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## BACK TO THE CROSS CRUSADE TO BE BIGGER, BETTER



**BACK WITH A BANG:** The annual Back to the Cross Crusade is back with a bang as it begins this Sunday. The Ambassador's House Church members, led by Bishop Mpendulo and Zanele Mbokazi-Nkambule, took to the Mbabane streets during an activation to raise awareness about the upcoming crusade. (Pic: Simon Shabangu) **MORE ON PAGE 16**

## LANDLORD ON TRIAL FOR 'RAPING' TENANT

Page 2

## GOVT HAS E3 BILLION UNDISCLOSED ARREARS

Pages 3, 20

# CORONAVIRUS SUSPECT CLEARED

- No other case in the country
- Ministry still urges public to be cautious and cooperate

STORY ON PAGE 3

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# SUPREME COURT BLASTS PEOPLE SETTling DISPUTES THROUGH THE DEAD

- Supreme Court Judge Phesheya Dlamini says court has observed with serious concern cases of people settling monetary, chieftaincy disputes using the dead, says court cannot be party to this
- He was making reference to present appeal application in the late Victor Shabangu burial dispute which has seen the deceased spending two years in morgue

STORIES BY SANDILE NKAMBULE  
Supreme Court

THE Supreme Court has raised serious concerns about Eswatini who use the dead in settling their scores, resulting in the deceased persons not resting in peace in the process.

Supreme Court (SC) Judge Phesheya Dlamini yesterday said it was disheartening to note that people used bodies of their dead relatives in fighting over monetary, land and chieftaincy disputes in the kingdom.

Judge Dlamini was making reference to the present appeal application in the burial dispute for the late University of Eswatini employee and former sport administrator Victor Shabangu, which was before the Supreme Court in its first day of its first session for the 2020 legal calendar year yesterday.

SC Judge Dlamini also cited a case of another dead body that was made to languish at the mortuary for about five years without burial, although he did not mention names, one of the cases was that of the late Chief Mzikayise of Mkhwakweni, whose remains remained at the mortuary for five years following a chieftaincy dispute in that area.

Shabangu's remains have been lan-



MY LORD: Judge Phesheya Dlamini.

guishing at the Dups Funeral Home for two years now as his father, mother and his wife are embroiled in a dispute to bury him.

"The deceased should have been resting in peace by now, but seemingly, his body is being used to fight monetary issues, for a year and a half, the deceased's body has been kept in the mortuary, as a country we are known as Christians, however, the way things are happening leaves a lot to be desired. This matter

is of utmost urgency as it should be dealt with a sense to finalise it," SC Judge Dlamini said.

The judge further stated that the court cannot be party to people who use the dead in settling their scores, hence it will not allow such to happen, dismissing an application filed by the appellant to have the matter postponed.

The late Victor's father, Pitoli Shabangu wants him buried at his home in Moneni, his mother Joyce Nsibandze wants him buried at her home in Ngculwini, while his wife also wants to be accorded burial rights. The wife, Xolile Ntombikayise Zwane, has since filed an appeal against a decision of the High Court in its judgment handed down on November 29 2019. The High Court as per Judge John Magagula pronounced itself ordering that the deceased's father Pitoli should be the one burying the deceased, hence the present appeal application before court.

Cited as the appellant in the matter is Zwane while Pitoli, Nomvuyo Kunene (deceased's second wife), Dups Funeral Home, the National Commissioner of Police, the Attorney General and Joyce Nsibandze have been cited as the respondents in the appeal. The appellant is represented by lawyer Thabiso Mavuso, while the respondent is represented by lawyer Thandeka Hlabangana.

## MORTUARY FEES HAVE ESCALATED TO ABOUT E366 000

FOLLOWING the continued stay of the deceased in the mortuary, mortuary fees have escalated to about E366 000.

This is if calculations of E500 per day for mortuary fees is anything to go by as the deceased has spent about two

years in the morgue.

### Papers

According to papers filed before court, the morgue charges E500 per day to have the deceased's body kept there.

The late Shabangu died two years ago after succumbing to an illness while

under the employ of the University of Eswatini (UNESWA).

For a body to be kept in the morgue, each day counts, although some mortuaries do not charge mortuary fees when one has purchased the casket or coffin from them.

## Landlord (51) on trial for 'raping' tenant (29)

BY VUYILE DLAMINI  
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

A woman who trusted that her landlord had her best interests at heart had her dignity violated, after he allegedly assaulted and raped her.

According to Primrose\*, she was relaxing at one of her male friend's house in her compound when Mthunzi 'Portable' Dlamini arrived. 'Portable' requested me to accompany him to a Ndwandwe woman's home, where he had left his cell-phone charging. It was around 8pm when he made his request, although I was apprehensive at first, my friend convinced me to go with him, stating that I was safer because 'Portable' was my landlord. We left for the Ndwandwe homestead and along the way, 'Portable' asked us to go back to the compound as it was already late in the evening," Primrose submitted. To her surprise, 'Portable' suggested that they take a different route to the one they had used when walking towards the Ndwandwe homestead. That was when she noticed that 'Portable' was in the possession of a candle and a sharp object.

### Assault

"When I asked him why we were using another route, he said we must use the one leading towards the royal kraal. As we walked, he assaulted me with open hands. When I asked why he was assaulting me, he started hurling profane insults towards me. That was when he forced himself on to me, and raped me," she recalled.

After he was done, Primrose recalled that he continued to assault her by strangulating her and dragging her towards an abandoned house. "He stopped in his tracks when a man, accompanied by a woman responded to my screams. When the man asked him why he was dragging me while I was clearly refusing to go with him, 'Portable'

let me go and ran away. That was when the couple took me to the police station to report the matter," she stated.

After she recorded a statement at the police station, 'Portable' was apprehended and charged with the offence of rape.

During the continuation of trial before Principal Magistrate Fikile Nhlabatsi, 'Portable' disputed that he was the man that Primrose spoke of, after Thembekile Ndwandwe testified that she came to her home with a piece of 'Portable's tongue.

### Witness

"She knocked at my door and after I invited her in, she entered carrying something concealed in her palm. When I asked to take a look at it, she showed me a small piece of appendage that I later learnt was a piece of tongue. I was taken aback and before I could comment, Primrose was out of the door and headed to the police station," Ndwandwe submitted.

Ndwandwe further submitted that 'Portable' and Primrose arrived at her home prior to her sole arrival, to collect 'Portable's cellphone.

However in his cross examination, 'Portable' disputed that Primrose had a piece of his tongue, stating that his tongue was still intact. "I believe that Ndwandwe and Primrose colluded to make up stories about me, and I do not even understand why. My tongue is intact and has never been bitten off, so I do not know of any tongue of mine in Primrose's possession. Also, Ndwandwe stated that the incident occurred in January 2019, whereas Primrose stated that it occurred in July 2019. There are a lot of lies being told before the court," 'Portable' stated.

The matter pending before Principal Magistrate Nhlabatsi continues as the prosecution is set to parade its third witness.

\*Name of the victim and the place where it happened has been withheld to protect the victim of rape.

## Auditor General unpacks govt's E3 billion arrears

BY SIFISO DLAMINI  
Mbabane

GOVERNMENT ministries and departments have over E3 billion of undisclosed or unreported arrears.

This was revealed by Auditor General Timothy Matsebula yesterday during a media briefing held at The Hilton Garden Hotel.

He said unreported or undisclosed arrears amounting to E3 194 134 221.91 have not been disclosed or reported in the detailed statement of liabilities.

This was contained in the consolidated financial statements of the government of the Kingdom of Eswatini for the year ended March 31, 2019.

The AG said it was observed that ministries and departments submitted payments for processing to the treasury department during the financial year under review, which were subsequently not processed due to cashflow chal-

lenges.

As a result, arrears for the financial year ended March 31, 2019 amounted to E1 810 458 400.06 while the previous financial year arrears amounted to E430 504 704.82. He stated that an increase of E1 379 953 695.24, amounting to 321 per cent in the arrears was noted. In addition to the arrears, was unpaid invoices held by the ministries and departments, amounting to E1 383 675 821.85. Matsebula said the non-disclosure of the arrears had understated total liabilities in the financial statements.

"I recommended that the treasury department should develop a system that will enforce all controlling officers to report monthly all unpaid invoices and arrears at the end of the financial year, March 31, to the accountant general and principal secretary of the ministry of finance," he said.

He added that the accountant general should ensure that all government

arrears were disclosed in the financial statements. In his response through a memorandum referenced 022/001/AR, dated October 25, 2019, the controlling officer stated that the reporting framework was on cash basis; therefore the arrears were disclosed as notes in the detailed statement of liabilities.

He said unreconciled government accounts, tended to give an erroneous picture of government's cash flow position. **SEE MORE ON PAGE 20**

**I recommended that the treasury department should develop a system that will enforce all controlling officers to report monthly all unpaid invoices and arrears at the end of the financial year**

Head s	Ministry/Department	Un-submitted Invoices (E)	Submitted Invoices (E)	Total (E)
02	Parliament	86,817.13	6,416,234.34	6,503,051.47
03	Private and Cabinet Offices	396,602.62	3,214,682.70	3,611,285.32
04	Ministry of Tourism & Environmental Affairs	209,813.12	-	209,813.12
05	Police	201,538,536.21	9,545,221.59	211,083,757.80
06	Deputy Prime Minister's Office	3,553,793.66	31,674,060.00	35,227,853.66
07	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation	106,466.96	40,560,726.61	40,667,193.57
08	Ministry of Defence	4,709,916.07	66,393,267.42	71,103,183.49
09	Ministry of Tinkhundla Administration and Development	14,260,088.70	43,078,327.00	57,338,415.70
10	Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy	216,796,504.55	48,815,941.86	265,612,446.41
15	Geological Surveys, Minerals and Mines Departments	289,339.34	-	289,339.34
20	Ministry of Agriculture	73,193,599.95	54,971,335.96	128,164,935.91
23	Ministry of Economic Planning and Development	99,237,380.64	192,411,158.39	291,648,539.03
24	Ministry of Housing and Urban Development	240,121.79	28,468,021.14	28,708,142.93
26	Fire and Emergency Services	41,536.41	-	41,536.41
29	Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade	5,217,354.84	17,270,931.50	22,488,286.34



# CORONAVIRUS SUSPECT CLEARED

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE  
Mbabane

**LISWATI suspected of coronavirus case has been cleared.**

Director of Health Services Dr Vusi Magagula yesterday announced that the test results of the coronavirus suspect were negative for Covid-19.

The director stated that the patient was recovering and responding well to treatment.

"The experience has assisted us in shaping up the country's preparedness and response plan, as the ministry ensures that Emaswati are safe from the global health threat," he said.

Dr. Magagula, on behalf of the ministry of health, emphasised that the case at hand was a suspect case and was confirmed by World Health Organisation experts. He stated that the suspect was free from coronavirus as per the lab analysis in the Republic of South Africa.

He added that there was no other case at the moment in the country.

"Preparedness and responses are strengthened at all levels and the ministry remains vigilant at health facilities and ports of entry," he said.

Magagula further urged the public not to stigmatise people based on their race or history of travel, but to be vigilant and practise the following:

Reduce your risk of coronavirus infection



Frequently clean hands by using alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water

When coughing and sneezing cover mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue – throw tissue away immediately and wash hands



● Cover nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing

● Wash hands regularly with soap and water,

● Open windows in buses and venues where people congregate

● Cooperate with screening at ports of entry and health facilities

He said the ministry of health continues to support with resources and appreciates the support from Health partners in all interventions and activities regarding coronavirus infections.

Minister of Health Lizzy Nkosi, in a press statement, noted and expressed her concern over irresponsible and grossly misleading rumours which circulated on social media platforms following their announcement of the

reported suspected case.

Nkosi said one such deceptive rumour claimed that a certain Chinese female has been confirmed to have the coronavirus and was in an isolation ward at Good Shepherd Hospital in Siteki.

## Individuals

The minister clarified that, through its established structures, it is closely monitoring one suspected case of coronavirus in the country. The minister humbly requested individuals and social media groups to refrain from spreading fake rumours on such sensitive health matters.

She stated that such behaviour dangerously causes unnecessary alarm and undermines the efforts of the ministry to effectively manage

the situation at hand."

Nkosi said the nation would receive authentic information through the established channels.

"If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing or flu-like symptoms and a history of travel seek medical attention," she said.

She urged health workers to screen all patients and take a detailed history of anyone coming with flu-like symptoms.

Meanwhile, 14 passengers, who were believed to be well before they were evacuated from a cruise ship in Japan yesterday were found to be infected before boarding a charter plane to the United States.

The passengers were among more than 300 Americans aboard a cruise ship that has been quarantined in Yokohama for more than 10 days.

The death toll from the coronavirus outbreak in mainland China reached 1 770 as of the end of Sunday, up by 105 from the previous day, according to the country's National Health Commission.

