/21 (E'000)



about E22 million loan guarantee fee which is available for SMMEs.

The governor said this is expected to increase accessibility to the SMMEs and also encouraged banks to relax the conditions for accessing these loans as per its purpose.

Similar sentiments were shared by the minister of finance in his budget speech.

"Government continues to foster the development and promotion of SMMEs. Notable milestones are the Manzini Trade Hub construction, Informal Traders Revolving Fund, leather and leather products development and participation in international forums advancing

the agenda of SMMEs growth and promotion. The promotion of SMMEs, however, is dependent on support to access affordable finance, advisory services, infrastructural support and the availability of a skilled labour force," said the minister.

The minister added that SMMEs face a relatively acute challenge in terms of retaining and attracting their work force.

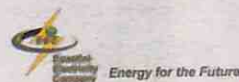
Inability to meet systematic and internationally accepted quality standards remains one of the major challenges for our SMMEs with regards to penetration or access to international markets for their products.

NEW

DUNKED BURGER

MEAL
61.90

BURGER
39.90



NOTICE OF TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE OF SITEKI CENTRAL BUSINESS STREETS

Notice is hereby published in terms of Section 71 (1) of the Urban Government Act No. 8 of 1969 that there will be interruptions and temporary closure of Central Business District (CBD) streets of Siteki Urban on Saturday and Sunday the 15th and 16th, 2020 between 5:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

This is to facilitate the installation of service ducts for the Eswatini Electricity Company (EEC) underground power cables.

The following streets will be affected as per the schedule below;

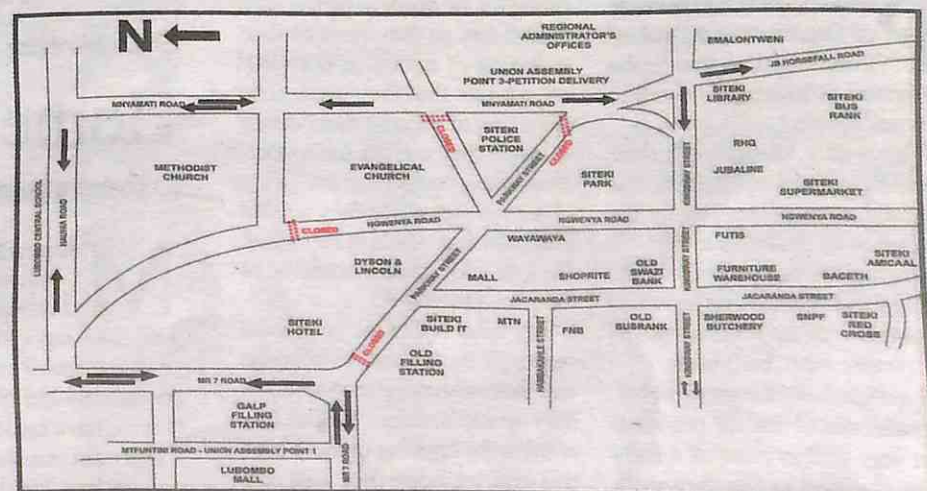
1. Parkway Road
2. Ngwenya Road

Description	Day and Date	Time
Closure of Parkway and Ngwenya road	Sunday 15 th February 2020	5.00 AM – 5.00PM
Closure of Parkway and Ngwenya road	Sunday 16 th February 2020	5.00 AM – 5.00PM

Traffic controllers and signage will be available to guide motorist.

We apologise for any inconvenience that may be caused during this period.

Should you have any further inquiries in relation to the matter please contact Mbongeleni Motsa: 76048290



Sithembile Simelane
Town Clerk / CEO

DOC-21186

BUDGET SPEECH 2020

DEFIANT PARASTATALS WORRY SRA OVER UNREMITTED E1 BN PAYE

Stories by Zwelethu Dlamini

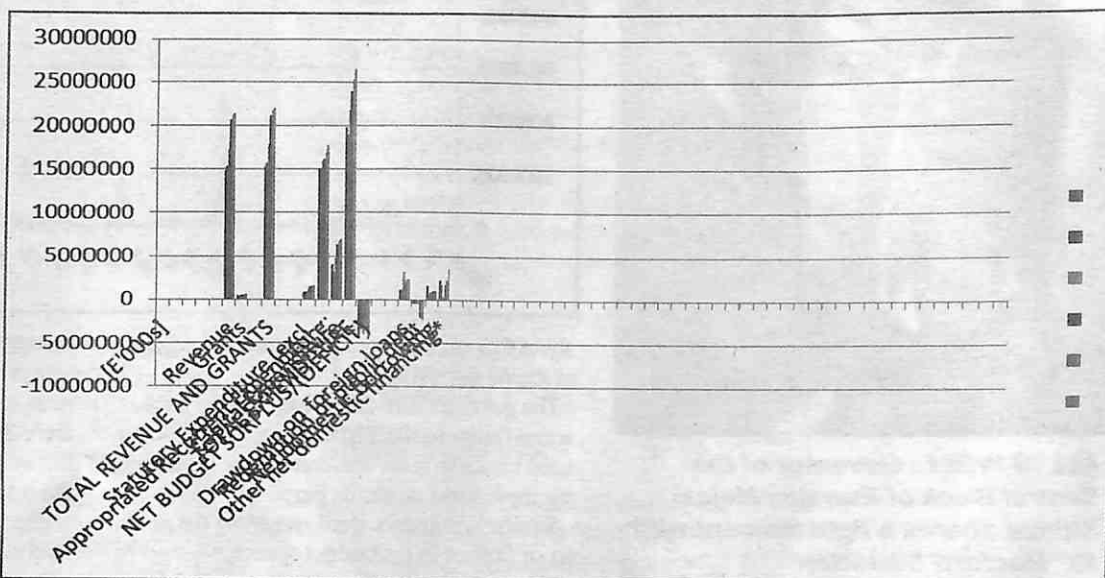
Eswatini Revenue Authority has raised concern over the public enterprises that fail to remit Pay As You Earn (PAYE) taxes collected from their staff as well as Value Added Tax (VAT) which totals over E1 billion.

This concern was also raised by Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg in his budget speech yesterday.

The minister said government was concerned, especially because the parastatals' performance was deteriorating as well as their efficiency such that few were self-sustainable.

"Some of these entities have continued to fall behind on PAYE and VAT payments amounting to over E1 billion. Therefore, government will conduct a study to streamline and enhance performance as well as sustainability of these entities. This is aimed at reducing the number of enterprises by merging those

...Urges government to eliminate perceptions of misuse of taxes



with similar mandates," said the minister.

SRA Commissioner Dumisani Masilela sang the same tune, confirming that they had raised the concern of the parastatals' failure to

comply and submit the PAYE.

"Mostly they do not remit the PAYE yet they deduct it from their staff, we are saying that is wrong; they should address their issues with government. When we engaged

them they blame it on the inadequate budget allocation they receive from government. This matter is being discussed at government level, we hope the supplementary budget will address this issue," he said.

...SRA needs govt support to meet high targets

Masilela said the target given to SRA was high and, therefore, they would require government support to meet the required collection of revenue.

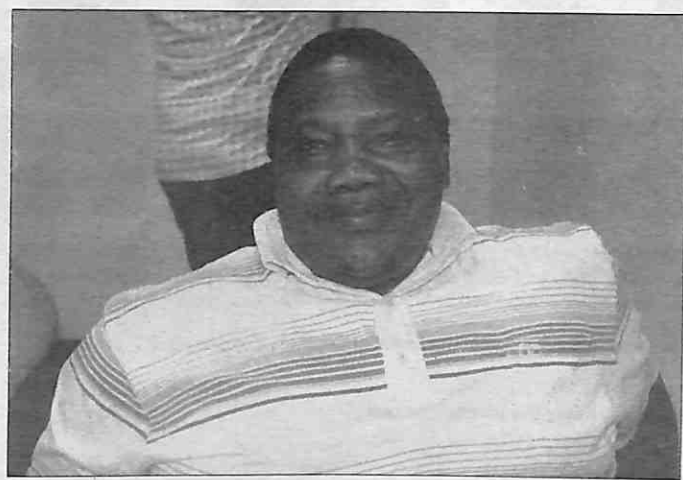
"I would say the targets given to us are high so we hope that we will get support.

We have made it clear to government that there are various factors that enable us to meet our targets.

Eswatini's economy is heavily reliant on government as our private sector is very small, so if government will continue facing cash flow challenges it will affect us because if businesses and people are not paid they fail to pay tax," he added.

Masilela also urged government to ensure that the taxes were used to improve service delivery and the lives of Emaswati as that would increase compliance. He said government also needed to hold ministries accountable in their spending.

"Service delivery is also another factor that increases compliance on people if they see schools being built, quality health services and where there is no shortage of drugs in hospitals. People need to point the gaps, government has to eliminate the perception that the taxes are misused and also strengthen means of holding people accountable for spending as that would improve compliance," he said.



WAIT AND SEE: President of the Federation of Organisations of Disabled People in Eswatini Siphosiso Dlamini.

People with disabilities can only wait and see

By Khetsiwe Khumalo

President of the Federation of Organisations of Disabled People in Eswatini Siphosiso Dlamini is looking forward to revised grants.

This is after Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg stated that he had revised grant allocations for the people with disabilities.

During his budget speech, the minister of finance said he would continue with the reviewed grants for people with disabilities.

Appreciative of the grants review, Dlamini stated that the organisation was still in need of a fully fledged office so that they work on the issues of the people with disabilities in an effective man-

ner.

"As it is we are far behind in providing for the needs of people with disabilities as they have to deal with a lot of issues. It is a well-known fact that they need to be taken care of because there is only so much they can do due to their disabilities," said Dlamini.

Dlamini stated that they needed to exploit that aspect to the fullest. He said a lot of this would be in the education facet.

"My wish is that the vocational centres for the disabled in Nhlangano and Sidvashini be reopened and fully operationalised. We look forward to the opening of these centres and we hope they will add value to the people with disabilities," said Dlamini.



END: Minister of Sports Harries 'Madze' Bulunga leaves at the end of the budget speech.

Home affairs bids farewell to forged IDs

By Khetsiwe Khumalo

Minister of Home Affairs Princess Lindiwe says her ministry is planning to modernise in line with the King's Vision 2022.

"By the time we reach 2022, we want our ministry and the work it does reflect that we have indeed improved.

This must manifest in the services we provide that indeed we have reached the standards expected," said the princess.

She said according to the budget allocation by Finance Minister Neal Rijkenberg, they would now be able to start registrations for travel documents and national identity cards with high tech gadgets.

Everything they will do from now on will be making sure that everyone who owns these documents has the right and unforged papers. The minister said they would make sure that everything is done lawfully at the home affairs department.

"The issue of forged documents was a growing concern and something that affected us as news around forged documents shone a bad light towards the ministry.

It does not sit well with us and that is why we want to secure all documents so that the forgery is minimised," said the minister.

She further stated that all culprits that are into forging documents would be easily detected after introduction of the high tech equipment.

BUDGET SPEECH 2020

OMG! NOTHING FOR US — HOUSING MINISTER

By Khetsiwe Khumalo

After Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg delivered the budget speech yesterday, Minister of Housing and Urban Development Prince Simelane cried foul that his ministry had not been allocated much.

He stated that they would have to stop constructing three new fire stations as per their plans. The minister gave an example of the Fire and Emergency Services which had been languishing in abeyance of government assistance.

"A lot of the equipment we have was donated by the Taiwanese. There is nothing much that the government has contributed towards

this.

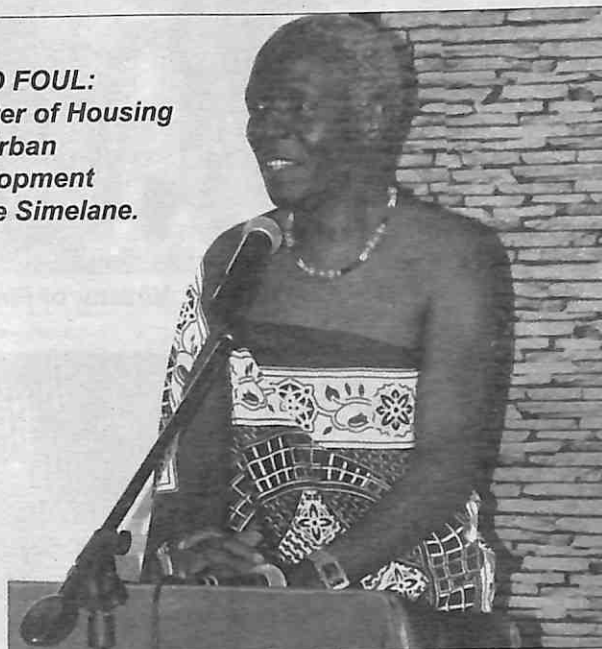
The houses and vehicles we have were procured through His Majesty's request to the Taiwan government," said Prince Simelane.

He further stated that plans to add more fire stations at Lavumisa, Buhleni and Vuvulane now remain a dream.

"But because there are no monies allocated for housing and development, this will not be possible. Also, because of the economic downturn we have fire stations, for instance in Mankayane, that do not operate because there is no money to employ staff," said Prince Simelane.

The minister prayed that maybe somewhere in the future they would be able to implement their projects.

CRIED FOUL:
Minister of Housing
and Urban
Development
Prince Simelane.



DPM's Office thankful for reviewed elderly grants

Stories by Sicelo Maziya

Principal Secretary at the Deputy Prime Minister's Office Makhosini Mndawe thanked government for increasing the grants for the most vulnerable in society.

He said it would also assist his portfolio and further shared that those who received monthly grants through the bank had already noticed the increase as the month of January had already been effected. Minister Rijkenberg shared the good news on the increase in the allowances for

bogogo na bomkhulu from E400 to E500 per month, while the disability grant has been increased from E180 to E280 per month with effect from January.

He then announced that the Old Age Home based at Mankayane is also expected to be completed within the 2020/21 financial year.

"We hope the revised grant allocations will provide some relief to our most vulnerable while fully acknowledging that this is only the first step towards the creation of a benefitting social security net," said Rijkenberg.



GRATEFUL: Principal Secretary at the Deputy Prime Minister's Office Makhosini Mndawe.

ESWATINI TOURIST DESTINATION OF CHOICE

Minister of Tourism Moses Vilakati said as much as he did not have the details of the budget, he acknowledged that, for a long time, Eswatini had not appreciated the tourism industry. It had lacked behind yet the industry had the greatest potential to bring economic benefit to the country.

Vilakati said his ministry was working on changing the mindset of Eswatini to appreciate the country's tourism industry and participate in its growth.

Tourist

"For every tourist attracted into the country that can support about 10 people, we are working on ensuring that the country realises that for it to get a good budget in the future," said Vilakati.

The growth of tourism continues to be subject of debate as government has made massive investment in structures.

This is despite that the kingdom's underappreciated landscapes, with its astonishing array of climates, topography, flora and fauna, that are well suited to a range of adventure activities.

This was acknowledged by the finance minister saying, "Eswatini's natural and cultural heritages are the main tourism attractions. Utilising our natural heritage endowment by realising its tourism potential will provide Eswatini with significant benefits".

The minister of finance also noted that the country had been rated as the 5th Best World Destination to visit in 2020 by Lonely Planet, which is one of the leading Global Travel Agencies.

"Eswatini is now a known international tourist destination of choice, which strongly justifies developing its tourism potential for the benefits it will provide to Eswatini," Rijkenberg said.

Pro-Learning pupils impressed by budget speech

Pupils who attended this year's budget speech appreciated the opportunity given to them by their school.

Ka-Shali Pro-Learning's Siyanda Chemane, in Grade 11, said she was impressed by the speed at which the minister of finance read the budget speech.

She said the minister made one want to listen and even though he was dealing with big budget monies, he made it easier to follow him as he justified his allocation.

Share

"I'm happy that the minister of finance has given the lion's share to education, which is the ideal thing to invest in education for it is the future that must be guarded for continuity of the nation," opined Siyanda.

She also shared that it was her first time in Parliament, as she had previously followed the budget speech on TV.

She said it was inspiring to get into the chamber and rub shoulders with the honourable ones.



IMPRESSED: Ka-Shali Pro-Learning's Siyanda Chemane.

That speech aligns with that from the Throne
- Jabulani Mabuza

Stories by Bahle Gama

It is enlightening to hear something that aligns with His Majesty's speech when he opened Parliament.

The budget speech was enlightening; it is a budget that caters for the country's needs.

As you heard he spoke about elderly grants and the royal development fund amongst others, which means the budget, will cover enough ground in the country. In terms of the agricultural sector, I must state that agriculture is also one of which its use is to the people. We will remember that the country's budget covers all the ministries whereby there are dividends and you find that there has been an agreement that as a ministry, there is so much we could get. We believe that with the money received, there will be enough work done especially the issue for high value crops and SMLP, which is a project run by the ministry through a parastatal, we believe that it will bring a huge difference to the production of vegetables in the country.

Ndlaluhlaza can't wait for improved roads

If our roads are built to a better standard that means trade will be easier, enabling the economy to grow.

We will use the road fund only for the building and fixing of roads in the country. The fund will be formed through monies which our ministry and the ministry of finance will agree on, as to how much will be taken from the allocated funds precisely for roads. This is to ensure that when issues pertaining roads arise, we have readily available funds instead of approaching government. Only when we have to build large and expensive roads will we ask for government's help, for now, we will use the funds received.

'Madze' rather unimpressed

What we received is not what we had asked for because as a ministry we have quite a number of sectors that require funding, including sports, culture and youth, hence our budget request was high.

We had asked for about E80 million but received E52 million. However, what we received is an increment because last year, about E43 to E44 million was allocated to our ministry. We are aware of government's situation and that in due time our allocation will improve.

Manqoba Khumalo sees Strategic Roadmap succeeding

We are happy as a ministry that the budget shows that our Strategic Roadmap 2019 will succeed in the creation of jobs as planned.

We will remember that 2019-2022 has been declared as a year for SMEs. It shows that we also support large companies so that we improve the ease of doing business and foreign direct investment. We further built build factory shells where various businesses will operate from.

BUDGET SPEECH 2020



READY: Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg puts on his reading glasses as he prepares to read the budget speech in Parliament yesterday. (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu and Lucky Simelane)



OPPORTUNITY: Minister of Finance Neal poses with pupils from KaShali Pro Learning School.



REPORT: MP Thandi Nxumalo tables one of the reports.



NEIGHBOURS: MPs Mduduzi Matsebula, Mabulala Maseko and Robert Magongo share a light moment.



PROGRESS: A section of the members of the House of Assembly including Cabinet ministers listen to the speech.



BAHLONISHWA: Part of the MPs watching the proceedings.



BE MY VALENTINE: King's Appointee MP Princess Phumelele shows the roses she got as a present from the Prime Minister Ambrose Dlamini.



ALL IS WELL: Governor of the Central Bank of Eswatini Majosi Sithole shares a light moment with MP Macford Sibandze.



READY: Ministers Dr Thambo Gina and Lady Howard pose inside the Chamber.

BUDGET SPEECH 2020



WELCOME: Prime Minister Ambrose Dlamini being welcomed by the Finance Minister Neal Rijkenberg and his wife Barbara.



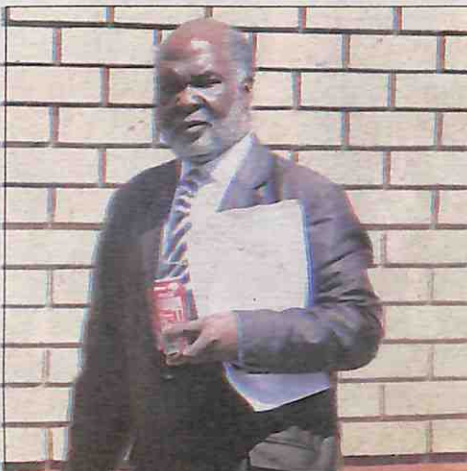
FROM SUGAR BELT: Mhlume High School pupils captured upon arrival for the budget speech.



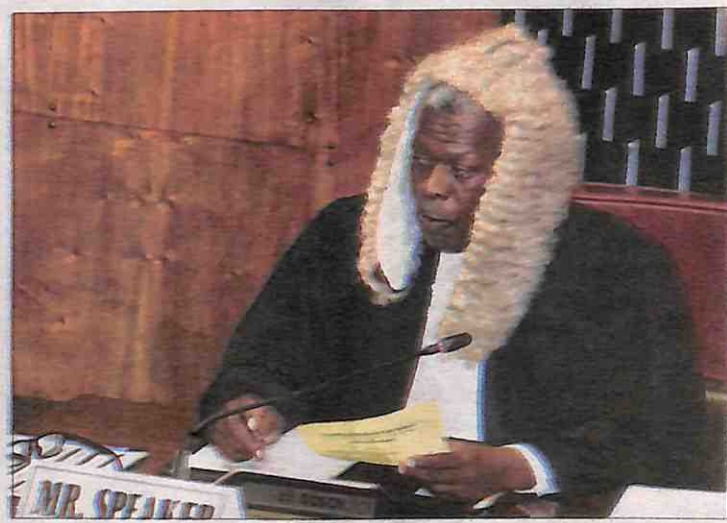
BEHIND EVERY MAN: Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg poses with his wife Barbara upon arrival.



LISTENING: Pupils from Mhlume High School at the public gallery.



I'M STILL HERE: Former Mbabane West MP Johane Shongwe also attended event.



MR. SPEAKER: House of Assembly Speaker Petros Mavimbela directs the proceedings.



GROW WITH US: EswatiniBank Managing Director Zakhele Lukhele with Senator Tony Sibandze after minister of finance finished in reading the budget speech.



SHARE: MPs Mabulala Maseko, Noah Gama and Timothy Myeni in full concentration.



RELATIVES: SRA Commissioner General Dumsani Masilela poses with Prince Magudvulela and PS Clifford Mamba.



BEHIND THE BUDGET: Ministry of Finance team led by Minister Neal Rijkenberg and wife pose after the reading of budget speech.

BUDGET SPEECH 2020

EXTREME WEATHER CALLS FOR STRONGER EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS

By Zwelihle Sukati

As the country continues to be prone to extreme weather conditions, the finance minister says it is becoming critical to strengthen the early warning systems and collaboration between the Meteorological Services and all affected sectors.

Minister Neal Rijkenberg made these remarks when delivering his budget speech in Parliament yesterday.

"The country endeavours to safeguard the environment, conserve wildlife and culture, ensure sustainable forest management, reduce meteorological hazards and build a climate resilient country," he said.

He added that Eswatini stands to experience environmental degradation through water and air pollution coupled with the indiscriminate cutting of trees and widespread littering.

"In addition, the country continues to be prone to extreme weather conditions. This results in an increase in natural disasters, which adversely affects socio-economic activities in the country," he pointed out.

"It is therefore becoming critical to strengthen the early warning systems and collaboration between the Meteorological Services and all affected sectors."

He also highlighted that government launched a 'Clean Eswatini Campaign' named 'Gcogca Tibi'. The campaign is being rolled out in the form of monthly nationwide clean-up campaigns undertaken every last Saturday of the month.

"Government is in the process of launching the 'Tree Planting Campaign,' which aims to create awareness and promote good environmental management practices."

ESWATINI RATED 5TH BEST WORLD DESTINATION TO VISIT IN 2020

Minister Rijkenberg says government will review the Tourism Bill, which intends to create an enabling environment for the tourism sector to thrive.

The minister described Eswatini's natural and cultural heritage as the main tourism attractions. "Utilising our natural heritage endowment by realising its tourism potential will provide Eswatini with significant benefits," he said.

He pointed out that notwithstanding its current level of development, the tourism industry has made impressive progress.

"The country has been rated as the 5th Best World Destination to



OPPORTUNITY: Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg poses with pupils from KaShali Professional Learning School.

visit in 2020 by Lonely Planet, which is one of the leading Global Travel Agencies. Eswatini is now a known international tourist destination of choice, which strongly justifies developing its tourism potential for the benefits it will provide to Emaswati."

PUBLIC ENTERPRISES FALL E1 BILLION BEHIND ON PAYE, VAT

The deteriorating performance and efficiency of public enterprises is an increasing concern to government, says Rijkenberg.

He said most of these entities were fully dependent on government funding and only a few were self-sustaining.

"Some of these entities have continued to fall behind on PAYE and VAT payments, amounting to over E1 billion. Therefore, government will conduct a study to streamline and enhance performance as well as sustainability of these entities," he said.

The minister said this was aimed at reducing the number of enterprises by merging those with similar mandates.

"In the medium term, government plans to develop policy guidelines for the establishment and manage-

ment of public enterprises."

SECURED FUNDING FOR DATA RECOVERY CENTRE

Funding has been secured for building a data recovery centre, the finance minister announced.

He also said government would continue with the implementation of projects at the Royal Science and Technology Park, which includes completing the construction of the One-Stop-Shop service centre, currently at 83 per cent completion.

"The service centre will give assistance to the administration and implementation of the Special Economic Zone programme and house a temporary Quality Testing and Assurance Laboratory, which is intended to enable the execution of the Bio Economic Strategy," the minister remarked.

He went on to say that government will continue to scale-up the National Data Centre (NDC), which is now operational, and to migrate and modernise the government ICT architecture.

On that note, the finance minister remarked that business continuity and government service accessibility has been improved through the rehabilitation of some of the obsolete central infrastructure and equipment.

"This includes replacement of the gov-

ernment core network equipment and security. In the 2020/21 financial year, government will, with the assistance of development partners, further digitalise its services as well as extend networks to the Tinkhundla service centres and health facilities."

ROADS MAINTENANCE AGENCY TO BE SET UP

To ensure that the life span of infrastructure development is protected, there is a need to set up a roads maintenance agency. The minister said the significantly large investment that government has made in the road transport infrastructure was a reasonable measure of success over the past years.

He said through the support of government's development partners, further road infrastructure improvements will be carried out, including the construction of the Manzini Golf Course interchange.

"The service roads along the MR 3 highway will, once fully completed, help to ease the traffic congestion along this corridor, as it has proved to be the backbone of the country's road transport network," he declared.

"Despite some challenges faced during the implementation of certain projects such as the Nhlanguano-Sicunusa road, it remains imperative that such

projects be completed and government is currently addressing the issues related to these projects."

E 13.5 MILLION FOR MATSAPHA DRY PORT EXPANSION

Eswatini Railways has embarked on the expansion of the Matsapha Dry Port and funds amounting to US\$ 969 000 have been secured from the Republic of China (Taiwan) to finance the development of architectural designs and feasibility study for the project.

This amounts to about E13 566 000, according to the estimated exchange rate with Lilangeni.

Minister Rijkenberg said as the railways subsector continues to be the major mode for the transportation of bulk commodities, an expansion of the existing network is therefore necessary to increase the cargo handling capacity from the current estimated six million metric tonnes per annum to 14 million metric tonnes per annum.

The minister of finance said this was in light of the operationalisation of the Sidvokodvo-Lothair link. The link is a new line that traverses about 100 km in Eswatini and the connection on the South African side is about 47 km.

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY AT KMIII TO BE INCREASED

The Eswatini Civil Aviation Authority continues to engage potential businesses to invest and operate within the civil aviation sphere in areas of airline establishment.

This is to increase commercial activity at KMIII Airport and to implement the Special Economic Zone programme within the KMIII International Airport area.

Rijkenberg said there was need to ensure that all these operations at the airport and in the country's airspace meet the licensing requirements and the expectations of the industry through safe, secure, environmentally friendly and sustainable operations.

"Government endeavours to create more employment and attract foreign direct investment with the intention to catalyse industrialisation for sustainable economic growth and poverty alleviation," the minister remarked in his speech. He also said meaningful growth would be achieved by enabling the private sector to lead and "do what it does best, growing our economy and creating employment."

The country continues to be prone to extreme weather conditions. This results in an increase in natural disasters, which adversely affects socio-economic activities in the country



BUDGET SPEECH 2020



AGRICULTURE REMAINS A PRIORITY

By Ackel Zwane

In the strides to build a resilient economy, especially to guarantee food security, government continues to prioritise the agricultural sector for investment in order to spur economic growth and overall acceleration of national development.

Finance Minister Neal Rijkenberg said the projects and programmes attracting government budget in this sector were aimed at addressing food insecurity and rural poverty.

"A special thanks is directed to our co-operating partners for their continuous support to the country's agricultural sector."

He said during the planting season 2018/19, the country received good rains which had a positive impact on crop production.

As a result, 96 773 metric tonnes of maize was harvested. This increase in production is also attributed to the food security programme which provided subsidised farm inputs.

"Under this budget, government will also continue to support the input subsidy programme with a budget allocation of E40 million. It is envisaged that maize production and productivity will be improved as the country received a grant of E34 million from the Japanese government for procurement of agricultural machinery and equipment. This will help improve access to farming equipment by small-scale farmers, which will significantly augment maize production."

He added that the agricultural sector had received a lot of assistance from development partners to build its resilience and improve production. He said several measures were being implemented in response to climate change and those initiatives were on-going to enhance production.

Furthermore, a number of co-ordinated programmes, including the High Value Crop and Horticulture project, the fruit tree project and the Smallholder Market Led project, have started to generate significant output for farmers. The farmers have been supported to diversify their production from the traditional sugarcane and maize production to horticulture and small stock production. This has seen a marked increase, especially in local vegetable production."

He said a total of 3 627 metric tonnes was purchased by retailers from local farmers, with an economic value of E40.9 million over the past six months. Investments had been made to improve the marketing of such commodities through the construction of collection points and cold storage facilities in strategic locations of the country.

He announced that government had allocated funding to finance the implementation of projects relating to water harvesting and irrigation development. A total amount of E745.1 million had been allocated in this budget to finance the Lower Usuthu Smallholder Irrigation

...Finance Minister Neal Rijkenberg said the projects and programmes attracting government budget in this sector were aimed at addressing food insecurity and rural poverty



FIGURES: Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg reading the budget speech inside the chamber.

Project (phase 2), where a further 6 000 hectares of land is earmarked for irrigation development. The construction of the main canal conveyance system to deliver water to the Matata area is 80 per cent complete. The goal of this project is mainly to improve the standard of living of the population in the project area through an environmentally sustainable process, he said.

Under this budget, a total of E1.6 billion would be provided to the ministry of agriculture to ensure adequate service delivery for crop and livestock services, agricultural research, water harvesting and irrigation development and commercialisation of the agriculture sector.

POTABLE WATER COVERAGE AT 69 PER CENT

Minister Rijkenberg told the nation that government continued to implement a number of water and sanitation projects aimed at promoting economic and social development.

"To date, the national potable water coverage stands at 69 per cent. Government will also be implementing a Water Supply and Sanitation Project in Nhlanguano - Siphambanweni area in the Shiselweni region, funded by the World Bank, amounting to US\$45 million." He said that project sought to provide potable water for domestic consumption, institutional and commercial usage as well as improving sanitation coverage and the long-term management of water

resources.

ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR INVESTMENT IN ENERGY

Furthermore, he said government continued to create an enabling environment for investment in the energy sector.

The Eswatini Energy Regulatory Authority had launched a competitive bidding procurement process for 40 Megawatts (MW) solar PV power plant and identified qualified bidders. Civil works for the construction of Eswatini Electricity Company's 10MW Lavumisa solar PV plant had also commenced and the plant was expected to run by June.

The 13MW Lower Magudzuza Hydro Power Plant was expected to be complete by December 2021.

"Government in partnership with key stakeholders continues to explore the viability of establishing more power plants locally from coal, wind, hydro, biomass as well as natural gas. While the country is strengthening its local generation, significant progress has been made with electricity access through the Rural Electrification programme which continues to uplift the lives of many Eswatini. To date, the national electrification rate stands at 80 per cent," he said.

He also said government worked on the preparatory phase for the construction of the strategic fuel reserve facility in pursuit of energy security in the

petroleum sector. The project is now at resource mobilisation stage.