At least 100 of the new deaths were from the province of Hubei, the epicentre of the epidemic, the commission said yesterday.

Across the country, there were 2 048 new confirmed infections about 1 933 from Hubei alone, pushing the total to 70 548.

## OVER E10 MILLION DEBTS NOT RECOVERED FOR FOUR YEARS

STORIES BY SIFISO DLAMINI  
Mbabane

**AUDITOR General Timothy Matsebula has revealed that close to E11 million has not been recovered for a period of four years.**

An audit of consolidated statement of outstanding revenue has indicated that irrecoverable debts of E10 900 813.19 from the financial year ended March 31, 2016 have been outstanding for a period of over four years without being recovered by the ministries and departments.

This was contained in the report of the auditor general on the consolidated government accounts.

The ministries and departments with the outstanding debts include the ministry of commerce industry and trade, ministry of health, ministry of agriculture, ministry of enterprise and employment, the treasury department, His Majesty's Correctional Services as well as the regional revenue offices for the Manzini, Mbabane, Pigg's Peak as well as Siteki.

The AG said the responsible ministries and departments were not prioritising the recovery of the outstanding revenue, adding that he was not aware of any action undertaken towards recovering the debts that have been outstanding over a period of four years.

"The outstanding revenue should be recovered promptly and should not be written off until all efforts and possible measures have been exhausted," he said.

He said the controlling officer stated that the

Ministry or Department	Balance for 2015/2016	Balance for 2016/2017	Balance for 2017/2018	Outstanding Balance 2018/2019
	E	E	E	E
Regional Revenue Office – Manzini	1,394,284.50	1,394,284.50	1,394,284.50	1,394,284.
Regional Revenue Office – Mbabane	1,086,789.55	1,086,789.55	1,086,789.55	1,086,789.
Regional Revenue Office – Nhlalango	229,953.50	229,953.50	229,953.50	229,953.
Regional Revenue Office – Pigg's Peak	169,247.50	169,247.50	169,247.50	169,247.
Regional Revenue Office – Siteki	327,941.00	327,941.00	327,941.00	327,941.
<b>Sub-total: Treasury Department</b>				<b>3,208,216.</b>
Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade	2,561,135.30	2,561,135.30	2,561,135.30	2,561,135.
Ministry of Enterprise and Employment	4,274,957.90	4,274,957.90	4,274,957.90	4,274,957.
<b>Sub-total: Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade</b>				<b>6,836,093.</b>
Ministry of Health	410,650.00	410,650.00	410,650.00	410,650.
His Majesty's Correctional Services	394,385.74	394,385.74	394,385.74	394,385.
Ministry of Agriculture	51,468.20	51,468.20	51,468.20	51,468.
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,900,813.19</b>	<b>10,900,813.19</b>	<b>10,900,813.19</b>	<b>10,900,813.</b>

regional revenue offices' outstanding revenue debt has been reported outstanding for the past periods. The records were untraceable since the preservation of records are only for five years, and the department was considering reporting the outstanding balances to the Losses Committee.

The auditor general further stated that while there were no comments received on the overdue outstanding revenue from other ministries,

the controlling officer at His Majesty's Correctional Services disputed the outstanding revenue amounting to E394 385.74. According to her response, the outstanding debt which amounted to E56 661.70 was eventually written off as a bad debt as per the PAC recommendation. An extract of the debts from the consolidated Statement of outstanding revenue is illustrated in the table above.

## E127m capital expenditure not captured in government system

**CAPITAL expenditure does not show a true picture as foreign capital expenditure was erroneously classified as local expenditure.**

The auditor general's report revealed that 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.

Auditor General Timothy Matsebula said the expenditure consisted of strategic reserve fuel

depot amounting to E18 093 527.29 as well as fuel marking and quality assurance amounting to E1 082 652.70.

### Suppliers

He said furthermore, a payment amounting to E635 366.53 for strategic reserve fuel depot was erroneously captured as procurement of ambulance.

"This error resulted in an overstatement of local capital expenditure and consolidated fund

deficit by the same figure," he said. He added that undisclosed capital expenditure of E127 552 344.40 were not captured into the government accounting system, and was neither accounted for by the accountant general. He stated these expenditures were omitted, as such the statement of capital expenditure did not show a true picture of all funds received from donors or financial institutions, and disbursements made directly to suppliers of goods or services.

## Unauthorised over expenditure is a concern – AG

**AUDITOR General Timothy Matsebula voiced a concern over unauthorised over expenditure as it has become a norm for ministries and departments.**

He said in the financial year ended March 31, 2019, there was an unauthorised over expenditure of E861 017 063.57.

He stated it was now a norm for ministries, departments and agencies to spend beyond the appropriated budget by Parliament and on activities that have no budget provision, and to incur expenditure without seeking approval from the relevant authorities.

He added there was an unauthorised over expenditure of E844 660 883.23 incurred in excess of the recurrent expenditure budget released of E15 284 926 429.00; and the capital expenditure vote incurred an unauthorised over expenditure amounting to E16 356 180.34, in excess of the capital expenditure budget released of E2 207 497 331.00.

He said a worse scenario was incurring unauthorised expenditure of E31 874 395.35, which was spent without following any budget line in the estimates book.

He mentioned that non-compliance with laws and regulations and lack of adherence to budgetary requirements and spending authorities was concerning. "For instance, no budget appropriation for CTA trading operations continued to be funded directly from the government general bank account without a budget limit or restriction," he said.

He added that over the years, there has been no budget appropriation for the CTA operations, and public funds were spent without following the formal budgetary requirements and spending authorities.

As a result, in the financial year ended March 31, 2019, an amount of E602 196 943.46 was spent by the CTA without a distinctly approved budget appropriated by Parliament in the budget estimates book.

This contravened Financial and Accounting Instruction Number 0101, he said.



# Lozitha High pupils report principal to Human Rights

STORIES BY BONCIWE DLAMINI  
Manzini

**ALLEGED insults and being told to go home without knowing when to return to school has become a norm for Lozitha High School pupils.**

This was information that was forwarded to the Human Rights Commission by some pupils, who felt they had nowhere to turn to regarding the alleged treatment by their Principal Mandla Mathabela.

The pupils reported this to the commission yesterday morning after they were shown the gate for the third time in less than two weeks.

Information sourced from parties privy with details to the matter was to the effect that the pupils were told to go home after they forgot to bring to school their receipts to prove that they had paid school fees.

Since he had been sending those who had not paid and those who did not produce proof of payment back home, the pupils are said to have waited outside their classrooms after assembly.

They reportedly wanted to inform their principal that they had forgotten their receipts and that they would bring them the following day (last Wednesday).

Instead, Mathabela allegedly ordered the pupils out of the school premises. Their delay to exit the school grounds did not soften the principal's heart, as he allegedly

*...they claim principal insulted them*

instructed them to leave and they complied though they loitered outside the school premises for a while. After some time, the principal is said to have left the school in his car and found the pupils hanging around Lozitha bus stop.

"He stopped a kombi that was headed for Manzini and told us to board it and go home. One of us did not have money so he did not board the kombi," some of the pupils said. The one scholar who did not board the kombi is said to live at Ludzeludze and he usually walks to and from school every day.

When he told the principal that he did not have money, Mathabela's response was that he should do as he says and that his colleagues would pay for him.

Knowing that his peers did not have extra cash to pay for him, the pupil walked away from the bus station and headed home. His actions were deemed by the principal as insolent, so he allegedly uttered the words, "ngalobudvomu bakho ngeke uphindze ubuye laskolweni."

Out of fear, the pupil reportedly did not go to school last Wednesday but went there on Thursday with the hope to apologise to the principal so that he could return to class. In the morning while Mathabela was in his car at the school, the scholar is said to have gone to him and asked for forgiveness. Surprisingly, Mathabela's response dampened

the scholar's efforts.

These pupils are not the only ones affected by the principal's iron-fist like way of running the school, as others claimed that being late for school was a serious offence.

They claimed that since the school starts at 7:30am, when one is five minutes late, they are sent home for the day. "Utocolisa kanyoko!" the principal allegedly responded.

Further, the pupil was shown the gate.

Yesterday, the same pupil is said to have taken his chances and went to class but he was yet again ordered to leave the school together with a colleague. It was for this reason that concerned parties involved the Human Rights Commission on the matter, as the pupils were found loitering outside the school premises. Parents of the pupils confirmed that their children had been told to go home though they had paid school fees.

When sought for comment, the Principal Mandla Mathabela referred questions to the Human Rights Commission as he had met a team regarding the matter. "Sesicedzile ngalenzaba nebaka Human Rights Commission. Call them," he said.

Mathabela is not new to controversy involving scholars, as in November 2017 he was arrested and charged for beating an 18-year-old female pupil with a black pipe. The scholar sustained severe injuries on the buttocks and hand after she was assaulted by the principal.

The pupil was told to go home to cut her hair as per the school

regulations. The injuries were severe so much that she had to be taken to hospital by her parents. At the time she was told to go, she was supposed to write an Agriculture test on the same day, so she saw it fit to approach her teacher and make arrangements to write the test the following day.

After the arrangement was made, she was requested by the same teacher to go and rinse her lunch tin and while rushing to rinse the lunch tin, she met up with Mathabela, who asked her why she was not heeding his orders to go and have her hair cut.

The pupil tried to explain to him that she had been sent by the teacher to whom she had gone to make an arrangement regarding her test.

The scholar was called to an office where she was allegedly severely assaulted on the buttocks with the black pipe.

While trying to block the pipe with her hand, she got injured on her right hand as well.



**He stopped a kombi that was headed for Manzini and told us to board it and go home. One of us did not have money so he did not board the kombi**



**CONFIRMED:** Chairperson of Eswatini Human Rights Commission Sabelo Masuku.

## It's a sign of lack of communication - Human Rights

**WHEN sought for comment on the matter, the Chairperson of Eswatini Human Rights Commission Sabelo Masuku confirmed that his office received a complaint against Mathabela and that a team went to the school yesterday.**

He said preliminary findings by the Commission's team included that the pupils had been sent home after being suspended.

He said the principal informed the team that some of these pupils would fail to bring back their parents as per his instruction. More often than not, the pupils are said to sneak into class without informing their parents about their suspensions at the school.

### Frustration

When quizzed about the vulgar language alleged to have been used by the principal, the chairman said this and everything else were signs of frustration and the lack of communication between the school administration, parents and pupils.

To find lasting solutions, Masuku said the parents were to be engaged on the matter in order to get the whole picture of what was happening at the school.

### Encouraged

In cases where parents and pupils felt ill-treated in the hands of the school administration, Masuku said the school committee should be able to call the latter to order.

Nonetheless, the chairperson encouraged parents to work well with the school administration for the benefit of the children, who when all went sideways, the pupils suffered the most.



**The parents were to be engaged on the matter in order to get the whole picture of what was happening at the school**





**Examinations Council of Eswatini**

**NOTICE**

**2020 - E-REGISTRATION PERIOD FOR ALL SCHOOLS**

E-Registration for all levels, Eswatini Primary Certificate (EPC), Junior Certificate (JC) and Eswatini General Certificate of Secondary Education (EGCSE) will start on the **17<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020.**

All schools are requested to register their candidates for the external examinations.

Visit the Examinations Council website, [www.examsCouncil.org.sz](http://www.examsCouncil.org.sz), to download the E-Registration material.

Thank you.

**REGISTRAR**

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# 'HEADS WILL ROLL AT PSYCHIATRIC CENTRE'

BY BONGIWE DLAMINI  
Manzini

**THE ministry of health is probing the matter where orderlies of the National Psychiatric Referral Hospital reportedly released patients.**

This was confirmed by the Director of Health Services Dr. Vusi Magagula, who said the ministry had set up a commission of enquiry to ascertain what exactly happened that led to the release of the over 40 patients from the institution.

However, Magagula said there was nothing much to say about the ministry's undertaking as the process was still underway.

This follows an incident that happened last Monday, where employees picketed at the institution over lack of medicine and a dysfunctional drainage system that resulted in the flooding of toilets in patients' wards. At the time, the employees vowed to down tools until either the administration or the ministry of health addressed the matter.

Concerns brought forward by the employees included that the spillage had the potential to graduate to cause an outbreak of diseases among the habitats of the institution since the patients

no longer had a proper place to relieve themselves.

Instead, it was claimed that patients had suggested using a forest situated just behind the buildings of the hospital as a toilet, meanwhile the administration was engaged in rectifying the situation.

Last Monday, while some representatives of the employees were locked in a meeting with the hospital's administration, quite a number of patients were seen roaming the hallways, while others were seen leaving the hospital with their belongings.

## Stated

The security personnel at the exit point did not stop them.