ACKNOWLEDGES HARDSHIPS, SUFFERING OF DISADVANTAGED

In a rather touching tone the minister told the joint sitting of Parliament that the hardship and suffering of disadvantaged segments of society had not passed unnoticed. He said to support the citizens affected by poverty, government increased the allowance for *bogogo na bomkhulu* from E400 to E500 per month. The Old Age Home based at Mankayane was also expected to be completed in 2020/21 financial year. In addition, the monthly grant for the disabled had been increased from E180 to E280 per month with effect from January 2020.

"We hope the revised grant allocations will provide some relief to our most vulnerable, while fully acknowledging that this is only the first step towards the creation of a benefitting social security net."

In creating a conducive environment, the DPM's office would finalise the development of regulations to the Children Protection Welfare Act, Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Act and the Persons with Disability Act, the minister promised.

FUNDING FOR HUMAN CAPITAL WILL CONTINUE TO FLOW

Government will continue to invest in its most important resource, that is, the people. In an effort to enhance human capital development, especially on investing in children, government has continued to safeguard budget allocations for the social sector, Rijkenberg said in his budget speech yesterday.

EDUCATION ALLOCATION SURPASSES 15% GLOBAL BENCHMARK

Minister Rijkenberg said the budget allocation for education was above the international benchmark of 15 per cent of total government expenditure.

He said an international study had shown that Eswatini was among the top 10 investors in education in the world relative to GDP per capita.

"The year 2020/21 marks 10 years since the country introduced the Free Primary Education programme in all public primary schools. In the 2020/21 fiscal year, government will continue to implement and sustain the programme with more focus on improving the quality of education and learning outcomes."

He said in 2019/20 government introduced and successfully implemented a competency-based curriculum in Grade One, which was

now expected to be rolled out grade by grade annually. The curriculum had been developed to reflect the aspirations of Eswatini, national developmental priorities and the needs of society.

The new curriculum placed strong emphasis on the development of essential competences, skills, values and attitudes in order to prepare learners to become effective contributors in the economy and social development as well as becoming global citizens who can compete internationally.

"Mr. Speaker, we will continue to support the Grade Zero programme currently offered in 80 public primary schools. Following the assessment of the Grade Zero programme, government's focus will be on improving the regulation and support to Early Childhood Care and Development Education (ECCDE). The country continues to face challenges with regard to limited access to secondary education. Currently, the enrolment rate at secondary level stands at 46.3 per cent. In an effort to address this challenge, government is engaged in a dialogue with the World Bank to receive support in addressing issues of internal inefficiencies in the education system resulting in high drop-out and repetition rates."

...WITH ENGLISH OUT OF THE WAY, MORE PASSES

With English no longer being a compulsory passing subject, the number of repeaters and drop-outs is expected to decline.

A repetition strategy has been developed aiming to reduce the repetition rate whilst preserving the quality of education in the country, he said.

"Mr. Speaker, government is in the process of completing four fully-fledged inclusive secondary schools, one in each region, with support from development partners.

Construction of the new schools is expected to be completed during the school calendar year 2020. In an effort to address teacher management issues, government is in the process of introducing a computerised teacher file management system to improve the efficiency of the teacher management functions at the ministry of education and training.

The introduction of this system demonstrates government's commitment towards adopting a culture of excellence in service delivery.

An amount of E3.5 billion is allocated to the education sector, corresponding to 15.3 per cent of the total budget. This budget will facilitate the provision of equitable, quality and relevant education opportunities for all people of Eswatini."

LISWATI NEW JSE-LISTED TECH FIRM EOH CHAIRMAN

By Bodwa Mbingo

EOH, JSE-listed technology group, announced this week that Eswatini-born Andrew Mthembu, a proven executive with vast industry experience, will assume the role of chairman.

According to Tech Financials, his appointment was effective from February 6, 2020.

Mthembu replaces the late Dr Xolani Mkhwanazi, who was chairman of the board at the time of his passing on 4, January 2020.

Mthembu joined the EOH board in June 2019. He was appointed the lead independent director last year and led the board in the absence of Dr Mkhwanazi as a result of his illness.

Mthembu is the chairperson of the Technology and Information Committee and also serves on the Audit Committee as well as the Governance and Risk Committee.

"Whilst a number of external candidates were considered, given the challenging past year the board considered that Mthembu's industry experience, knowledge of EOH and the requirement for continuity made him the best candidate for the role," EOH said in a statement.



Andrew Mthembu.

"The board congratulates Mthembu on his appointment and looks forward to his ongoing contribution."

Mthembu was born in Eswatini and started his career in the ministry of works and communications as an engineer before joining the DBSA in project finance where he became the liaison between the DBSA, the South African Government and the then Homelands.

He went on to work for Otis Elevators, a United Technologies Company as a Contracts Manager and later as Inland Regional Manager in their South African Operations.

While at Otis he spent two years in their North American Operations in Toronto, Canada. He then moved on to become MD of Murray & Roberts in their toll roads concession business, Tolcon.

While at Murray and Roberts, Andrew worked with multinational teams on infrastructure projects both locally and internationally.

He was subsequently appointed as MD of Vodacom SA where his time was characterised by massive growth driven by the introduction of the pre-paid product, the widespread expansion of the technical infrastructure, and fast-paced market development.

At Vodacom, Mthembu was also charged with setting up their International Operations as MD, culminating in the expansion of the company's footprint to Mozambique, Tanzania, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as well as Lesotho.

He also served as an advisor to the minister of the department of public enterprises in South Africa on ICT industry issues during this tenure.

At the invitation of President Mbeki, he was appointed to lead the establishment of Broadband Infraco and successfully led the required parliamentary approvals and built the institution on the back of Transnet and Eskom fibre assets.

Mthembu now manages his investment company and consults to various clients on ICT strategies.

LABORATORY EQUIPMENT

MARITHAS INVESTMENTS

Circuit Board
Electromagnet
Conical Flask
Magnets
Thermometer
Six's 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
Nhlanguano Mall Shop #3 opp. Building Society



Vacancy Executive Director Conciliation Mediation and Arbitration Commission (CMAC)

The Conciliation Mediation and Arbitration Commission (CMAC) is an entity established in terms of Section 62 of the Industrial Relations Act of 2000 (as amended) for the resolution of disputes through Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration.

Main purpose

To provide strategic leadership and guidance to CMAC management and staff with sound management policies and procedures in accordance with the relevant labour relations statutes.

Also, to provide sound financial and human resources management to ensure efficiency and effectiveness, as well as promote CMAC's ability to deliver on the expectations set by Government, organised employers and organised labour in the Kingdom of Eswatini.

Key Performance areas

- Develop and maintain with the Board, strategic plans for the Commission and implement such plans to the best abilities of the organisation.
- Ensure the implementation of approved strategic and business plans within budget as set out by the board within specified periods.
- Make sure that CMAC as an organisation operates to its full capacity in terms of the organisation's responsibilities, its development and functioning, emphasizing the promotion of labour peace in the Kingdom of Eswatini.
- Provide high-level policy legislative options, orientations and discussions for consideration by the Board.
- Lead management staff to achieve organisational as well as individual objectives and set sound management, administrative and financial controls.
- Develop and present appropriate organisational policies and present these to the Board for approval.
- The development and implementation of appropriate performance measures to drive, guide and also assess the overall performance of CMAC.

Required Qualifications and Experience

- Bachelor of Laws Degree or equivalent from a recognised tertiary institution.
- MBA/MBL or Equivalent Postgraduate Degree.
- 6 years relevant experience in an executive or senior management role.

Key Competencies

- Very good communication, people management, public speaking and presentation skills.
- Strategic/analytical thinking, strategy development and advanced financial management.
- Computer literacy and time management skills.

Closing date for receipt of applications 27 February 2020.

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

Written applications clearly stating the position applied for accompanied by a comprehensive Curriculum Vitae and certified copies of academic certificates should be submitted to:

The Recruitment Manager
KPMG Advisory Swaziland (Pty) Ltd
Umkhwa House, Lot 195
Kal Grant Street, Mbabane

Email: recruitment@kpmg.co.sz



Motsoaledi announces border guards deployment plan

By Bodwa Mbingo

The nightmare of having to endure long waits to process papers upon entry or exit at the Ngwenya Border Gate, especially for truck drivers could soon be over.

However Emaswati that illegally cross to South Africa are also in for a shock.

This is after the neighbouring South Africa's Department of Home Affairs announced it was working on a new border system, which will make it easier for people to travel to and from that country while also ensuring that border guards will be deployed to curb any illegal crossing into that country through the borderline.

Eswatini is also fully on board following a series of meetings that have been held between the two countries' ministries, confirmed Ministry of Home Affairs Communications Officer Mlandvo Dlamini in an interview this week.

In a presentation on Tuesday, SA Home Affairs Minister Aaron Motsoaledi said the new One-Stop Border Posts (OSBP) would be developed in partnership with the private sector and with neighbouring countries.

"This model means that people and trucks will be processed by both countries under one roof. When we move over to this model, people and trucks will only stop once at a border and be processed by both countries.

"We are pursuing the OSBP in association with other government agencies," he said.

This system will form part of the introduction of new Border Management Authority (BMA) legislation, Motsoaledi said.

"Whenever we mention border control in the form of an instrument like the BMA many people, unfortunately, immediately associate it with

solely a mechanism to stop people from coming to the country.

"It is important for us as a country to keep on reminding ourselves that there are common security issues worldwide in border control. These are common to all countries regardless of their differences in immigration policies."

However, Motsoaledi said that the BMA will include a deployment plan for border guards which will stop people from illegally crossing into South Africa through the borderline.

This deployment focuses on the hotspots which have already been identified, he said.

"Among other functions, the BMA will facilitate and manage the legitimate movement of persons within the border law enforcement area and at ports of entry," Motsoaledi said.

"It is our considered view that the BMA will improve service efficiencies at the ports, through integrated operations.

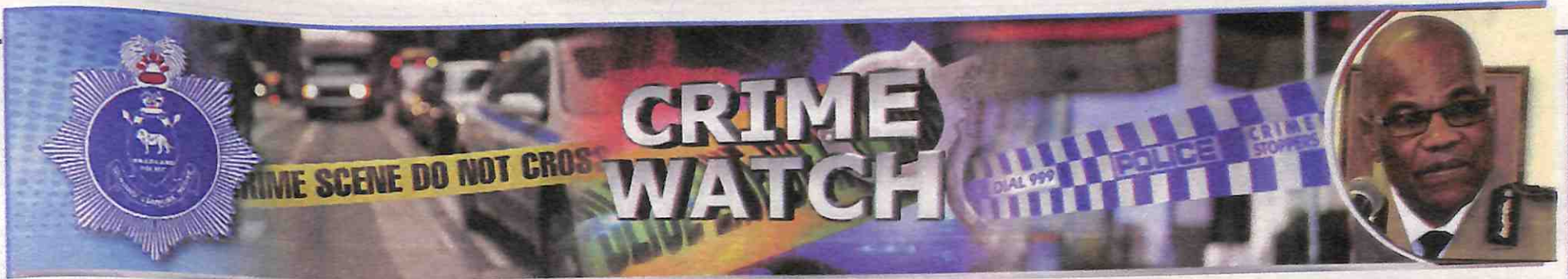
"It will improve the way South Africa handles border management thus to assist the country in delivering on regional mechanisms vital for the envisaged integration and free trade area for our beloved continent - Africa."

Motsoaledi said the department is looking at incremental establishment and rollout of the BMA to designated ports of entry and key segments of the land borderline.

These ports include:

- Oshoek (Ngwenya)
- Lebombo
- OR Tambo International Airport
- The port of Cape Town

Meanwhile, Dlamini added that indeed Ngwenya was a priority after South Africa selected it amongst others in the region. He said while the country was also involved in the plans, but their South African counterparts were doing most of the work.



ARRIVAL: The Police Lutsango dance into the arena on Saturday.



TETFULO: Royal Eswatini Police Service delivering the Baganu brew.

POLICE LUTSANGO IMPRESSIVE AT BUGANU FESTIVAL

Lutsango from the Royal Eswatini Police Service had those in attendance on their feet in appreciation of an impres-

sive performance in front of Their Majesties during the Baganu Ceremony held at Buhleni Royal Residence.

The Police Service Libutfo showcased well-choreographed and polished dancing skills which incorporated both culture and Police

drilling skills, an innovation which left those in attendance in awe. This was last Saturday when 140 members of the Police Libutfo joined

throng of other Lutsango Regiment for the annual Baganu Ceremony in the presence of His Majesty the King and Her Majesty the Queen Mother.

The ceremony kicked off on Friday when the Royal Eswatini Police Service Libutfo and others presented gifts to Her Majesty the Queen Mother. Items presented during the *kwevfula* included the baganu brew, pumpkins, green pepper, ground nuts, bitter melon leaves (inshubaba), butternut, wild berries (tincozi), tender maize cobs, sweet potatoes and a variety of fruits. The ceremony concluded on Sunday where there was also a dancing session.



THE BEST: Various vegetables and fruits for Their Majesties.



Performance by the Police Lutsango at the main arena.



DELIVERY: The Lutsango presenting various items.



IN FULL SWING: The REPS Libutfo during the Sunday dancing session.

'OBAMA' BAIL APPLICATION TO BE ARGUED FEBRUARY 20

Stories By Sandile Nkambule

Acquitted of murder charges by the High Court, Lucky 'Obama' Matsenjwa has filed an urgent application for bail at the High Court, which will be argued on February 20.

The bail application was yesterday before Judge Mbutfo Mamba, who postponed it to the said date as both parties are to file their papers.

The Crown represented by Crown counsel Sandile Mdluli, however indicated that they were not opposed to Matsenjwa's application.

Matsenjwa in his application submitted that on May 22 2017 he was arrested by members of the Royal Eswatini Police Service (REPS) and charged with the offence of murder, theft, two counts of attempting to defeat the ends of justice, five counts of attempting to defeat the course of justice and contempt of court.

He averred that on May 31 of the same year he instituted proceedings for an application to be released on bail at the High Court, which was however dismissed on the basis that his illness did not constitute exceptional circumstances. He further submitted that his bail application at that time was denied because the Crown was of the view that he will interfere with Crown witnesses as it was alleged that he was the one who eliminated the deceased police officer Mduduzi 'Schaza' Matsebula, who was one of the witnesses in the fingerprints case which is pending before court.

...He has filed urgent bail application at the High Court pending trial following his recent acquittal on murder charges



He also made mention in his present bail application that the Crown had stated in the previous application that he had breached his bail conditions in the fingerprints case.

"I humbly submit that there are now fresh circumstances warranting the court to release me on bail pending finalisation of the criminal matter as I have since been acquitted of the charge of murder and no longer face an offence under the fifth schedule," he submitted.

He further highlighted that he has also been

acquitted on a charge of contempt of court and consequently the findings that he breached his bail conditions fell off, further he has been acquitted of two counts of defeating the ends of justice.

He informed the court in his present application that he has been verily advised that in terms of Section 96(1) of the Criminal Procedure and Evidence Act (CPE) an accused person might be admitted to bail at any stage of the proceedings prior to conviction.



'Obama' anxiety understandable

Matsenjwa's anxiety to know about the fate of Matsebula before and after his death, according to the court, was also reasonably understandable since there is the pending fingerprints matter where Matsebula was a key witness.

Judge Mamba said the anxiety of the accused did not point solely to his guilt or want of innocence.

"From the above analysis of the facts and the applicable law, I have no hesitation in holding that no reasonable court, acting carefully and judicially, may convict on the evidence presented herein in respect of Count One and Two.

The accused is accordingly acquitted and discharged in respect of these counts as well," Judge Mamba said in his judgment.

Count one was the charge of murder in respect of the death of Matsebula, whose disfigured body was found on May 12, 2017 in a river.

The court also found that the evidence of Vermaak, Constable Sihle Dlamini and Bhukumuzi Masilela to the effect that Matsenjwa was in Mbabane on the night Matsebula disappeared was credible.

Judge Mamba said he accepted the evidence of Vermaak that Matsenjwa urged him to lie to the police and say that he was not in Mbabane on the day in question. The court refused to discharge him on this count.

Matsenjwa was also charged with contempt of court in that, after being granted bail in October 2014 in respect of the fingerprints case and upon his rearrest, he was found to have not surrendered his passport and travelled to the Republic of South Africa using the passport.

Judge Mamba said: "That, in my judgment falls short of establishing a case for contempt of court by failing to follow an order of court.

"The Crown ought to have led evidence to show that the precise terms of the court had been brought to the attention and knowledge of the accused before he used his passport to travel outside the country. There is no such evidence whatsoever."

Matsenjwa was further accused of urging Vermaak to ask Matsebula not to testify against him and this occurred at the Garage Bar in April 2017. Matsenjwa's application for acquittal in this count was denied.

Judge Mamba acquitted him on the charge of allegedly requesting Siboniso Simelane to ask Matsebula to change his statement as a witness in the fingerprints case.

The evidence of this witness, according to the court, does not support the allegation in the indictment.

"I also do not think that such advice by the accused was unlawful or was an attempt to obstruct or defeat the ends of justice. I accordingly hold that there is no evidence implicating the accused on this count and he is acquitted and discharged."

CLEAN SLATE ACQUITTAL

Lucky Matsenjwa, who was widely believed to have allegedly eliminated Mduduzi 'Schaza' Matsebula to prevent him from testifying against him in the ongoing fingerprints case, was acquitted by the High Court which found that there was no evidence that he had anything to do with whoever killed or harmed Matsebula.

The court went on to acquit him on six other charges which include theft, contempt of court, defeating and attempt to defeat the ends of justice.

However, Judge Mbutfo Mamba found that Matsenjwa has a case to answer on four of the 11 charges he was facing.

This is contained in a ruling that was made by the court after Matsenjwa filed an application in terms of Section 174(4) of the Criminal Procedure and Evidence Act of 1938 (as amended) after the Crown closed its case upon leading 34 witnesses.

In terms of this section, "If at the close of the case for the prosecution, the court considers that the accused committed the offence charged or any other offence which he might be convicted thereon, it may acquit and discharge him."

Whether or not to acquit the accused is the discretion of the court which, when improperly exercised, according to Judge Mamba, is abuse of such power and no discretion at all.

To prove its case, the Crown, which was represented by Macebo Nxumalo, relied more on the evidence of Terry Ngcebo Vermaak, who is also a police officer.

This was because Matsenjwa was said to have been eager to meet and request Matsebula not to implicate him in the fingerprints case he is involved in. Matsenjwa, according to the Crown, allegedly solicited the assistance of numerous people to urge Matsebula not to tes-



tify truthfully against him.

Matsenjwa was believed to have requested Vermaak to invite Matsebula to Solani's Shisanyama on May 12, 2017. Some witnesses testified that Matsenjwa was in Mbabane on the night Matsebula disappeared but he allegedly requested the witnesses to deny that.

Vermaak testified that Matsenjwa offered the services of his brother to transport Matsebula to Solani's Shisanyama from the police camp. Matsenjwa, according to the evidence of the Crown, left Solani's Shisanyama at night and never returned to meet Vermaak despite setting up the meeting.

The Crown also presented evidence to the effect that after the disappearance and death of Matsebula, Matsenjwa was frantically asking people, who were being interviewed by

the police, about the nature of the investigations.

The court was further informed that Matsenjwa went to Nelspruit to allegedly cleanse himself after the death of Matsebula.

Blood samples found in a black VW Golf matched Matsebula's and the Crown submitted that this vehicle was the one that Matsenjwa offered to collect the deceased from the police camp when he was last seen alive.

"Taken individually and cumulatively, this material is very poor and weak to be characterised as evidence implicating the accused person in this case. No court acting reasonably and judicially may return a guilty verdict bases thereon," said Judge Mamba.

Judge Mamba mentioned that there was clearly no evidence on how the blood samples came to be deposited in the motor vehicle.

"Furthermore, the Crown has not stated when such blood was deposited there. Crucially, there is no evidence that the accused had anything to do with whoever allegedly killed or harmed the deceased at the relevant time."

Judge Mbutfo Mamba found that Matsenjwa has a case to answer on four of the 11 charges he was facing

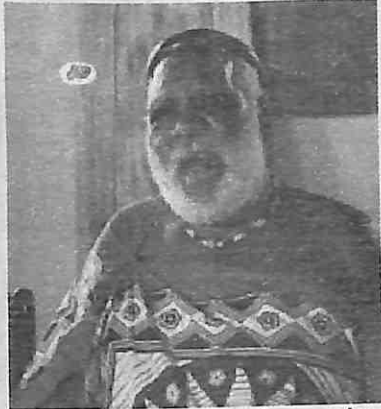
LUSENDVO, GIJA CLASH OVER STAMP

Stories by Ackel Zwane

Controversy surrounds the authority over the use of Masundvini stamp, a seal of traditional authority used for resettlement of persons on Eswatini Nation Land in areas under Masundvini. It is also used to access other government services such as registration of births, deaths, marriages and also acquisition of national identity papers.

At the centre are Ludzidzini Governor Lusendvo Fakudze and Manzini Regional Administrator Chief Gija Dlamini. The former says the authority of the stamp lies with the King while the latter claims he has jurisdiction as the overseer of Manzini region to protect the stamp from being abused by the officials entrusted to oversee its use.

In recent times the Masundvini stamp has been a cause for untold squabbles in all areas under Masundvini: KaShali, Mhobodleni, Mahlabatsini, Mhlane, Logoba, Sicelwini and Makholweni where illegal land transfers have been



Ludzidzini Governor Lusendvo Fakudze.

rampant. Most glaring has been the appropriation of land belonging to child headed families and widows; land that is finally resold to more than one buyer and each of these producing documents bearing the Masundvini stamp as authorising such transfers. One such case is that of a Dlamini man of Ndlilembi who is at loggerheads with his children over pieces of land to which both parties lay claim by producing ownership



Manzini RA Chief Gija Dlamini.

papers sealed with the Masundvini stamp.

It has been established that there are factions within the Masundvini council whereby some are using the stamp for business purposes in that they allegedly charge for services. This has become what is known in local lingo as *liphake-lo*, that the stamp is now an income generating vehicle for some Masundvini council members.

Oversight of stamp bestowed on me alone, says Lusendvo

Ludzidzini Governor Lusendvo Fakudze says the ultimate authority over the use of the stamp rests with the King and that in Masundvini he is the only most senior overseer who can determine what happens to it by taking instructions from the King.

Therefore there is no one else who can keep custody of the stamp without his knowledge, unless the King would delegate another *Indvuna* to take the stamp to the Manzini regional administration offices instead of him.

He argues that when there were allegations of rampant sales of Eswatini Nation Land in nearby Nhlambeni.

He was instructed by the King to order Nhlambeni authorities, or their imposters, to stop encroaching into areas under the jurisdiction of Masundvini. He took the stamp from Masundvini which

was written King Sobhuza II back to the King who instructed him further to redesign the stamp with the assistance of Prince Phuhlahphi at Nkhanini national offices. Again the new design was taken back to the King with the inscription of the name King Mswati III. Thereafter Lusendvo says he was instructed to take it to the then Manzini Regional Officer Prince Masitsela who acknowledged the new design before the same stamp was taken by Lusendvo and Prince Phuhlahphi back to Masundvini with a package of new guidelines on how it would be used, such as not charging any money to facilitate the accessing of government services by the residents and also to monitor it against being abused for transactions of land as it was being abused when Nhlambeni encroached into areas under the jurisdiction of

Masundvini. "I was given strict instructions to warn the *libandla* council of Masundvini that people should not be charged for services.

I may not know what the Manzini officer is talking about or if he got the order from the King to repossess the stamp.

But this stamp is written King Mswati III and it is for Masundvini, which is Sigodlo and not a chiefdom.

I would rather he uses what comes from the King who gives orders and not from what he thinks or what his imposters tell him."

Furthermore he said he was unaware of rumours that the stamp was being abused once more in the fashion it was during the era of encroachment by Nhlambeni. "*Loko kuganga kungaba ngumoya nje*," he said.

Gija wants to protect stamp from rampant abuse

On the other hand Manzini Regional Administrator Chief Gija says there are so many reports of abuse that he felt it was high time the Masundvini council surrendered the stamp to his office for monitoring so that each time it is being used it is for the desired purpose.

"I am only intervening to avoid the ongoing wars over illegally transferred land supported by the stamp. You have several cases of the same council one claiming that the stamp was properly applied while another would say there had been an irregularity. I have just witnessed the opening of floodgates for the wrong use of the stamp," says Gija. In other words Gija says he wants to play the role of witness that the stamp is used regularly and not for other ends or means such as evicting people to be replaced by others while in the background there is an exchange of currency.

Lusendvo gave me the stamp - Mbokodvo

The person keeping the stamp at the moment is Mbokodvo Mahlalela, who is a member of the Masundvini council and he says it was given him by Ludzidzini Governor Lusendvo Fakudze, therefore no one can take it away from him. "When we were called to surrender the stamp I went to consult with high-

those in doubt of his intentions may even consult Ludzidzini, the headquarters for traditional administration.

"I summoned them to the office and we discussed that the stamp should be brought here for safe keeping and safe use but one of them was keeping it. Now I felt he should also bring it so that he would be safe from alleged shenanigans

er authorities who asked me where I got the order to handover the stamp to anyone. I'm still waiting for the police to say anything but as we speak we are busy assisting people with this stamp. People want to process loans, look for documents or scholarships, we are working here, it's business as usual."

that the stamp was being abused. I wanted him to be protected, too."

Gija says he might take the matter further by engaging the police to get the stamp because by now it could be operating 24/7 and probably running out of ink dishing out authority to both deserving and non deserving individuals as it is being reported.

More protection for national protected areas

By Sicelo Maziva

Government is putting into effect stringent controls to protect the country's national protected areas from ongoing degradation.

It has established a Strengthening National Protected Area system (SNPAS) Project Management Unit that is based at the National Trust Commission headquarters. Ministry of Tourism's Communications Officer Baphelele Dlamini confirmed the existence stating that the unit is the implementing partner and activities being implemented are done on Protected Worthy Areas that were surveyed in 2001.

She further shared that "areas currently the project is working on are lumped into clusters, namely; Malolotja, Ngwempisi and Lubombo, the main focus is on priority areas that were mapped by the 2001 survey".

The goal of the SNPAS project is to expand and strengthen the effectiveness of the Protected Area (PA) system of Eswatini. The project is said to be implemented to ensure that the country's full range of natural ecosystems is conserved through a network of strategically-located, ecologically-representative, well-managed and socially-inclusive PAs.

"The project adopts a landscape approach that allows a broad range of stakeholders (in the State, private sector and communities) to work together to manage biodiversity more effectively, and benefit from doing so," according to the project document.

Dlamini further shared that the project being implemented is facing threats that range from poaching for wild game, over harvesting of fauna and flora for medicinal use, poor or ineffective land use planning where settlements are encroaching pristine ecosystems protected by Law.

Dlamini hailed the project, saying it adopts a landscape approach that allows a broad range of stakeholders in the state, private sector and communities to work together to manage biodiversity more effectively and benefit from doing so.

The project is organised under three components 1: Biodiversity knowledge platform operationalised at the national and regional level to address current and emerging threats to PAs and biodiversity conservation.

Component 2: Landscape approach operationalised and leads to expansion of PA network. Component 3: PA system strengthened through improved conservation management and operational effectiveness, with delivery of community benefits. Social and environmental sustainability are cornerstones of human development and poverty reduction.

Dlamini shared that "none protection of wetlands is one threat,

where the project has fenced off the wetlands to keep away human and livestock interference water volumes have visible increased for the community to utilise. Also, wetland flora has grown well such that women in communities involved in handicraft are now making a living out of it."

She further said protected areas like nature reserves hired most people from the surrounding communities and when there were funds they supported infrastructural developments like boreholes, schools etc.

Under Component 3 of the project, one of the intended goals is to develop/upgrade appropriate eco-tourism-related infrastructure and associated ecotourism products, with the purpose of strengthening the operational effectiveness and economic viability of protected areas and enabling sustainable conservation-based livelihoods for local communities.

The project document further states that in the Ngwempisi Landscape Cluster, one of the three in which the project is active, committed to invest in upgrades to an existing community-managed overnight accommodation facility for hikers at a site known as Khelekhele, Velezizweni Chiefdom.

There is a commitment on the project that upgrades and repairs at Khopho Rock Lodge, a community-managed ecotourism facility in Velezizweni Chiefdom, establish new facilities for overnight accommodation for hikers at Ntfulungula Mountain, in Luzelweni Chiefdom. The project further envisaged facilities that would include chalets, an office and common room.

In addition, the project intends to upgrade conservation status of landscapes in Lubombo, Mololoja and Ngwempisi clusters while at the same time implement alternative livelihood restoration activities.

The project undertaken looks at how the implementing agency will address Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management, Climate Change Mitigation. There is also a call for Adaptation, Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions, Cultural Heritage, any potential Displacement and Resettlement, Indigenous Peoples issues and Pollution.

The projects further call for the prevention and resource efficiency and specific contribution of the infrastructure to conservation status of related landscapes and promotion of sustainable livelihoods. Also the design must be practicable viable and alternatives for remediation of identified impacts as well as suggestions for future development of community-based ecotourism products and facilities that are in-line with delivery of agreed SNPAS outcomes.



The HMCS Lutsango wowed the crowd as they showed their amazing dancing skills in front of Their Majesties at Buhleni Royal Residence on Saturday.

LAMAKHOSINI LEADS HMCS LUTSANGO, DELIVERS THE BEST

His Majesty's Correctional Services Lutsango gave a stunning performance last weekend to the amusement of Their Majesties, evidently displaying their utmost best in dancing and compilation of songs they had prepared for the Buganu Festival.

Led by the first ever female Commissioner General LaMakhosini Phindile Dlamini, the jubilant regiment delivered Buganu, and gifts to Their Majesties on Friday.

On the main day, the ecstatic Lutsango was a marvel to watch as they were flaunting their creative combination of dance and song, electrifying the arena and bringing it to a standstill.

Addressing the regiment, Dlamini expressed gratitude to the Lutsango for their outstanding performance and applauded them for the loyalty and respect they



Cultural activities overseer Futhi Mhlanga (3rd L) posing with Nomvula Nxumalo, Nompumelelo Fakudze and Leni Shongwe.

have portrayed to Their Majesties and the King's command. She further encouraged the regiment to give their best during the second instalment of the Buganu

Festival slated for Hlane Royal Residence next weekend. The department's Lutsango is ecstatic and looking forward to unleashing the best in the upcoming event.

WELE WELE WELE! The ComGen showing off her dancing skills



PHEZU KOMKHONO: Dlamini leading Lutsango to deliver gifts to Their Majesties.



ENTRANCE: HMCS Lutsango making a grand entrance to the arena on the main day.



COLOURFUL: HMCS Lutsango posing for the lenses.



CULTURAL BEAUTIES: Lutsango members posing for the camera.



YEBO: HMCS's Mabhesu Dlamini in high spirits as she dances in front of the regiment.



WASHA WENA: Lutsango showcasing their dancing skills.



TETFULO: Commissioner General Phindile LaMakhosini Dlamini leading Lutsango to deliver Buganu at Buhleni Royal Residence on Friday.

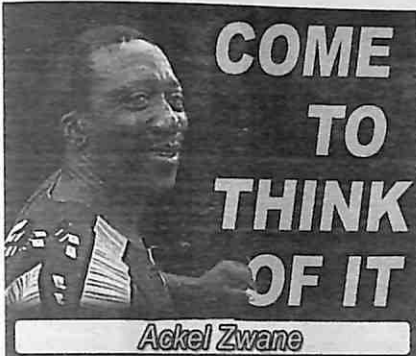
OBSERVER ON SATURDAY COLUMNS & OPINIONS

INSIDE:

'Ageing gracefully with a proper diet' P.25

Protective and risk factors of mental health P.23

Children and diabetes in school P.22



Ackel Zwane
Saturday Observer Editor

SEX WORKERS HAVE BILLS TO PAY, TOO



Beyond these borders it is not taboo for a sex worker to join the queue at the government revenue offices to pay for her prostitution licence or else risk being kicked out of her gainful employment.