In an interview that was conducted at the time, the Secretary for NAPSAWU shop stewards Bongiwe Dlamini, on behalf of the employees, stated that it was a resolution taken by all the workers to let the patients out of their wards so as to free them from the bondage of being locked in stinking rooms with human waste splashed all over the floors.

At the time, Dlamini conceded that letting the mentally challenged patients out into the outside world was not the best thing to do considering the danger they posed to the public.

Even so, she said this was the best

decision by the employees, given that locking the patients in was equally dangerous to their (employees and patients) health.

Releasing the hospital's clients was also seen as a push factor that would prompt the relevant stakeholders to act in addressing the issue.

Indeed, the ministry of health went down to the scene to assess the situation, and the drainage system was sorted.

On the flip side, when Dlamini was quizzed if she was aware of the probe, she responded to the affirmative and said the hospital's management had been contacted by the ministry in this regard.

The secretary was quick to mention that on the day, the patients actually forced their way out of the wards.

"Some employees were picketing while others were locked in a meeting with the administration until it was tea time for the patients. When they saw their food on the other side of the iron bars, they vandalised them and managed to get out and scrambled for the food," Dlamini stated.

She did not deny that the employees' intention was to eventually release the patients, but this did not happen as they were already out.

## LGBTQIs petition ministry of justice

BY SIFISO NHLABATSI  
Mbabane

**THE LGBTQIs community in the country has launched a petition directed to the ministry of justice and constitutional affairs to decriminalise same sex relationships.**

The campaign, which is aimed at persuading people to sign an online petition, was started by All Out, a global movement for love and equality.

LGBTQI stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Questioning, and Intersex. Supporting the petition was Eswatini Sexual and Gender Minorities, a non-governmental organisation that seeks to advocate for LGBTQI rights.

According to All Out, LGBTQI citizens experience multi-sectoral discrimination. It states that the health sector, Judiciary bodies and legislators, law enforcement officials, are all ill-equipped to respond to the needs of the LGBTQI citizens, and are complicit in discrimination.

"This discrimination is propelled by the common law offence of sodomy. We refer to the offences of sodomy and unnatural sexual offences collectively the Common

Law Offences," part of the petition reads.

According to the petition, which by yesterday had received over 20 signatures, the crime of sodomy criminalises same-sex acts in Eswatini.

"Those suspected of the offence are liable to arrest without a warrant. Though not applied in recent history, the law is used to deny human rights and related services to LGBTQI people in Eswatini," the petition states.

The on-going criminalisation of LGBTQI community, according to All Out fuels the prejudice, stigma, discrimination and violation that LGBTQIs regularly experience.

Statistics presented in the petition state that in a 2019 study over 30 per cent of LGBTQI persons reported having been denied health-care services, 50 per cent said they were survivors of sexual violence and 26 per cent said they had attempted to take their own life.

This out-dated common law offence, according to All Out hangs like a sword above the heads of LGBTQI people who live in fear of arrest. "Help us bring this important matter to light by signing this petition, urging the government to repeal the common law offence of sodomy" the petition reads.

## NNLC man charged with SODV for 'disciplining' younger brother

BY VUYILE DLAMINI  
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

**A political activist has been given a chance to defend himself after he pleaded not guilty to assaulting his younger brother.**

Ngwane National Liberatory Congress National Organiser Kwazi Shabangu was said to have assaulted

his brother Bandile Shabangu with a belt, thus contravening the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Act of 2018. Shabangu has since been admitted to bail set at E1 000, after the prosecution made an application to lead evidence of the commission of the offence.

According to court records, Shabangu was said to have, on February 15, 2020 at Mahwalala,

assaulted Bandile with fists and kicks, and further assaulted him with a belt.

In addition to that charge, Shabangu was said to have been charged with assault common, after he assaulted Ntokozo Mabuza with a broom.

After making his bail application before Senior Magistrate Nonhlanhla Dlamini on Sunday, Shabangu was admitted to bail set at E1 000.

'Mr X' tells Zondo Commission of elaborate payments

**JOHANNESBURG** - A key witness referred to only as 'Mr X' has testified in an undisclosed location about corruption allegations involving the Richards Bay based state-owned water supply company, Mhlathuze Water.

The witness was referred to as Mr X because he fears for his life and had asked the commission to protect him. The commission heard how Dudu Myeni, then a former Board chairperson of Mhlathuze Water Board, threatened Mr X's daughter after she heard that he had been cooperating with the commission. *Goal*

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**NHLANGANO  
TOWN COUNCIL**

## COME LET US SHAPE NHLANGANO TOGETHER!

Residents, the Business Community, Property Owners, Regional Government Agencies and all Town Users are invited to an Open Meeting to inform the Integrated Development Planning processes. The Local Authority has embarked on an exercise to re-define the Development Agenda and Targets for the next five years. The details of the meeting are as follows:

**Date:** Wednesday 19 February 2020

**Venue:** Esiyalwini Auditorium, Nhlango (Eswatini Water Services Corporation Regional Head Office)

**Time:** 9:00 am

**Come let us shape our destiny together. Your input is highly valued. One Town, one People, one Destiny!**

"Help us make Nhlango a Better Town"



## Woman raped by son a widow

BY DELISA THWALA  
Mankayane

THE woman who was allegedly raped by her son is a widow. Her husband died many years ago.

This was confirmed by a close relative, who said the woman estimated to be around 50 years was now facing disapproval from family members for reporting the matter to the police.

"Everyone involved in this matter keeps saying my aunt should have waited for the boy to be sober and apologise to her other than reporting the matter to the police.

"They feel it was wrong for her to open a case," shared the source. The alleged rapist is said to have since disappeared from the area as the police and the whole community are looking him. One of the community leaders identified as Zubuko said the incident was shocking and the areas was abuzz with such news.

"I do not want to say much on the matters, but I have been around for a long time, long enough to know that this is bad omen.

"We rarely hear of something like this and we do not condone it," said Zubuko.

Information gathered suggests that the alleged rapist was troublesome in the area as he has been fingered in a lot of crimes including break-ins. "If he is not drinking, he is making noise all over the community. We did not doubt the mother. However, we are shattered to learn that some people are doubting and blaming the mother," added the close source. Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Phindile Vilakati said they were still looking for the man.



Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Phindile Vilakati.

# TAIWAN HELPS UNESWA SELF-GENERATE E150 000 ELECTRICITY

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI  
Mhahane

THE Republic of China (Taiwan) has once again proved to be a good friend to the Kingdom of Eswatini, as the a 82.56 KW solar PV power plant that was donated to the University of Eswatini (UNESWA) has produced electricity worth E147 000 since the plant was commissioned.

This is according to the UNESWA's official Twitter account, whereby the university expressed its gratitude to Taiwan.

"The Centre for Sustainable Energy Research has 82.56 KW solar PV power plant that was donated by the Republic of China on Taiwan in 2019.

UNESWA generates 500KW hours of power daily and has produced electricity worth E147 000 since the plant was commissioned," reads the post.

Meanwhile, the ministry of natural resources, in their 2019-2023 strategic plan, notes the issues towards achieving 90% access to electricity in the country and further mentions the need to facilitate the contribution of renewable energy by 80 MW in the electricity supply

mix.

"90% access to electricity and energy security is one of the flagship priorities that should be achieved by the country.

However, these targets have to be supported by organisational efficiency which includes staff retention, a supportive working environment and sound performance management system.

Effectively

"To effectively and efficiently manage the national energy resources and to work towards affordable and sustainable energy provision for all the people of the Kingdom of Eswatini, whilst ensuring the international

competitiveness of the energy sector as a whole, the ministry looks to facilitate the contribution of renewable energy by 80MW in the electricity supply mix, facilitate the completion of the feasibility study and funding models for the 300 MW thermal power plant, establish strategic fuel storage facility for the country for up to 90 days reserves and increase electricity access for households from 78% in 2018 to 85% by 2023," reads the report.

UNESWA Register Dr Salebona Simelane could not be reached for comment when called several times yesterday as his phone rang unanswered.



Zanele Mbokazi-Nkambule making her remarks during the activation of the Back to the Cross Crusade which begins Sunday. (Pic: Simon Shabangu)

## Three-year increase of public debt

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE  
Mbabane

THE auditor general's report for the year ended March 31, 2019 has indicated a yearly increase of public debt.

Last Friday, the minister of finance announced that the national debt was at E19.2 billion, which is an increase from the previous financial year which was around E18 billion.

The statement of public debt shows that the total public debt stood at E18 014 184 070.58, which was 27 per cent of the gross Domestic product (GDP) thus showing a significant increase in the total.

Auditor General Timothy Matsebula in the report stated that a public debt of E5.6 billion (45 per cent) from the previous financial year's E12.5 billion was noted.

The increase in public debt was

attributed to an increase of 37 per cent in domestic debt from E7.7 billion in the fiscal year 2018 to E10.5 billion in 2019.

"A significant increase in external public debt of 57 per cent from E4.8 billion in the preceding financial year to E7.5 billion in 2019," he said.

Matsebula said according to the Bretton Woods Institutions, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, public debt should not exceed 35 per cent of the GDP.

### Debt

Even though the public debt levels are still below the threshold of the gross domestic product, the rapid increase is alarming, the auditor general stated.

"Since revenue collections continue to decline and public expenditure continues to escalate, it is likely that government's gearing level may increase beyond the acceptable threshold," he explained.

## Public Debt Management Strategy needed

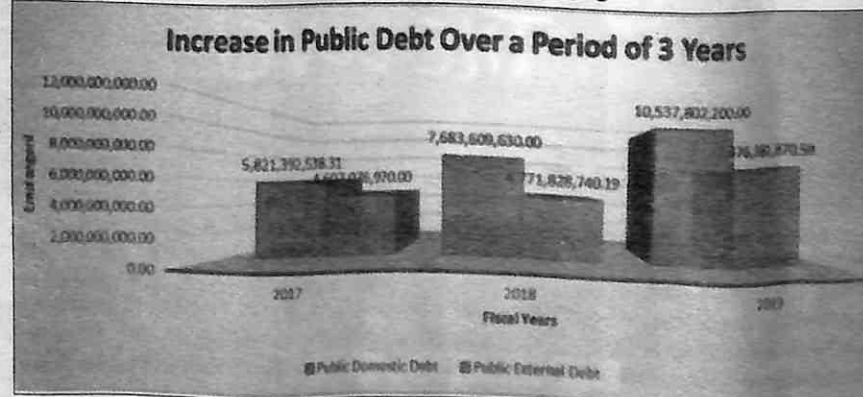
AUDITOR General Timothy Matsebula stated that public debt strategic management was critical in a country's capacity to finance its policy objectives and service delivery that adds value to the lives of the citizens.

In his report, Matsebula said he observed that there was no officially endorsed debt management strategy but a draft strategy was being developed.

He added that the reduction in the total government revenue may inevitably compel the Government of Eswatini to continue increasing its public debt.

However, he stated that a well-informed public debt management strategy was required at the earliest time possible as large adjustments to the country's borrowing levels from 27 per cent to 35 per cent of the GDP may threaten the country's economic stability.

Matsebula added that the country continued to face a challenging economic environment due to rising government spending and low revenue from the Southern African Customs Union (SACU). Further, he stressed on rising of government spending and reduction of revenue have increased public debt and contributed to large domestic



arrears. Reserves have also declined, although remain broadly adequate, and real GDP growth has been slow.

"Despite all these, the current debt situation has not yet reached the threshold of 35%, however, careful consideration should be given to debt service ratios to avoid breach of their respective thresholds," he said.

Furthermore, the auditor general said observations on unreported arrears amounting to E3 194 134 221.91 and unreconciled Government accounts. He said this tends to give an erroneous picture of Government's cash flow position. Hence it indicates that a debt management strategy that is not

informed by accurate government accounts is likely to be inconsistent with the real cash flow position and the country's ability to make debt repayments in the foreseeable future.

"The unreported arrears conceal the accounts payable within one fiscal period and tend to increase domestic debt levels. On another note, the decreasing trend in revenue collections and the increase in domestic debts may, in the long run, discourage local companies from trading with the government, due to the history of delays in payment of debts to local companies," he said.



# PATIENTS STRUGGLE AS NURSES CONTINUE STRIKE AT GOVT HOSPITAL

BY SIFISO NHLABATSI  
Mbabane

**PATIENTS** are experiencing serious difficulties at Mbabane Government Hospital as nurses continue with their strike action.

Some nurses at the government hospital have downed tools over lack of security and other services at the hospital.

The hardships that patients go through at the hospital were evident yesterday as some waited in vain to get assistance from nurses.

Nurses claim that they were promised that the issue was being dealt with by the ministry of health, but there was nothing forthcoming from the ministry.

The Swaziland Nurses Association (SNA) said nothing has been communicated to them with regards to the negotiations between government and the company that is expected to provide security at the hospital.

SNA President Bheki Mamba said what he gathered was that the ministry was in negotiations to have the same company offer security at the hospital while government was still trying to facilitate payments.

He said another alternative was to have police officers man the hospital while the security company was still in talks with government.

**Informed**  
Further, Mamba said he was informed that this would be sorted in a matter of two days.

He said but up to yesterday, there was nothing from government showing that the situation had been handled.

Last Thursday nurses downed tools at the government hospital after a meeting with the administration over their safety. The nurses vowed to resume duties once their demands were met.



**STRANDED:** Patients queueing at Mbabane Government Hospital for the whole day following a go slow by nurses yesterday. Most of them went back to their respective homes without treatment. (Pic: Lucky Simelane)

However, it is worth noting that not all nurses are on strike as there are those who were found on duty

yesterday. It was, however, gathered that even those on duty were on a go slow.

## CORRUPTION GETTING WORSE IN ESWATINI

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI  
Mbabane

**THE** issue of corruption in Eswatini seems to be getting worse every year as the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2019 ranks the country 113th out of 180 countries, which is a regression of 25 places from the previous year.

The CPI is an index published annually by Transparency International since 1995, and offers an annual snapshot of the relative degree of corruption by ranking countries and territories from all over the globe.

### Ranks

The index ranks 180 countries and territories by their perceived levels

of public sector corruption. As Transparency International's flagship research product, the index has become the leading global indicator of public sector corruption.

### Draws

The 2019 CPI draws on 13 surveys and expert assessments to measure public sector corruption in 180 countries and territories, giving each a score from zero (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean).

Eswatini has been regressing for the past four years in the index, and this year is no different with the country backsliding by 25 places from 2018's standing, which was position 85.

Meanwhile, in the ministry of justice and constitutional affairs' Eswatini

justice sector strategy and action plan – 2019 – 2023, the ministry notes that the index has an impact on investments.

The ministry assured the public of preventing corruption in government systems and improved professional service delivery in all aspects.

### Impacts

"This index impacts on foreign direct investment. Locally, the country has recorded high perceptions of corruption and high corruption tolerance levels.

"The justice sector is, therefore, mindful of its obligation in building a capable state, building safer communities, ensuring social protection, promoting accountability

and fighting corruption which are key in reviving the country's economy," reads the report.

On the other hand, His Majesty King Mswati III has also alluded to the struggle to combat corruption in the country during the Speech from the Throne.

"Let us give credence to the sentiments expressed by the nation at the sibaya, where all acts of corruption and malpractice were strongly castigated.

"If we are to make a meaningful turn around to our economy, we need to fight, control and eliminate all forms of corruption with punitive measures to protect our resources and restore financial stability," said His Majesty.

## Man held for stealing E40 000 items in break-ins

BY WONDERBOY DLAMINI  
Siteki

**A** man of KaMkheweli appeared before the magistrate's court for three charges of house breaking and theft totalling to over E40 000.

Mkhosi Matsenjwa (36) is alleged to have been on the run since last year and only got arrested early this month. Amongst his charges, the accused person is alleged to have wrongfully and unlawfully broken into a house of Fezile Mkhonta and stole items valued at E15 810.

The items included electronic gadgets and jewellery. On the second count, the accused person is said to have broken into a house of Mthokozisi Dlamini and proceeded to steal items valued at E17 100.

A few days later, the accused allegedly broke into a house of Muzi Sibandze and stole items valued at E915. All three break-ins are said to have been committed in the month of October last year.

During his appearance before acting Magistrate Lungile Shongwe, the accused person was informed of his right to legal representation, to which he elected to conduct his own defence.

When asked on how he intends to plead to the charges, the accused person stated that he would be pleading not guilty.

The Crown, therefore, filed an application to have the accused person remanded into custody pending setting of a trial date.

The matter returns to court next Monday. Meanwhile, in another matter, Simanga Mndzebele (31) faced a charge of assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm. He is said to have wrongfully and unlawfully assaulted Collin Dlamini by stabbing him with a sharp object in the shoulder. The accused person indicated that he would be pleading guilty to the charge.

Due to the seriousness of the injuries sustained by the complainant, the Crown elected to call witnesses to prove commission of the offence. The matter was postponed to a later date pending commencement of trial.

## Govt allocates E4 million for defunct Eswatini Skills Centres

BY SIFISO NHLABATSI  
Mbabane

**GOVERNMENT** is expected to spend about E4 million on the now defunct Eswatini Skills Centres.

The skills centres, which include Siteki Industrial Training Centre (SITC), Nhlanguano Agricultural Skills Training (NASTIC) and Manzini Industrial Training Centre (MITC) were closed in 2018 after government had a disagreement with the directors of the skills centres over the use of subventions.

This led to government closing the institutions and sending the learners packing. Some students tried protesting against the move, but were told by government that they were on their own. Students who were enrolled at these skill centres are still at home. Some, it has been reported, have even opted to find piece jobs while waiting for the institutions to re-open. Some have applied to other institutions operating in the country.

However, government estimates for the years from April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2023 indicate that for the financial year 2020/21, the skills centres will be allocated E3 972 668.

Getting a larger share of the money is the Manzini Industrial Training Centre (MITC), which has been allocated E2 388 369. Nhlanguano Agricultural Skills Training Centre is expected to receive a sum of E1 034 088 while Siteki Industrial Training Centre will get E550 211.

The Swaziland Skills Centres ceased operations after government refused to release subventions. This was after investigations by the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) which suggested that government should stop issuing subventions to the skills centres until certain conditions were met by the skill centres.

The directors of the skills centres indicated that the company had run out of funds following government's decision to withhold subventions and as a result, they were forced to liquidate the company and sell its assets.

## Chrisilda Transport directors promise to pay owed workers

BY SIFISO NHLABATSI  
Mbabane

**DIRECTORS** of Chrisilda Transport are in a move to pay workers what is due to them in terms of their terminal benefits.

This was revealed by the company's attorney yesterday at the Industrial Court. Chrisilda Transport directors were taken to court by aggrieved former employees who felt that the company was in contempt of court after failing to pay them terminal benefits.

The company's directors were further accused of having disposed of a truck which was under judicial attachment to secure funds for the owed workers. The workers, who are represented by Human Rights Lawyer Thulani Maseko, appeared at the Industrial Court yesterday.

Chrisilda, through its attorneys, argued before court that the truck in question has not been disposed of but is parked at Swaziland Milling.

The court was informed that the workers had already seen the truck.

Maseko, who is representing SWATCAWU, informed the court that what he gathered is that workers went to inspect the truck, but they found that it was not the same truck that is subject before court.

He applied that the workers be given a chance to inspect the chassis number of the truck.

The matter was postponed to another date.

The court was informed that Chrisilda is actually on a move to pay the workers what is due to them.

Information relayed to the court was to the effect that the company has already prepared a schedule of payment for the workers and papers have been submitted to the commissioner of labour.

According to SWACTAWU, Chrisilda Transport closed shop in November 2019 and failed to pay terminal benefits to its workers and further disposed of an asset under judicial attachment to secure pay-



**Human Rights Lawyer Thulani Maseko.**

ment of same.

In the present application before court, SWATCAWU wants directors of Chrisilda Transport to be jailed for 30 days and and further pay their former workers terminal benefits.



STORIES BY MHLONISHWA HLOPHE  
Lobamba

ORPHANED and Vulnerable Children (OVC) residing around Lobamba community enjoyed a special Valentine's Day as they were showered with gifts by the King's Office employees on Friday.

A majority of the pupils were from schools around Lobamba.

The event took place at the St Margaret Anglican Church at Nkhanini, just a stone's throw from the Nkhanini King's Office.

In their quest to break the cycle of poverty at family and community level, the employees coined the idea of helping pupils around the area in January and a proper date was set to make the donation. The employees from the entity showed their willingness to lend a helping hand to the children. Smiles and excitement were written all over the faces of the minors.

They noted that education is the single most effective weapon against poverty; hence they saw it proper to make a difference to the pupils. About 50 pupils benefitted from the donation, most of them being pre-school, primary and high school learners.

Reverend Richard Shiba shared the Word of God before the donation was handed over to the Nkhanini soup kitchen operators.

In his speech he said; "For years, the Nkhanini soup kitchen relied exclusively on donations to have the children fed. Many of these children are without parents, and those who have, you find that they are unemployed and their parents do not afford to provide basic needs like food

# King's Office employees put smiles on Lobamba OVC



**POSE:** The King's Office Human Resource Director Mpendulo Mazibuko with pupils pose for a group picture together with his colleagues. (R) Mazibuko, HR Manager Zanele Gama and Pastor Mavimbela handing over the donations. This was during the presentation of stationery by the King's Office employees at Nkhanini on Friday. (Pics: Mhlonishwa Hlophe)



for the children, and would sometimes go to school without having eaten anything. Hence, they have found a family and a home at the soup kitchen."

King's Office Human Resource Director Mpendulo Mazibuko also addressed the pupils before handing over the goodies.

He said the purpose of the gathering was to handover the back to school campaign donation from the King's Office employees to the children fed at Nkhanini soup kitchen.

"In an effort to assist the underprivileged

school children, especially who that are fed at the Nkhanini soup kitchen we decided to bring together some donations to help in the purchase of the stationery. The employees managed to raise money hence, we bought the stationery and food hampers," said Mazibuko. The stationery comprised set of instruments, ball-point, pencils, crayons, rulers, erasers and shapners, to mention just a few. "It was the first time for us to engage in such a project and we hope to continue even next. We appeal

to potential donors to come forward and help the needy. Probably next year we will shift focus to other neighbourhoods around Lobamba and possibly end up assisting the whole country," narrated Mazibuko. Pastor S. Mavimbela echoed Mazibuko's statement by saying the habit of giving was rare these days and people should try and emulate the King's Office employees, by giving to the needy.

She further urged the employees to continue giving as it was a blessing before

God. She acknowledged that helping others is hugely empowering and in turn, can make one feel happier and more fulfilled. "Having the power to improve the lives of others is, to many people a privilege and one that comes with its own sense of obligation. "Acting on these powerful feelings of responsibility is a great way to reinforce our own personal values and feel like we are living in a way that is true to our own ethical beliefs," she explained.

## Toys bring joy to children

SOME of the children interviewed after receiving their toys could not hide their joy as they immediately opened them and showed each other what they had received.

Nokuthula, aged six years, was excited about her cellphone and she would constantly take a selfie and would be seen calling some of her friends to join her. When asked how she felt about her new toy, she just laughed. Muzi Sibandze when asked what he would like the King's Office staff to buy for him next year, he said he would like to receive

more toys and new school shoes. "I can't wait to go home and show my mother my new gift. I am very happy about today," he calmly said. The children did not only receive gifts but were also served with a scrumptious meal prepared by the King's Office employees and also had dessert. Human Resource Manager at the King's office Zanele Gama said they were so happy to make time and mingle with the pupils. She said it felt good to see them so excited, adding that mixing with them on such a special day like Valentine's Day meant a lot to them. "We are looking forward to helping more children around the community of Lobamba. We hope next year we shall come with here with something bigger and better for the children."





### VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**Project Associate**

UNDP Eswatini is recruiting a Project Associate for the Early Warning System project by the Government of Eswatini (Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs) with technical and financial support from the Italy Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea (IMELS). The Project Associate will work under the direct supervision of the National Project Manager (Meteorology Department) and overall guidance of UNDP Programme Analyst and the National Coordinator for the Italy and Eswatini programme staff in the UNDP Country Office and Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs- (Meteorology Department). Further details of the position are available through accessing the below link. Suitable candidates are invited to apply online through the link below. The deadline for applications is 23rd February 2020. Only applications submitted online will be considered.

TITLE	Project Associate
Agency	UNDP
Duty Station	Mbabane ESWATINI
VA is available at link	<a href="https://jobs.partneragencies.net/erecruitjobs.html?JobOpeningId=28866&amp;hrs_io_pst_seq=1&amp;hrs_site_id=2">https://jobs.partneragencies.net/erecruitjobs.html?JobOpeningId=28866&amp;hrs_io_pst_seq=1&amp;hrs_site_id=2</a>
Applications should be Submitted Online	<a href="https://jobs.partneragencies.net/erecruitjobs.html?JobOpeningId=28866&amp;hrs_io_pst_seq=1&amp;hrs_site_id=2">https://jobs.partneragencies.net/erecruitjobs.html?JobOpeningId=28866&amp;hrs_io_pst_seq=1&amp;hrs_site_id=2</a>
Number of Vacant Position	1 (One)
Deadline for Applications	23 February 2020
Expected Start Date	March 2020
Duration	12 months
Type of Contract	Service Contract SB3/5



Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced candidates for the below mentioned positions within the SRA.