Similarly local commercial sex workers announced last week that they were already implanting their own cost of living adjustments on the clients.

They have pushed the price per bout in line with the market forces, those of demand and supply. Recently, privately conducted market research revealed that clients suddenly found themselves having to choose between a few rounds of beer at the tavern or a single stroke visit to the hooker's corner, not both in a single weekend.

While commercial sex work remains illegal in Eswatini, elsewhere on the continent it is one major income earner for the state and such money finds itself into the most crucial of government coffers such as the purchase of drugs in public hospitals or the financing of free primary education.

Currency

This is because hard currency is just that, hard currency, whether you choose to call it blood money, at some instances, it still remains the much needed purchasing power. Most of our prostitutes generate the hard currency from the scores or so tourists that come to purchase the precious commodity before sneaking out to leave behind similar fortunes with our neighbours with their plush beaches.

Now that commercial sex workers are organised they are rallying their own to defend their rights, after all it is their very own product that is being consumed by the roadside and nobody else's.

This is the organisation, just like any other be it labour or humanitarian that seeks to protect the interest of the sex worker.

In the more advanced countries such organisations are even eligible for state funding.

Surely they would welcome any subvention for hospitalisation of members abused or attacked while in the line of duty. It might not be very long before they are registered for subvention even at the consortium CANGO where they will be paying full subscription only that this time they remain illegal in government thinking. This is despite

that research will show that they already provide such an essential service that not just lawmakers/enforcers enjoy but also men of the cloth, as it has been widely reported.

They may be illegal in some quarters such as the police but they are fully recognised in others and with full representation such as in the key affected populations (KAP) assisted by the Country Coordinating Mechanism that also sympathises with drug injectors, *tingwazi*, ex convicts, the works.

The story of the Department of Justice in the United States that dished out USD500 000 to Hookers for Jesus and another organisation on Tuesday has attracted interest worldwide especially because this is perceived to be a prostitutes' organisation.

However, Hookers for Jesus is an actual Christian group founded by former sex worker and sex-trafficking victim Lobert in 2007.

Lobert's mission is to save prostitutes; to save them from the streets and, if possible, bring them to church and to God.

A one-time escort, Lobert now enlists other ex-prostitutes and volunteers from a local church to reach out to working girls on the street, in the casinos, even over the Internet.

It operates Destiny House, a one-year safehouse programme for sex-trafficking victims and women who want to leave sex

work, as well as a number of other outreach programmes, Newsweek reports.

It is alleged that guests under the safe-house programme are forced to attend church services and cannot read any "of those crazy magazines that push the Devil's work, secular magazines that might include makeup tips or advice on clothing or sex."

Homosexuals

Everyone is welcomed at Hookers for Jesus except homosexuals, who the group reportedly finds immoral. So basically, magazines with makeup tutorials and homosexuals are banned from Hookers for Jesus.

Not only is the programme poorly named and completely off its goddamn rocker, Newsweek notes that the group's policies could "violate federal anti-discrimination laws."

But maybe Voice of Our Voices, the local sex workers' organisation is not about quitting or helping others exit the industry, it is about how to survive in the sex trade. Hooker for Jesus is an organisation born in Sin City itself, Las Vegas.

In 2018 sex workers told a October 30 Sex Workers National Indaba that four in 10 sex workers in Eswatini were raped by uniformed police officers.

They were also raped by soldiers and security officers.

The data was actually made available by National Key Populations and Vulnerable Groups Officer Khanyisile Lukhele from the Swaziland National AIDS Programme (SNAP) who also said 44 per cent of those who were raped were afraid to report the attack for fear of being stigmatised, it was reported.

She said half the sex workers who took part in a survey said they were refused police protection and some had been blackmailed and physically harassed. The sex workers said they do not get any police protection and every time they are attacked and call the police they are simply told to go to sleep.

It is not certain whether this data has been put to the test but it is sufficient if it comes from the sex workers themselves who have everything to lose by keeping quiet but nothing to lose if they speak out.

The central problem is that prostitution remains illegal in Eswatini and any attempt to legalise it as is the campaign by the Voices of Our Voices, is generally received with rebuff because of the strong Christian and cultural values held by people of Eswatini.

Prostitution

There has never been any national forum to discuss prostitution except by those who practice it. Similarly LGBTI has been met with similar resistance when they tried to register their association. [Prostitution in Eswatini is illegal, the anti-prostitution laws dating back to 1889, when the country Eswatini was a protectorate of South Africa.]

Law enforcement is inconsistent, particularly near industrial sites and military bases. Police tend to turn a blind eye to prostitution in clubs - wikipedia]

A pro prostitution movement is in motion we can only wait and see whether it gains velocity but it will not be until a very long time that people of this country will embrace them in the safe way is sex work as rampant in places like Down River Road in Kenya.

In 2018 sex workers told a October 30 Sex Workers National Indaba that four in 10 sex workers in Eswatini were raped by uniformed police officers. They were also raped by soldiers and security officers.



Dealing with Diabetes

WITH: Nomalungelo Ginindza

Diabetes
Eswatini PR

QUOTE

I do not love to work out, but if I stick to exercising every day and put the right things in my mouth, then my diabetes just stays in check.

- Halle Berry

Columns & Opinion

FOR CORRESPONDENCE, CONTACT;
e-mail us on: diabetesswaziland@gmail.com
CELL: 7607 1889 TEL: 2505 3487

It's another beautiful Saturday, I hope you enjoyed your Valentine's Day, exercising and eating healthy was part of your enjoyment. This month will be focusing on this topic; children and diabetes in school, diabetes control and food tips.

Children and Diabetes in Schools project aims to foster a supportive school environment that creates a better understanding of diabetes that is why the organisation will be engaging a campaign called **KNOW YOUR NUMBERS**, is a campaign of visiting the different schools in the country, from the month of March. Education and screening will be part of the campaign.

The children's **information pack** is divided into sections for teachers, parents of children with diabetes, parents generally and children with diabetes. Type 1 diabetes is a complex condition that can pose many problems and can make school life more difficult.

Although many schools provide good care for children with the condition, we know that this isn't always the case. When children, parents, healthcare professionals and schools work together any difficulties can be overcome.

For a pupil using insulin hormone that helps the body use glucose for energy. The beta cells of the pancreas make insulin. When the body cannot make enough insulin, it is taken by injection or through use of an insulin, diabetes must be managed 24/7, including the many hours spent at school, on field trips and in extra-curricular activities.

Some families can send their child with diabetes to school in the morning and feel confident that the school will be prepared to provide the diabetes care that meets their child's needs.

Other families worry that their child won't have access to good diabetes management, that their child will be excluded from activities or have to take an exam when blood glucose the main sugar found in the blood and the body's main source of energy, also called blood sugar levels are plummeting.

Managing Diabetes at School

A person with diabetes must manage this chronic illness all the time, including during the school day. Staff such as nurses, teachers, and coaches can work with you and your child on managing diabetes. This assistance may include helping your child take medications, check blood sugar levels, choose healthy foods in the cafeteria, and be physically active.

These key tips can help your child get ready for the first day of school and for the rest of the school year.

Create a diabetes management plan with the school

- Meet with staff early in the school year to learn more about how the school helps pupils care for diabetes and handles any diabetes-related emergencies.
- Work with your child's doctor and school staff to create a Diabetes Medical Management Plan. Having a plan helps your child and school workers manage diabetes in school and during extracurricular activities such as field trips or sports.
- Give the school staff a list of contacts for your child, including physicians and emergency contacts.

Check for necessary diabetes supplies

Your child needs access to supplies to manage diabetes and to treat any episodes of high or low blood sugar. Work with your child to create a care package to carry in his or her backpack. Supplies include:

- Blood glucose meter, testing strips, lancets, and extra batteries for the meter.
- Ketone testing supplies.
- Insulin and syringes/pens.



- Antiseptic wipes.
- Water.
- For children who wear an insulin pump, back-up insulin and syringes/pens in case of pump failure, glucose tablets or other fast-acting glucose snacks (a carbohydrate that will raise blood glucose levels relatively quickly when eaten).

Make sure your child can manage diabetes at a level right for his or her age

- If your child is going to monitor his or her blood sugar, ensure that he or she feels comfortable doing so.
- If a trained school employee will do the monitoring, be sure your child knows where and when to go for testing.
- Make sure your child knows who to go to for help with high or low blood sugar episodes.

Encourage your child to eat healthy foods

- Prepare a healthy breakfast, which will help your child stay focused and active.
- If you send a lunch with your child, pack a healthy meal that contains whole grains and fresh fruits and vegetables. Replace high-fat foods with low-fat options, such as low-fat turkey, reduced-fat cheese, and skim milk. Include healthy snacks, such as fruit, nuts or seeds, which your child can eat later in the day to avoid the vending machine and keep blood sugar under control.
- If your child buys meals at school, look at the cafeteria menus together to help him or her make choices that fit into a healthy meal plan. Many schools post their menus online, or you can request this information from school workers.

Be sure your child gets at least 60 minutes of physical activity every day

- Having diabetes doesn't mean that your child can't be physically active or participate in physical education classes. In fact, being active can help your child improve his or her blood sugar control.
- Encourage your child by being active together—doing such things as walking the dog, riding bicycles or playing basketball—and you will get the health benefits too.

Help prevent sick days

- Check to be sure your child has had all recommended

vaccinations, including the flu shot. If children with diabetes get sick, they can take longer to recover than children without diabetes. Talk to your child's doctor to see if your child needs any vaccinations before starting the school year.

- Also, encourage your child to wash his or her hands regularly, especially before eating and after using the bathroom.

Diabetes doesn't have to get in the way of your child's good experience at school. Remember, parents and schools have the same goal: to ensure that pupils with diabetes are safe and that they're able to learn in a supportive environment. Make sure school staff have the information and resources they need for your child's safety and health. Help prepare your child to manage diabetes when he or she returns to school.

Schools might be prepared to deal with children with diabetes, but parents also should be part of the process. This usually means gathering the information that the school needs, making sure that it gets to the right people, and meeting with school officials to discuss their plans. You'll also need to prepare your child to manage diabetes away from home.

It may sound complicated, but your child's diabetes health care team can help. And school administrators and nurses often have experience in helping kids with diabetes participate safely and successfully at school.

Working With the School

Most of the things you need to care for your child at home are needed at school, including a specific diabetes management plan, diabetes medications, and testing supplies.

At school, children might need to:

- check their blood sugar levels
- take insulin or other diabetes medications
- eat snacks when necessary
- eat lunch at a certain time, with plenty of time to finish
- have easy access to water and time to take bathroom breaks
- get physical activity and participate in school events like field trips
- recognise and get treatment for low blood sugar episodes

Diabetes management materials that need to go to school might include:

- medications
- testing supplies
- snacks
- a medical identification bracelet or necklace

You might arrange these items into packages for teachers, the school nurse, coaches, your child, and others.

The American Diabetes Association (ADA) recommends giving the school a packet with general diabetes information, including how to recognize and treat hyperglycemia and hypoglycemia, in addition to the management plan. Also include emergency contact information for you and other caregivers, your child's doctor, and other members of the diabetes health care team.

Communicating With Educators

The school staff should be made aware of your child's diagnosis and current health status. It's also good to clarify:

- your responsibilities
- the school's responsibilities
- any accommodations that the school might need to make

To keep the school staff informed, consider reviewing your child's diabetes management plan with the school annually — or whenever it is updated or changed.

You might also want to meet with school staff, such as the principal, your child's teachers (including the gym teacher), the school nurse, and any coaches. They will tell you if they need anything else from you. Be sure to ask about their experience and preparedness for dealing with diabetes. Ask questions and let them know if you feel they need to learn more. For example, a staff member who seems unfamiliar with diabetes or is anxious about dealing with it might be too restrictive or make children with diabetes feel different. You want to build an open exchange with the staff and meet or talk with them regularly to ensure a healthy educational.

Preparing Your Child

Parents often feel nervous about sending a child with diabetes off to school. It's important to educate children about diabetes without passing along feelings of fear or nervousness. Children should understand how to monitor and treat the disease at a level appropriate to their age and development.

Children need close supervision at school, but they also need to feel that they fit in with their peers. By preparing both the school and your child, you can ease your fears and help your child feel confident.

While at school, children with diabetes should:

- know whom to contact for help, such as a teacher, nurse, or coach
 - know how to handle lunchtime and other eating situations
 - have all the supplies and snacks needed to manage diabetes easily
- Tell your child to inform you about any issues related to diabetes management at school, and be sure you regularly ask how things are going. Organising your child and the school seems like a big project at first, but your child's doctor and school staff are there to help.

Lifestyle

Entertainment



Love
LIVES
HERE

PAGE 4 & 5



WRITER'S NOTE

WITH NOKWANDA SIBANDZE

Don't you just love, love

Well we here at Lifestyle and Entertainment certainly do and since it is Valentine's Day we want to celebrate love.

So let's get into it. This week on page 2-3 we give you a trend that we are sure will make you look stylish.

Tribal braids are the in thing. For men as well, it is very important to be trendy. There are many styles of tribal braids hairstyles for you to try. There are braids to suit every style, from ponytails to buns, and even braids with vibrant colours. The only problem you will have by the end is deciding on which braided look to try.

On LNE Guide we give you the low down on how to bleach or blonde your hair without damaging it. With most people going blond and bleaching their hair, we thought it would be best to give you tips and tricks on how to dye your hair without damaging it.

On Young and Upcoming, we have a young female plus size model that is passionate about the art.

Nomcebo Sphumelele Ndlangamandla is a 21 year old plus size model who is also currently doing her second year in Diploma in Education at Bradford University College in Manzini. According to her growing up she loved modelling, but watching TV and reading magazines about what the media portrayed as an ideal model wasn't what she saw every time she looked in the mirror.

Read through and get to know her better.

On page 4-5, we talk to the couple that won Eswatini's hearts with their love story. Sicelo and Smilwesinhle Ndlandla are the perfect Valentine's story for Eswatini.

They met in church and the friendzone did not keep Sicelo from pursuing Smilwesinhle and today they have been married for 13 months.

The winners of #mylovestory have a beautiful love story that got the entire Eswatini crazy about love. Sicelo and Smilwesinhle Ndlandla surely inspire many married and unmarried couples all over the kingdom.

Read through and get to know how they made it so far.

We hope you read and enjoy this issue and most importantly we hope you get inspired.

Enjoy your day and to you and your loved ones

Happy Valentine's Day

YOUNG & UPCOMING

BEAUTY WITH NO LIMITS

BY SETSABILE NKAMBULE

For the longest time to be in the fashion and modelling industry one had to be tall and slim. As the years went by the beauty industry introduced diversity in beauty and the different body types.

In today's young and upcoming we get to read about one of Eswatini's few plus size model Nomcebo Sphumelele Ndlangamandla. Ndlangamandla is a 21 year old plus size model who is also currently doing her second year in Diploma in Education at Bradford University College in Manzini.

According to her growing up she loved modelling, but watching TV and reading magazines about what the media portrayed as an ideal model wasn't what she saw every time she looked in the mirror.

"I fell in love with fashion and design at a very tender age in a sense that I'd lock myself up in granny's room and make clothes for my dolls. I enjoyed watching fashion shows on TV and

wished to be a model one of the good days. Looking at my body size I was demotivated, since we all grew up in a society that believed modelling was only for those that were tall and slender," she says.

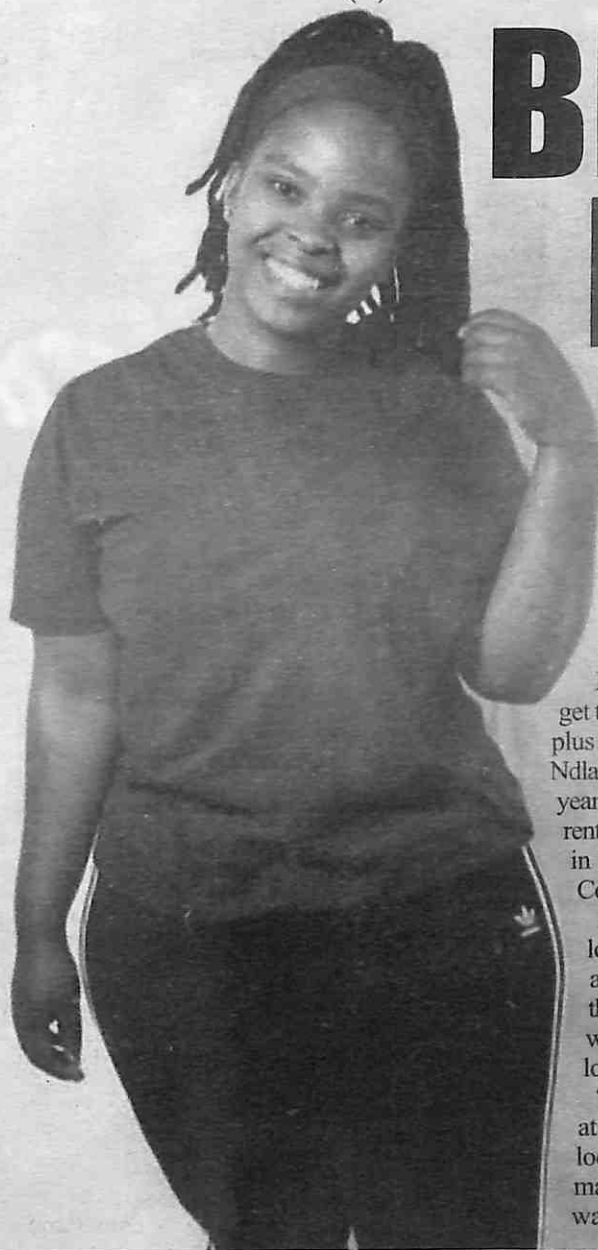
With the help of her great mother who taught her to accept and love herself, she slowly grew up to love herself and appreciate the kind of Body's she has. She was able not to let the media define the definition of a true model. Ndlangamandla says it was then that she decided to turn a blind eye on all opposing factors and go for her dreams.

"I love my body very much and I knew I wanted to be an example to people who looked up to me that having a little bit of meat here and there isn't a problem," she says.

While paving her way into the fashion and beauty Ndlangamandla has met some challenges. Although she loves her body the model says she has had a number of instances where people had negative comments about her body. She also says things like being seen in the gym raises comments from people.

Most people tend to think that because she is in the gym, she does not like her body or she's uncomfortable and insecure about herself.

"Some people think that plus size models do sports because they want to lose weight. Which



Try the trend

By Nokwanda Sibandze

If you are in need of a new hairstyle, tribal braids are the new in thing. Braids are not just a style; this craft is a form of art. Braiding started in Africa with the Himba people of Namibia.

There are many styles of tribal braids hairstyles for you to try. There are braids to suit every style, from ponytails to buns, and even braids with vibrant colours. The only problem you will have by the end is deciding on which braided look to try.

Here are a few

1. Tribal Braids into a Bun Updo

The first hairstyle we have to show you is this beautiful braided bun.

This bun sits high on the head with loose braids at the sides and braid cuffs. Braided buns like this are gorgeous and would be perfect for occasions where you want to look elegant and glam.

2. Vibrant Tribal Braids

Next, we have vibrant tribal braids.

The braids are styled into a ponytail and are bold pink.

We love this hairstyle and it is perfect for the

TRIBAL BRAIDS



ladies who want a bold new look. You can recreate these braids or even try a different vivid shade.

3. Tribal Feed in Braids with Cords

You can make the simplest of braids look trendy and unique by using hair accessories. These feed in braids are jazzed up with cords and braid cuffs.

You can use different color cords like the ones featured or just use one.

A sleek and stylish hairstyle like this will suit



everyone.

4. Tribal Braids with Beads

While we are on the subject of hair accessories, you need to check out these tribal braids with beads.

The medium length braids are adorned with lots of beads in different shapes and colours. There are also some shells added too.

Beads are an easy way to update your braids. The more different shapes, colours, and styles you add to your braids, the better they will look.



is not always the case. I mean, how wrong is it for a person to have a bit of fun and keep healthy at the same time," she says.

2020 looks great for ndlangamandla as she has recently joined the TME Modelling Agency and had her first show at Dinani under Ndzingeni Inkhundla for the new launched Modeling Academy Ndzingeni Modeling Academy. She has also been booked for a show which will take place in Sandton at the end of March.

"I'm blessed to have been working with the agency I work with as it is known for its great work both locally and internationally helping people like Eswatini's very own Snowee.

My target is to do more and get into acting be seen on TV adverts, billboards and magazines showcasing plus size garments," she says. She also wants to render a helping hand to people who would need it.

"Plans for my career this year are none other than charity work. I have a very soft spot for children and grandmothers. I would be happy to see more plus size models joining the industry. My words of inspiration to them would be that being chubby is not a disability neither is it a disease so there's absolutely no way it could hinder you from rocking your body," she says.

Through her career in modelling she wants to help boost plus size women's self esteem by portraying beauty in it.

She says that she wants them to learn to accept, love and embrace their bodies and know that they are beautiful.

5. Tribal Braids with a Stunning Intricate Pattern

Our next idea features tribal braids with an intricate braided pattern. The braids almost look like a heart with a braid in the centre. Braids like these are perfect for anyone who wants to express their individual style. Recreate a pattern like this or come up with your own.

6. Beautiful Blonde Braids

You can add any color you like to braids. One of the most popular colors is blonde, and with hairstyles like the one featured below, we can see why. Here we have braids that have different shades of blonde running through them. This is a beautiful hair idea that will suit everyone. It is perfect for bringing a summery vibe to your look all year round.

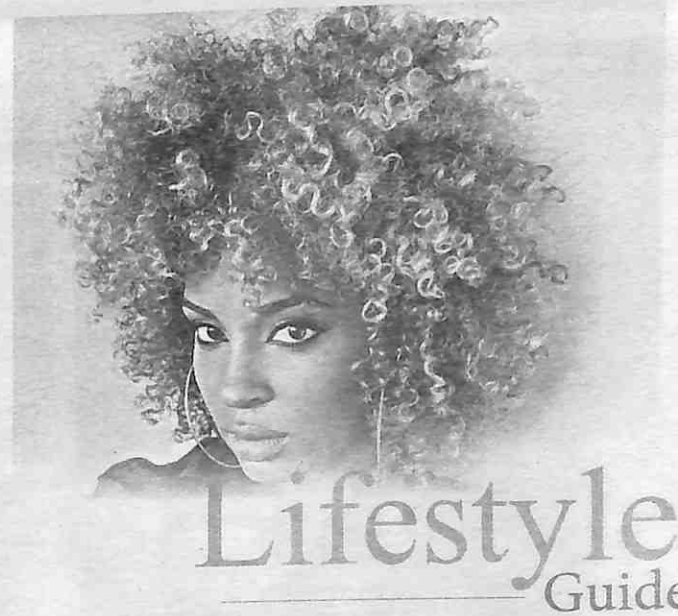
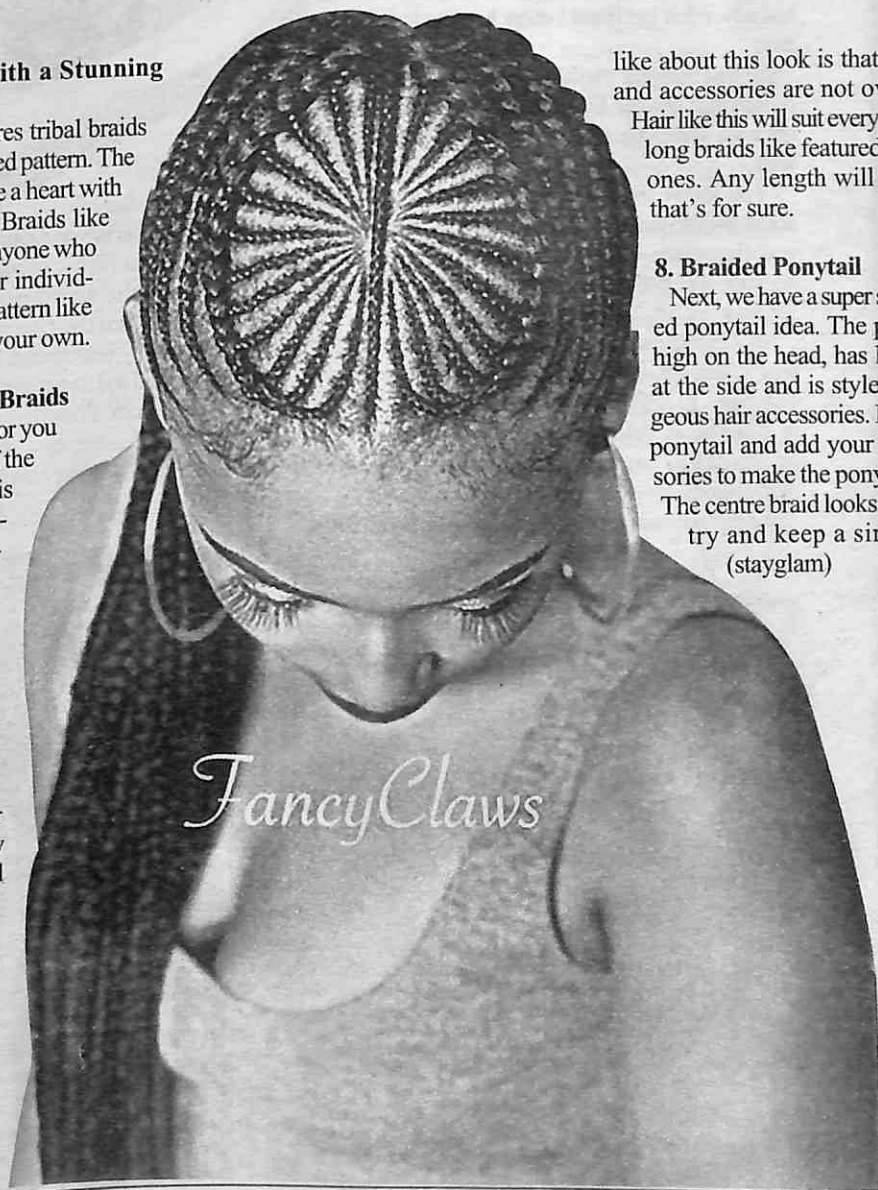
7. Tribal Braids with Beads and Cuffs

If you are looking for trendy braids, then this hair idea is for you. Here we have tribal braids with cuffs and beads. What we

like about this look is that the pattern and accessories are not over the top. Hair like this will suit everyone. Choose long braids like featured or try short ones. Any length will look great, that's for sure.

8. Braided Ponytail

Next, we have a super stylish braided ponytail idea. The ponytail sits high on the head, has loose braids at the side and is styled with gorgeous hair accessories. Recreate the ponytail and add your own accessories to make the ponytail unique. The centre braid looks beautiful so try and keep a similar look. (stayglam)



How to go blonde without damaging hair

With most people going blond and bleaching their hair, we thought it would be best to give you tips and tricks on how to dye your hair without damaging it.

Of course, when you're bleaching natural hair, there is a bit of prep work involved. Discuss with your colourist if a treatment and cutting your ends are necessary. First do a trim so the ends are not susceptible to damage.

It's important to mention that when bleaching natural hair, your curl pattern may be altered a bit, as it may take a few tries to get the desired shade. Permanent colour and bleach can cause your natural hair to lose elasticity, [and make] your curls and kinks slightly looser/straighter.

this can take up to a year to go platinum (the healthier way). But if you're short on time and can't wait to sport the colour, there's a quicker fix.

3. FIND YOUR LIGHT

There is not one way to go blonde, so give yourself time to find the shade that works for you.

4. BE PATIENT WITH THE PROCESS

Don't expect to get from level 1, which is jet black or super dark brown, to platinum in one day. (And if a hairstylist says they can, run.) Rushing to go platinum will blow out your hair shaft, which is damaging to any hair type — but especially dangerous for those with natural hair since it can affect your curl pattern.

1. PICK A COLOURIST WHO VALUES YOUR HAIR

It's critical to find a stylist who understands the value our hair plays in our lives.

Not only one that will provide you with the scientific breakdown as to how you should treat your hair, but also one that constantly affirms that your natural hair is beautiful, easy to work with, and capable of just about anything.

2. STOP CHEMICAL PROCESSING

The healthiest way to go white blonde is to lighten your tresses is over a number of sessions; depending on your hair colour,

5. MAINTENANCE IS KEY

How you treat your hair between salon visits is key to maintaining healthy and resilient blonde hair.

6. STAY TRIM

Bleaching your hair weakens it and causes dryness, so it's important to get regular trims as your hair grows out.

7. BE GENTLE

How you sleep at night is also an important factor in maintaining your hair health.



COVER ISSUE 265

LOVE LIVES

By Nokwanda Sibandze

One Sunday afternoon after youth choir practice Smilwesihle found a group of people complaining about increased camp prices and scolding Sicelo. It was her first day at the youth choir practice and so she did not know him but she joined in and added a few words.

Little did they know that they would become best friends the following year (2016). That whole year everyone around her thought they were dating.

Smilwesihle had no intentions whatsoever; and to her Sicelo was just a friend. Later that same year they went for mid-year rally and there was a mountain hike at Mahamba Gorge where she almost broke her leg, but the good friend that he was, Sicelo held her hand for the first time and up until that day, Smilwesihle had never felt her heart betray her like it did that day.

She had thought she had been in love before but on that day, she felt like it was her first time, worse off with someone who she was in a friend zone with.

"You know that guy that tells you everything about his life, but kinda comes on campus to bring you chocolates every once in a while guys I had no hope so I had to let that friendship thing go on for another while."

2017 came and she was getting used to being single and all, but secretly praying for love on February 11 2017 Sicelo Ndlandla came to say hi at her hood, but of course she was used to it but on this day he came to ask for them to be more than friends.

She did not want to ruin her friendship with him;

it was the only thing that made sense in her life. I don't remember when it happened but I saved his number as "Bae" on my phone.. And the weird part of it was nothing changed between the two of us, in my head he was still just my best friend. Until the first of July when he asked me to get my friends and we went to Bourkes Luck Potholes in Mpumalanga and he went on one knee and asked me to spend the rest of my days loving him."



HERE

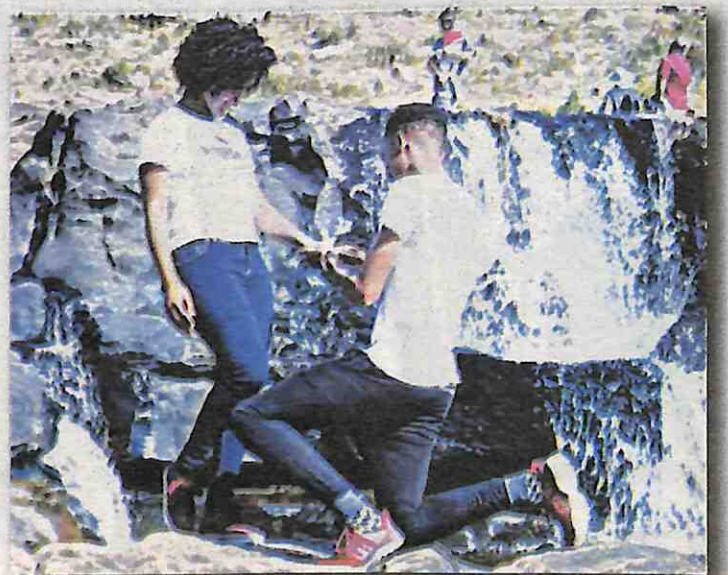
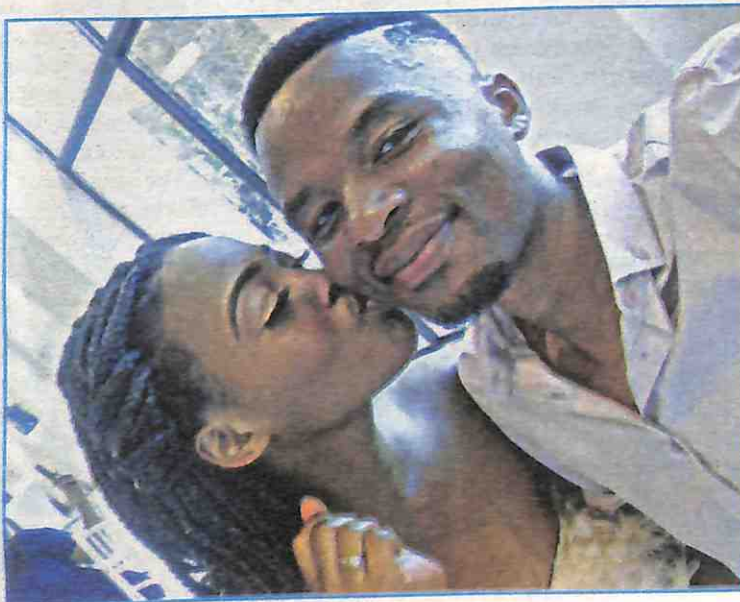
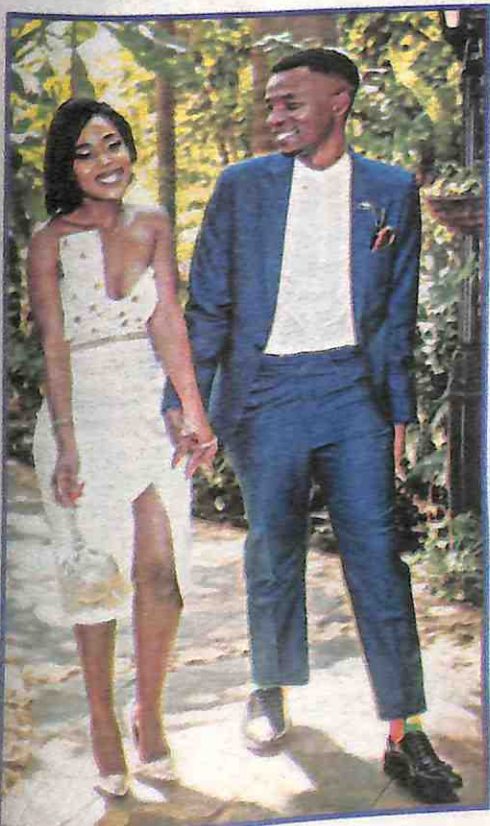


The winners of #mylovestory have a beautiful love story that got the entire Eswatini crazy about love.

Sicelo and Smilwesihle Ndlanla surely inspire many married and unmarried couples all over the kingdom.

Speaking to the couple, you could see the love they have for each other. They also admit to sharing many values which keep their relationship strong.

After over a hundred entries the couple won



LET'S TAKE YOU BACK

...How they met

and walked away with a two night's luxury accommodation for the winning couple, dinner, bed and breakfast sponsored by Happy Valley Hotel; return flight tickets from King Mswati III International Airport to JHB International Airport for the couple sponsored by Eswatini Airlink; half day spa treatment for the couple at Camelot Spa; two cell-phones (Samsung A50) by MTN Eswatini; and lunch sponsored Royal Swazi SPA.

The couple says are excited about their prizes. "We are grateful to everyone who took their time and money to vote for us."

They say joining the campaign helped them work together as a team. "I think it has boosted and encouraged us to post most of the things that we do. Above everything we learned that it does not call for much to inspire the next person, what we considered as nothing inspired a lot of people and we are grateful for that," Smilwesihle said. "I think over time we all grow and evolve even though that doesn't necessarily mean that we change the values that we hold on tightly to. The most important values that we share is our faith, our love for community service, long walks, nature and food," says Smilwesihle.

The two have been married for 13 months and they say having a friendship also helps keep their relationship strong.

Now that they live together, the two say they have many ways of showing the love they have for each other. "Doing most of our chores together; it could be grocery shopping, cooking cleaning, or washing the cars. What actually matters is being there for one another every single day, sometimes over the phone and most days physically. A day never goes by without a call from *bae*, we'd be calling just to say "when I get to the house *ubotsi indzaba* so I can tell you *lendzaba*" and proceed with our office routine. Telling each other everything builds a relationship to utmost extremes." With every relationship come struggles. The two also have their own way to handle fights. "Honestly no fight is better than the next. We could be arguing about the bathroom sink or financials, but we've learnt to colour inside the lines and express our own feelings in every argument. Its true arguments strengthen relationships, but it is also true that arguments could kill a relationship. So take note of the way you argue." Simile says the one thing she likes about her partner is that he lets her be herself.

"This reminds me of our pre-wedding coun-

selling sessions, we were asked to write 20 things that we like about each other. I love the way he looks at me, how he lets me be my crazy self, how he has all of a sudden become the only person I open up because he actually listens to me. Okay wait, I think above all these things I love our friendship."

Sicelo on the other hand says Simile' love for nature gets to him.

"She has helped me discover the beauty of creation. She wants to achieve more academically, so I like the challenge she brings into the family that we should work hard. She is the best storyteller and cook."

They always give each good advice. "No person deserves to be made to feel like they are not trying enough, you know what your partner can or cannot give to you especially monetary things. Learn to understand their situation and that alone will make you happier."

The two also gave other couples based on what they have learned, "Pray! Go for a long drive, and eat some good food. There is something amazing about being alone in nature and coming home for a long cuddle and you know what next. This has been our secret reconnection remedy since forever."

Lifestyle

Celebville

Siya Kolisi crushes on Trevor Noah

'KNOWING YOUR JOURNEYMAKES ME PROUD TO CALL YOU OUR OWN'

The charity Match in Africa yesterday has left Springbok captain Siya Kolisi in a reflective mood.

On Wednesday, he shared a picture of himself and Trevor Noah, with a heartfelt tribute, congratulating the South African comedian on his achievements.

The two met at the Cape Town match, where Noah played with tennis champion Rafael Nadal against Roger Federer and billionaire businessman Bill Gates.

Before the game, Kolisi gifted Federer with a Springbok jersey, but meeting Noah must have been his greatest highlight.

"Trevor Noah, you are a true inspiration to South Africans, you fly the flag for the country and we are all forever proud to call you one of our own," he said. *Times Live*



'WE ARE EXTREMELY BLESSED'

(ROLENE)

Former Miss World Rolene Strauss and her husband, D'Niel Strauss, have welcomed their second child, a boy.

Rolene announced the good news in an Instagram post on Wednesday.

She said their little one was born late on Monday and weighed 4.4kg.

Posting a snap of the newborn holding his brother Charl's finger, Rolene promised the little guy he would always have a big brother to guide him through life.

"Welcome, Little Love. We are so grateful to welcome you to our little family of officially four. Your big



brother is ready to hold your hand on this journey called life."

Rolene said her family was overjoyed at the new arrival and loving all

the cuddles they were getting.

"We are extremely blessed to both be healthy, happy and enjoying endless cuddles," she said. *Sowetan*

Lil Nas X Applauds Dwyane Wade, Gabrielle Union For Supporting Zaya

Lil Nas X is applauding Dwyane Wade and Gabrielle Union for supporting their 12-year-old kid who is now identifying as female and he's also got some advice for Zaya.

The "Old Town Road" singer, who came out last year, weighed in on Zaya's big announcement Wednesday at LAX explaining why it's important for children to have parents in their corner when they reveal their truth.

As you know the NBA legend appeared on 'The Ellen Show' Tuesday and told the

world his child identifies as a female after being born male.

Dwyane and Gabrielle are being super supportive of Zaya coming out as transgender, and their oldest son, Zaire, also says he'll always have his sibling's back and Lil Nas X says the family backing is super important for anyone in Zaya's shoes.

Disagree

Zaya's also spoken out against folks who may disagree with her announcement saying, "What's the point of being on this earth if you're gonna try to be someone you're not? It's like you're not even living as yourself, which is like the dumbest concept to me."

TMZ

IT'S A BIG TASK

AKA has addressed fans who have been left disappointed by his decision to postpone the much-awaited Fees Must Fall concert.

Supa Mega this week again confirmed that the concert - meant to take place this Saturday at the Ticketpro Dome in Johannesburg - was no longer taking place.

The non-profit event is set to raise funds for students to further their studies.

In a tweet, AKA explained that the concert had been postponed to later in the year.

"#FeesMustFallMegaConcert has been postponed to later in the year. Apologies for any inconvenience caused."

He reassured his fans that the concert would still take place.

"We still gonna do #FeesMustFallMegaConcert this year for sure. We gotta do it proper. And do it BIG. These things happen *shrug*"

AKA first announced the postponement of the concert in an interview on Metro FM's afternoon drive a few weeks back, saying they needed more time to make sure they had the appropriate structures in place.

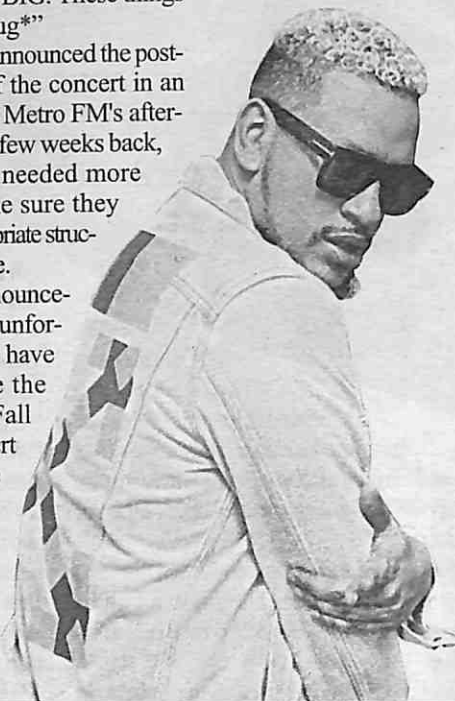
"So the announcement is that unfortunately, we have to postpone the Fees Must Fall Mega Concert and we've pushed that to the middle of the year. But we are very much

dedicated to the cause and also it gives us just a little bit of time you know ...

"When I decided that I wanted to do this I didn't actually realise how much of a big undertaking that will be. You know I never do things in half measures. I want this to be something that's bigger than charity. I want this to be a spectacle and when it happens guys will be saying 'wow man!'"

Shortly after the rapper announced the postponement of the concert, social media users took jabs at him. They said he now knows the work that needed to be put into such a concert and his rival Cassper Nyovest, "Mr FillUp", made it all look easy.

They made reference to how Cassper was able to successfully host his annual Fill Up stadium concert series for five consecutive years. *Times Live*



Akon gives update on his city in Senegal

Akon's plan to bring a futuristic city to his childhood country of Senegal is getting closer to coming to fruition, and he's going to show it off soon as a 3D rendering.

The singer was at LAX Wednesday when he gave us an update on "Akon City" which he says is seven years in the making so far, and he's still cutting through the red tape.

Akon confirms what he announced last month he's finalised an agreement for the city and secured the land but adds he's now working on a partnership with the government to

implement tax-free policies and incentives he wants to attract business.

He says he's dead serious about his city resembling Wakanda from "Black Panther" with all the latest and most progressive technology and believes

it's in the perfect geographical location to make it happen.

Akon drops some more facts about West Africa to paint a picture of what Akon City's going to look like and says he'll drop a

YouTube video soon to share his vision.

TMZ



Movie watch



BOMBSHELL

PG-16 | 2h 05min | Biography, Drama
A group of women take on Fox News head Roger Ailes and the toxic atmosphere he presided over at the network.
Director: Jay Roach
Writer: Charles Randolph
Stars: Charlize Theron, Nicole Kidman, Margot Robbie



THE PHOTOGRAPH

PG-13 | 1h 46min | Drama, Romance | 14 February 2020
A series of intertwining love stories set in the past and in the present.
Director: Stella Meghie
Writer: Stella Meghie
Stars: LaKeith Stanfield, Issa Rae, Chelsea Peretti



THE GENTLEMEN

R | 1h 53min | Action, Crime | 24 January 2020
An American expat tries to sell off his highly profitable marijuana empire in London, triggering plots, schemes, bribery and blackmail in an attempt to steal his domain out from under him.
Director: Guy Ritchie
Writers: Guy Ritchie (screenplay by), Guy Ritchie
Stars: Matthew McConaughey, Charlie Hunnam, Michelle Dockery

TV Shows (Series)



SCHITT'S CREEK

5 seasons, 66 episodes

Eugene Levy and Catherine O'Hara star in this Canadian sitcom about a wealthy family forced to scale down their extravagant lifestyle with hilarious results. Levy plays Johnny Rose, a rich video-store magnate who loses his

fortune when his business manager fails to pay his taxes. O'Hara plays his wife, Moira, a former soap opera star who, along with her husband and their two pampered children, must move to a town called Schitt's Creek. Johnny bought the town as a joke when the family had more money than they could spend, but now, the town and its residents serve as a comedic wake-up call for a guy who has problems rooting himself in reality. Levy is brilliant in this thing and it's a damn shame the show is so overlooked by American audiences. Let's change that.



ONE DAY AT A TIME

3 seasons, 39 episodes

A remake of a 1970s sitcom produced by 94-year-old iconic television producer Norman Lear, One Day at a Time manages to not only match its predecessor but miraculously improve upon it. This new version centers on a Cuban America family headed by a single mom

(Justina Machado) raising three children with the help of her mom (Rita Moreno). It's broad jokes and laugh track feels somewhat out of place on the streaming service, but the jokes still land and more importantly, the characters connect in an honest way as they attempt to live on a modest nurse's salary and maintain their Cuban heritage while adapting to modern progressivism (much like Fresh Off the Boat). It's more poignant sitcom than it is funny, but it's a warm, loving look at difficulties of single parenting that resonates as much today as it did in the '70s.

IZOMBIE

5 seasons, 83 episodes

Creator Rob Thomas takes the same formula he applied to Veronica Mars and relocates it to iZombie, a police procedural with a twist. Liv More (Rose McIver) is a zombie who works in a Seattle morgue, where she eats the brains of murder victims. Doing so gives her access to the victims' memories, which allows her to assist police in the investigations of their murders. Meanwhile, as the zombie virus spreads across Seattle, Liv Moore is also searching for a cure while also dealing with a love life complicated by the fact that she is undead. It's a lightweight procedural that, like Veronica Mars, is bookended each season with a serialized arc. The series mostly succeeds, however, on the charms of its cast—Rahul Kohli is a particular standout, while David Anders plays the series' Spike—and the clever, quick-witted writing (despite the presence of a zombie, the weekly cases tend to be fairly conventional).



SONG OF THE WEEK

Dua Lipa - Don't Start Now

Taylor Swift - Only The Young
It keeps me awake
The look on your face
The moment you heard the news
You're screaming inside
And frozen in time
You did all that you could do
The game was rigged, the ref got tricked
The wrong ones think they're right
You were outnumbered — this time

But only the young
Only the young
Only the young
Only the young can run
Can run, so run
And run, and run

So every day now
You brace for the sound
You've only heard on TV
You go to class, scared
Wondering where the best hiding spot would be
And the big bad man and his big bad clan
Their hands are stained with red
Oh, how quickly, they forget

They aren't gonna help us
Too busy helping themselves
They aren't gonna change this
We gotta do it ourselves
They think that it's over
But it's just begun

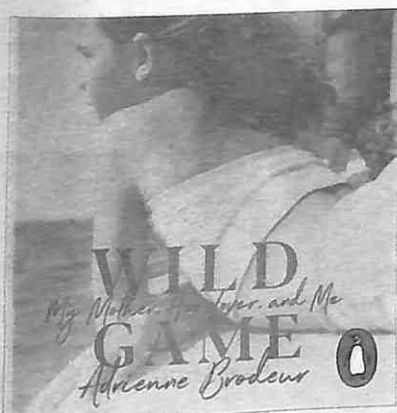
Only one thing can save us
Only the young (Only the young)
Only the young (Only the young)
Only the young (Only the young)
Only the young

Only the young (Only the young)
Only the young (Only the young)
Only the young (Only the young)
Only the young
Only the young (Only the young)
(Don't say you're too tired to fight
It's just a matter of time
Up there's the finish line)
Only the young (Only the young)
Only the young (Only the young)
Only the young
Can run

Don't say you're too tired to fight
It's just a matter of time (Can run)
Up there's the finish line
So run, and run, and run
Don't say you're too tired to fight
It's just a matter of time (So run)
Up there's the finish line
And run, and run, and run

Only the young
Only the young
Only the young

Book Review



WILD GAME

By Adrienne Brodeur

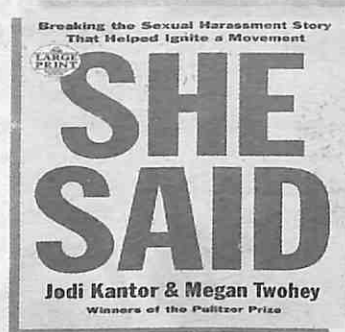
When Brodeur was fourteen, her capricious, magnetic mother Malabar enlisted her help in covering up an extramarital affair she had with a close family friend. "Nothing," Brodeur writes in her lush memoir, "made me feel more loved than making my mother happy, and any means justified that end." Devastating and delectable (and just a bit detestable), this debut chronicling the affair and its aftermath is a captivating hymn to the costs and comforts of daughterhood.



GRAND UNION

By Zadie Smith

Nineteen years ago, White Teeth announced the arrival of Zadie Smith as a turn-of-the-century wunderkind. She has since released four more highly praised novels and two books of essays, establishing herself as an intellectual writer in the best sense: burrowing into complexity, seeking it out, raising suspicion about situations where it appears absent. Now her first-ever story collection offers yet another kaleidoscopic display of her singular sophistication. Smith's compositions—rife with ambivalence, in love with ideas, witty and mordant—echo in the head long after the last word.



SHE SAID

By Jodi Kantor and Meghan Twohey

For any who believe that reporters are cynical about the business of journalism, Kantor and Twohey, The New York Times writers who brought down seemingly untouchable mogul Harvey Weinstein, stand as proof of its integrity. Of the many important revelations to emerge in their groundbreaking and unputdownable She Said, the most compelling is that, above all, the Weinstein story was the result of a brave collaboration between Weinstein's victims and the journalists, activists, and good citizens who came forward, despite threats to their livelihoods and reputations.

MEMELLO'S CLOSET FASHION EXPO



PRETTY GIRLS: Ziyanda and Cedukwazi smile as they listen to proceedings.



HAPPY: Owner of Mamello's Closet Neliswa Dladla shares words of gratitude to the attendees.



ATTENTIVE: Melusi Dlamini was also there.



SMILE: Nono and Sethu also attended the event.



DJ: Master P also attended the event.



ALSO THERE: Neliswa Dladla and Cedukwazi Nhlengetfwa pose for a picture.



LADIES: Ncamie, Ncobile, Neliswa, Charmie and Bawinile looked stylish at the event.



MY PART: Owner of Miss Q Creations says her part.



YELLOW MELLOW: Mukelo, Neliswa and Lethu showcase dresses by Mamello's Closet.



YAAAAS: Zuziwe, Xoliswa, Tricia and Tanziswa went all out for the event



ZI GIRLS: Some of the models showcase Mamello's dresses.



By Andile Tsabedze

With the whole concept of mental health being one that has been either misinterpreted and not discussed in detail over time, such has unfortunately placed most people in positions where they don't know how to preserve their mental health.

How to avoid situations that may damage mental health is still a complicated thing for many.

The only way through which individuals in society can be healthy mentally is if they are aware of protective factors to mental health. Likewise, awareness of risk factors enables an individual to apply the relevant control strategies to prevent or delay adverse effects of mental ill health.

PROTECTIVE FACTORS

By description protective factors are the positive situations, events or conditions that can preserve one's mental health or delay the ability of a risk factor exposing an individual to higher probability of mental illness.

These are the factors that one must preserve for their optimal health and productive functioning in all aspects of life. Protective factors to mental health can be divided into various categories namely, individual, family, societal, factors related to life events and school/work related factors.

1. Individual protective factors to mental health are the personal elements upon which mental health is dependent. They may include, self awareness, high self esteem, positive self image, positive coping skills and overall optimism. These shape an individual's outlook towards life and may ultimately determine how they perceive, cope and deal with daily life positive encounters, opportunities and stressors. A person who strongly believes in him or herself and in their ability to conquer certain obstacles is protected from mental ill health.

2. Family protective factors to mental health are those that generally render the family environment and interactions of members as positive and harmonious. These may include supportive families, positive parenting, family stability, firm family values and beliefs. The family is said to be the most basic social unit for an individual, where he or she learns behaviour. Similarly mental health can be a state influenced by the overall family environment. The most crucial stages of nurturing and development occur at family level, thus positive development is influenced by healthy interactions within the family.

3. Societal protective factors to mental health are about relations with community, laws and regulations etc. These may include cultural activities creating a sense of belonging, flourishing economies, accessibility to resources amongst many others. Such factors contribute positively to one's health, their ability to establish a sense of belonging and in maintaining lasting bonds with others in society. The ability to learn from environments and live in harmony within communities are all vital elements

to societal protective factors to mental health.

4. School/work related factors include enabling class or work environments, excellent academic progress, employee wellness programs as well as teamwork. For productivity, at work or school the above listed elements are crucial, determining the rate at which knowledge is assimilated by students or ideas generated by employees at work. All of which require mental processes to be at optimal functioning, thinking, analysis, judgement, rationalising decision making.

5. Factors related to life events speak to response towards anything that may be life changing that an individual encounters at a point in their life. It also caters for changes that one goes through in their life passage, requiring new skills and support. Protective factors are seen in a case where an individual who has lost a loved one, gets bereaved, supported and shown love during this difficult time.

This conserves the mental health of this individual as they will know that they are not alone in this and can rise above this encounter, strengthened by the available support system. A person's mental health is protected when he has someone to share life's problems with and to vent negative emotions instead of bottling them up.

RISK FACTORS

On the contrary risk factors are situations, events or conditions that may increase the chances of mental ill health and or the initiation of a mental disorder.

The presence of a risk factor does not necessarily mean that one has a mental disorder but rather the fact that preexistence of one situation highly increases the chances of mental ill health.

One with risk factors can still apply some protective factors to limit mental disorder occurrence and generally maintain an optimal level of mental functioning. Similarly to protective factors, risk factors can also be categorized into namely five groups for summative purposes, otherwise there can be more groupings. Factors may be individual, family, societal, school/work related, and those related with life events.

1. Individual risk factors are low self esteem, general pessimism, genetic/inheritance of mental disorder, poor self awareness and complications during pregnancy and birth as well as development issues (reaching developmental milestones). Some of these are outside the control of an individual, for instance pregnancy complications like neural tube defects and others which may predispose one to mental disorders like autism, cognitive impairments etc. However, some can be controlled through building a stronger self esteem, developing positive thoughts and beliefs about self and

QUOTE

In definition, mental health is the overall well being of an individual with regards to five important aspects of health being physical, emotional, psychological, psychosocial and spiritual

PROTECTIVE AND RISK FACTORS OF MENTAL HEALTH

stand up against stigma

No Health without Mental Health

resilience.

2. Family risk factors are influenced greatly by the family structure, beliefs, values, and events that may occur which all have a negative effect on one's overall mental health, attacking their personhood and outlook on life. These may include parents divorcing, poverty, substance use within the family, violence and harsh parenting techniques. Children learn most by observing the behaviour of adults in the family, when exposed to violence, substance use, constant alterations and insult hurling they pick up such. It affects their beliefs in love and family, tempers on their trust and creates a cycle of anger and low self esteem within them. They may later show signs of conduct disorder and anger management problems.

3. Societal risk factors stem from how society contributes to one's wellbeing, how one relates and finds a sense of belonging. If an individual is discriminated, isolated, cannot partake in community activities and has limited access to services in society they will feel left out. Humans have an innate need to belong, relate and attach to the social contexts in which they exist. Inability to do so damages social skills and takes away one's contentment with identity to a specific social group. An individual who is consistently subjected to stigma and discrimination in society will soon find pleasure in solitude and should challenges in life overwhelm them suicide will be the quickest way out since they have no available support system.

4. School/work are places where most individuals spend the better part of their days, when not at home with families. The environment contributes to one's mental health because one is repeatedly interacting within this context. A hostile school or work environment that does

not encourage individuals to think outside the box, exercise teamwork, a school where one repeatedly fails, where peer rejection, pressure and bullying are experienced all create a negative cascade of mental related issues. The self esteem of an individual who is from time and again suppressed and limited from expression of ideas is damaged. Beliefs of failure, hopelessness and depression will probably engulf an individual who feels that nothing they touch turns to gold.

5. Factors related to life events like the death of a loved one, emotional trauma, separation from an attachment figure, being a victim of abuse of any kind, unsupported transitioning from one level to another e.g. from high school to tertiary. All such events are life changing and often require a new set of skills to cope with the demands that change brings. Individuals who go through such life events have a likelihood of mental disorders emanating. Such changes may be permanent or bring lasting effects on the individual and if they get no help for these they may succumb.

So protective factors may be interpreted as the balanced and healthy diet of mental health. They preserve mental health and may delay progression of mental disorders should they initiate. Risk factors on the other hand are the unhealthy diets and lack of exercise that predispose one to ill health and development of mental disorders.

Understanding of these enables one to take charge of their health way before disorders occur. The aim is to keep everyone mentally healthy, in realisation of their potential, coping with daily life stressors and functioning optimally harmoniously giving back to their external environment.

QUOTE

To change the media, you're gonna have to totally throw out every journalism school and get rid of everybody in every newsroom, and then you're gonna have to change the grade school and middle school and high school curriculum.

Ruth Limbaugh

The stormy relations between the BBC and the Kigali authorities has reached a new level.

On February 7, Congolese Journalist Jacques Matand Diyambi received a letter from his editor notifying him of his "dismissal for serious misconduct" with immediate effect.

At issue was an interview he conducted in November with Charles Onana, author of the book *Rwanda, the Truth about Operation Turquoise: When the Archives Speak* (L'artilleur), published in October.

Onana, the author of several polemical works on the genocide of the Tutsis, is described as a "negationist". He maintains the RPF rebellion, commanded by Paul Kagame, committed a double genocide against the Hutus and was behind the attack on President Juvénal Habyarimana in April 1994, which served as a trigger signal for the massacre of the Tutsis.

In his latest book, the Franco-Cameroonian writer, seemingly motivated by an obsessive animosity towards the current Rwandan president, whom he accuses of having favoured the genocide of the Tutsis in order to rise to power, attempts to absolve the French leaders of the time of having supported the Hutu regime during the genocide.

When the BBC and Rwanda pass the buck

Anne Look Thiam, Editor of BBC Africa in Dakar, criticised Diyambi of violating the channel's internal rules of impartiality by not seeking views — other than those of Onana — especially those of the Rwandan authorities.

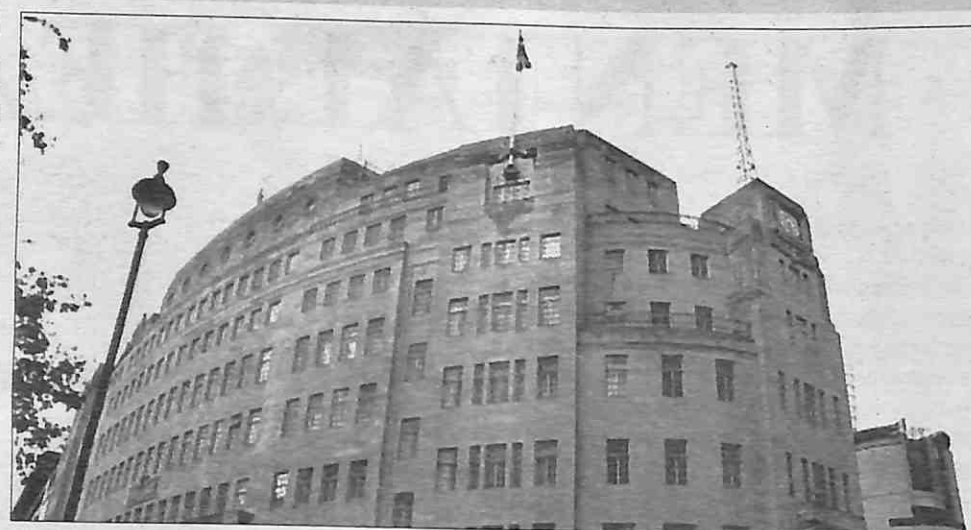
● "We have established that your actions were clearly contrary to BBC editorial policy and that you took the initiative to conduct an interview on a controversial subject without following the necessary rules and without referring the matter to the necessary officials," wrote Look Thiam.

According to Thiam, the Rwandan authorities' reaction was the reason for firing the journalist.

"Our request for explanations was in response to the Rwandan Government's complaint about the interview you conducted with Charles Onana," the editor wrote, adding that "the Rwandan Government accuses the BBC of being unfair, biased and inaccurate and has indicated that it reserves the right to take sanctions against the BBC".

Official sources reached in Kigali disagree. According to our source, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Vincent Biruta, "has no knowledge of this affair". Paul Kagame's entourage took the same stand.

● "You're the one who told me, I didn't even know that Onana had been interviewed by their team," said an official source. "In any case, since when does the BBC take into account the obser-



A BBC Africa journalist has been fired for 'serious misconduct' regarding his controversial interview on the France-Rwanda relationship. His BBC bosses claim they were forced to act following a threat of a 'complaint' from the Rwandan government. Kigali denies any intervention.

vations made by the Rwandan Government? They have never apologised for the documentary *Rwanda's Untold Story* [broadcast in October 2014 on BBC2, the film is based on the "double genocide" thesis] and the BBC in Kinyarwanda is still banned from broadcasting in Rwanda because of this story."

In London, Rwandan Ambassador Yamina Karitanyi also denies she wrote to the BBC management about the interview with Charles Onana, saying that her recent exchanges with Solomon Mugerwa, the central editor of BBC Africa, based in London, were about the biases of BBC reporting in general, not about this specific story.

● "The BBC can take up even a verbal complaint on its own initiative, according to internal procedures," said a good source in the embassy. **Journalistic imbroglio against a backdrop of negationist theses**

The controversial documentary, *Rwanda's Untold Story*, lies at the heart of the Rwandan regime's long-standing grievances against the venerable British institution. After it aired, the

authorities banned BBC News Gahuza, which broadcasts in Kinyarwanda, from operating in Rwanda on the FM band for an indefinite period. Diyambi, for his part, said he had not received the "complaint" that Kigali had allegedly sent to his management. "Look Thiam had given me 72 hours to explain the conditions under which the interview was conducted. At that time, I was on leave, but I answered all her questions in writing as soon as I returned last Monday."

According to him, the interview with Onana was carried out in accordance with editorial practice. The subject was presented on several occasions at editorial conferences, in the presence of representatives of the chief editor. Diyambi, however, concedes a certain complacency towards the vituperative writer, who maintains a widely contested vision of the Tutsi genocide.

● "It may be intellectual naivety on my part, but I don't like putting people in boxes. I may have played down the accusations of Holocaust denial against him, even though I make him react to criticisms of the way he rewrites official his-

tory," he said. In reality, however, the references Diyambi cites on the Great Lakes issue all have in common the fact they espouse the ideas of Charles Onana and the late Pierre Péan, his former mentor. "Would this betray an anti-RPF bias against the history of the genocide? I can't say," he said evasively.

A BBC Africa reporter confirmed the interview was not conducted clandestinely.

● "It's something he had been talking about for a long time because he was reading the book. I know that the subject came up twice at editorial conferences, once with the editor in attendance."

We have information that eight other journalists have been warned about this case.

Journalists' union steps up to the plate

Another internal source questioned the real motivation for the dismissal for gross misconduct. Diyambi is the secretary-general of the section of the Syndicat des professionnels de l'information et de la communication sociale du Sénégal (Synpics) within BBC Africa, and currently the channel is facing financial difficulties that are creating tension.

● In a statement broadcast on February 7, the BBC section of Synpics denounced the dismissal, saying "the decision to dismiss the section's comrade general secretary without notice is a step backward for the editor-in-chief, who is not fulfilling her role as the person responsible for broadcasting any story".