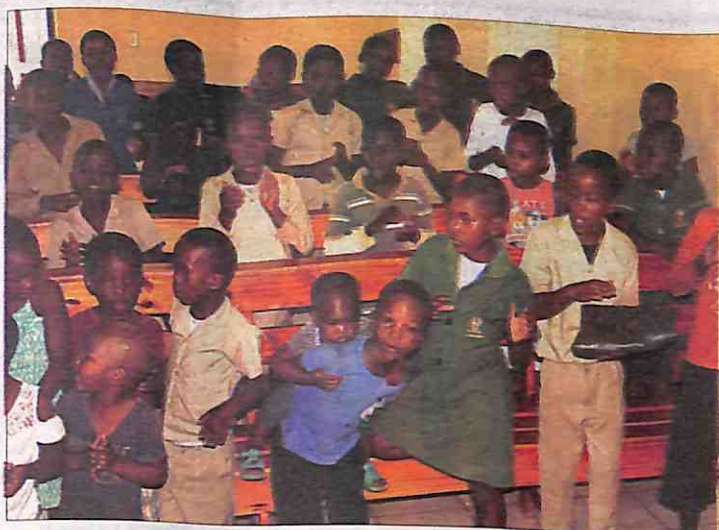
- Risk Management Specialist (Business Continuity Management & Compliance Risk Management)
- Risk Management Specialist
- Senior Investigations Officer
- Gym Administrator Officer



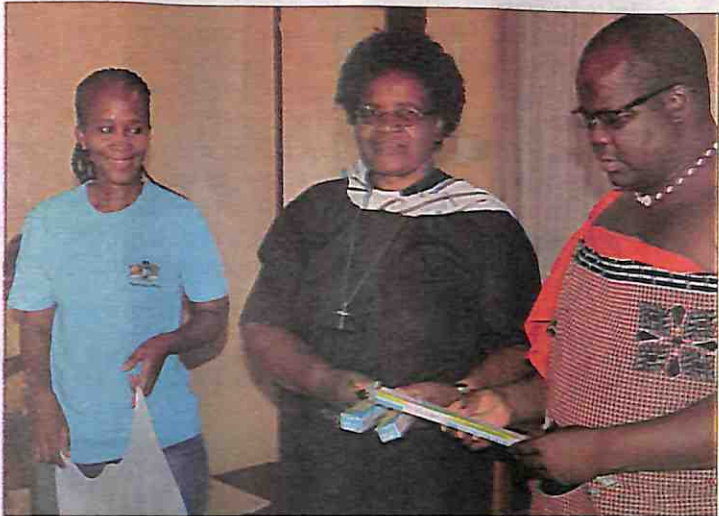
Apply through the following link: <https://sra.job.skillsmapafrica.com/>

Closing date: 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020





**BENEFITTED:** Some of the children who were present during the presentation.



**GIFTS:** King's Office HR Director Mpendulo Mazibuko, Human Resource Officer Zanele Gama and Pastor Mavimbela handing the gifts to the pupils.

# Four customers win Smart TV sets in KFC draws

BY KHETSIWE KHUMALO  
Mbabane

KFC hosted its second draw around the country, where winners walked away with exciting prizes, including a Sansui 55-inch 4K UHD Smart TV.

According to Belinda Forbes, who is the Marketing Manager at KFC, four draws were conducted at four of their stores on the same day. "The first live draw was conducted in Pigg's Peak, which was followed by Mbabane, then at the new KFC Matsapha Link Drive

Thru near the Police Academy Road, and the last draw for the day was in Matsapha, Mahhala," said Forbes. Forbes revealed that accompanying her during all the draws was Nikki Jacobsz, who is the sole owner of Smart Marketing Solutions.

They conducted the draws together with Sibusiso Mngomezulu, better known as Spinach amongst work colleagues and customers, who was the MC.

All the winners were contacted and informed that they had been chosen as the lucky winners. The winners were

Welile Gama from Pigg's Peak, Precious Sondezi, who won at the Matsapha Link KFC, Sifiso Mdluli from Mbabane and Thulani Manzini from Matsapha, Mahhala.

"The last TV set store draws will see us giving away three TVs while the countrywide draw for one TV will be on the 12th of March, 2020," announced Forbes. She further said the competition closing date is 29th February.

Potential winners stand a chance to win one of 10 Sansui 55-inch 4K UHD Smart TV sets when they purchase any menu item to the value of E50 minimum.



**WIN A TV:** Sibusiso Mngomezulu was the MC for the live draws while Nikki Jacobsz conducted the draws in all the shops.



**LUCKY:** Nikki Jacobsz digging into the huge pile of entries at one of the shops.



**NAMBOARD**  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL  
MARKETING BOARD

## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR PROVISION OF SYSTEM SOFTWARE FOR NAMBOARD - NMB. No 1/2020 EOI

The National Agricultural Marketing Board is requesting suitably qualified service providers/consultancies to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) for provision of System Software Services to operate Namboard Market and Farm Services and operations, Accounting Management Services, Regulatory Services and Corporate Affairs Management.

### Scope of work:

EOI Terms of reference detailing the scope of work are available on ESPRA Website [www.sppra.co.sz](http://www.sppra.co.sz) and Namboard Website [www.namboard.co.sz](http://www.namboard.co.sz)

### Submission:

Written proposal for expression of interest in English to provide services should be submitted at NAMBOARD Head Office Reception in a sealed-envelope marked as follows (Post or email)

**Expression of Interest - NMB No.1/2020EOI**  
The Chairman of the Tender Committee  
National Agricultural Marketing Board

### Date:

Interested service providers should submit their expression of interest not later than 16h30, Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020.

### Enquiries:

Enquiries pertaining this tender must be directed to the Secretary of the Tender Committee at (+268) 2505 5312/5

Email: [procurement@namboard.co.sz](mailto:procurement@namboard.co.sz)

DOC:21362

ESWATINI



GOVERNMENT

## ADVERTISEMENT FOR INVITATION TO TENDER

### Invitation to Tender for the Supply and Delivery of Pharmaceuticals and Medical Supplies for ICU/Renal Tender Reference No. 2 of 2020/2021

The Ministry of Health (MOH) now invites sealed Tenders for the supply and delivery of Pharmaceuticals and Medical Supplies for Intensive Care Unit (ICU)/Renal. Tenders must be accompanied by a receipt for E 300 (three hundred) which should be paid at Eswatini Revenue Office; Account Number is 451-2101-21990. Tenders must be enclosed in a sealed envelope.

The Outer envelope must be marked as follows:

**"The Secretary to the Tender Board  
Treasury Building  
P.O. Box 38  
MBABANE"**

**The Envelope must be clearly marked with the following words: "Ministry of Health, Tender No. 2 of 2020/2021 for Supply and Delivery of Pharmaceuticals and Medical Supplies for Intensive Care Unit (ICU)/Renal" Do not open before Friday the 27th March, 2020 9.00 am"**

Tenders must be delivered to the offices of Tender Board, Treasury Building, P. O. Box 38, Mbabane, Eswatini, by **Friday the 27th March, 2020 at 9.00 am and deposited in the Treasury Tender Box.** Tenders received in time by the date and time for submission will be opened at the Treasury Building immediately after 9.00 am on **Friday the 27th March, 2020.** Late, telegraphic, electronic and faxed tenders will not be considered. Tenderers or their Representative may attend the opening procedure.

The documents specified in the Instructions to Tenderers including the copy of current original Tax Clearance Certificates for Government tender, Trading Licence, Form J, Form C, Labour Compliance affidavit proving that the tenderer or any of its directors and officers have not been convicted, Certificate of Incorporation Eswatini National Provident Fund (ENPF) Employers Compliance Certification (equivalent for foreign Tenderers) and Tender Security must be enclosed in an envelope and be attached to the tender.

The Government does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

There will be a non-compulsory Pre-bid meeting on the 4th March, 2020 at 09.00am in the conference room situated at the New Central Medical Stores, Matsapha, Eswatini.

For further information and collection of tender documents contact the Principal Procurement Officer, at the Central Medical Stores, Plot 77, King Mswati 111 Avenue, Matsapha Industrial Estate, Matsapha, Eswatini. Telephone No: 25184111/25184496/25184373. Send your request for a soft copy of the bidding document to [procurement.swazihealth@gmail.com](mailto:procurement.swazihealth@gmail.com) copy [sncedile@gmail.com](mailto:sncedile@gmail.com)

SECRETARY TO TENDER BOARD

DOC2117



## Teenager charged for violating SODV Act

BY BONGIWE DLAMINI  
Manzini

**THE dictates of the SODV Act about abusing this legislation do not seem to sink in to many as yet another female has been charged for contravening the Act after lying about being violated by her boyfriend.**

\* Thembi (15) of Ngculwini was arrested and charged for contravening Section 120(b) of the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Act 15 of 2018.

Her charge sheet stated that she unlawfully, intentionally and wilfully made a false statement to the police about having had sexual intercourse with one Luyanda Magagula (22), who is her boyfriend. This happened last Thursday at the Mafutseni Police Station.

This follows that Thembi had disappeared from home on Sunday February 9, 2020 and only returned home the following day after her 65-year-old grandmother had reported her missing.

In her statement recorded with the police on the Monday morning, Thembi stated that she had left her parental home with her two friends.

She reportedly had gone to the shops at Ngculwini and bought some items which she brought home before returning back to the bus station.

While she and the two other girls were on their way, she claimed to have met a man known to them, who suggested that they all go to a local bar.

The three girls agreed and while at the bar, the man bought them alcoholic drinks.

### Enjoyed

Thembi said she noticed that her boyfriend Luyanda was also at the bar with his friends and they all enjoyed their drinks.

They reportedly went to the bar at around 11am and they drank until 9:30pm.

Since it was too late for Thembi to go home alone, she claimed that Luyanda suggested that she spent the night at his homestead and she agreed.

During the course of the night, the teenager claimed to have had sexual intercourse with her boyfriend several times.

This, according to the statement provided by Thembi, was not the first time she and Luyanda had engaged in bedroom aerobics though it was the first time she spent a night at his homestead.

The two are said to have started dating in December 2019 and during the same month, they slept together.

After Thembi had given this statement to the police, Luyanda was arrested last Wednesday for allegedly having sexual intercourse with a 15-year-old and thus contravened the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Act of 2018.

### Falsified

Upon learning about her boyfriend's arrest, Thembi went to the Mafutseni Police Station to report that she had falsified her previous statement about having been with Luyanda on the night she spent away from home. She claimed to have been somewhere else with some people, and not Luyanda.

After this revelation, Luyanda was released from custody though the charge for having had other sexual encounters with a minor still stands.

Thembi, on the other hand, made her first court appearance before Magistrate Justice Mzizi last Friday, where she pleaded guilty to the charge levelled against her.

She is set to return to court for trial in March 4, 2020.

She was released to the custody of her grandmother.

# E3m FOR DISABILITY UNUTILISED

...as money was allocated for assistance of the disable budget

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE  
Mbabane

**THE deputy prime minister's office did not utilise E3 million for assistance of the disabled.**

Auditor General Timothy Matsebula, in his report, stated that there was non-utilisation of capital project funds amounting to E1 500 000 that were appropriated by Parliament.

The money was allocated for assistance of the disable budget. The entire released budget was not utilised, resulting in non-utilisation of 100 per cent in the project as there was no implementation as approved.

The project was on its continuation phase. Worth noting is that the pro-

ject incurred an under expenditure even in the two previous financial years ended March 31, 2017 and 2018, E849 016.18 and E677, 470.87 (67 per cent) respectively.

"I am, therefore, concerned that the project is being allocated more funds that are not eventually utilised for the intended purpose of adding value to the lives of disabled citizens," he said.

Matsebula mentioned in the report that the non-utilisation of the project funds may have a negative impact on the economic growth hence delaying improvement of the lives of the targeted citizens. The stalled projects may become expensive to complete, he added.

He explained that when he questioned the non-utilisation of the funds

there was no response. Matsebula stated that the DPM's office has contravened the Financial and Accounting Instruction 0315 (ii), which requires that the controlling officer should respond promptly to audit queries.

An audit of the detailed statement of recurrent expenditure for the financial year ended March 31, 2019 was conducted and the findings were communicated to the principal secretary through a memorandum referenced D21 Vol. II/40, dated September 23, 2019 Matsebula said.

"The controlling officer did not respond to my audit findings; hence, they remain reportable," he said.

Meanwhile, the ministry of natural resources recorded an under expenditure because of uncompleted pro-

jects.

"I noted that there was an under expenditure on two capital projects amounting to E18 824 645.72. The under expenditure on Strategic Fuel Reserve Depot project was E16 271 106.18, and E2 553 539.54 on Rehabilitation of DWA Laboratory," he said.

The ministry, in response, cited that, according to their records the reported under expenditure did not occur, with regard to Project F02686 - Strategic Fuel Reserve Depot.

The ministry stated that the total expenditure under the above-mentioned project was E34 509 242.65 instead of the reported E18, 728,893.82, recording a variance of E490 757.35 instead of the reported E16 271 106.18.

## Traffic offender without driver's licence runs away

BY BONGUMUSA SIMELANE  
Mbabane Magistrate's court

**A traffic offender gave police a hard time when she ran away after she was found to be driving a vehicle without a driver's licence.**

Xolile Fortunate Maseko (21) from Oshoek was nabbed by the police while at Msunduzi and she was driving a motor vehicle registered TSD 122 CM without a driver's licence thus contravening the Road Traffic Act of 2007.

On the second count, Maseko was charged with the offence of overloading as she exceeded the lawful carrying capacity by two passengers thus contravening the Road Transportation Act of 2007.

### Accused

When she was ordered by the police to pull over, the accused is alleged to have sped off.

Police who were high on her heels apprehended her when she was approaching the Central Bank of Eswatini building.

In mitigation, the accused told the court that she was frightened hence

## Magistrate grills second time offender

**A second time drink-driving offender got more than he had bargained for when he was grilled by Magistrate Sifiso Vilakati for being in the accused dock for the same offence in a space of two months.**

Sipho Maseko was charged with contravening the Road Traffic Act of 2007. He is alleged to have driven a motor vehicle under the influence of an intoxicating substance with an alcohol content of 1.29mg/l. He was also charged with the offence of driving without a driving licence.

The accused pleaded guilty to the offences and Magistrate Vilakati asked him why he had committed the same offences.

He asked the accused why he was so irresponsible with his life. Vilakati said even the last time, Maseko pleaded for leniency and vowed not to commit the offence again. "I don't understand why you said you will not commit the offence again if you knew very well that you were lying before the court of law," he said.

### Appeared

Vilakati wanted to know how much the accused was fined the last time he appeared before court and he responded that he was fined E1 200. He wondered that under such economic times, there were some people who preferred to spend so much money on paying fines

for drink-driving while that money could be used to pay bills, buy food for their families and other important things. Vilakati told the accused that he was a very irresponsible adult and his actions made no sense. He wondered how one can spend E50 on marula brew and then stand to lose a maximum of E5 000.

"Parliament passed the Road Traffic Act for every Eswatini to abide by it. The laws are there to ensure that there is harmony, peace and stability in societies and everyone is obliged to follow the laws," said the magistrate.

He sentenced Maseko to E1 500 on the first count and E500 on the second count.

she found herself running away from the police. She said she did intend to do so and she was really sorry for her actions.

"I was forced by the situation as the owner of the vehicle was drunk, so I

had no choice but to get behind the wheel," she said. She appeared before Magistrate Sifiso Vilakati and she pleaded guilty to both counts.

Vilakati warned her against driving without a valid driving licence and

encouraged her to apply for one to avoid being arrested again.

She was fined E500 on each count or five months imprisonment and both counts were to run concurrently.

## Man fined E5 500 after giving police false name

BY SIZWE DLAMINI  
Pigg's Peak

**LAURANCE Mabila was fined E5 500 for causing an accident, refusing to take a breathalyser test before giving traffic police a false name.**

Mabila appeared at the Pigg's Peak Magistrate's Court on Sunday after his arrest on Saturday evening at Msahweni.

He was first charged with causing an accident after his Honda sedan sideswiped the left side of a Mazda sedan driven by Phila Ndawandwe.

During the accident, the Mazda was damaged on its left bumper and left passenger's side door.

After causing the accident, traffic police officers arrived at the scene and asked Mabila to take a breathalyser test but he refused.

Mabila also informed the police that his name was

Christopher Mnisi and drove the vehicle without a driver's licence.

Speaking inside the witness box at the Pigg's Peak Magistrate's

Court, Mabila said he possessed a driver's licence.

"I plead guilty to all the charges that I face. I was very intoxicated at the time and I will never make the same mistakes again," he said.

Principal Magistrate

Phathaphatha Mdluli told Mabila that he should be given a custodial sentence for all the offences he committed under intoxication.

"You are the type of person who

deserves a custodial sentence. The High Court of Eswatini mandates that individuals like you receive custodial sentence as you are a danger to the public when intoxicated. "On the first count, I sentence you to 12 months in a correctional facility if you fail to pay the E3 000 fine for refusing to take a breathalyser test.

"Next, I sentence you to seven months in a correctional facility if you fail to pay the E1 500 fine for causing the accident.

"Furthermore, I sentence you to five months in a correctional facility if you fail to pay the E1 000 fine for giving police the wrong name. "However, I will acquit you for driving without a driver's licence as the licence was inside your back pocket as you showed this court," he said.





# SOME PSYCHIATRIC PATIENTS STILL UNACCOUNTED FOR

STORIES BY VUYILE DLAMINI  
Mbabane

**AFTER being released a week ago due to the strike action by nurses, a number of the psychiatric hospital patients have still not been accounted for.**

According to Director of Health Services Dr. Vusi Magagula, there were still a number of patients who were had still not returned to the National Psychiatric Referral Hospital, after they were released last week. "We have received some psychiatric patients, who were able to return to the hospital after it was announced that the issues raised by nurses were resolved. "We were able to treat those with acute mental illnesses, with some of those being discharged after treat-

ment. However, we do not have an exact number of patients who have still not returned to the hospital for treatment," Magagula explained.

Magagula added that the social media messages which stated that the ministry was seeking for relatives to return over 100 mental patients were misleading.

"Although some of the patients have not yet returned to the hospital, we are confident that they will do so. Social media chain messages have stated that there are over 100 patients still unaccounted for, however, the number of patients released did not even amount to that. The messages have been misleading in the number of patients still out there," he added. Magagula commented that the only authority in issuing such notices were the Health Minister Lizzie Nkosi, the principal secre-

tary and himself.

"It is worth mentioning that the patients who were released were those with acute mental illnesses, and as such do not pose a danger to society. We just need them to return to the referral hospital in order to be treated and discharged, accordingly. This is while we look into resolving the impending issues raised by the nurses last week," he added.

According to a social media message seen circulating over the weekend, relatives of a majority of patients were requested to assist in their return.

"The patients (close to 100 of them) have now been on the loose for six days, after having left the centre on February 10, 2020. This, while nurses embarked on a protest action over the shortage of medication and faulty ablution facilities," the statement read.

## We will resolve issues raised by nurses – Dr. Magagula

**DR. Vusi Magagula has stated that some of the issues raised by nurses during their protest action last week have been addressed and resolved by the ministry.**

Previous media reports by this publication reported that the National Psychiatric Referral Hospital patients were let loose due to a sewer flooding in the institution's wards.

The patients were 'released' by the referral hospital's employees after the workers felt it was the only option to prevent the outbreak of diseases among the patients.

Some of the issues raised by the employees included that besides the sewer



Dr. Vusi Magagula.

spillage, overcrowding was another factor that was most likely to contribute to

diseases outbreak, especially in the conditions that the wards are in.

According to sources, there has been a recurring challenge of the dysfunctional drainage system that resulted in the flooding of toilets.

The waste apparently spilled over into the floors at the wards where the patients are housed.

"There are obviously some issues which we were able to resolve timeously, however there are those that cannot be resolved overnight.

The ministry is looking into making sure that the nurses' concerns are heard and resolved, in order for the hospital to operate efficiently," Magagula added.

## Magistrate calls for arrest of dad who abandoned teens

BY BONGIWE DLAMINI  
Manzini

**Manzini Senior Magistrate Simangele Mbatha has called for the arrest of a father who abandoned his two teenage sons.**

The magistrate made this undertaking after a hearing one of the Grade Seven pupil's matter.

\*Sipho (17) was before Magistrate Mbatha on two counts of housebreaking with intent to steal and theft. The offences were committed on January 27 and February 6, 2020 at Sibovu and Mahlangatsha areas respectively. In the January incident, Sipho allegedly broke into a house and stole E500 worth of creative speakers and a sub-woofer belonging to one Mhleleli Simelane. These were later sold at E100.

In the recent incident that happened on February 6, 2020, the teenage boy is alleged to have once again entered into Simelane's house through the window and stole a Samsung cellphone valued at E1 000 including E140 in cash.

Simelane is said to have returned from work in the evening of the said date and discovered that his house had been bro-

ken into, and that the intruder had gained entry through a window. When he got into the house, Simelane reportedly found his property missing. The stolen cellphone is said to have had a sim card inserted in it when it was stolen by Sipho.

Other witnesses in the matter included a technician who alleged that Sipho and another teen visited his shop and requested that a password be removed from a cellphone of similar model as the one that was stolen from Simelane, which they claimed they had bought.

### Suggested

The technician said he suggested that the primary pupils bartered the phone with another since they had no money to pay for the services. The two boys are said to have agreed to this suggestion.

It was also brought before court that Sipho and his younger brother lived alone at Sibovu as their grandmother passed away, while their father had disappeared since December 2019.

The father is said to have left home for Hhelehhele where he said he had found a job. Before, Sipho and his 16-year-old brother lived with their 20-year-old sister, who later left them for an ancestral initiation school. The teens' mother passed

away in 2016 while their grandmother died in 2017.

When Magistrate Mbatha learnt that the teen's father was alive and well, she called for him to be arrested and charged for abandoning the minors who had turned to criminal activities to make ends meet.

She said this was irresponsible of the father, especially because he was alive and well and had the means to maintain his children. Sipho's aunt said she could not take in the children because she feared that the home would be targeted by thieves when no one was there to look after the property. "The lives of the children are far more important than material things that can be replaced. Social services need to look into the matter and force you to look after the children if need be," said the magistrate. She added that it was wrong for families to neglect children and expect government to look after them when they were also able to take care of them.

"It's a waste of government resources when there are deserving children to be cared for by the state," Mbatha added.

She remanded Sipho into custody pending sentencing on February 20, 2020 where the father is also expected to appear before the court.

## Thanks but no thanks to paltry RDF increase - MPs

STORIES BY SIFISO DLAMINI  
Parliament

**MEMBERS of Parliament (MPs) are not impressed with the increase in the Regional Development Fund (RDF) as they say funds are never availed to them.**

This was mentioned by MPs after Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg announced that the RDF budget would increase by E67 million from E110 to E177 million during the budget speech presentation last Friday.

Maphalaleni MP Mabulala Maseko said the budget speech was only a piece of paper with no practicality. "The budget speech is just a piece of paper lamenting on government's aspirations for the coming financial year," he said.

He said as MPs, they only wished that the funds were made available on time so that they could focus on their main deliverable being rural development. He mentioned that if the funds were available, it would go a long way in developing the country and pro-

vide a platform to move away from the current crisis.

Gilgal Member of Parliament Kenneth Sandla Fakudze echoed his colleague's sentiments and stated that he was not impressed with the increased budget as the funds were never available, resulting in the stalling of development projects at Tinkhundla level.

He added that they were still waiting for the current financial year's funds as they had still not received them. "Every year we are promised funds but this is only on paper as the funds are never available," he said.

He added that as the current financial year was nearing its end, they had over a period of time been promised the funds would be released yet they were still not made available. Fakudze added that this resulted in a number of development projects being stalled.

Further, Fakudze said last year's budget speech focused on improving the lives of the poor but in the end, the situation was made worse with the introduction of a number of levies that dug deeper into the already empty pockets of the ordinary Liswati.

## Health minister happy with lion's share

**MINISTER of Health Lizzy Nkosi said as Cabinet, they extensively deliberated on the budget and were well aware that they would not receive what they requested due to the country's financial constraints.**

"We are grateful that government continued to invest in social development. We are happy that in the health and education sector, government allocated the lion's share," she said. She said it was encouraging that there was more focus placed on human capital development in terms of education and the health of the people. She mentioned that as a health sector, they were happy with the improved budget as it was increased from E3.4 billion to E3.5 billion, indicating an increase of E100 million. She indicated that this would go a long way in addressing the prevailing issue of drug shortages. "We are confident that the situation will be managed better as



HAPPY: Minister of Health Lizzy Nkosi.

systems have been put in place to address the matter," she said.

Nkosi mentioned that moving forward; the stocking of drugs such as ARVs and infant vaccines would be done on time. She added that once all the suppliers were paid, it would be easier to ensure that drug orders were processed in time.

## Speaker worried budget silent on youth

**HOUSE of Assembly Speaker Petros Mavimbela is concerned that the budget did not address youth empowerment.**

He said he was encouraged by the overall budget as it touched on a number of important sectors. He, however mentioned he was still to look at the budget closely.

"I noticed that the minister's budget speech indicated a lot of improvements in most of the budget allocations such as infrastructure, social development, education, health as they were

still prioritised," said Mavimbela.

He added that as Parliament, while playing their role of an oversight, they would monitor if the budget held water or it was all talk with no action. He, however stated that he was concerned that the minister did not mention anything regarding youth empowerment as they formed a majority of the population.

Mavimbela also stated that there was nothing mentioned on job creation as well as exercises that would be put in place for women empowerment.