Anne Look Thiam, the editor-in-chief who wrote the letter of dismissal, did not want to give us any details about the origin of the steps that Rwanda had allegedly taken, referring us to the BBC press service.

● An official Rwandan source said the matter was strictly internal. "Boris Johnson has the BBC in his sights, which is in financial difficulties," said the official. "The BBC's arguments about Onana are certainly relevant, but Rwanda has nothing to do with this case."

The affair has sparked outcry in Congo where a petition has been launched to save Matand from the sack, amid talks of a BBC boycott.

Master's student freed after two years in jail for rape he did not commit

An Mdantsane man who was jailed for eight years for rape walked out of St Alban's Prison in Port Elizabeth recently after spending two years inside for a crime he did not commit.

The rape conviction ended 27-year-old Osiphesona Ngcanga's life as an assistant lecturer of law at Nelson Mandela University (NMU) and as a maritime law master's student.

He was found guilty by Port Elizabeth Magistrate Nolitha Bara of raping a "drunk and unconscious" commerce student at a 21st birthday party on February 11, 2017 in Kabega Park, Port Elizabeth. But on January 14, Makhandla High Court Judges Sunil Rugunanan and Buyiswa Majiki upheld his appeal and overturned Bara's judgment. The Judges found Bara had applied a "misdirected approach". In their judgment, they

said Ngcanga and the woman had been seen by one of six witnesses dancing together, laughing, flirting, kissing and talking to each other outside a party attended by 17 people, many of them students.

Alcohol was consumed at the event.

One witness said the woman's friends had disapproved and kept calling her back into the house, but she had repeatedly returned to Ngcanga of her own accord, the judges found.

It was alleged the victim was raped while sleeping in a car outside the party venue.

The judges found that the evidence of a key state witnesses, who herself was drunk, to be unreliable and contradictory. They said during cross-examination, upon being pressed about the complainant's drunken state, the witness said the complainant was "not drunk to the extent that she would

stagger and fall". The judges found that "on the whole, a reading of her testimony does not inspire confidence that it is reliable".

The judges also found that the evidence of a further two state witnesses was unreliable and inconsistent.

Rugunanan said: "The magistrate's overall approach to her evaluation of the evidence, and particularly the credibility findings in favour of the state witnesses, clearly overlooked the material shortcomings and discrepancies in their evidence and ... fell short of the onus."

The judges said the law was clear that consent was absent if a victim was unconscious, asleep or under the influence of alcohol to the extent that the victim's consciousness or judgment was adversely affected.

They said no evidence was produced to prove that "four glasses of wine and

the mix of vodka and Coke consumed by the complainant caused her judgment or consciousness to be adversely affected".

"Given that it was the complainant's own evidence that this quantity of alcohol was not excessive, I think the mere consumption falls far short of proof beyond reasonable doubt that there was a diminution or impairment of her faculties in a sense that her sensibilities were either dulled or that she had an exuberant or over-optimistic frame of mind which caused her to take risks."

Speaking to DispatchLIVE from, Ngcanga said all he wanted was to register at NMU to finish his master's degree. He added that at the time of his conviction he was serving as deputy president of the Golden Key International Honours Society and had been invited to conferences in Boston,



Former assistant lecturer Osiphesona Ngcanga, of East London, was free after spending two years in jail.

Atlanta, Paris, New Orleans and Dubai. The NPO was founded in 1977 to recognise academic achievement among college and university students.

"I am also talking to my lawyers to see if the state can compensate me for the two years I spent in prison for a crime I did not commit." (TimesLive)

Columns & Opinion

For correspondence, contact;
2404 7231/ 2404 6363

QUOTE

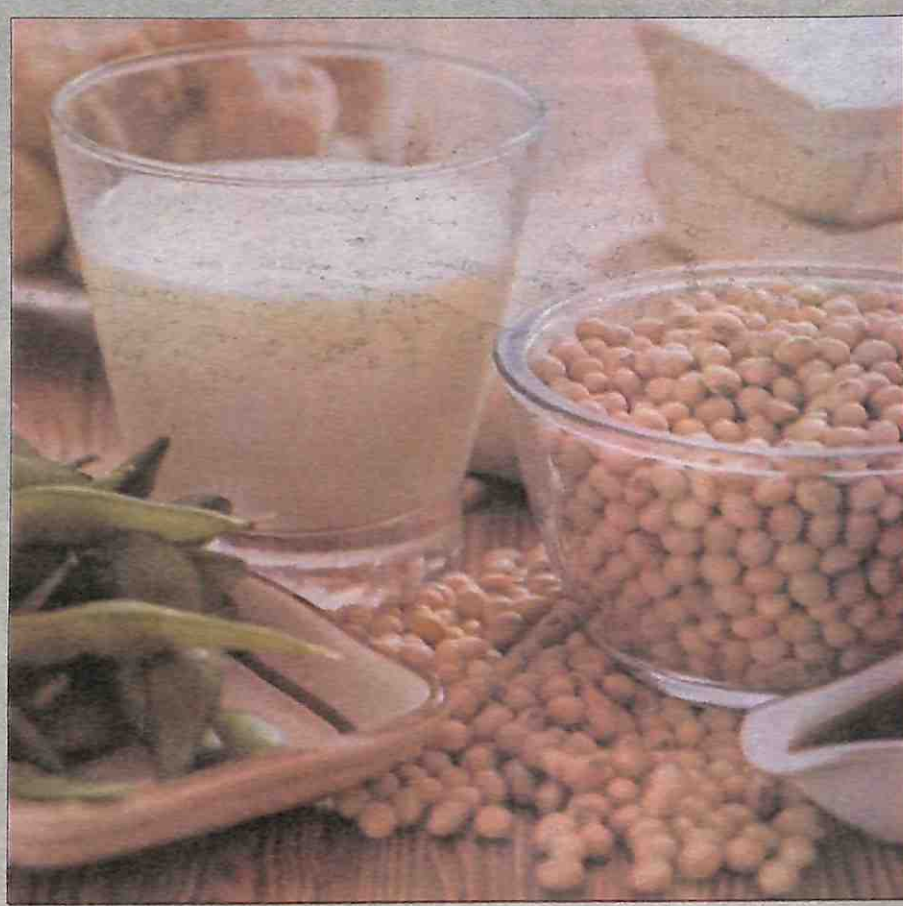
A man loves the meat in his youth that he cannot
endure in his age.

- William Shakespeare



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

Ministry of Agriculture Home
Economics Section



ELDERLY DIET

Nutrition is an important determinant of health in elderly person.

There are many times when the elderly are being neglected when it comes to their diet. A lot of elderly suffer from non communicable diseases like high blood pressure, sugar diabetes, obesity and many more. For some a special diet is required for them on a daily basis to meet up with their health conditions.

Elderly people need to eat healthy to balance up with the physical activity that can help in active life and preserving independence into older age.

Elderly people revert to younger age, hence they crave junk food, treats and sweets; even if they crave, all these need to be taken in minimal quantities, the best way to control the consumption of these, is to keep it away from the home to avoid temptations. Instead they need to snack on fruits to cover up the craving for junk food. Adequate consumption of water is required on a daily basis. The elderly need to be always clean, as hygiene triggers infections if not properly followed. They need enough rest every day: at least eight hours a day.

NUTRITIONAL NEEDS FOR ELDERLY

Elderly people are particularly vulnerable to malnutrition.

The process of ageing affects other nutrients requirements. Some nutrients may be reduced depending on the health condition of the old person and physical activity.

Many diseases suffered by the older persons are a result of dietary factors, some which were operating since infancy.

These factors are compounded by changes that naturally occur with ageing process. Degenerative diseases such as cardiovascular and cerebrovascular disease, diabetes, high blood pressure which are among common diseases affecting elderly.

The role that micronutrients play in promot-

ing health and non communicable diseases is receiving a considerable attention. Micronutrient deficiencies are often common in elderly people due to a number of factors such as reduced food intake and a lack of variety in foods they eat. The elderly need vitamin D and calcium to maintain strong bones and teeth. They also need vitamin B12, fiber (which lowers the risk of heart diseases and diabetes), Potassium (May reduce lower risk of high blood pressure).

They also need to eat food with low saturated fats and trans fats which help reduce the risk of heart diseases.

They should snack with healthy foods like peanuts, fruits and veggies.

The elderly need to have at least 30 min workout a day to keep body active.

ELDERLY NUTRITION PROBLEMS

1. A weak immune system, which increases the risk of infections

‘AGEING GRACEFULLY WITH A PROPER DIET’



2. Poor wound healing
3. A higher risk of hospitalisation
4. Increased death risk
5. Impairment in ability to eat (difficulty in chewing and swallowing, dental health)
6. Dementia
7. Medication (some medication affect appetite)
8. Restricted diets
9. Limited income
10. Reduced social contact
11. Limited access to food
12. Depression (grief, loneliness, failing health, lack of mobility)
13. Alcoholism.

POINTS TO CONSIDER WHEN PLANNING MEALS FOR ELDERLY

1. Physical activity of the adult
2. Nutritional needs
3. Food available
4. Time
5. Skill of the cook
6. Meals should be balanced
7. Avoid processed food as they may contain too much salt or sugar
8. Any special diets required
9. Food should be coloured with whole food, include variety of foods
10. Avoid highly seasoned food

11. Take proper portions of meals
 12. Inquire about food allergies and intolerance
 13. Inquire about religion – related food restrictions
 14. Herbs and spices
 15. Avoid fatty foods
- Note:** Elderly people need to be served in smaller proportions
An example of an elderly menu:

BREAKFAST

Note: A glass of warm water is required an hour before any meal is taken
Oats with low fat milk or thin porridge with milk, tea, scrambled eggs, tomato, lettuce

Mid breakfast
Mixed fruit salad

LUNCH

Grilled fish, mash potato, steamed mixed veggies, glass of milk

Afternoon

Fruit or vegetable smoothie or peanuts

SUPPER

Sweet potato slices or wedges, boiled chicken breast with mixed veggies, creamed spinach
An example of a packed lunch when going to hospitals for checkups:

A litre bottle of clean drinking, clean wet cloth (for wiping hands)
Sliced sweet potato or sliced taro (*emathapha*), grilled chicken breast, buttered carrots.
Boiled beans or jugo beans or groundnuts for snacking.

An example of an appropriate portion of a meal:

PET OBSERVER

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

QUOTE

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

Columns & Opinion

For correspondence, contact:
SAWS
MBABANE 2404 3446
MANZINI 2505 6231

SWASA
e-mail us at: info@swasa.co.sz
Tel: (+268) 2518 4633/10

Don't cut your dog's ears

Cutting off the tops of your dogs' ears will NOT release the headache. If the dog is ill, take it to a vet for diagnosis and treatment. Cutting a dogs' ears is barbaric torture that leaves infection and fly-blown sores.

Don't cut your dog's tongue

That is NOT a worm under your dog's tongue. It is connecting tissue called the frenulum and is exactly the same as yours. If you cut your frenulum, you will be in danger of serious infection and will not be able to speak, eat or swallow properly. The same for your dog.

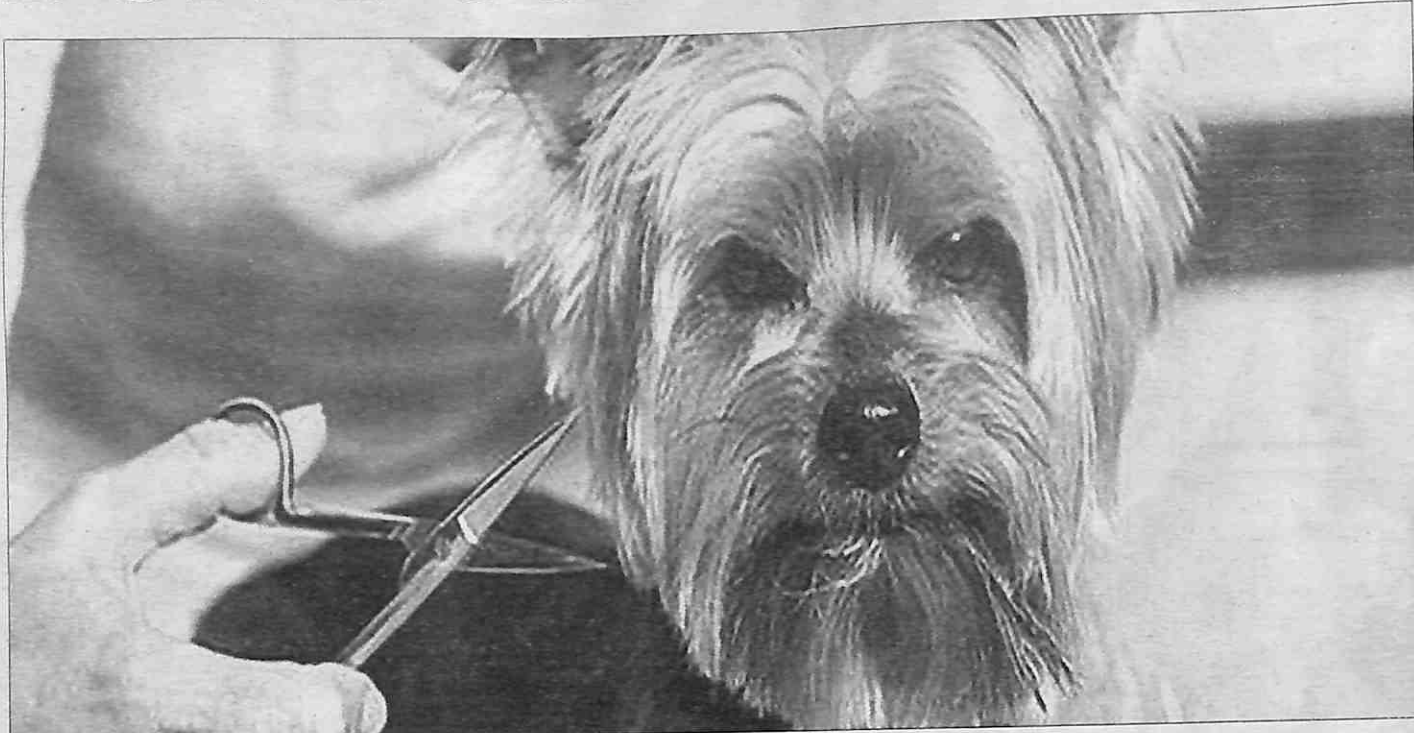
Don't cut your dog's tail

It serves no purpose. It is not beautiful. Nor would it be beautiful to cut off your hand, which is the equivalent. Dogs have evolved into their current shape over many thousands of years. If a tail were not useful to a dog, natural selection would have eliminated it long ago. Tails are for balance (therefore, a racing dog is at a great disadvantage without a rudder for balance) and communication. A docked dog is handicapped in expressing itself through body language to convey fear, aggression, and playfulness and so on.

It is excruciatingly painful. The tail is amputated with scissors, a knife or a rubber band. This procedure is usually performed without any anesthetic at between three to five days of age. The puppy has a fully developed nervous system and a well-developed sense of pain. During docking puppies whimper and scream, their heartbeat and rate of breathing increase – all symptoms of pain.

The cut goes through many highly sensitive nerves in skin, cartilage, and bone. During banding, the puppy suffers continual agony and increasing fear and suffering for several

DON'T CUT YOUR DOG!



days, often leading to severe infection and sometimes death, without respite or comfort. One puppy that was handed – too late – to SAWS was in such agony that it tried to push the pain away, resulting in rectal prolapse. It died. They also die of infection. Who would do that to a baby?

Human babies traumatised at a very young age have not yet developed coping skills to understand or deal with physical pain. They develop fear and distrust which can turn into behavioural disorders in later life. Puppies exposed to the torture of docking suffer sim-

ilar damage. **It causes problems in later life.** As with amputated limbs in humans, nerve tissue scar in the tail stump may be painful. Often dogs with docked tails develop curvature of the lower spine and other postural deformities due to the protracted pain they experienced at a time of explosive growth. Also their growth rates are slower, probably due to shock and trauma.

It is illegal. Docking is now illegal in most countries and carries a hefty fine or jail sentence of up to one year. Show animals are not allowed to have docked tails. It was banned

in South Africa in 2007.

It is not natural. Rarely inbreeding or some other genetic abnormality will produce a dog with a short tail. But no breed of dog is born with a naturally docked tail. The fact that docked tails do not occur naturally tells us - **nature doesn't like it!**

Never buy or accept as a gift a dog with a docked tail. We do not have the right to mutilate an animal's body. It is inhumane and goes against the laws of creation/evolution. Let's leave behind mediaeval practices and celebrate dogs the way nature intended.



Eswatini Standards Authority

The Kingdom of Eswatini being a developing country still receives substantial aid from the first world and thus has to guard herself from potentially harmful donations whose primary aim is window dressed public displays and marketing strategies.

Such philanthropy being encouraged, allowed and proudly displayed as social responsibility. A wise man once said "give me fish, you have fed me for the day but teach me to fish then you have given me a livelihood".

Philanthropy (in this context understood as giving to charitable causes) can have a positive impact on society. However, it should not be used by an organisation as a substitute for addressing the adverse impacts of its activities on society and the environment.

Organisations should not shoulder the blame alone; individuals also need to be socially responsible. We have become more familiar with "corporate social responsibility" than we are with "social responsibility". It is important that we realise that social responsibility is applicable to all

Social responsibility – The ISO 26000 way

organisations, individuals and not just those in the business world.

Taking a microscopic view of the situation, I realise that social responsibility has certain characteristics the essential of these being the willingness of an organisation to take responsibility and be accountable for the impacts of its activities and decisions on society and the environment. This implies both transparent and ethical behaviour that contributes to sustainable development, including health and the welfare of society, takes into account the expectations of stakeholders, is in compliance with applicable laws and consistent with international norms of behaviour, and is integrated throughout the organisation and practiced in its relationships.

The expectations of society involve an understanding of the broader interests and expectations of society. Social responsibility also entails actions beyond legal compliance and recognition of obligations to others that are not legally binding. These obligations arise out of widely shared ethical and other values.

Although the expectations of responsible behaviour will vary between countries and cultures, organisations should respect international norms of behaviour such as those laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Identification of and engagement with stakeholders are fundamental to social responsibility. An organisation should determine who has an interest in its decisions and activities so that it can

understand its impacts and identify how to address these impacts. While stakeholders can help an organisation identify the relevance of particular issues to its activities, stakeholders do not replace broader society in determining norms and expectations of behaviour.

Because social responsibility concerns the potential and actual impacts of an organisation's activities and decisions, the ongoing, regular daily activities of the organisation constitute the most important behaviour to be addressed. In some cases, an organisation may need to work with others to address its responsibilities. These can include peer organisations, competitors or parts of the value chain, or any other relevant actor party within the organisation's sphere of influence.

Although many people use the terms social responsibility and sustainable development interchangeably, and there is a close relationship between the two, they are different concepts.

Sustainable development is a widely accepted concept and guiding objective that has gained international recognition. Its challenging goals are the elimination of poverty, health for all, social justice, and meeting the needs of society while living within the planet's ecological limits and without undermining the needs of future generations. Numerous international forums have reiterated the importance of these objectives over the years since 1987 – such as the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992. The

objective of sustainable development is to achieve a state of "sustainability".

Social responsibility has as its focus the organisation, not the globe. Social responsibility is, however, closely linked to sustainable development because an overarching goal of an organisation's social responsibility should be to contribute to sustainable development, including health and the welfare of society. This is one of the major differences between philanthropy and social responsibility. Like any other phenomenon, social responsibility is guided by certain principles; accountability, transparency, ethical behaviour, respect for stakeholders interest, respect for rule of law, respect for international norms of behaviour and respect for human rights.

Imagine a world where all these principles are norms. A world where human rights are respected and human trafficking, child labour and discrimination, amongst others, are non-existent. A world where meaningful and productive work is an essential element in human development; standards of living are improved through full and secure employment.

The ISO 26000 standard seeks to promote socially responsible societies and to promote common understanding in the field of social responsibility. It also encourages an organisation to undertake activities that go beyond legal compliance, recognising that compliance with law is a fundamental part of any organisation's social responsibility.



Untipping The Societal Scales

WITH: Dumisa Dlamini

QUOTE

I see when men love women. They give them but a little of their lives. But women when they love give everything.

- Oscar Wilde

Columns & Opinion

If there is anything that does not respect privacy even if same comes to the level of intimacy, it should be the cellphone.

This is a nonsensical gadget that is paradoxically presumed to be the best invention. Whilst it has been massively applauded for making communication easier, it has created the worst, muddy and destructive inroads in the love terrain that has caused separations, divorces, fights, murderous and suicidal activities amongst its owners who also happen to be lovers.

The cellphone can be such a party pooper amongst lovers. Societal Scales can safely conclude that lovers are best without cellphones or better, not one should keep a cellphone around his character when (s) he is on the presence of the other person they are in love with. Maybe it could be called a "Cell phonebreak" to allow lovers, fiancés, married to be without the interference of this pooper who almost always will announce a call, a message or a picture in the most unwanted of times.

All calls that may come whilst you are enjoying the company of a loved ones can be a nuisance.

Your boss can call to draw your attention and focus away from your current situation or it could be a long call from your client, *ifike tintfoseticala kufutfumala* wherein *besewungaphiwa noma yini*. When you are done with the long call, believe Scales, she would have changed her mind. That's the cellphone for you!

That is the least disruption the gadget can bring between two lovers and can be tolerated, understood and even forgotten.

The worst call will be so loud and incessant when it comes from a suitor or another lover which you cannot ignore under any circumstances. Whether you pick the call or ignore it, the results are the same, you would have upset or even infuriated your partner by so doing.

Walked

Talk of the man who has driven all fifty kilometres, parked his car and walked unto his house and the phone would ring. It is the other woman and loudly asking, "*eBaby sewufikile yini ekhaya.*" Your wife will overhear the conversation and does not have to ask if it is a woman who is calling you. The mood in the house will change and be attic cold for the entire week. You ask yourself why she wouldn't call before you got home.

The reverse of the situation can also hold. Howard, a dashing banker got himself entangled in a fresh pair of sheets and the package he got in there demanded the best of his equipment. *Kuloyo mgudvwawaphansi lomkhulu kangako*, his phone rang the loudest he could remember. It was his wife calling,

"*YebabewaMhlelembisi ukuphi?*"

One would have thought she knew where he was. She didn't, but the quivering voice of her husband and the panting gave him away. *Wavele nje wahishwa lulwimi lwakhe lobabe*. His girlfriend realised how much he was scared of his wife and trouble awaited him when at home. Women have very sharp

instincts, *utakushayela ngalesikhatsi ugan-ga* because something tells her you ain't being faithful wherever you are.

It doesn't matter whether the person who calls you whilst you are with your boyfriend is a suitor or not.

The call will bring a terrible mood swings and spoil the party. Fihlekile Malaza was in a warm embrace with the man she hoped would be her husband when her phone rang.

The caller announced himself to be at the door and wanted an audience with her. She could neither express her disgust nor chase him away because her boyfriend was looking at her straight in the face.

He demanded they went out together to see the man.

It later transpired that he was only a suitor

who was taking his chances, but of course granted the ground for advancement by the very woman now in trouble. Whilst the issue was resolved, the intimacy and the romance of the moment were spoiled.

Exchanged

A lot of heated words were exchanged and accompanied by a flood of tears all caused by a call from a cellphone. That gadget does not

and will not respect any moment with anyone and for anybody. It will ring when you least expect it from the most unwanted caller and then tends to be loud enough for the benefit of your partner to eavesdrop.

Mgigigi Tsela couldn't for any reason think for any reason he could get a call at five in the morning, let alone from a female.

He did. LaFakudze his wife had just woken him up *atsi akasmshikishe lamhlana ehle impela aye entasi*.

Eagerness

The moment was great and the eagerness on the part of uMzomba was palpitating until that call. When he picked it, he didn't look to see who the caller was. Lo and Behold! It was Lomanono the woman he had been courting for the past few weeks.

She had good news for him at his worst space and the most inconvenient of times, "*Ubofika in my house lamuhla*, I will be home all day, *sitocedzelalenzaba yetfu*. The woman picked the phone and smashed it against the wall, picked herself up from the bed, and stormed out of the bedroom.

The party was finished. The man wondered why a woman would call him so early knowing he was married and almost always he would be home, in the bedroom, in-between sheets with his wife at that most intimate hour for married couples.

Or your girlfriend will be so engrossed on her phone from the moment you leave Manzini until you get to Nelspruit where you are both having a weekend out. *Kute lakuco-*

ca nawe lomuntfu but is in deep conversation with people out there. Almost always, she would be talking to another man.

It's your time, your fuel, your money that would be spent there but she ain't with you in spirit.

She would only come alive the moment she gets into the shops, see what she wants to buy and comes running to for *timbasha*.

Women can be very cruel to their partners when they have their phones on their hands. You will see her first deeply engaged on the chats and even pictures, the next moment she would be smiling beautifully unto herself. Whatever you say, you have to repeat yourself a million times *ngoba akakuva, akannenazaba futsi nalokutsi utsini*.

A certain young couple was driving to Rustenburg when the woman even refused to alight from the car in any ultra-city because that gave her time to make calls whilst alone in the car.

She was so obsessed with the phone that she didn't see that the man was spitting venom with anger. He had peeped unto her phone and saw a "million hearts", blinking on the screen sent by the other man. When they got in yet another ultra-city the lady had to see ablutions and disembarked and unfortunately left her phone on the seat.

The young man drove off with but her, leaving her *lapho nje*. Needless to say, that was the end of the trip, the love affair and all their ties. The cellphone can a nonsense and a party pooper!



CELLPHONE A NUISANCE, A PARTY POOPER BETWEEN LOVERS!



QUOTE

Treasure the love you receive above all.
It will survive long after your good health
has vanished.

- Og Mandino



STI Awareness Week 4 Important Questions on STIs



Sexual health is important to both men and women, yet sex remains an incredibly difficult topic to talk about for a lot of people, raising feelings of embarrassment and awkwardness. Campaigns such as STI Awareness Week help to shed light on the subject and promote safer sex. February 9th-15th in Eswatini is **STI Awareness Week**, which aims to provide education and information about sexually transmitted infections. **Sexually transmitted infections (STIs)** affect everyone regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, and economic status.

I have heard of STIs, but what are they really?

Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are infections that are passed on from one infected person to an uninfected person through unprotected sex or genital contact. They are transmitted by all forms of sexual activity (e.g. oral intercourse, vaginal, anal).



How do I know if I have an STI?

While some STIs exist with their own unique symptoms, there are a few general signs and symptoms. They include, but are not limited to...

- **Unusual discharge** from the penis, vagina, or anus
- **Pain during urination**, or in the scrotum or testicles
- **Sores, blisters, ulcers, warts, or rashes** in the genital area
- **Lumps and bumps** on the genitals

How can I prevent myself from contracting a STI?

One of the most ways to prevent yourself from getting an STI is to **always use a condom at all the time when having sexual intercourse including oral and anal**. Remember: condoms are the only device that can protect you from most STIs. Use condom sense.



What happens if an STI is left untreated?

Sexually transmitted infections can have serious - sometimes deadly - implications on your health (if not treated properly). Some of these complications include, but are not limited to: pelvic pain, pregnancy complications and/or infertility, arthritis, heart disease, and certain cancers (e.g. HPV-associated cervical and rectal).

What should I do if I suspect that I have a STI?

If you suspect that you have a STI or are experiencing more than one of the aforementioned symptoms, **visit your health care provider immediately or New Start/Litsemba Letsu Clinic (at Big Tree Complex, Mahhala) for medical attention.**



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



Litsemba Letfu
Got it? Get it
New start Swaziland



@LLcare
@GIGI_Swaziland
@New_start206



@Litsembaletfu
@gotit_getitd
@Newstarted

Special Feature

Why don't people give the homeless a place to stay?

I let a homeless man stay in my flat over the weekend once.

It was about five years ago. I was outside walking around one evening, it was dark and raining, this man was standing outside the local church, which helps homeless people out; about ten of the homeless sleep in the big room there.

I recognised him as being one of them, and asked him what was up? He told me that he'd been kicked out of the church, where I knew he'd been staying for about six months.

This seemed harsh to me, so I invited him to my place, telling him that he could stay in the spare room from Friday night to Monday morning, when the local homeless shelter would be re-opening.

As we went up in the lift I sensed that I'd made a mistake. Even though he looked quite well dressed he actually smelled of excrement, as if he'd shat his pants.

I persuaded him to have a shower and gave him some clothes to wear while I washed and dried his.

On Saturday and Sunday I cooked him food several times, and during all of this time he stayed in the spare bedroom, watching the portable tv vcr combination. (which he managed to break)

In truth, he never really talked to me, never said thank you, and he seemed to have this sense of entitlement. Also the horrific shit stench came back, so he must have had bowel problems or something. It was that bad that if you got within eight feet of him you would want to throw



up. After about 24 hours of having him there I was secretly willing Monday morning to hurry up.

Finally Monday morning dawned, and I escorted him from the building. He simply walked off without saying thank you. He was

one of the most ungrateful people that I've ever had the misfortune to meet.

Fast forward a couple of months and I'm looking through my extensive collection of dvds. I've got about a thousand and they're on shelves and in cupboards etc. In particular I'm trying to

find a world cinema film. I look for it for hours, can't find it, and then start noticing that other world cinema dvds have also vanished. I work out that approximately 10 foreign language films have disappeared. I also find that I'm missing a folding chess board and a box of fantastic wooden Staunton chessmen.

Now the thing is I rarely have anyone in my flat when I'm not there.

By this I mean when I leave the flat and go out for a couple of hours. In that year I had probably had three or four people in there, on individual visits who I had left inside while I went out.

One of those was this homeless man. The others were friends that I trust implicitly and have known for 10 years or more.

Thus I knew they wouldn't ever take anything. So through this process of elimination I knew that it had to be this thirty-something year old Czech man who stank of sh*t and spoke fluent English.

I also learned from someone else who was close to the people in charge of the church, that this homeless man I had helped had been kicked out of there when they began to strongly suspect that he was a paedophile.

I also suspect that the missing dvds and chess set was strategy on his part. He probably believed that I was a do good Sap, and that he had his foot in the door, and wanted to see how aware I was, would I notice things disappearing etc.

If not, and if I let him stay longer, he'd have been able to run riot.

It was a big mistake on my part, and one that I would never make again.

Focus on SA Scene

Your Daily Mzansi News

DA wants timelines for opening up electricity grid

CAPE TOWN - Democratic Alliance (DA) chief whip Natasha Mazzone has said that if President Cyril Ramaphosa was serious about opening up the country's power grid for extra electricity supply, he should have given timelines in his State of the Nation Address (SONA).

Mazzone was speaking to media outside Parliament in Cape Town on Thursday night after Ramaphosa ended his speech.

"No definitive timelines were given, so while we hear the president wants this new electricity, he wants to open the grid up, he must give us a timeline: It will be opened

up from tomorrow, it will be opened up in seven days time. "We need electricity now in our country and there is no reason we shouldn't be procuring this energy as early as tomorrow."

She said the laws that were "sitting on his desk" needed to be signed by Ramaphosa before additional

generation could be made a reality. Mazzone also questioned Ramaphosa's handling of other state-owned entities during his address, saying she found it "worrying" that the president had not spoken at length about SAA - under business rescue - and did not mention Denel. *ANA*

Malema's challenge for Ramaphosa:

Assure everyone you have never assaulted a woman

CAPE TOWN - EFF leader Julius Malema insists he has never abused his wife or children. This comes after ANC MP Boy Mamabolo implied during the State of the Nation Address, that Malema had a history of abusing his wife, Mantwa Matlala-Malema.

Malema was speaking at the Press Club of South Africa in Cape Town yesterday morning, a day after the EFF staged a walk out at the National Assembly following more than hour of disruptions during President Cyril Ramaphosa's SONA. The EFF had been calling for former deputy president FW De Klerk to be kicked out of Parliament.

Malema challenged Ramaphosa and other top political party leaders and MPs to stand up and declare that they had not beaten up a woman. He said Ramaphosa had to take the country into his confidence and assure everyone that he had never assaulted any woman.

Malema also reiterated that Public Enterprises Minister Pravin Gordhan had to vacate office citing that he had collapsed state-owned enterprises through political meddling.

He also used the opportunity to take a swipe at Ramaphosa over Public Protector Busisiwe Mkhwebane's report on the CR17 election campaign and his request for his bank statements to be sealed.

He questioned that while NGOs had shown support for former president Jacob Zuma in court and the media had covered some of his appearances in court in droves, why were they not doing the same for the EFF.

News24

PRESIDENT RAMAPHOSA UNVEILS LIST OF PRIORITIES FOR SA

JOHANNESBURG - President Cyril Ramaphosa on Thursday unveiled a list of measures that would include the prioritisation of generational capacity outside of Eskom, modernising the country's rail network and prioritise infrastructural development to kick-start the economy.

Ramaphosa told the Parliament during the State of the Nation Address (SONA) that the government would introduce a wide range of structural reforms aimed at reducing the public sector wage bill, government spending and the resizing of state-owned enterprises.

He said that the National Treasury and the SA Reserve Bank were working on measures to reduce government spending.

Ramaphosa said the government



PRIORITIES: South African President Cyril Ramaphosa.

could not afford to spend more money than the fiscus could afford.

He said the government had engaged social partners, including labour, to contain the public wage bill and to reduce wastage.

"Efforts to reduce government spending, prioritise resources more

effectively, and improve the efficiency of our tax system are important - but insufficient - contributions towards stabilising our public finances," Ramaphosa said.

"Achieving sustainability will ultimately require us to address structural challenges in the econ-

omy that raise the cost of living and doing business."

Last year, Finance Minister Tito Mboweni said that the Treasury had identified spending reductions of R21 billion in 2020/21 and R29bn in 2021/22.

Mboweni said the government needed to find additional measures in excess of R150bn over the next three years to achieve its targets. Ramaphosa said existing low levels of growth and revenue shortfalls had forced the government to review its public finances. "Low levels of growth mean that we are not generating enough revenue to meet our expenses, our debt is heading towards unsustainable levels, and spending is misdirected towards consumption and debt-servicing rather than infrastructure and productive activity," he said. *The Star*

EFF MPs to face Parliament conduct committee

CAPE TOWN - EFF MPs' conduct during Thursday evening's State of the Nation Address (SONA) will land them a date with Parliament's Powers and Privileges Committee.

However, by leaving on their own accord rather than "with the assistance" of the parliamentary chamber support services, the EFF MPs sidestepped an immediate suspension which would have seen them miss next week's debate on President Cyril Ramaphosa's speech.

Several EFF MPs, including leader Julius Malema, raised several points of order - first insisting that former deputy president and last apartheid-era presi-



dent FW de Klerk leave the public gallery, and then insisting that Public Enterprises Minister Pravin Gordhan be fired.

National Assembly Speaker Thandi

Modise on several occasions asked them to stop raising the same points of order and not to stand up and speak without being recognised.

News24

ANC's Boy Mamabolo gets roasted for OPW outfit at SONA

CAPE TOWN - Member of parliament Boy Mamabolo, and a former friend of Economic Freedom Fighter's (EFF) Julius Malema, was roasted for his outfit before the president was able to deliver his State of the Nation Address (SONA) on Thursday night.

While the ANC member wanted to raise a point of order, the situation got tense when EFF member Mbuyiseni Ndlozi, remarked on his outfit asking him: "Honourable member this



is not '[Our] Perfect Wedding'. On what rule are you rising?" *IOL*

'What do we stand for?' Zindzi Mandela scolds ANC

JOHANNESBURG - The start of President Cyril Ramaphosa's fourth State of the Nation Address was delayed by just over 94 minutes on Thursday night, when EFF MPs led by Julius Malema demanded that FW de Klerk be asked

to leave Parliament.

De Klerk was the last apartheid president and he served as deputy president during former president Nelson Mandela's term between 1994 and 1999.

He was invited by Parliament.

He drew some criticism last week, when he said apartheid was not a crime against humanity.

In an interview with the SABC, he said: "I don't fully agree with that (it was evil and a crime against humanity), and I am not justifying apartheid

in anyway.

"It did, and profusely apologised for that, but there's a difference in calling something a crime, like genocide, is a crime, apartheid cannot be, and that is why I am saying this.

"It can never be compared with

genocide, there was never genocide," he said in the interview.

On the back of de Klerk's comments, the EFF, which was expected to disrupt SONA on a ticket that demanded Public Enterprises Minister Pravin Gordhan be removed, used the former apartheid president's remarks as the basis for their continued interjections and points of order. *AFP*

Focus on Africa News

Continental News

Conflict has real consequences for Mozambicans

MAPUTO - MSF has been providing healthcare in Cabo Delgado province, one of the poorest and most isolated regions of Mozambique, since February 2019.

Early activities were rapidly disrupted by Cyclone Kenneth in late April 2019, and replaced with emergency response to displacement and cholera. Since then, MSF has been building up healthcare activities. Bruno Cardoso, MSF's project coordinator, has just returned from Mozambique and tells us more about the situation and what MSF does there.

Cabo Delgado is an extremely poor and neglected province 2 600 kilometres north of the Mozambican capital, Maputo. People in Cabo Delgado face violence, extreme weather events and weak public services, including very limited access to basic healthcare. The needs are huge.

It is a region with a lot of natural resources, such as rubies, oil, timber and gold, and huge economic potential. However, these resources and its location on the border with Tanzania have left the province rife with illegal activities, including drug and ivory smuggling. This situation has seriously deteriorated since the work began to extract one of the largest liquid natural gas reserves in the world.

"Cabo Delgado is an extremely poor and neglected province... with limited access to basic healthcare. The needs are huge." - In late 2017, attacks perpetrated by a poorly understood insurgency group started to spread south from the far north of the province to other parts. Since then, there have been almost 300 attacks and over 700 people have been killed.

MSF teams have witnessed lines of people walking on main roads, as their villages go up in flames. Many people have been forced to flee their homes and relocate elsewhere in the province, usually with family or relatives. This pattern makes the exact count very difficult, but we believe that more than 60 000 people have been displaced.

The coastal areas have been worst affected by the violence.

Relief Web

ZAMBIA CONSIDERS EVACUATING STUDENTS IN CHINA

LUSAKA - Zambia may consider evacuating its university students studying in China following the coronavirus outbreak, the Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation (ZNBC) reported.

Secretary to Cabinet Simon Miti told the public broadcaster that evacuating the students would be subject to expert advice and World Health Organisation (WHO) status reports.

Miti said government was aware of the need to take precautions to avoid infection during evacuation and in transit, if evacuations were undertaken.

He said the country's students were safe and government would continue to monitor the situation closely. He added that the state had put in place "high-impact interventions" to protect citizens from contracting the virus at home and abroad. Among the measures was procurement and distribution of masks, food and other supplies for



the students.

Zambia is one of 13 African countries identified by the WHO as needing to be particularly vigilant of the virus given their direct links or high volume of travel to China. The other countries are Algeria, Angola, Cote d'Ivoire, the

Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda.

The WHO said that no new countries had reported cases of the virus over the past 24 hours, as of Wednesday.

According to the latest figures from the WHO, 45 171 coronavirus case had been confirmed globally, the majority in China. To date, 1 114 people have died of the virus, the majority of them also in China.

African News Agency

More arrests expected as Namibia takes action against sham marriages

WINDHOEK - Namibia has investigated at least 70 so-called marriages of convenience, local media reported.

State-owned daily newspaper, the New Era, reported that according to Deputy Home Affairs Minister Maureen Hinda-Mbuende, of the 70 marriages, only 10 were concluded through legal processes. The culprits paid a fine and were immediately deported.

Sham marriages mostly involve local women marrying foreign men in exchange for money. The foreign national then obtains Namibian citizenship through the marriage.

Although men are involved, the



majority are women between the ages of 25 to 40 who receive about N\$500 to N\$1 500 per month from their sham partners.

Hinda-Mbuende said some local women were entering into marriages of convenience with nationals from as far as Pakistan, Zimbabwe,

Bangladesh, Egypt and Nigeria.

In the past five years, there had been 130 marriages between Namibians and Egyptians.

"We have engaged the law enforcement arms and arrests have been made and we envisage more arrests," she told the newspaper.

"Cases vary from marriage officials, including pastors, conducting such marriages amongst strangers; for example persons landing today just to marry someone they have never seen or spoken to. We have confirmed cases of Namibians being on the payroll of criminals to maintain sham marriages." *ANA*

BRIEFS

Call for 1972 massacres recognition

KARUSI - The Roman Catholic church in Burundi has called for the world to recognise the 1972 massacres, which targeted a group of the population who died in "atrocious conditions," as genocide, said Bishop Simon Ntamwana, who heads the Gitega Catholic Diocese. Burundi's Truth and Reconciliation Commission Chairperson Pierre Claver Ndayicariye said it had recorded around 4 700 mass graves around the country. He said most held the remains of Hutus citizens killed in different wars in the country. In Karusi, central Burundi, near the border with Gitega, around 6 032 remains were discovered in six mass graves of the victims. *AFP*

Husband beats wife to death

LAGOS - A 42-year-old Nigerian fisherman reportedly beat his wife to death over allegations that N5 000 (R202.74) was missing in Benue State. The Vanguard reported that early in the morning the couple had a heated argument over an alleged N5 000 that was made from the sale of fish. "The argument led to a fight, the husband beat her to a pulp and she passed out bleeding from her mouth and nostrils." "Neighbours, who intervened, made efforts to revive her but they were unsuccessful. She was eventually rushed to the Benue State University Teaching Hospital (BSUTH), for further treatment where she was confirmed dead," the source was quoted saying. *ANA*

Contested 'hate speech' law passes

ADDIS ABABA - Ethiopia passed a law punishing "hate speech" and "disinformation" with hefty fines and long jail terms, despite fears by rights groups it undermines gains in free speech. Nearly 300 lawmakers voted in favour of the bill, with 23 votes against and two abstentions. The new law defines hate speech as rhetoric that fuels discrimination "against individuals or groups based on their nationality, ethnic and religious affiliation, sex or disabilities." Penalties for disseminating such speech include fines of up to 100 000 Ethiopian birr (\$3 100) and prison terms of up to two years. *AFP*

Protesters padlock election commission

LILONGWE - Protesters padlocked Malawi's Electoral Commission offices in a new bid to force the panel's chief to quit after a top court overturned last May's presidential elections. The Constitutional Court on February 3 annulled results that declared President Peter Mutharika the narrow victor, and lashed the Malawi Electoral Commission (MEC) for "incompetence." The unprecedented verdict was triggered by use of correction fluid on tally sheets - the papers on which election overseers entered ballot counts. *AFP*

Focus on World News

Global News

KIM JONG-UN EXECUTES NORTH KOREA OFFICIAL

...official used public bath while in coronavirus quarantine

PYONGYANG - A North Korean trade official was shot and killed after visiting a public bath while he was meant to be in quarantine for a coronavirus precaution, according to South Korean media.

According to reporting from the Dong-a Ilbo newspaper and the

Daily Mail, the trade official had been placed in quarantine after travelling to China. His execution came after North Korean leader Kim Jong-un made a decree that the country would "rule by military law" against anyone who left quarantine without approval. It has been reported that the hermit

country, keen to avoid the virus at all costs, is isolating anyone who has travelled to China or has had contact with Chinese people. Separately, it has also been reported that another official who tried to cover up his travels to China has been exiled to a farm within the country. North Korea has closed

off its border with China, and has severely limited travel between the two countries. Pyongyang announced that quarantines for certain individuals will last 30 days instead of the usual 14. To fight coronavirus, China seizes hospitals and expels patients with other diseases. *National Post*

US supports aid to North Korea for fighting Coronavirus

SEOUL - The United States said it would approve humanitarian assistance to North Korea to help international aid agencies fight the coronavirus there,

amid fears that the impoverished country may be hiding an outbreak.

North Korea has not reported any cases of the new coronavirus. But in the past week, some South Korean

news reports, citing unnamed sources within the secretive North, said there had been deaths that were suspected to be related to the virus. The reports could not be

confirmed.

North Korea shares a 930-mile border with China, where the coronavirus emerged. It has since spread to numerous countries; more than 1 300 deaths have been reported, almost all of them in China. *AFP*

'Russia won't have gay marriages as long as I am president'

MOSCOW - Russia will not legalise same-sex marriage as long as Vladimir Putin is president, the country's leader said.

"While I am president, it will not happen," Putin told a meeting to discuss possible amendments to the constitution, according to comments carried by state media.

Public promotion of homosexuality is a crime in Russia under federal legislation signed into law by Putin in 2013.

Putin, 67, has been in power as president or prime minister for two decades, with his current term set to end in 2024. He is the longest-serving Russian or Soviet leader since Joseph Stalin.

dpa

Republican committee raises over R890m during impeachment trial

WASHINGTON - US President Donald Trump's re-election campaign and his Republican Party raised more than \$60 million (about R891 million) in January, against the backdrop of impeachment that threatened Trump's presidency.

The Democratic-led House of Representatives impeached Trump on December 18, making him only the third president in history to have that mark on his legacy. But the lower chamber then waited until mid-January to send the articles of impeachment to the Senate for a trial on whether to remove him from office. The Senate acquitted him on February 5. "The Democrats' shameful impeachment hoax and dumpster fire primary process have only contributed to the financial support for Trump's re-election," Brad Parscale, the president's campaign manager, said in a statement, apparently referring to last week's Iowa caucus debacle.

Daily Mail

cies."

Among those to lose their jobs are the couple's newly-appointed private secretary, Fiona McIlwham - although she is on secondment from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and is likely to be found in a role in Whitehall - and their hugely experienced communications chief Sara Latham.

Daily Mail



senior royals, including the Queen, Prince Charles and Prince William are aware of the office closure and redundancies.

A source told the Mail: "Given their decision to step back, an office at Buckingham Palace is no longer needed. While the details are still

being finalised and efforts are being made to redeploy people within the royal household, unfortunately there will be some redundan-

BRIEFS

Widow leaves estate to male relatives

LONDON - A sister and niece of a childless widow have won an £825 000 legal fight over her will after claiming she was 'bullied and coerced' into signing it shortly before her death. Former nurse Shirley Guymer, 78, was in hospital dying from cancer when she signed the new will, leaving her valuable home to her brother Terry Crook, 78, and his sons Andrew, 50, and Malcolm, 54.

But the move, two months before her death in March 2016, split the family and led to her sister Diane Stoner, 77, and her daughter Karen Reeve, 51, going to court to contest its validity.

Reuters

Coronavirus kills more in China

WUHAN - Coronavirus has killed six health workers in China and infected more than 1 700 since the outbreak began, Beijing said yesterday. Shortages of masks and protective gear have sparked a crisis for medical staff as they deal with more than 60 000 cases of the deadly virus. Zeng Yixin, Vice-Minister of China's national Health Commission, said that 1 102 of the 1 716 infected health workers caught the virus in the city of Wuhan.

Another 400 were infected elsewhere in Hubei province, the region at the centre of the outbreak which is under drastic quarantine measures.

Daily Mail

'Venezuelans too poor to have SEX'

CARACAS - Some Venezuelans are too poor to have sex because the country's economic crisis has left them unable to afford homes, hotels or contraception, couples say. A box of three condoms costs \$2, a month's supply of birth control pills can be \$8 and a hotel room in Caracas is \$10 for six hours - while the average salary in Venezuela is just \$6 a month. In addition, traders prefer to deal in dollars with the local bolivar in freefall but many people have no access to US currency. As a result, many couples have been forced to sneak into their parents' homes, share an intimate moment behind a palm tree or go into sexual hibernation altogether.

The Sun

Woman ends up with 130 cats

MOSCOW - A woman in Moscow has ended up with 130 cats in her small apartment after she rescued a pregnant stray four years ago. Her neighbours began to complain of a horrific smell coming from the apartment and an animal charity is now looking to find new homes for the 'half-starved' cats. Animal carer, Anastasia Soloviyeva, said they have already resettled roughly 50 cats after advertising them on social media. But there are 80 still living in the one-bedroom apartment. The unnamed divorcee's cat collecting habit was uncovered after neighbours raised the alarm when they became concerned at the smell and noise coming from the flat. *Daily Mail*

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 &

8. HOUSEHOLD

Domestic
Clothing
Baby and Kids
Furniture
Hobbies, Model Toys,

Handcraft

Wanted

10. BUILDING, GARDENING & DIY

Woodworking
Machinery & Tools
Plumbing & Electrical
Other Building & DIY
Plants, Trees & Flowers
Garden Furniture & Appliances
Other Gardening

11. FARMING EQUIPMENT

SPARES

Car Spares or Parts
Bike Spares
Truck, Bus and Trailer Spares
Stripping for Spares
Farming Equipment &
Machinery
Livestock
Other Farming

12. LEISURE, SPORT & EVENTS

Fitness
Tennis & squash
Watersport
Karate, Boxing & Judo
Angling & Cycling
Other Sport
Caravans, Campers and Trailers
Leisure, Community and
Events
Music and Instruments
Camping and Outdoor

13. PROPERTY

Residential
Commercial
Farms and Vacant Plots
Holiday & Accommodation
Apartments / Flats / Houses to

Rent

14. VEHICLES

Cars
Bikes
Classics and Custom Builds
Trucks
Buses Farming
Trailers
Aircraft

15. DEATH NOTICES

KIDNEY CLEANSER

Plant Based Supplement

1.5 Litres
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.

(+268) 7847 0894

DOC:21165 Dx 24/02/20

UNATSI ACADEMY

2020 ADMISSION NOW OPEN

We offer an english medium pre-school at lower Vusweni-Ndialambi (Hhohho 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 R/N 169 700

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 MM

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

R/N 169 786 DX 23 FEB 2020

XOLISWA NHLEKO

(Pty) Ltd

We design and repair
school desk, we do
school science and
computer labs fittings, we
also do kitchen fittings.



mm Dx 15/03/20

Contact: Muzi Nhleko 76221144
Mbuso Mazibuko 76877186

B Training Centre

APPROVED BY EHEC

2020 - REGISTRATION

Still Open | 4 weeks | 6 months | 1 year Courses

Electrical Wiring
Plumbing
Motor Mechanics
Auto Electrical
Panel Beating & Spray Painting
Diesel Mechanics
Air Conditioning & Refrigeration
Health & Safety
Catering & Hotel Management
TLB Lessons

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:
-Previous experience in the
relevant course.
-Inborn talent or passion.
-Form 5 minimum education.

Contact Details:

Mbabane | Manzini | Ngwenya 7832 4746
24040639 | 2505 7476 | 24424944 7602 5418
Email: btrainingcentres@gmail.com

Dx 16 Feb 2020 DOC:20984

Special quick sale



Vehicles well serviced and in good condition

Call: 7611 5288 for viewing

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

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)

R/N 173724 Dx 7/03/20

MBABANE
2404 7750/1
2404 2832
7617 1632

MANZINI
2505 9689
7614 8564
7603 6455

DEAF UPHOLSTERY EXPERT



Trained in South Africa
CHEAP, FAST & VERY NEAT

7844 5984 - whatsapp / 7655 6850 - voice

FOR SALE



WATER
RESERVOIRS
ESWATINI. From
15,000L to
530,000L.
Zincalume &
Galvanized Coated
Steel. 20 years
Warranty. Call:
7633 0560/
79789177

mm Dx 21 FEB

CAR FOR HIRE



CAR FOR SALE
V8 with engine,
negotiable
Contact 76120847
or 76144117

R/N 173749 Dx 15/02/20

MISCELLANEOUS



HERBS FOR:

- Diabetic
Patients
- BP
- Ulcers
- Sexual
Problems
- Mvusa Nkunzi

Call: 7611 0334
(next to Fire
Station, Mbabane)

R/N 173762 DX 12 MAR 2019.



www.observer.org.sz

Classifieds

CALL OUR OFFICES @ 2404 3807 / 2404 8699



Advertiser





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 Zimelani
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

BOTECH (PTY) LTD

VACANCY

Is seeking to employ an electronics and electrical engineer. Must have relevant qualifications with atleast 5 year working experience. Send CV to btechnology@gmail.com

EN1169-929-DX 17 FEB 2020

List & Find

For Advertising
your business
Call our office
@ 2404 3807
2404 8699



OUR CONDOLENCES TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE LOST
THEIR LOVED ONES



DEATHS



Samson Msongelwa
Zubuko

Kwatsiswa tihlobo nebangani ba Samson Msongelwa Zubuko kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatsiswa 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 lemndeneni. 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

Kwatsiswa tihlobo ta Sellinah Khalile Kunene uLahlophe wase Mtfunjini eMagubheleni kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kuyawulindzelwa ngeMgcibelo ekhaya lakhe aphihlwe ngelisontfo ekuseni. Kwatsiswa baka Mazibuko ekhabonina nabaka Hlophe. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngu Simangele Dlakudze egameni lemndeneni.



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

MAYWEATHER IN TALKS TO FIGHT MCGREGOR, KHABIB SAME DAY

LAS VEGAS - Floyd Mayweather has teased the remarkable prospect of potentially returning to the ring to fight both Conor McGregor and Khabib Nurmagomedov... on the same day.

The 42-year-old has been in and out of retirement and hasn't featured in the ring since beating former two-weight UFC champion McGregor in August 2017.

Now, however, Mayweather has revealed he is in talks to showcase a rematch with McGregor, alongside a fight with the Irishman's bitter UFC rival Khabib.

Mayweather has been drumming up speculation with a series of social media posts, taking to Instagram to promote 'Mayweather McGregor 2, 2020.'

The undefeated boxing legend added more clarity while recently speaking as a guest on the Drink



Champs podcast.

"I even talked about fighting Khabib and Conor in the same day," Mayweather revealed.

"Khabib in the day and Conor at

night. You pay one fee, probably \$250 (£190), and you get both fights."

UFC president Dana White has made no secret of his willingness to facilitate a second blockbuster

Mayweather - McGregor showdown, after the first meeting went down as one of the most lucrative in boxing history.

Daily Mail

Lewis Hamilton unveils new Mercedes car

LONDON - Lewis Hamilton has unveiled the new Mercedes he hopes will fire him to a record-equalling seventh Formula One world championship.

The 35-year-old British driver will be given the first taste of his new machinery during a shakedown test at Silverstone on Friday afternoon.

Hamilton is this year bidding to match Michael Schumacher's record of seven world titles. He is also just seven victories shy of the German's all-time win record of 91.

"At this time of the year you don't really feel any pressure," said Hamilton.

"[You are focused but it is about enjoying the moment.

"The guys have worked so hard to put the car together and there are only two of us, Valtteri (Bottas) and I, who get to drive it.

"It is pretty incredible, and we get to stretch its wings today. It is a real privilege to be in this position."

Daily Mail



Sherrock becomes first woman to make appearance in Premier League darts

LONDON - Fallon Sherrock created even more history as she became the first woman to appear in darts' Premier League.

It could have been an even more remarkable night but she narrowly failed to beat Glen Durrant, drawing 6-6 on her debut. A win would have seen her become the first ever

'challenger' to claim a win in the event.

The 25-year-old became the first woman to win a match at the PDC World Championship in December - defeating both Ted Everts and Mensur Suljovic.

She stayed in the match against Durrant throughout and had the crowd on their feet in leg seven with three triple-figure visits before a superb 92 checkout with bull, six

and double 18.

Sherrock threw for the match in the final leg but was broken by the three-time BDO world champion and had to settle for a draw.

"I've loved every minute of it. I'm so happy that I get to play again on the big stage. It's been incredible," she told Sky Sports afterwards.

"I'm speechless because everyone's come and it's amazing. I just thank everyone that's here supporting. I'm

so grateful."

Sherrock was granted the opportunity to appear as a Premier League 'challenger' after her World Championship feats at Alexandra Palace.

"Discussing what comes next for her, Sherrock added: 'I'm getting opportunities opening up all the time, so obviously I'm excited to see what 2020 holds for me.'

Daily Mail

'It's the Olympic Games... We had to play already without Mo'

LONDON - Jurgen Klopp has called for more information before making a final decision on whether he will allow Mohamed Salah to play for Egypt at Tokyo 2020 this summer.

The Pharaohs will appear in the Olympic Games football tournament for the first time since London 2012 after winning the 2019 Africa U23

Cup of Nations for the first time and Salah is slated to be named as one of three overage players in the squad.

Tournament

However, with the tournament running from July 22 until August 8, the winger will then miss the start of the Premier League season and as a non-FIFA competition Salah must receive permission from his club to compete.

On the current situation, Klopp said: 'No decision. Do I want to lose

a player in pre-season? Of course not, but we have to consider different things and I will speak to Mo and we are completely clear about what we want but we need more information - how would it look, when would preparation start and all that stuff. It's difficult to get in contact with me using the newspapers over there because most of the things I don't read but Matt (McCann, head of press) informs me. 'No decision made yet, but we will see.

"We had to play already without Mo, not too often thank God but time to time we have to and we will have so that is how it is and it is not about that.

"It's the Olympic Games, Olympia is Olympia, I am a sportsperson myself, so we will have to see how we deal with it.

"We cannot discuss it really because we don't know a lot about it, but we heard about the things they said. They have to contact us then we will see." *The Guardian*

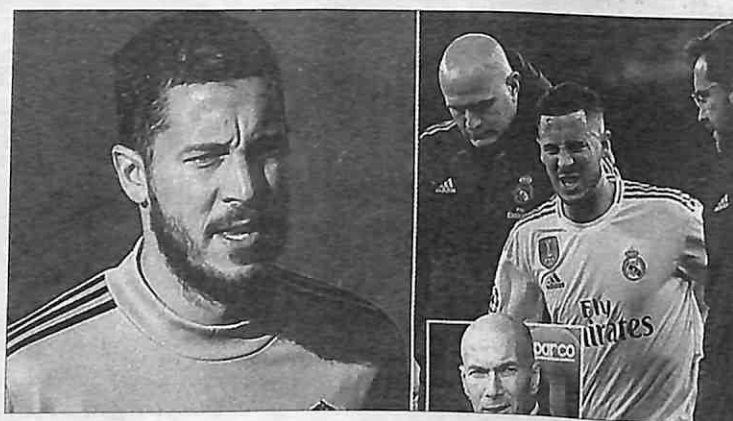
Madrid medical team rate Hazard's fitness at '60 per cent'

MADRID - Eden Hazard is set to return to action for Real Madrid on Sunday, but he could still be some way off his best shape.

Zinedine Zidane has hinted that the Belgian will make his return against Celta Vigo after more than two months out with an ankle injury.

The former Chelsea star will be under pressure to impress after a slow start following his £130m summer move, but Madrid fans will have to be patient, with the club's medical staff rating Hazard's fitness at only 60 per cent, according to Marca.

The Spanish paper have reported that Zidane plans to begin Hazard's reintegration into the starting line-



up with a 30 minute cameo against Celta, after the star had been pressuring his boss for minutes in Madrid's last game against Osasuna.

The former Premier League Player

of the Season limped off during Madrid's 2-2 draw with PSG back in November following a sluggish start to life in Spain featuring just one goal.

Without the star signing Madrid have overhauled Barcelona and forged a three-point lead at the top of La Liga.

With the Catalans in disarray, Madrid are beginning to edge ahead as favourites for the league title, and Hazard's return will only spell more worries for Quique Setien's side.

Madrid are also set to restart their Champions League campaign against Manchester City in the last-16 this month in a crucial game in both side's seasons.

Hazard will be looking to add the Spanish title and Champions League to his trophy cabinet, after twice winning the Premier League and Europa League with Chelsea. *ESPN*



Cricket fans face radio blackout with no ball-by-ball coverage of England Tests

LONDON - Cricket fans are facing the prospect of a radio blackout when England tour Sri Lanka next month, with TalkSport rejecting live commentary rights and the BBC lacking the funds to step in at the last minute.

The two-Test series, which is part of the World Test Championship, will be the first England Tests not to feature ball-by-ball radio coverage since Michael Vaughan's side visited Bangladesh in 2003.

TalkSport had secured the first

option for live radio rights for the tour, which features Tests in Galle and Colombo, but they have opted not to take them up following talks with the host board. The commercial broadcaster remain committed to cricket commentary, particularly as their coverage of England's 3-1 Test win in South Africa was widely acclaimed.

But they are focusing their resources on longer tours — which enable them to offer a wider variety of programming — such as next winter's

five-Test series in India.

TalkSport walking away led to the BBC expressing interest in the rights for Test Match Special, but talks with Sri Lanka Cricket have not progressed over the last few weeks.

As it stands, there will be no radio commentary in the UK on the series, which England must win 2-0 to put pressure on India and Australia at the top of the World Test Championship.

Despite their eagerness to regain

live rights for England tours, BBC Sport are operating under severe financial restrictions at a time of job losses and programming cuts across the corporation.

In an expensive year for sport that will be dominated by the BBC's extensive coverage of the Olympics, executives have ruled they do not have the funds to secure the Sri Lanka rights, although a last-minute deal remains a remote possibility.

Daily Mail

Saracens' denied their showpiece fixture against South Africa

JOHANNESBURG - Saracens will be denied the opportunity to stage a marquee fixture against world champions South Africa next season to alleviate the impact of being relegated from the Premiership.

The disgraced London club had revealed plans to arrange a series of glamour matches against foreign opposition — such as the Springboks — to take place during their 2020-21 campaign in the RFU Championship, the second division.

Saracens had ambitiously targeted a showpiece encounter with South Africa but Sportsmail understands that their hopes have been dashed, as the country's union does not want to associate the Boks with what has become a tarnished sporting brand after the salary-cap scandal.

Last November, the South Africa team, captained by Siya Kolisi, won the World Cup by smashing England 32-12 in the final in Yokohama.

A fixture against the holders of the Webb Ellis Cup would have been a huge box-office attraction and a lucrative event for Saracens in terms of revenue, if it had taken place in London. But the indications are that Saracens — who are being automatically relegated as punishment for salary-cap infringements — may have to look elsewhere for high-calibre opposition.

They may still have success in lining up matches against leading South African franchises such as the Stormers from Cape Town and the Durban-based Sharks, as part of a strategy to arrange encounters with Super Rugby sides.

BARCELONA 'TURN ATTENTION TO ROGER MARTI'

MADRID - Barcelona have turned their attention to Levante striker Roger Marti as the Catalan giants search for a new forward following the long term injuries of Ousmane Dembele and Luis Suarez.

The LaLiga Club has been on the hunt for a new striker to lift the goalscoring burden from Lionel Messi with Barca short of attacking options for the latter half of the season. And according to Football Espana, Levante striker Marti has emerged as the frontrunner, with Barcelona waiting to find out whether they will be allowed to sign a contracted player from another Spanish club this month.

Marti has struck 10 goals in 22 league games this

season, with only Messi, Suarez and Karim Benzema bettering that record so far this campaign.

The 29-year-old has been on the books at Levante since 2011, having come through the Valencia B team while enjoying loan spells at Zaragoza and Valladolid.

Barcelona are also said to be interested in Getafe forward Angel Rodriguez, Real Betis' Loren Moron and former West Ham and Arsenal striker Lucas Perez. *ESPN*



McIlroy produces fireworks as he roars into life with two eagles

LONDON - A couple of firecrackers from Rory McIlroy in his first round back as world number one, and an opening statement from Tiger Woods in just about the only tournament of any note that he has never won.

Yes, all seemed right in the golf world once more as the two most charismatic players in the

modern game sparked on a marvellous opening day at the Genesis Invitational.

Amazing what happens when you get all the best players in the world at the same tournament and a classy venue. Funnily enough, no-one among an enthralled gallery at gorgeous Riviera appeared to be too concerned about how far the golf ball travels.