**OUT:** Congregants lining up for prayer during the service.



**ARE YOU FOLLOWING ME:** Apostle Sihlongonyane ministers the Word of God.

# JESUS POWER HOUSE



**THE WORD SAYS:** Apostle Fana Sihlongonyane of Jesus Power House Ministries ministers to congregants during a service held at the Mbabane National Library on Sunday. The church received a donation towards people with albinism together with school uniform for four destitute pupils. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

ESWATINI



GOVERNMENT

## NOTICE

The general public is advised that from the **19<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 1000hrs**, traffic leaving Manzini for Big Bend and Siteki shall be deviated off the existing MR3 Road to the newly constructed section of the MR3 Highway. The traffic deviation (located along the existing MR3 road) shall begin at Puma Filling Station in Moneni up until Kai-Kai Shopping Complex in Hhelehhele. Traffic going towards Maliyaduma area will continue to use the existing route until further notice (see illustration below). Traffic going to Manzini Clinic, Discovery Pre-School, Apex College & Workers' College will branch off the newly constructed deviation at the Gum Tree junction and onto the adjacent service road. Signage will be planted in the designated junctions. The Public is advised to adhere to all road safety signs and traffic control measures.

The public is also advised that speed humps will be installed at strategic positions. We regret any inconvenience caused to motorists and residents.

## SATISO

Sive siyatiswa kwekutsi mhla tilishumi-nemfica enyangeni yeNdlovana emnyakeni Losetulu (**19<sup>th</sup> February 2020**), Inkapane leyakha umgwaco. Inyatsi Construction Ltd itawutfutsa tincola temgwaco letisuka kaManzini tibheke eSiteki nase Big Bend emgwacweni lomdzala (existing MR3 public road), titawucala tisesbentise umgwaco lomusha (new MR3 road), Kusakela ePuma Filling Station eMoneni uyofika eKai-Kai dyute nakuHhelehhele. Kepha tincola temgwaco letibheka eMaliyaduma nasemacentselweni titochubeka tihambe emgwacweni lojwayelekile kwanyalo. (nayo imidwebo lebhaliwe ngentasi). Tincola letibheka etikolweni: iDiscovery Pre-School, Apex College Kanye naseWorkers' College titawuphuma macondzane naseGum Tree titsatse lomunye umgwanco lomusha. Tiphawu temugwanco titawufakwa etindzaweni tonkhe ngalokuphelele.

Sive sonkhe siyacelwa kwekutsi sishayele ngekucophelela lokukhulu, sicaphele timphawu temgwaco letitabe tibekiwe, sinakisise natotonkhe timphawu tekuphepha. Siyacolisa ngekuphatamiseka kwesive netakhamuti.



PRINCIPAL SECRETARY  
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORT



**FIRE:** Congregants in high spirit during the service.



**PRAISE AND WORSHIP:** A section of the congregants who enjoyed the service.



**FOCUSED:** A section of the brethren follow proceedings.



# RECEIVE DONATIONS



**POSE:** Manzini businessman **Zambi Dube** of **Dube's Mobile** presents a **E2 000** donation to **President of People with Albinism Philemon Gama** while joined by members and the leadership of the church.



**THANK YOU:** **President of People with Albinism Philemon Gama** passing vote of thanks for the donation.



**HAPPY:** The youth also formed part of the gathering.



**KABARIBE BABA FIRE:** A woman reacts while getting deliverance from **Apostle Sihlongonyane**.



**BLESSING:** **Dube's Mobile** Director **Zambi Dube** making his remarks.



**PHUMA:** It was prayer time as most congregants queued for an anointing.



**REMARKS:** Director of **Dube's Mobile** **Zambi Dube** makes his remarks after presenting a donation of **E2 000** to people with albinism. The businessman also donated **E2 000** towards school uniform for four destitute children in the church.

## LABORATORY EQUIPMENT

### MARITHAS INVESTMENTS



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



**Eswatini Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise (ESWADE)**  
LOWER USUTHU SMALLHOLDER IRRIGATION PROJECT

## THE CONSTRUCTION OF RIPENING FACILITY SHED AND MOBILE COLD ROOM SLAB AT LUKHETSENI PACKHOUSE

### TENDER No. ESWADE/0452

Tenders are hereby invited from suitably qualified contractors, registered with the Construction Industry Council of Eswatini (CIC) in Category C6 ONLY to submit tenders for The Construction of Ripening Facility Shed and Mobile Cold Room Slab at Lukhetseni Packhouse, Siphofaneni in the Lubombo Region.

Preference will be given to local contractors, with at least 60% Swazi shareholding, and registered with the Construction Industry Council of Eswatini. Tender documents may be obtained after payment of a non-refundable tender fee of E350.00 to the Eswatini Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise (ESWADE). Documents will be on sale from the 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020, starting at 0830Hrs to 1600Hrs up to the day of the compulsory site inspection and clarification meeting which will be held at ESWADE Siphofaneni Offices boardroom.

Tenderers attention is drawn to the table below which indicates the Contract No, Contract Title, Tender Bond, CIC category, Site Inspection date and the closing date for submission of tenders. Late, incomplete, telephoned or telegraphic tenders will not be considered.

Contract No.	Contract Title	Tender Bond	CIC Category	Site Inspection Date/Time	Closing of Tender
ESWADE/0452	The Construction of Ripening Facility Shed and Mobile Cold Room Slab at Lukhetseni Packhouse	E5 000.00	C6 only	26 <sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 1000Hrs	13 <sup>th</sup> March 2020 at 1200 noon

Completed tenders should be delivered in a sealed envelope to the ESWADE Head Office and the envelope should only show the Project Name, Project Number and addressed to:

**Chairman of the Tender Board**  
**Eswatini Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise (ESWADE)**  
**MVA Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor**  
**Mbabane**  
**Eswatini**

Any actions or tendencies that will be interpreted as an attempt to interfere with or influence the tendering process will result in immediate disqualification of the Tenderer. Enquiries, administrative and technical, relating to the Tender listed in the table above may be addressed to The Project Manager Tel No. 23441671 / 2/3 Fax No. 23441665 E-mail: [lusp2@swade.co.sz](mailto:lusp2@swade.co.sz).

ESWADE does not bind herself to accept the lowest or any tender.



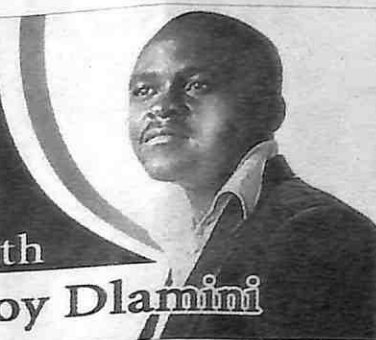
## LUBOMBO NEWS

Siteki Office

Siteki Market Offices, 2343 5779  
Office No: 15Cell: 7643 6549  
Email: observersiteki@realnet.co.sz

...With

Wonderboy Dlamini



**GENEROUS:** The premises of JS Clothing in Siteki where free training is provided to textile and none-workers.

## TAIWANESE TEXTILE FACTORY TRAINS 2 000 FOR FREE

**JS Clothing PTY (LTD), a Taiwanese textile factory is currently undertaking an exercise to equip workers and non-workers with sewing skills at no charge.**

JS Clothing is the sole textile factory in Siteki with a workforce of about 450 workers. According to General Manager Simon Lin, the factory's goal is to improve the lives of locals as well as to make profits. He explained that the company had adopted the machin-

ist training programme from Taiwan Textile Industry and aimed to train 2 000 machinists by the end of this year.

The GM said the company had joined hands with government in the fight against unemployment and poverty by equipping the public with industrial skills. He noted that this was one way of growing the workforce in the textile industry. Furthermore, Lin disclosed that the company hoped to expand its workforce to at least 1 000 before the

end of the year. Having looked at the level of unemployment, Lin said the administration of the factory resolved to provide the training for workers and non-workers.

The aim is to equip the general public with industrial skills, which they can use as they look for employment elsewhere.

"Our target is to equip at least 2 000 people with sewing skills by the end of this year," said Lin.

Lin explained that the administration basically took in individuals who had come to look for employment and put them through the training. The training is in different levels, through which the eventually successful individuals stand a chance to be employed by the company. Lin said some of those who were taken in for the training early last month had already been employed under the sewing department. "Basically, we train every machinist that gets to be

employed here because there are specific level of knowledge that is required for the company to be productive," said the general manager.

Lin said, however, some of those who had been trained and became successful in the process elected to go and seek employment elsewhere, as they did not compel the trainees to work for the company after completing the course.

### Acknowledged

He acknowledged that the company currently had a limited workforce capacity, hence it allowed those who had been trained to go and look for employment elsewhere with the acquired skills.

"We have already trained over 100 individuals since January, and some of them are already working in other companies around the country," he said.

## RA tours government departments in Siteki

**LUBOMBO Regional Administrator Themba Msibi visited a number of government departments around Siteki to assess their plans for the year on Friday.**

Siteki is regarded as an administrative town for the region. One of the departments visited by Msibi and his delegation was the National Library.

Senior Librarian David Dlamini led the RA through the library and explained to him how it worked. Dlamini disclosed that in some instances, the library opens its doors until 7pm to allow pupils to utilise it during examination times.

The regional administrator expressed his delight on the fact that the library was fully functional at a time of technology, where most people preferred accessing information online. Msibi urged members of the public to utilise the facility



**POSE:** Lubombo RA Themba Msibi with staff members at Siteki Library during his tour on Friday.

so that they were informed about what was happening around them.

Meanwhile, Dlamini disclosed that they were currently running a programme which was meant to ensure that every school had a library. Dlamini said as

librarians, they encouraged schools and parents to encourage children to use text books for educational information. "We have libraries in all towns in the region, and we are happy that people show interest in our services," said Dlamini.

## Man fined E400 for stealing chicken

**A man of Malindza had to fork out E400 to regain his freedom after he was proven guilty of having stolen a chicken from a neighbour.**

Muzi Sihlongonyane (42) appeared before the Eswatini National Court where he faced a charge of theft. He was said to have wrongfully and unlaw-

fully stolen a chicken which belonged to Thantazile Tsabedze.

When the charge sheet was read to him, the accused person pleaded guilty to the charge.

The complainant told the court that the accused person invaded her homestead in the middle of the night and

headed to the chicken shed. She said the accused was disturbed by dogs while in the process of stealing more chickens, but only managed to steal one.

The complainant managed to identify the accused person since there was a moon-light. The accused person was accordingly found guilty as charged.

He was sentenced to four months in a correctional facility with an option to pay E400 fine.

## Do not shame Florence Nightingale's legacy-nursing students warned

**At a time when students in various tertiary institutions across the country are reportedly engaged in random class boycotts, students at Good Shepherd College of Nursing have been warned and advised to ensure that the legacy of Florence Nightingale is preserved.**

A total of 79 students on Friday underwent the capping and stripping ceremony, where they made the Florence Nightingale pledge.

Nightingale is the first health practitioner who was popularly known as the 'Lady with the Lamp' during her time in practice. She used simple effective nursing interventions, whereby she provided a clean environment, clean medical equipment and clean water for soldiers who were engaged in the Crimean War in the 1800.

Speaking during the ceremony, Principal of the college, Sotah Mahanya highlighted that the college adopted a theme for the year which says; "Pledging into 200 years of continuous dedication and selflessness delivery of qual-

ity nursing care".

He said the theme was guided by that of the World Health Organization which says; "Year of the nurse and midwife".

Mahanya told the students to acknowledge that there was a new horizon, moral equilibrium and recognition of the immense responsibility and accountability required as they embarked on the journey of health workers.

### Students

The principal urged the students to keep the legacy of Nightingale alive by ensuring that everything they did was in line with the ethics of health practitioners.

It was explained to the students that the symbolic lamp, which they lit on the day symbolised the level of care which they were expected to give to patients.

Mahanya noted that the challenges in the 21st century required committed and knowledgeable nurses. She pointed out to the prevailing coronavirus epidemic, saying that it required high commitment from health workers.



# Justice Ministry to restore public confidence

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI  
Mbabane

**THE ministry of justice and constitutional affairs has observed that there's a need to restore public confidence in the entire justice delivery chain.**

This is according to the Eswatini Justice Sector strategy and action plan 2019 - 2023.

The strategy firstly highlights the fact that there is a concern on the justice system's efficiency. It further explains that the concerns can be catastrophic.

"Nationally, there is documented evidence that members of the public have complained regarding the delivery of justice in the country pertaining to all stakeholders in the justice value chain.

Assessments and surveys undertaken have shown the gaps and need to strengthen efforts to ensure a more efficient justice system

"Although there is currently no scientific study on the public's confidence in the justice system in the country, inference can be made from the ever increasing backlog of cases that there is a decline in public confidence in the justice system.

"This state of affairs, if not addressed, can lead to communities taking the law into their own hands," reads the strategy.