McIlroy recovered from a poor start to transform his round with two eagle threes in the space of three holes on his way to a first round 68. Woods, by contrast, was swift out of the blocks with a fab-

ulous front nine played in 31 strokes before cooling off dramatically for a 69.

Woods began with an eagle three and, following a kick-in birdie at the 8th, his delirious hometown gallery, now reasonably well-oiled, broke into a chant that might resonate the weekend.

'Eighty-three, eighty-three,' they chorused, referring to the fact that if Woods did finally win this event that he now hosts, it would be his 83rd PGA Tour win, thereby surpassing Sam Snead's record total set way back in 1965.

A long way to go before that pos-

sibility moves properly into view, of course. He will certainly have to drive the ball better than on the back nine, although it did add to the day's drama, as he made a couple of wholly unlikely pars at the 13th and 15th, before coming unstuck with a bogey at the 18th.

He was off at 7-16am yesterday, and that will be no picnic for a 44 year old who needs over an hour of physio before each round simply to get his back ready to play.

McIlroy was in that slot on Thursday and he reckoned the frigid temperatures early on knocked 40 yards off his drives. *Daily Mail*



Benitez, his team stuck in Spain for pre-season training

MADRID - Rafa Benitez admits that the effects of the outbreak of the deadly coronavirus are like nothing he has ever come across in his football career.

His club, Dalian Professional, should be in the final stages of their pre-season preparation ahead of the beginning of the new Chinese Super League season.

But that has already been postponed from its February 22 start date, with April now pencilled

in, though that could still change.

He and his players are now stuck in Spain, preparing for a season that they do not know when will it begin, or if it will at all.

'I've never known or experienced anything like this in my career,' Benitez told The Athletic.

'Normally you would know about when you start, you have the fixtures, you know when and where you're playing, but here we're waiting.'

'Of course, you understand the

logic of these decisions after the news about the virus, which changed everything. It's a normal pre-season but in very strange circumstances.'

Precautions are being taken, with the squad and staff effectively quarantined at the Westin La Quinta Golf Resort and Spa in Benahavis in southern Spain.

'We're taking the players' temperatures twice a day and are monitoring that, and there is anti-septic gel in all the areas where

we are around,' Benitez says.

'We're keeping them within the hotel grounds and the training areas for two weeks, just to be sure that everything is looked after. It's really a precaution — you can see that everybody is fine — but we are doing everything just in case.' They are being put through double training sessions most days, and with amenities including table tennis, table football and cards boredom has yet to set in. *Sports Mail*



CHELSEA 'TARGETING SANCHO, BELLINGHAM AND DEMBELE'

LONDON - Chelsea eye a triple deal this summer for Jadon Sancho, Jude Bellingham and Moussa Dembele according to The Sun.

The Blues confirmed they will purchase Hakim Ziyech in the summer for £37million but Frank Lampard wants more additions this summer.

Sancho is being targeted by Manchester United and Liverpool this summer.

The Red Devils are also interested in Birmingham starlet Bellingham, and Lyon star Dembele.

Chelsea have drawn up this shortlist as they are expecting Willian, Pedro and Olivier Giroud to depart in the next transfer window.

Juventus are the front runners to sign Willian according to the Express, as they seek to snap up another Premier League star on a free, after signing Aaron Ramsey and Emre Can in recent sea-



TARGET: Jadon Sancho.

sons.

Marca believe Willian will reportedly join Barcelona on a free transfer this summer, however, when his contract at Stamford Bridge expires.

The 31-year-old has spoken of his desire to remain at Chelsea in recent

months but a lack of progress over contract talks had led him to open talks with other clubs.

Willian has met with Barcelona representatives on two occasions and is reportedly close to agreeing a move to the Nou Camp. *Sports Mail*

PREMIER LEAGUE STARS FORK OUT THOUSANDS ON SECURITY

LONDON - Premier League footballers are being forced to fork out thousands for private security to protect themselves in Dubai amid growing fears they will be targeted by thugs.

Dubai has become a popular destination for high-profile footballers, with dozens of Premier League stars flying to the United Arab Emirates during the league's first winter break.

But players are concerned they are becoming easy targets, with some feeling the need to invest in private guards who can ensure their safety.

Concierge services offer players bespoke round-the-clock security to protect them and their valuables

while they are away in Dubai.

Players are being warned not to flaunt their wealth by their advisers before heading away to the popular holiday destination, amid intelligence that suggests criminals will look to take advantage.

Dubai has long been a destination for the rich and famous and the sunshine haven has enjoyed a reputation as a safe place.

But one source said: 'The landscape has changed significantly in Dubai in recent years.'

It's not as peaceful as it once was. Players are sitting ducks, particularly the ones who aren't so low key.

'Having more security is probably a good idea.' *Sports Mail*

Haaland slams 'comical' talk of him demanding big wage

MANCHESTER - Erling Haaland has explained why he chose Borussia Dortmund over Manchester United in January, rejecting claims that he demanded a huge salary during negotiations.

United were thought to be favourites to sign the former RB Salzburg striker, with Ole Gunnar Solskjaer flying to meet the teenager he last linked up with as Molde manager.

However, the 19-year-old decided snub United and join Lucien Favre's side in a £17m move. There were reports suggesting the Norwegian was intent on a £6.65m salary, but Haaland insists otherwise.

"It's not my focus, whatsoever," Haaland told Viasport.

"It's kind of comical if I were to get that label. All the people closest to me know that's not the kind of person I am. It's really been comical."

The striker has fired in seven goals in four Bundesliga games in a lightning start to his career in Germany, providing a huge boost to Dortmund.

His decision to reject Manchester United appears to have been vindicated, leaving United and Solskjaer bitter.

The Old Trafford side blamed the player's agent, Mino Raiola, and representatives for their unsuccessful negotiations. Raiola rejected the claims, insisting Haaland simply 'chose a different path', a notion the Norwegian has backed.

"When the season was over, my father and I started talking," he said.

"At that point he didn't mention Dortmund at all and then I asked him: 'What about this club?' He said: 'we'll see.'"

"Suddenly it became an option and then it was what I felt all along.

The process was to find the best possible club for me. "Solskjaer has been very important for me in getting to where I am today, but we concluded that Dortmund was where I felt best about, and therefore it became Dortmund."

Sports Mail

Manchester United 'demand £83m for Paul Pogba'

LONDON - Paul Pogba will not be allowed to leave Manchester United for anything less than £100million (£83m) this summer, according to reports.

The Frenchman is desperate to leave Old Trafford and is expected to get his wish at the end of the season with both Real Madrid and Juventus interested.

But United are unwilling to part with one of their prized assets on the cheap and are said to be willing to hold out for a deal that reflects Pogba's true value.

According to The Guardian, United have slapped an £83m price tag on Pogba but both Juventus and Real are said to be uneasy with paying that much.

It is claimed both clubs feel that is too expensive, given Pogba's average form since he returned to United in 2016.

The Frenchman is certain he wants to leave and the report claims his agent, Mino Raiola, will try to get United to lower their fee. Pogba will also have just one year left on his contract at the end of the season. Raiola admitted on Thursday night that his client 'would not mind' a return to former club Juventus this summer,

'Italy is like home for Paul. He would not mind going back to Juve but we will see what will happen after the Euros,' Raiola said after Juventus drew 1-1 with AC Milan on Thursday.

"Paul wants to play at the best level but he can't escape by Manchester United if they are in a difficult situation."

The United star is finally closing in on a return to first-team action and is targeting next month's Manchester derby.

He has been limited to just eight appearances, having suffered ankle problems in September that kept him out for three months, and he was only able to play twice during an aborted comeback over Christmas.

Sports Mail



Erling Haaland has insisted he did not demand a huge wage from Borussia Dortmund.

'Mourinho told me I was rubbish'

LONDON - Chelsea defender Kurt Zouma has revealed he was once at the receiving end of a rollicking from Jose Mourinho who called him 'rubbish' after a defeat in the Premier League.

Zouma, 25, has become a regular at the Blues this season after two separate loan spells away from the club, making 30 appearances across all competitions under Frank Lampard.

However, when he first arrived under the tutelage of Mourinho, the France international had doubts around his ability due to his inconsistent displays.

And he recalls a specific incident with Mourinho, which he believes motivated him to work harder at Stamford Bridge.

"I cannot remember which match we were

playing, we were losing 3-1, away from home," Zouma told RMC Sport.

"The following day, he [Mourinho] catches up with me, he takes me to his office, and he asks me if I am ok. I said yes, he asked me if I was sure.

"I said yes again, he replied 'Because you were rubbish this weekend.' Like that, direct. It shocked me, but it made me want to immediately respond on the pitch.

"I remember that it hurt me, that it affected me. But I really wanted to show him that I could react."

Zouma went on to dispel the notion that Mourinho doesn't show faith in youth, something the Tottenham manager has been criticised for throughout his glittering managerial career.

"He is someone who loves victory. He uses all the tools possible to achieve it," Zouma said. "I came here at 19 and he played me. I was able to have my chances, I played my matches.

"I don't know what other people think, we all have different opinions, but from my side, I don't really agree [with the notion that Mourinho does not give young players a

chance]." *ESPN*

South African SOCCER

Nedbank Cup last 16 dates

JOHANNESBURG - The PSL has confirmed the dates, venues and kick-off times for the upcoming Nedbank Cup last 16 fixtures.

The last 16 stage will kick-off next Friday and conclude on Tuesday, 25 February.

Tickets for all eight fixtures will be sold at TicketPro outlets and SPAR stores countrywide. The round of 16 fixtures will kick-off at Thohoyandou Stadium on Friday evening when 2011 finalists Black Leopards host ABC Motsepe League side Amavara FC, who are beaming with confidence after a memorable victory of Super Eagles in the previous round.

On Saturday, 22 February at 15h00, Highlands Park and Kaizer Chiefs will battle it out at Makhulong Stadium while Happy Wanderers entertain TS Sporting at Princess Magogo Stadium. Mbombela United welcome Real Kings to Kanyamazane Stadium.

Then at 20h15, Bloemfontein Celtic and Maritzburg United will lock horns at the Dr Molemela Stadium in Mangaung.

The following day, Sunday 23 February, Baroka FC and Hungry Lions will clash at Peter Mokaba Stadium while two-time Nedbank Cup champions Mamelodi Sundowns host Vaal University of Technology at Lucas Moripe Stadium. Kick-off for both fixtures is also at 15h00.

The last fixture of the last 16 stage will take place on Tuesday, 25 February at Bidvest Stadium when 2010 champions Bidvest Wits host Chippa United in a repeat of the 2019 quarter-final.

I'm so hot about Chiefs game - Zinnbauer

JOHANNESBURG - Orlando Pirates coach Josef Zinnbauer has discussed the prospect of facing Kaizer Chiefs in his very first Soweto Derby experience later this month.

Zinnbauer is set to lead his charges out in one of the biggest fixtures on the continent when Pirates host Chiefs for the second round Absa Premiership Soweto Derby on February 29. The German, who has previously experienced the supporters' culture in the Bundesliga where he managed Hamburg, has faced the likes of Borussia Dortmund and Bayern Munich.

Dortmund's home Signal Iduna Park has a capacity of over 80 000 and is regularly filled to capacity for their fixtures, while Bayern's Allianz Arena has a 75 000 capacity. The 49-year-old, however, is itching to experience a sold-out 90 000-seater FNB Stadium in two weeks' time and says he is "hot" for the match to come as early as tomorrow.

"We have a game in Dortmund, with Hamburg, there was maybe, I don't know, I think 70 000 [supporters] and the stadium was so loud, you can't understand your own words," said Zinnbauer upon receiving his maiden Absa Coach of the Month award at the PSL offices. "When we played against Bayern Munich, it was full. So, I've had a lot of games [with big crowds] like this, but I'm so happy I get the chance to play with the team in front of 90 000."



WELL-RESTED CHIEFS HAVE NO EXCUSE NOT TO WIN THE LEAGUE

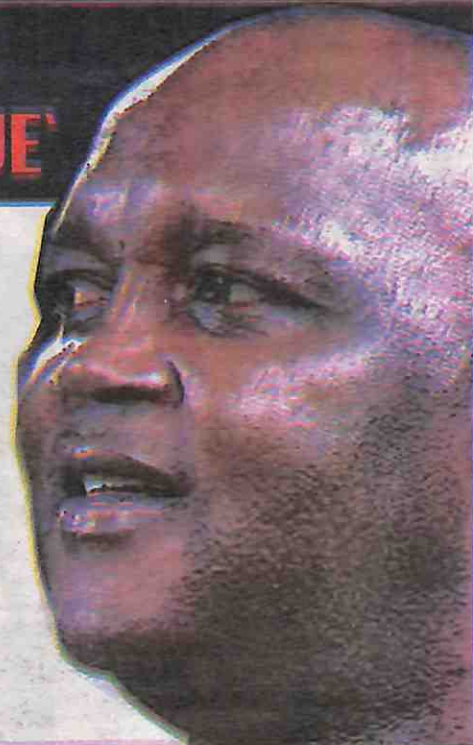
PRETORIA - Pitso Mosimane has compared Kaizer Chiefs to a student who is studying fewer subjects and is expected to pass with flying colours as the workload is significantly lower.

With Chiefs focusing on the league and are still in the running for the Nedbank Cup, 'Jingles' says Ernst Middendorp's side have no excuse not to win the league for the first time since 2015.

"It is like I am at school and doing 10 courses and you are doing three or four; at the end of the year you must pass because you did three. You have to pass with distinction, because the amount of time I put in to study and attend the classes, it is tiring and it's stressful. They have to pass, the league is in their hands and they must win the league," said

Mosimane. "We played six games in the Champions League group stages, the Telkom Knockout to the final, the MTN8 we played to the semi-finals. The competitors did not even play in the MTN8, they are fresh and strong so they have to win the league. Chiefs have got no excuse."

"A lot of games create a lot of problems. Maritzburg United were playing on Wednesday and they are playing again this weekend, but Chiefs are waiting for you. They have got seven days and they are fresh. We are in the Champions League and we play more games and do you know how many games Bidvest Wits played? Four games to qualify for the Caf Confederation Cup group stages. Four games plus six games in the group stages more than the competitor." *The Citizen*



KHUNE WANTS THE NO.1 JERSEY BACK

JOHANNESBURG - Itumeleng Khune's reign as Kaizer Chiefs' No. 1 has hit rock bottom in the past few months but the 32-year-old has vowed to stay positive while he continues to work hard in order to get back to the top.

Having burst onto the scene almost 13 years ago, Khune went on to become a prominent figure in South African football, both for Chiefs and Bafana Bafana. However, a shoulder injury midway last season saw the multiple award-winning goalkeeper spending more time in the medical room than between the sticks.

This meant that Chiefs were forced into a corner, signing then lowly ranked Daniel Akpeyi from Chippa United during last season's January transfer window as Khune's temporary replacement.

However, after a full pre-season with the team, Khune once more found himself back in the medical room in October after suffering a groin injury against Baroka.

Since then, though, Akpeyi did enough to work his way into the hearts and minds of the fans, players and the technical team, playing an important role as the team currently sit atop the Premiership with 45 points from 19 matches so far this season. Coach Ernst Middendorp



has rewarded Akpeyi's resurgence with the No. 1 jersey, while Khune has been demoted to a roll on the bench - something that is a first for him.

However, the experienced shot-stopper will not moan and sulk, insisting that he'll continue to back Akpeyi, who's been one of the pillars of strength for the team this season, while he'll continue to work his socks off at training and behind the scenes.

"It all boils down to confidence. I think the more I keep working hard at training, the more I'll convince the coaches that I deserve to be back in the team," said Khune, who's only made three domestic appearances for Amakhosi this season. "But if that doesn't happen, then I'll continue supporting Daniel."

"We have a healthy competition; this is because whoever is on the field is able to perform." *The Star*

Kerr gave Baroka players confidence - Mosele

JOHANNESBURG - Baroka FC defender Goodman Mosele says the arrival of Dylan Kerr revived the team.

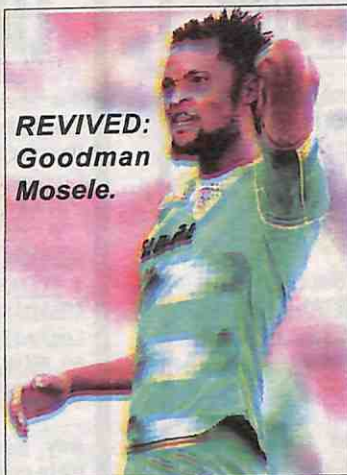
The Limpopo-based outfit is slowly moving away from the relegation zone with the help of the English mentor.

"When he arrived, he changed the mood in the camp. He made the guys believe in themselves and to motivate the gents each game to give a good performance, like we did in the Nedbank Cup against Polokwane," Mosele told Phakaaathi.

"He always stresses the point of getting the points that are important for us to achieve our goal of moving up the league table."

"The trust he has in us has helped us trust ourselves and to be confident on the ball, and the attention he pays to our defensive wall, which has helped us win games and not concede goals, has been a major difference for us."

**REVIVED:
Goodman
Mosele.**



Bagaga will face Bidvest Wits in their next outing with the Clever Boys making the long trip to Limpopo to the Peter Mokaba Stadium.

"Each game is there for us to win now, each game we are told by the coach to fight and we get the results we need. We trust each other in the team and we play more for each other now." *The Citizen*

LONLA INVESTMENTS

NEW STOCK ARRIVE

ALL SIZES OF TYRES AVAILABLE

185/65R14
175/70 R13
195/65R15
185/65R15
185/55R16
205/55R16
225/45R17
195/80R15

225/40 R18 4 FOR **E1200.00**
255/55 R19
205/80 R17.5

175/65 R14
4 for **1000.00**

165 R13
4 for **1000.00**

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

RONALDO SALVAGES DRAW IN 90TH MINUTE

JUVENTUS - It took a controversial last-minute penalty to spare Juventus' blushes as Cristiano Ronaldo salvaged a draw in the first leg of their Coppa Italia semi-final against 10-man AC Milan.

Ronaldo cannoned a bicycle kick into the hand of Milan's Davide Calabria, who was facing the other way when the shot was blocked with his hand.

The referee immediately waved off Juventus protests and it was not until the intervention of VAR that the game became dominated by a single decision. Ronaldo converted the penalty with confidence. That is 35 in 35 for club and country now.

Scoring an away goal, given they looked set to lose, felt massive for the Italian champions. "It's important to score an away goal, but a team like ours cannot just be happy to allow Milan an opener and put the game in doubt," Leonardo Bonucci told Rai Sport after the draw. "We have to get back in shape, everyone needs to step up and do more. It wasn't a bad performance, but Milan pressed high and at this moment we need to do more, because what we're doing during the week is not enough". But there were plenty in red and black that felt fur-



DOMINANT: Juventus' Cristiano Ronaldo.

ous the decision, along with the second half sending off for Theo Hernandez, was made given the referee was initially adamant it was not a deliberate handball.

Strike

Calabria was facing the crosser on the right and as the ball went over his head, he was unaware Ronaldo was to strike from a yard or two behind him. He did not see the strike, could not have moved out of the way and found himself booked for dissent when

pleading his innocence. His manager was, unsurprisingly, seething at the final whistle.

"I got angry first and foremost because there was a foul on Ibrahimovic earlier in the move," Stefano Pioli said.

"Plus I remember the referees showed footage of that Cagliari-Brescia penalty at the start of the season and said it was an error to award it because the player couldn't see the ball".

Sports Mail

Odegaard scores winner in Copa del Rey semi-final first leg

MADRID - Real Sociedad beat second division Mirandes 2-1 at home in the Copa del Rey semi-final first leg on Thursday night to stay on course to reach the final for the first time in 32 years.

Spain international Mikel Oyarzabal fired the home side into the lead in the ninth minute at a heaving and noisy Reale Arena.

But Mirandes, who also reached the semi-finals in 2012 and have knocked out three La Liga sides this season, levelled in the 40th through Brazilian forward Matheus Rodrigues.

The striker, on loan from Premier League Watford, controlled a pass into the area and fended off three defenders before sending the ball tricking into the bottom corner to score a fifth goal in four Cup games this season.

Sociedad's Norway midfielder Martin Odegaard lost the ball in the build-up to the equaliser but redeemed himself three minutes later by netting on the rebound to restore the lead.

The Basque side had more

chances after the break but were kept at bay by keeper Limones, who gave Mirandes hope for the second leg at their tiny Estadio Municipal de Anduva where they have knocked out Celta Vigo, Sevilla and Villarreal this season.

"We created a lot of chances and were hoping for a better result but we have to look on the positive side and try to finish the job at their ground," Oyarzabal told reporters.

Sociedad last won the Cup in 1987 and are bidding to reach the final for the first time since 1988.

They pulled off a stunning 4-3 away win over Real Madrid in the quarter-finals and their team bus was greeted on arrival at the stadium by thousands of supporters waving flags and scarves, some of whom lit blue flares.

Sociedad's local rivals Athletic Bilbao beat Granada 1-0 at home on Wednesday in the other semi-final, setting up the prospect of an all-Basque final in Seville on April 18.

The Sun

TYSON FURY CONVINCED HE CANNOT RELY ON THE VEGAS JUDGES

LONDON - Tyson Fury has dismissed scepticism from his former trainer Ben Davison towards the knockout strategy he has devised for his rematch with Deontay Wilder.

Having jabbed and moved his way to a contentious draw in their first fight in 2018, Fury claims he will target an early stoppage in the second fight in Las Vegas on February 23.

If his comments are taken at face value, a slugfest with the WBC's huge-hitting champion Wilder would be a major risk.

Davison, who was jettisoned by Fury in December, said earlier this month: "It's not exactly the approach I would decide on taking but that doesn't mean it's wrong."

But Fury is convinced he cannot afford to rely on the Vegas judges.

He said: "The bigger the risk, the bigger the reward. I know that is not the strategy Ben would have taken but that is why Ben is not training me for this fight, because I don't need that strategy."

"What I did last time was fantastic but it wasn't good enough to get me the victory. It had to be changed."

"It is very risky walking on to a puncher, but you won't knock him out by dancing around the ring for 12 rounds. I have to knock this guy out, simple as."

"Anyone who thinks Wilder can't be knocked down is an idiot. I will prove how powerful I am. I am going to make him quit."

Daily Mail

MORELOS CONTINUES TO POLARISE OPINION AT RANGERS

GLASGOW - Goalscorer, hot-head, hero and villain. Alfredo Morelos has taken on every identity during his Rangers career.

The striker has been a polarising figure since his move to Ibrox in 2017 and has the power to get fans off their feet for all the right, and wrong, reasons.

With 77 goals in 131 games, there's no denying the 23-year-old's talent and importance to Manager Steven Gerrard.

But a record of seven red cards in three seasons is just one of the reasons some fans see the forward as a liability, especially in big games. His most recent dismissal came in the final moments of

Rangers' 2-1 victory over Celtic in December when he was shown a second yellow for simulation.

Referee Kevin Clancy also gave Morelos a third caution after the striker drew his hand across his throat in a gesture towards the opposition fans as he walked off the pitch.

This was only two weeks after the striker was sent off for his wild celebrations against Motherwell, yet another example of his ill temperament.

His fiery nature is one of the reasons he's so difficult to play against but his failure to channel that energy in the right way has made him his own worst enemy.

Former Celtic striker Chris Sutton believed his actions in the derby could have cost Rangers the league title and accused him of lacking maturity.

"Alfredo Morelos is supposed to be a changed, man but old habits seem to die hard," he wrote in the Daily Record.

Gerrard had no complaints with either of the decisions, perhaps sparing him public criticism because of the disciplinary improvements he had made at the start of the season. Before his dismissal at Motherwell, Morelos had only picked up two yellow cards in the SPL - a significant improvement from his 2018-2019 campaign. *ESPN*

LIQUOR NOTICE

It is hereby notified for general information that the Liquor Licensing Board will hold its sitting to hear the following applications at the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade Conference Room on the **6 March 2020** starting at **09.30am**.

REGION HHOHHO

1. **LOJAF (PTY) LTD**, P.O. Box 5727
MBABANE GRANT of a **RESTAURANT**
Liquor Licence situated at **PLOT 1468, THE HUB TENBERGEN STR** known as **LOJAF T/A THE HUB COFFEE SHOP**.

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

SECRETARY LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD
P.O. BOX 451
MBABANE

R/N173780

LIQUOR NOTICE

It is hereby notified for general information that the Liquor Licensing Board will hold its sitting to hear the following applications at the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade Conference Room on the **6 March 2020** starting at **09.30am**.

REGION HHOHHO

1. **LOJAF (PTY) LTD**, P.O. Box 5727
MBABANE GRANT of a **RESTAURANT**
Liquor Licence situated at **REM60, PORTION 21 FARM 51 EZULWINI** known as **LOJAF T/A THE GABLES COFFEE SHOP**.

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

SECRETARY LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD
P.O. BOX 451
MBABANE

R/N173780

LIQUOR NOTICE

It is hereby notified for general information that the Liquor Licensing Board will hold its sitting to hear the following applications at the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade Conference Room on the **6 March 2020** starting at **09.30am**.

REGION HHOHHO

1. **LOJAF (PTY) LTD**, P.O. Box 5727
MBABANE GRANT of a **RESTAURANT**
Liquor Licence situated at **PLOT 706, FARM 61, EZULWINI** known as **LOJAF T/A THE CRESCENT COFFEE SHOP**.

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

SECRETARY LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD
P.O. BOX 451
MBABANE

R/N173781

Lando Norris admits he is not paid enough

LONDON - Formula One star Lando Norris isn't going to follow Lewis Hamilton to Monaco - because he can't afford it.

While Hamilton is looking to capitalise on his status as a six-time world champion with a new Mercedes deal worth up to £60 million a year, his compatriot is rubbing along on a mere £400 000. That means Norris, 20, would rather stay in Surrey than move to the playground of the grid's high-rollers.

Speaking at McLaren's launch in Woking on Wednesday ahead of the season's first race in Melbourne on March 15, he said: "I don't earn enough to move to Monaco anytime soon."

"I have just got a new home down the road from the factory - 3 minutes 20 seconds in my car, driving within the speed limits."

"Before that I was in Guildford, but this is even easier. And I enjoy being near the factory and close to my friends rather than be stuck in Monaco." *The Telegraph*



By Mbuso Sigudla
(Guest Writer)

Executive Summary

This is a non-profit making organisation aimed at mentoring, developing and growing the skills of young athletes in the country.

Child development pertains to a crucial aspect in a child's life and should be nurtured in all possible ways. Sport has provided children with the ease to move skilfully and enjoy being active. Consequently, children involved in sport build confidence and positive self-esteem.

As an organisation, The Shooting Stars Foundation has therefore provided this opportunity to all children; regardless of their background. We put forward values of respect, honour, and diligence etc in everything that we do, thus imparting these traits onto the children. Correspondingly, the organisation aims towards working cohesively with parents and guardians to help them find success in sport; making them feel valued and loved. Sport is important to children, and serves as a strong social asset. Children who are competent in sports tend to have solid friendships and are most likely to become group leaders in their class; as they adopt leadership skills.

Mbuso Sigudla- Managing Director

He is a well-spoken and intelligent individual who holds an advanced diploma in Sports Administration. He is a co-founder of the organisation and leads it with diligence and honour. A dedicated and hardworking individual who further functions as the coach for the girls empowerment basketball team of players.

Mbuso maintains a healthy vision of sports empowerment amongst the youth. He is a shrewd businessperson, with impeccable analytical and superb leadership skills.

Lindelwa Dlamini- Programmes Manager

She is a holder of a Bsc Degree in Environmental Health Sciences and is an athlete. She has worked for non-governmental organisations, therefore gaining experience on how to manage programmes. She is also a member of the Key Populations and thus maintains direct relations with the LGBTI community. Furthermore, she has experience working in the public health system in Swaziland. She has good ties with the community and this will enable the organisation to create programmes for the community and ensure that programmes are in touch with the community's needs. This ensures that we adopt a people centred approach and we make programmes for the community. She will be the officer in charge of this project.

Siphilele Masilela -Finance Officer

She is a dedicated person and self-starter and ensures that the organisation follows due diligence and adheres to a high accounting and finance standard, and ensuring fiscal prudence in the execution of the organisations finance and accounting policy. She will be tasked with ensuring that the project is implemented according to the best financial standards and regulations.

Lindiwe Shabangu-Community Liaison Officer

SISONKHE EMPHUMELELWENI CHILDREN ORGANISATION



She holds a social work certificate and is very involved with the community. Her good links with the community will ensure that the organisation maintains them. She will be in charge of the sports days and the reporting in terms of the project.

The One Woman, One Dream Project is a women empowerment sports project aimed at offering young sports women the chance to reach their goals, reach their full potential and acquire social and entrepreneurial skills through sports. The project is targeted to support 50 women (17-35 years of age) at accomplishing and realising their sporting dream through capacitating them on various areas of the basketball sporting field; such as coaching, management and becoming professional players. Long life values will be taught to young women such as accountability, trust, persistence and performing under pressure. Moreover, this endeavour pays service to the Sustainable Development Goal which advocates for gender equality amongst societies.

Rationale for Project

The gender gap in sports and physical activity is quite notable worldwide and especially in African countries. More men are likely to engage in sporting activities than women due to numerous social issues. A baseline study about gender, participation and leadership in Sport in Southern Africa in 2014 revealed that a comparative percentage analysis of male versus females in International Sports Federation was notably 82 per cent male and 18 per cent female. Cohesively, the small fraction of women who will join a sport will do it on a personal motive of; 'enjoyment, feeling good, weight control, appearance etc.' Women rarely view sport as a means to earn a living or possibly follow their dreams and achieve their goals (career path). This project aims at changing that perception.

Overall goal for the project

Capacitate 200 young women across the country to fulfil and achieve their dreams and goals through sport. Skills building and empowerment will serve as a crucial aspect in this course as women will be equipped on how to use physical agility and ability in sport to strive for a better future.

Objectives of the project

- Promote participation of women, youth in sport, and physical activity as a means to addressing social issues such as gender equal-

ity.

- Provide women with the opportunity to realise their dreams through sport by capacitating them with the necessary skills.

Planned Activities

- Establishment of girls' basketball teams across the country.

Four basketball teams will be created across the countries regions namely (Hhohho, Manzini, Lubombo and Shiselweni). Each team will have 13 players in it and amongst each team a coach will be groomed to lead the team. The Shooting Stars Foundation will spend two months teaching the basketball sport to young girls.

- Partner with local organisations in skills building; junior achievement

Basketball teams in the regions will be trained on entrepreneurial skills through partnerships with organisations such as the Junior Achievement programme (an entrepreneurial skills building organisation). This will allow them to learn, grow and be able to acquire skills which are crucial in achieving their dreams.

- Compile a book of the 100 women, and their dreams. Document their stories and passion in sport; incorporate pictures of them during their training sessions etc.

The 52 women will be interviewed on their dreams and these will be documented and compiled to produce; 'the book of dreams'. This book will be launched at a fund-raising dinner and proceeds will help in financing the dreams of the 52 women. Audio visuals and packages will be part of the 52 women vision.

- Have a women's only basketball tournament.

A basketball tournament will be held where the four teams will compete against each other. This will encourage sportsmanship, an opportunity for the women to showcase their skills and most importantly showcase what women can do and achieve once they have been empowered.

Constraints (Possible)

- Ideology and culture- an individual is likely to be socialised into sport by significant others within various social institutions which exert a positive, negative or no influence. Traditional settings and cultures will tend to be dominated by patriarchal values or views, gender identity markers are enforced and carry significant gender symbolism that inform acceptable norms for directing behaviour.

- Overall, the environment is conducive for the implementation of the project as it involves

an entrepreneurial aspect. In relation to the King's vision of a developed and empowered nation; this project is a step in the right direction.

- First, sport has huge potential to empower women and girls. In many countries, it has been recognised that sport can be a force to amplify women's voices and tear down gender barriers and discrimination. Women in sport defy the misperception that they are weak or incapable.

Every time they clear a hurdle or kick a ball, demonstrating not only physical strength, but also leadership and strategic thinking, they take a step towards gender equality.

There is good evidence that participation in sports can help break-down gender stereotypes, improve girls' and women's self-esteem and contribute to the development of leadership skills.

- Second, women and girls continue to face discrimination in access to sports as athletes and spectators, and inequalities in professional sports, media coverage, sports media and sponsorships.

Women were far more invisible in sports today than at any previous point in history. While sports events aim to promote values of fairness, there is also a dark side. Violence against women and girls occurs in all countries and happens in many situations.

- The programme is reaching out to girls aged 17-35, using quality sports activities to build leadership skills.

It aims to foster self-esteem, support positive and healthy decisions, and help prevent gender-based violence.

The programme also engages boys and girls aged 5-17 to challenge negative gender stereotypes and be partners for positive change. Sport is an area in which we can leverage our partnerships and engagement with different audiences to teach everyone that gender-based violence has no place in it.

- The gender equality and women's empowerment agenda taken to its particular audience while contributing to the core resources of the organisation. The partnership aims to promote gender equality and together we are onside for gender equality. These events have the potential to leave social and economic legacies.

They can contribute to universal values of equality and non-discrimination; they can empower people and challenge long-seated stereotypes. This can be done through their enormous outreach, and the visibility of role models they create.

- It is our challenge to ensure the achievement of gender equality in the sports nation SHOOTING STARS SPORTS FOUNDATION events are also our opportunity to promote the values espoused in the nation Agenda and embodied in the 17 sustainable development goals.

This brings us back full circle to the fact that gender equality and women's empowerment are essential to the achievement of the SDGs.

- Realising gender equality in sports is therefore a great tool in the collection of sustainable development.

Let sports empower all people, women and men, for a sustainable future for people and the planet, our planet 50-50 by 2022.



IT'S DOG-EAT-DOG IN THE ESWATINI BANK CUP

By Melusi Mlota

SOCCER—It's all systems goes in the 17th edition of the Eswatini Bank Cup 'Idlata Kammandzi'

instalment where it would be a battle of David and Goliath at various venues across the country as the elite sides face lower division outfits.

Will Bogandaganda crank against Illovo?



Illovo vs Mhlume Peacemakers (4pm, Mayaluka Sports Stadium)

After a disastrous performance in the Ingwenyama Cup, Mhlume Peacemakers will be aiming to produce a good performance in the Eswatini Bank Cup.

'Bogandaganda', as the team is affectionately known among its supporters, will be looking upon veteran players in the likes of Sihawu Dlamini and Mancoba Zwane to transport them to the last 16 of the tournament. However, beating Illovo won't be an easy task for the Mhlume based outfit. The Big-Bend based side shocked Tambuti in the same pitch recently when they booted them out of the Ingwenyama Cup.

Ezinkulu entertain Sundowns



Mbabane Citizens vs Denver Sundowns (3:30pm, Prince of Wales Ground)

Former Premier League outfit Mbabane Citizens will want to appease their supporters by booting Denver Sundowns out of the prestigious tournament.

New coach Julius Chakupewa has a mammoth task to uplift the spirit of the team.

Sundowns, on the other hand, who are famous for dishing out good football, will once again put a good performance and possibly advance to the next stage. The 'Kappa Boys' coach Christopher Ennin is blessed with some exciting talent that can torment the opposition in the likes of Linda Maphalala and Mxolisi Bhembe. The two frontlines will spearhead the hub outfit attack as they look to avoid an upset in the prestigious knockout competition. However, it will not be a stroll in the park for Sundowns as Citizens do have some ammunition in their camp in two former Premier League players in Bhengkosi Mlota and Sabelo Hlatshwako.

Will Inkiliva send Gr. Mamba packing?

Umbelebele vs Green Mamba FC (1:30 pm Prince of Wales Ground)

National First Division outfit Umbelebele will be looking to upset Green Mamba when the two sides lock horns this afternoon.

'Inkiliva' will be aiming to use home ground advantage to shock the elite league side. The Dumsani Dlamini-led will be pinning his hopes on the likes of Carlos Mbuli and Josef Philave to cause havoc to the opposition. The on form Correctional Services side should not take this match lightly. They will want to separate boys from men. The resurgence of pint-sized midfielder, Njabulo Thwala should give 'Inyoka Eluhlazana' an edge over their inexperienced opponents. On form attacking midfielder Mcolisi Mkhontfo is expected to bang in the much needed goals for his side.

Will Callies cruise to the last 16?

Magwanyana vs Tambakhulu Callies (2pm, Mayaluka Sports Stadium)

There will be no love lost when Tambakhulu Callies take on Magwanyana FC this afternoon.

The giant killers have already engraved their names on the history books in the Ingwenyama Cup by becoming the first team from the National First Division to reach the semi-finals of the tournament. Team Chairman, Ngudze Mamba said today's match is a walkover when interviewed during the official launch of the 2020 Eswatini Bank Cup. Magwanyana will be relying on former Mbabane Highlanders defender Celani 'Sgebza' Shongwe to thwart the hopes of the 'giant killers'.

Black Swallows ready to fly past Killers

Ludzeludze Killers vs Pigg's Peak Black Swallows (4pm, Mavuso Sports Centre)

Pigg's Peak Black Swallows will want to give their supporters something to cheer about this afternoon when they visit Ludzeludze Killers.

The duo of Mbuso Mabuza and Jonathan Bafoe will be the one to watch in this encounter. However, Killers are also ready to shock the elite league side. This match will be the first assignment for the newly-appointed Black Swallows coach Tavaka Gumbo who will be looking to change fortunes of the struggling Premier League side.

Madlenya ready for Vovovo

Vovovo vs Madlenya FC (2 pm, Somhlolo National Stadium)

Lubombo based outfit, Madlenya are ready to advance to the last 16 at the expense of Vovovo. Masondeza Gamedze's charges have already proved in the Ingwenyama Cup that they are

knockout specialists by reaching the quarter finals.

Youngsters Sethu Ngcamphalala and Mazwi Mamba have what it takes to destroy the opposition. The Motshane based outfit, on the other hand, will be pinning its hopes on former Mbabane Highlanders player Melusi 'Slender' Dlamini to carry the day for them.

Pirates aiming for Tycoons scalp

Hlatikulu Tycoons vs Moneni Pirates (4pm, Somhlolo National Stadium)

On form Moneni Pirates will be looking to progress to the next stage of the tournament when they entertain Hlatikulu Tycoons.

Renowned for playing attractive football, the Sea Robbers have what it takes to bulldoze their way to the quarter finals.

Pirates' enterprising striker Fabrice Mopina is expected to call the shots upfront alongside youngster Lizwe Zwane who is maturing like wine in every passing game.

However, it won't be a stroll in the park to beat Tycoons who will be playing in front of their supporters. The players will want to prove a point and match the Sea Robbers' pound for pound.

Louis out to tame Malanti

Louis vs Malanti Chiefs (2pm, Mavuso Sports Centre)

Manzini Super League side, Louis have to temporarily put behind their underdogs status and display a good performance against elite league side, Malanti Chiefs.

On the other hand, the Pigg's Peak lads will be all out to redeem themselves after a poor performance in the league.

Malanti Chiefs coach Christopher 'Gazza' Tembo is likely to deploy the trio of Sithembiso Simelane, Bhakisisa Shongwe and Thokozani Dlamini to brush aside the minnows.

Will TP Mazembe put Milling to the sword?

TP Mazembe vs Milling Hotspurs (2pm, King Sobhuza II Memorial Stadium)

Shiselweni based side, TP Mazembe will surely want to write their name in the history books by putting elite league outfit, Milling Hotspurs to the sword.

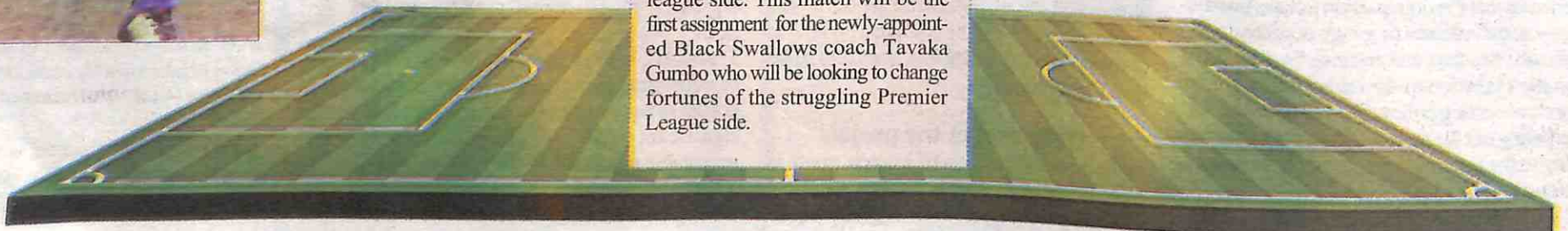
However, it looks like a mountain to climb to beat the Manzini based outfit. Clement 'King Clay' Mdluli's charges will be highly motivated to play at King Sobhuza II Memorial Stadium. It is the same pitch whereby they booted out capital city giants Mbabane Highlanders last season.

Ingwemabalabala looking beyond Nsingizini

Nsingizini Hotspurs vs Royal Leopard (4pm, King Sobhuza II Stadium)

Police side Royal Leopard will be looking beyond lower division side Singizini Hotspurs when the two teams lock horns this afternoon at King Sobhuza II Memorial Stadium. Former Mbabane

Swallows lanky striker Thabiso Mokenkoane who will be making his debut and will surely want to announce his arrival in grand style by scoring goals for his team. The South Africa born striker is also the current holder of the Golden Boot Award of the Eswatini Bank Cup which he won last year during his spell with Mbabane Highlanders.



ESWATINIBANK CUP 2020

Activation



IDLALA KAMNADZI: Eswatini Bank Public Relations Officer (PRO) Phesheya Vilakati addresses the gathering during the EswatiniBank Cup activation show held at Corner Plaza in Ezulwini yesterday. (Pics: Jongile Xuba)



CUSTOMER CARE: Vicky Eric Ndzimandze receives help from EswatiniBank Sales Officer Bongani Gule.



ENTERTAINMENT: Dynamic Movers dancers and some of the spectators show the crowd how it's done.



CORRECT: Ezulwini Catholic Primary School Grade Two pupil Msimisi Masina also won a prize after he answered his question correctly.



YES: Vilakati hands Louis XIV fan Sicelo Mkhonta his prize during the show.



WINNER: Nesi Mabuza all smiles after she accepts her prize from EswatiniBanks' Vilakati.



CONGRATS: Nozipho Sikhondze was also amongst the lucky winners on the day.

CYCLING UPDATES

Congratulations Muzi Shabangu

By Mbusi Motsa
(Guest writer)

Bravo to the 2020 Individual Time Trial Champion Khemani's Muzi Shabangu who broke his own record by three minutes.

At this point I wish to say that he is supposed to be riding professionally in SA en route to Europe. He does not have competition locally.

Hooray to Lungelo Mlangeni who beat his former teammates Sihle Dlamini and Gcina Banda.

Well done to ladies champion Dinize Wilsch and runner ups Shirley Motsa and Sebenele Magongo.

This is one department that needs a serious overhaul. Without the injection of young blood it is headed for doom. The attendance was not impressive and this shows that local cyclists have not embraced intense racing

forgetting that for one to beat their best time in the marathons, intensity is the answer.

Good luck to the teams that are racing at the Dischem ride for Sight race in Gauteng tomorrow. This is a good race for those who will be going to Cape Town for the Tour early March.

As promised we continue with the club profile. Below is one for one of the oldest cycling clubs in the kingdom that has produced many of the current top cyclists including Muzi Shabangu and Mduduzi Zwane.

Newcomm Wheels cycling club

● **Formed:** 2008

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

- **CHAIRMAN:** Mduduzi Mkhabela
- **VICE CHAIRMAN:** Jeffrey Lusenga
- **SECRETARY:** Aero Mthembu

- **TREASURER:** Shirley Motsa
- **TEAM MANAGER/COACH:** Mbusi Motsa
- **MEMBER:** Thokozani Dlamini
- Membership:** 30 Members

DEVELOPMENT TEAM:

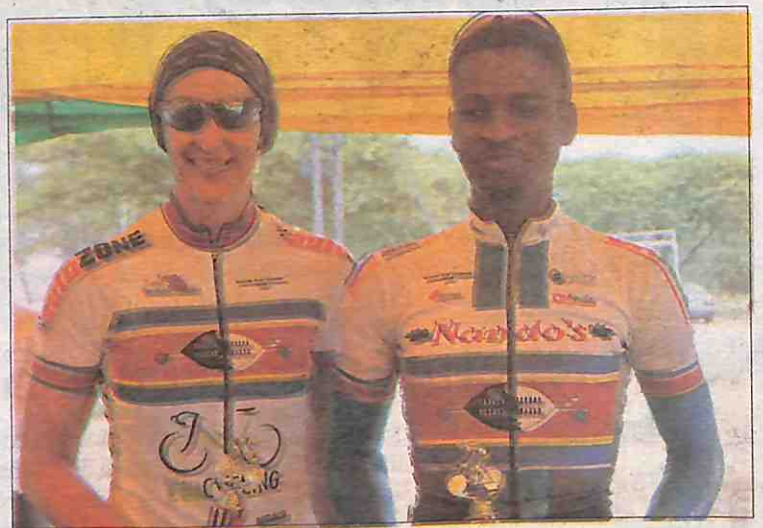
1. Zweli Zulu
2. Sihlangu Sikhondze
3. Nzuzo Nsibande
4. Sandile Mthethwa
5. Kwanele Jele

VICTORIES:

- East to West 60km 2019 Positions 1 & 3
- MTN Khemani 60km 2019 Positions 1 & 2
- Siteki Road Race 60km 2019 Positions 1, 2 & 3

SPONSOR: United Holdings

EVENTS: United Holdings Mafutseni Road Race, Mafutseni MTB Classic, Newcom Wheels Criterium Lobamba



CHAMPS: Women's National Road Champion Denize Wilsch and Men's National Road Champion Muzi Shabangu with their trophies after finishing first in the 38km race of the Individual Time Trial (ITT) at Phocweni last weekend.

CONTACTS: Mbusi Motsa 7613 7070

Mduduzi Mkhabela, 7602 3422 new-com.wheels@gmail.com

IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY — EPHRAIM KAMBALA

By Jongile Xuba

BASKETBALL - Eswatini National Basketball League (ENBL) regular season and play-off finals Most Valuable Player (MVP) Ephraim Kambala has said his award winning season was down to hard work and good family genes.

The Manzini Super Stars player made these comments during the MTN ENBL Awards held at Mahlalekhukhwini House on Thursday.

Kambala said his father, Patrice, had played basketball at college level and for the Democratic Republic of Congo national team.

This meant he received a lot of help from his father during the off season and support when it started.

"I started training long before the season started in order to get in shape for the regular season.

Supporter

My dad was also a big supporter as well as my brother since we are a basketball playing family," he said.

He further added he was very grateful to have won the award after his team managed to win back to back titles and thanked all those who voted for him.

Meanwhile, National Women's League (NWL) MVP for the regular season was Super Ladies' Simphiwe Thwala.

Thwala said she did not expect to win as it was only her second year



FAMILY: Patrice Kambala joined by sons; Eswatini National Basketball League (ENBL) Most Valuable Player of the regular and play-off final Ephraim with Evloge after the ENBL Awards at Mahlalekhukhwini House on Thursday. (Pic: Jongile Xuba)

playing basketball.

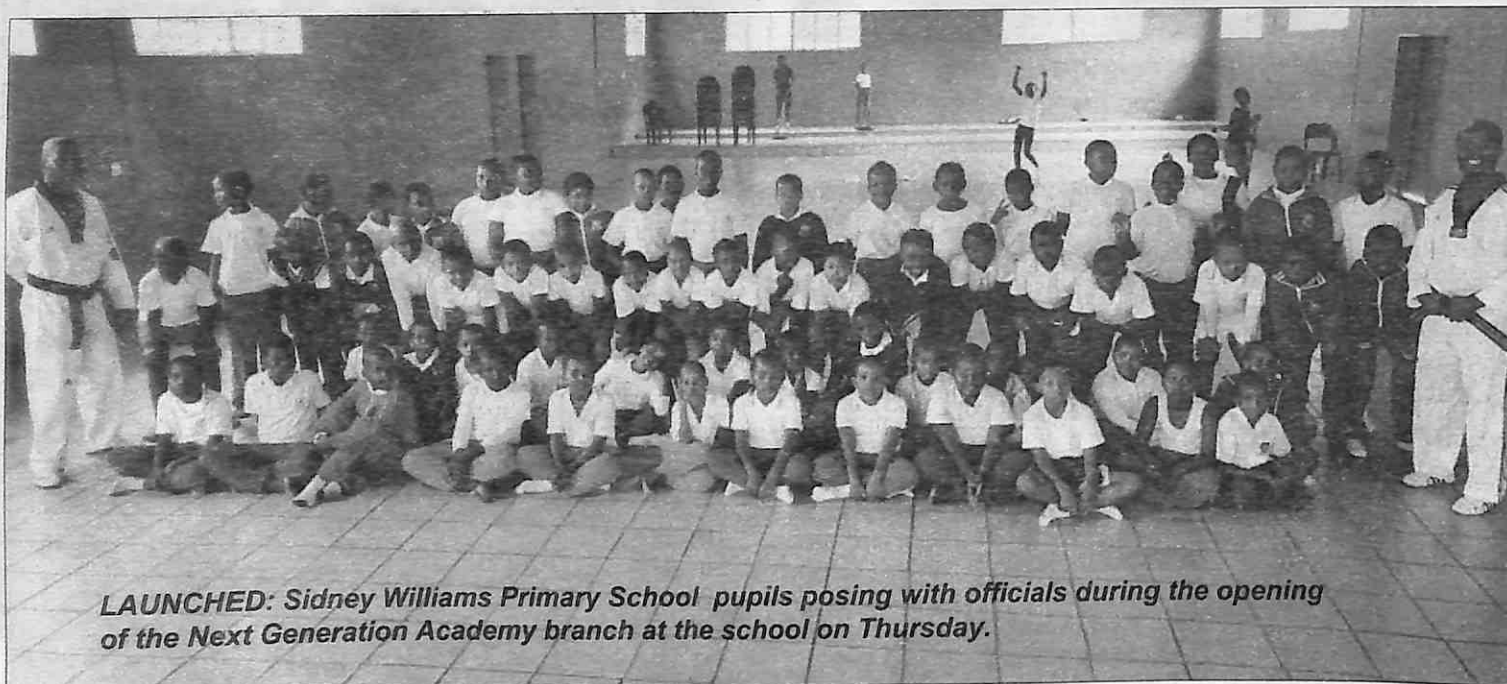
"I am really shocked and honoured that people have been noticing my performances throughout the season. I started playing basketball in 2018 for the first time,

so I am happy to have made so much progress since then and thank my coach," she said.

Play-off Finals National Women's League MV winner was another Super Ladies player Makhosazana

Dlamini, whilst the Men's Promotion League (MPL) MVP was Matthew Bothma from Tridens.

Each of the regular season MVP's took home E2 000, whilst the play-off final MVP's took home E1 000.



LAUNCHED: Sidney Williams Primary School pupils posing with officials during the opening of the Next Generation Academy branch at the school on Thursday.

Next Generation launches Sidney Williams's branch

By Melusi Mlotso

TAEKWONDO - The Next Generation Academy continued to spread its wings after successfully launching its new branch at Sidney Williams Primary School on Wednesday afternoon.

The launch of the branch comes after having a tester session last week at the school. The academy

founder Sizwe Mabuza confirmed the launch of the new branch at the school, which he said was a huge success.

He said they started at noon with grade ones and two pupils as the school requested to separate the minnows from the rest of the grades.

"Wednesday was mainly about introducing the children fully to the sport, giving them ground rules on

how to conduct themselves in training and outside training. We gave procedure on how to address each other. We also taught them a procedure on how to leave class and how to enter. We then conducted a lesson and taught them kibon dojang, which is basically the basic movements of Taekwondo," he said.

Mabuza further mentioned that the children also got a chance to

showcase their skills. "The response was very positive as we trained more than 150 pupils in the session.

The first session is open to every pupil," he said. The Next Generation Academy is expected to compete in several local and international competitions such as the annual Tuks Open in Tshwane, South Africa.

Masiza, Thulani off to Kenya

By Jongile Xuba

TENNIS - Two local tennis coaches Masiza Ntshangase and Thulani Gina are off to Nairobi, Kenya to attend the wheelchair tennis coaching course.

The seasoned duo will leave the country by road for Johannesburg, where they will connect a flight to Kenya at the OR Tambo International Airport.

Eswatini National Tennis Association Secretary Nqaba Mkhaphi confirmed the reports when contacted yesterday.

"We have sent two officials to a three-day international course that will start tomorrow until Wednesday.

The course is aimed at equipping coaches about wheelchair tennis in the African countries and we believe that the two will be able to promote the sport upon completing the course."

"Our aim is to see the sport growing in the country where we want to rope in more athletes in the category," he said.

Mkhaphi further stated that they were expecting from the world governing mother body International Tennis Federation (ITF). "We will soon receive equipment from ITF which will help us to continue implementing several programs in the country," he added.



Eswatini Handball to attend Zone IV games

By Jongile Xuba

HANDBALL - The Eswatini Handball Association is gearing up for the International Handball Federation (IHF) Trophy Zone IV Games that will be held in Zimbabwe.

This was revealed by Eswatini Handball Association Secretary General Muzi Mamba who said the competition will take place in April.

"We would like to announce that the Handball Association is preparing for the Zone IV that will be hosted in Zimbabwe. There will be eight other countries participating in the regional tournament," he said.

Added

The countries include South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Malawi, Namibia, Zambia and hosts Zimbabwe.

The secretary further added that they would be hosting a one-day squad selection tournament at OlympAfrica today.

"We would also like to inform any interested players that we will be selecting the men's squad to represent the country at the IHF Trophy Zone VI Games.

We are looking at having a 28 man team which will include five officials," he said.

The travelling squad will be made up of two teams with Eswatini participating in the under 18 and under 20 categories.

E15 MILLION FOR SOMHLOLO NATIONAL STADIUM REFURBISHMENT

Stories by Melusi Mlotso

SPORTS - The Ministry of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs has been allocated a sum of E15 000 000 towards the refurbishment of the Somhlolo National Stadium by the government.

The amount is contained in the capital projects for the 2020/21 budget for the ministry.

The money will cover the upgrading of the national stadium, which has been barred from hosting international games since 2018 due to worsening conditions of the dressing rooms, toilets and the 'naked' dressing rooms roofing.

The situation forced the Eswatini Football Association to host international games at the Mavuso Sports Centre as the Somhlolo National Stadium is no longer meeting required standards stip-

ulated by the Confederation of African Football (CAF).

The national stadium is also expected to have a new look artificial turf, as part of the money has been allocated towards the installation of the new synthetic track and field facility which is used for athletics events.

The money will also cover the construction of a new look VIP area at the country is only football MECCA.

Eswatini Football Association Marketing and Communications Officer Muzi Radebe referred queries to the Ministry of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs.

However, Minister Harries 'Madze' Bulunga appreciated the budget when interviewed yesterday.

"We welcome this year budget considering the fact that it has come with some increment to some of the departments such as the Sports and Recreation

Council, which have been given an extra million for their programmes. We will try and pursue all our programs using the available resources," he said.

The ministry has also been offered a sum of E10 million towards the designs for the construction of the new national stadium set to be constructed at an area which is yet to be announced by government.

SPORTS BUDGET INCREASED BY E2 MILLION

SPORTS - THE Ministry of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs has received a major boost in the 2020/21 budget for the Department of Sports.

This comes after the increment of E2 million from the previous E15 248 588 to E17 248 588 for the current financial year.

The figure was clarified by the Ministry's Communications Officer Sibongiseni Zondi, who stated that the E5 million was taken from the amount which had been allocated into the department's administrative errands from the initial budget which was announced yesterday in Parliament.

The most beneficiary in the new budget is the Eswatini National Sports and Recreation Council (ENSRC), which received an improved amount of E7 724 710 from the initial E6 724 710 ahead of this year Region 5 Youth Games. ENSRC Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Darius Dlomo said they would use the available funds to conduct their pro-

grammes.

"We would like to thank the government for giving us this amount, which will

try and use in all our programs. We are going to prioritise our programmes using the available funds," he

Worth noting, the entire budget for the Ministry of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs is at E52 287 909 from the E45 912 274 which was allocated for the previous financial year.

Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs
Minister Harries 'Madze' Bulunga.

We will give Wanderers problem - Rail United

Stories by Melusi Mlotso

SOCCKER- Rail United head coach Gift Shongwe says they will give hub giants Manzini Wanderers a problem when they face each other tomorrow in the last 32 of the Eswatini Bank Cup at the Somhlolo National Stadium.

Shongwe said they have nothing to lose and won't allow their opponents to go easy.

"I have already spoken to the boys about the importance of the match. We have nothing to lose against them. They are not a hard nut to crack, we will give them a problem," he said.

Shongwe added that that they will ensure that Wanderers does not get an early goal.

Manzini Wanderers head coach, Nyanga 'Crooks' Hlophe says this is their last chance to redeem themselves after they were knocked out of the Ingwenyama Cup recently by a national first division outfit.

"This is our last chance to redeem ourselves. We know that playing against the unknown teams is always difficult. We are not at our best but we will try hard to progress to the next stage of the tournament and I don't know if the boys think like me psychologically," He said.

Team captain, Lwazi 'Shana' Maziya said they won't take the game lightly.

Wanderers head coach says this is their last chance to redeem themselves after they were knocked out of the Ingwenyama Cup recently by a national first division outfit

Tough start for Nobuhle in Dimension Data Golf tourney

By Jongile Xuba

GOLF - Eswatini's top female golfer Nobuhle Dlamini had a tough start to the Dimension Data Pro-Am Golf Tournament after she finished in 17th place after the first day of the competition yesterday.

The tournament, which will be played over three days on two different golf courses, saw the defending champion Dlamini finding it difficult to keep up with the leaders finishing with a score of two over par to be placed in the lower half of the standings.

Leading the group is South Africa's Lejan Lewthwaite with a score of six under par followed by Tara Griebenow on two under par.

Dlamini will have to turn things around in today's round as she looks to go through to play the final round at the Outeniqua Golf Course at Fancourt tomorrow.



Ladies Professional Scores 2020 day one

Name	Round 1	Score
1. Lejan Lewthwaite	-6	-6
2. Tara Griebenow	-2	-2
2. Stacy Bregman	-2	-2
4. Lindi Coetzee	-1	-1
4. Jordy Labarbera	-1	-1
4. Sharmila Niccollet	-1	-1
7. Maria Beutell	0	0
7. Lee-Anne Pace	0	0
7. Christina Gloor	0	0
7. Anais Meyssonnier	0	0
11. Kelsey Nicholas	1	1
11. Casandra Hall	1	1
11. Monique Smit	1	1
11. Sophie Lamb	1	1
11. Emie Peronin	1	1
11. Rachel Drummond	1	1
17. Nobuhle Dlamini	2	2

We are working hard - 'Dumsani'

MBABANE Highlanders assistant coach Dumsani 'DU' Makhanya says they are preparing hard for the match against Hawane Shooting Stars tomorrow. The newly-appointed Sitsebe coach said they would not underestimate the Hhohho Super League side during the last 32 clash of the prestigious knockout competition. "Preparations are going on well and we are working hard preparing for Sunday's match. We will fight hard until the end,"

he said.

Team's captain Jimoh Moses said they knew that it would not be an easy match.

However, he said if God was on their side, they would come victorious.

Shooting Stars coach Themba Dlamini said they knew that they were underdogs and they will respect their opponent as a big team.

"We will exert ourselves without any pressure," he said.

Captain Philani Mkhonta said they were excited to play against Highlanders and they would there go to fight.

Sisonkhe declares war on Birds

MOUTFIT Sisonkhe FC have declared war against Mbabane Swallows ahead of the last 32 clash in the Eswatini Bank Cup. The team's captain Bonginkhosi Simelane said they were ready to put a good fight against the capital city giants.

"It couldn't have come at a better time like this one and we are ready for them.

We are going to do die with our boots on come Sunday," he said. Mbabane Swallows player Paito Dube said they won't take the game lightly and further promised to give their best on the day.



15:30 Mamelodi Sundowns	v	Chippa United
15:30 Baroka FC	v	Bidvest Wits
15:30 Highlands Park	v	Bloem Celtic
18:00 Kaizer Chiefs	v	Maritzburg United
20:15 AmaZulu FC	v	Golden Arrows

14:30 Southampton	v	Burnley
19:30 Norwich City	v	Liverpool

14:00 Mallorca	v	Deportivo Alavés
17:00 Barcelona	v	Getafe
19:30 Villarreal	v	Levante
22:00 Granada	v	Real Valladolid

SPORT

YOUR DEDICATED SPORTS FEED



February 15, 2020

2020/21 BUDGET SPEECH:

E15 MILLION FOR SOMHLOLO STADIUM



● Government sets aside money for refurbishment of national stadium



PAGE 43

TEE OFF:



TOUGH START FOR NOBUHLE AT DIMENSION DATA

PAGE 43

'IDLALA KAMNANDZI':

RAIL UNITED DECLARE WAR ON WESLIANS

PAGE 43

FURTHERING:

TWO TENNIS COACHES OFF TO KENYA

PAGE 42

BUFFS THROUGH TO LAST 16

By Melusi Mlota

Tinyosi.....(0)0
Y. Buffaloes.....(2)2

SOCCER - Defending champions Young Buffaloes have advanced to the last 16 in the Eswatini Bank Cup after beating National First Division side Tinyosi 2-0 last night at Somhlolo National Stadium.

The Lobamba based outfit matched their opponents pound for pound in the early stages of the match until the 19 minute when Young Buffaloes scored their first goal through Lindo Mkhonta.

This was after he connected a long throw ball from Fanelo 'Order' Mamba.

The army side scored their second goal before the break via striker Phiwa Dlamini, who headed home Wandile Maseko's



free kick.

The three times champions Buffaloes enjoyed a healthy 2-0 lead at halftime.

The second half saw Young Buffaloes pushing more numbers upfront in search for another goal. However, poor finishing let them down.

'Amathole Ezinyathi' protected their 2-0 lead until in the 90 minute when the referee blew the final whistle.

Meanwhile, the first match that was also played at the same venue saw Tambuti book a place in the next round with a 5-2 win on penalties over the stubborn Seven Dreams.

THE TEAMS

Tinyosi

Ntokozo, Simphiwe, Thando, Alakhe, Theminkosi, Bongani, Lwazi, Mangaliso, Phumlani Mphucuko, Njabulo

Buffaloes

Nhlanhla, Lindo, Wandile, Sihlangu, Siboniso, Fanelo, Ali, Mpendulo, Phiwayinkosi, Sandile, Banele

UEFA hit Man City with two-year ban from Champions League

LONDON - Manchester City have been banned from European competitions for the next two seasons for "serious financial fair-play breaches", UEFA announced yesterday. The English champions, who were also fined €30 million, immediately announced they were appealing the suspension to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) "at the earliest opportunity". "Manchester City is disappointed but not surprised by today's announcement by the UEFA Adjudicatory Chamber," the club said. "The... flawed and consistently leaked UEFA process he (the UEFA chief investigator) oversaw has meant that there was little doubt in the result that he

would deliver...

"Simply put, this is a case initiated by UEFA, prosecuted by UEFA and judged by UEFA.

"With this prejudicial process now over, the club will pursue an impartial judgment as quickly as possible" at CAS.

Pep Guardiola's City face Real Madrid in this season's Champions League last 16. Announcing the ban a UEFA statement declared: "The Adjudicatory Chamber has imposed disciplinary measures on Manchester City Football Club directing that it shall be excluded from participation in UEFA club competitions in the next two seasons (ie. the 2020/21 and 2021/22 seasons)."

AFP