The action plan further notes that whilst the ministry has attempted means to solve the issue of the major backlog of cases, it has failed to triumph the battle, especially with the lack of an automated case management system as well

as the absence of a special commercial bench for corruption cases.

"There is a major backlog of cases pending in the court system, and there have been case backlog reduction interventions which attempted to provide additional judicial officers and support staff.

"However, due to the absence of a specialised commercial court/commercial bench, there is still a backlog of commercial and corruption cases. The lack of an automated case management system, which will allow most of the steps to be done electronically, is adding to these challenges.

"Case tracking and scheduling solutions are efficient and effective in case flow management and are of critical importance for the administration of justice," reads the strategic plan.

## Lack of human rights knowledge in Eswatini

**THE ministry of justice and constitutional affairs has signalled that there seems to be a lack of knowledge on human rights in the country.**

This is according to the Eswatini Justice Sector strategy and action plan 2019 - 2023.

"The human rights baseline survey indicated lack of knowledge of human rights, both at duty bearer level and at

rights holders' level.

"This coupled with the minimal capacity within the commission has been said to be an impediment to the holistic protection of human rights in the country," reads the action plan.

Another flagged crime in the action plan is corruption, which tends to have an effect on investments in the country.

"According to Transparency

International's Corruption Perception Index 2018, the country ranked 85 out of 180 countries, showing a regression from the ranking of 69 in the previous year. This index impacts on foreign direct investment.

### Recorded

"Locally, the country has recorded high perceptions of corruption and high corruption tolerance levels," reads the strategy.

## Mkhulu (90) collapses, dies

BY NONCEBO DLAMINI  
Manzini

**A 90-year-old man collapsed and died after alleged drinking poisoned buganu.**

The Vilane family is still reeling in shock after witnessing the death of Mkhulu Ntimangazi Vilane of Kakhuphuka at Mkhweni Inkhundla on Saturday.

According to another old man, who asked to have his identity kept anonymous, the deceased was not a sickly person.

"As old as he was, I can safely say mkhu-

lu was not sick nor was he taking any form of medication. Therefore, we are still shocked as to what could have led to his death," he said.

The relative mentioned that the day before he met his death, the old man went to one of the drinking spots in the area as a norm, and came back later that night.

### Fetches

The next morning he fetched bath water outside.

It was further stated he looked healthy as always. It was mentioned that as the family was doing chores around the home, they heard one of his grandchildren screaming for help.

"When we rushed to see what was happening, we found mkhulu on the floor, with blood oozing from a gash in the head," the source stated.

He said apparently when the old man collapsed, hit his head on the table and died on the spot.

### Asked

The source said it is suspected that the elderly drank poisoned buganu at the drinking spot, adding that the deceased was a community clown who was loved in the area.

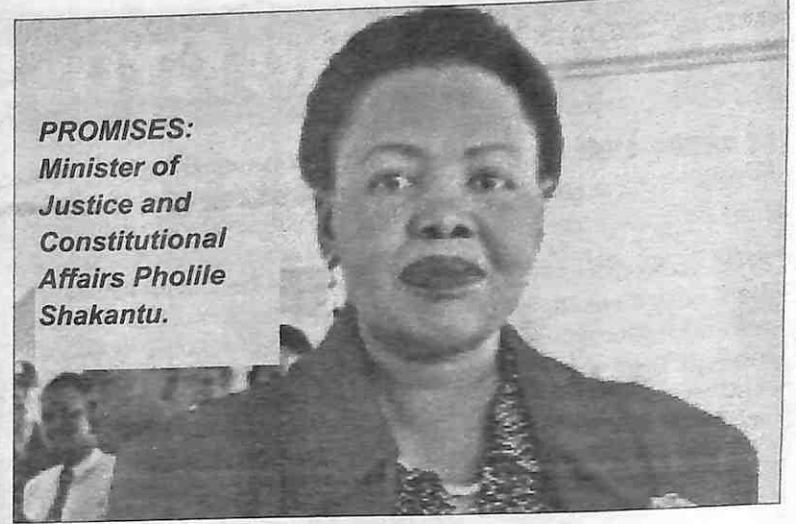
Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Phindile Vilakati confirmed the old man's death.

Vilakati said they were still investigating the cause of his death.



**ON TOP:** The owner of the kombi stands on top of its window as he ties some luggage near the Engen Filling station yesterday. (Pic: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

**PROMISES:**  
Minister of  
Justice and  
Constitutional  
Affairs Pholile  
Shakantu.



## Minister promises enabling environment for investors

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI  
Mbabane

**MINISTER of Justice and Constitutional Affairs Pholile Shakantu says the justice sector will ensure that the country's legislation provides an enabling environment for investment.**

The minister said this in the Eswatini Justice Sector strategy and action plan 2019 - 2023.

The strategy is drawn from the Government Strategic Road Map 2019-2023 and other key national documents, and seeks to contribute immensely towards the attainment of the outcomes of the roadmap and national goals, especially Vision 2022.

The strategy highlights the justice sector contribution to the five key priority areas of the strategic roadmap on improving the ease of doing business; fiscal consolidation and arrears management; infrastructure, investment and innovation; culture of excellence as well as social safety nets.

"In a nutshell, the justice sector will ensure that the country's legislation provides an enabling environment for investment, peace, stability and

prosperity through enhancing the legal and policy framework, reducing the backlog in the court system, implementing action of the constitution and new legislation, enhancing access to justice and modernising justice system, providing humane rights-based approach to treatment of offenders as well as providing professional and effective services to the public," reads the strategic plan's foreword by the minister.

### Plan

The ministry's plan is also in line with national, regional and international development goals and legal instruments.

"The strategy also aims to contribute to the International Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) which seeks to ensure peace, justice and strong institutions. It further highlights the justice sector key strategies that will provide a turning point in the provision of justice services in the country and the promotion of the rights of the people of Eswatini.

"I implore all justice stakeholders to embrace and take full ownership of the implementation of this plan in order to realise the set targets," said the minister.

## Woman claims self-defence after assaulting in-law

BY VUYILE DLAMINI  
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

**A woman caught up in a feud within her husband's family is fighting for her innocence after she allegedly assaulted her in-law.**

Sindi Ndzimandze maintained that she was acting in self-defence, when her brother-in-law Bhekisisa Dvuba attacked her.

"He found me speaking with Maziya and he asked me what were we talking about. I told him that he had no business asking me that, and that was when he assaulted me first. I pushed him, only for him to punch me in the mouth," Ndzimandze submitted. Ndzimandze was arrested and charged for contravening two counts of the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Act of 2018. She is said to have assaulted Bhekisisa with fists and kicks all over his body. She is alleged to have proceeded to insult

Khelinah Dvuba, her grandmother-in-law.

Ndzimandze added that her husband's family was marred by conflict as both her grandmother-in-law and brother-in-law colluded with other family members in creating stories to get her arrested.

"As we stand here today, the matter between gogo Khelinah and I is with the royal kraal as it is still unresolved. I was meant to bring a witness to testify in my defence; however, Bhekisisa threatened to kill her if she were to meddle in our family business. I am left to face all of this all by myself," she added.

This was revealed by Ndzimandze during submissions before Principal Magistrate Fikile Nhlabatsi.

Evidence led by Bhekisisa during Ndzimandze's trial suggested that he was pushed by Ndzimandze after which he admitted to have reacted by punching her in the nose.

Judgement is pending and will be delivered tomorrow.



# Back to the Cross Crusade to be bigger, better

BY SIMON SHABANGU  
Mbabane

**THE annual Eswatini Back to the Cross Crusade will be bigger and better this year as it has moved to a new venue; the Ambassador's House Church at Makholokholo in Sidwashini.**

The church members were yesterday up and about for an activation to raise awareness about the crusade, which begins this coming Sunday.

According to Zanele Mbokazi-Nkambule, the aim of the activation was to let people know that it will take place even this year as the crusade gets into the fourth instalment.

She said the crusade begins on Sunday until the following Saturday February 29.

Bishop Makamu will minister the word of God on the first day after a preamble by the hosts Bishop Brian Nkambule and First Lady Zanele Mbokazi, who are the brains behind the crusade.

Adding, she said they were again bringing the cream of the crop when it comes to ministering the Word of God, as they will have the likes of Reverend Dr S. D Gumbi, Bishop TE Twala, Bishop

Nash Shongwe and Prophet Phascal Goodnews, among others.

"We will also have a number of gospel artists ministering in song across the week of the crusade as we have the likes of Shongwe and Khuphuka, Mduduzi Nezinceku ZaMagawugawu, Mpume Hlabisa, Nduduzo Matse, Teboho Moloi and award-winning High Praise Assemblies International. All these groups will minister at the crusade on different dates, so we invite the nation to join us and hear the news of the cross," she said.

Meanwhile, Bishop Mpendulo Nkambule said the crusade was no longer for Eswatini alone but for the whole world.

He said God had directed him to spread the message across the world.

"This is a soul winning crusade and it is not about me or my church or any ministry. It is for everyone who believes in Jesus Christ and the finished work of the cross.

"We are, therefore inviting everyone who wants to contribute towards the success of this crusade to join the 'Back to the Cross' soldiers' team.

"Everyone who wants to deepen their relationship with God should join us every night from 6pm to 9pm," he said.



**BACK WITH A BANG:** The annual Back To the Cross Crusade is back with a bang as it begins this Sunday. The foot soldiers, led by Bishop Mpendulo and Zanele Mbokazi-Nkambule, took to the Mbabane streets during an activation to raise awareness about the upcoming crusade. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



Zanele Mbokazi posing with the foot soldiers at the activation.



**LEADERS:** Bishop Mpendulo Nkambule, Pastor Isaac Magagula, Zephania Shabangu, Vulindlela Mhlungu and Lucky Slomoos Dlamini were also at the activation.



**FIRST LADY:** Madam Bishop Zanele Mbokazi-Nkambule captured during the activation.



**MASOTJA:** Bishop Mpendulo Nkambule in a conversation with the foot soldiers of the church.



**IT'S HERE:** Gciniwe Fakudze and Zanele as they share information on the upcoming crusade.

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What's in Your Mind

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## Features &amp; Opinions

Refresh What You Think

# EMBRACING CHANGE, A KEY TRAIT OF GOOD LEADERSHIP

**TIVE**  
LEADERSHIP  
CENTER

... With

**Kholwaphi**  
**Mdziniso**

Guest Writer

**LIFE is not static but changes through the life of human beings.**

It is in business as well as the work place.

In the business environment, people change over time, so are their needs, and that means every leader will at some point in time, have to deal with change.

Wise leaders do not wait for change to corner them, but they plan for it in advance. They initiate the journey that would always usher in a new era in the organisation. Leading change is one of the essential traits of effective leadership.

If a leader tends to evade change, that leader would always find himself reacting to situations endlessly.

Embracing change in work and life in general is essential to growing, both as an individual and being a better leader. Evading change is natural for human beings. We always find it difficult to embrace change. Though we know that life will change at some point in time, we still find it difficult to embrace because naturally, we prefer to hold on to what we know and have come to be accustomed to, as opposed to opening up to what is new.

In embracing change, every leader needs to shift his thinking to view change as part of life's a journey and a process that has potential to usher in new beginnings. The following points are what leaders need to ponder on constantly.

## CHANGE IS INEVITABLE

Because we repel change, we sometimes go

through life without ever living up to our full potential and allowing ourselves to express who we really are. Change is an inevitable part of life and no matter how happy we are with the current state, life will always change.

"The only thing constant is change." We know this and we understand that our environment cannot stay the same forever. All around us, there is change happening on a daily basis. We are forever growing, expanding, aging and changing.

So, what is it about the world that can seem so overbearing and scary when change happens? Why is it that many of us are instantly repelled by the thought of change? We need to learn to let change work for us and benefit us, we could be happier with our lives and the

process of growth. Embracing change is key to new opportunities and new growth.

## PONDER ON CHANGE AND EMBRACE UNCERTAINTY

Change is inevitable, and the sooner you become aware that change is going to happen and become open to accepting it in your life sooner, the better off you will be. Be diligent in the way you analyse your life and the business around you. Always check what are the positives and more importantly, what are the negatives? Are there things that you recognise as non-beneficial, but you feel stuck in those actions?

If it is a business, think about how it is pro-

gressing. Are things moving along as planned? Are there new factors that are influencing that path? Such discussions will help you look into and embrace change.

## PLAN FOR CHANGE

It is better to initiate changes ourselves using free will than to let our life progress down a negative path until change affects us in a dramatic way. When you are consciously aware of change, it is much easier. Explore the world and the endless possibilities available to you. Find new opportunities, be brave and face fear.

The world is not as scary as it may seem, think of all the new doors that will open up if you open to change. Dr Kotter in his book leading change says that change is province of new beginnings for that that choose to deal with the reality that only change is static, all else changes.

Your attitude toward life is affected by your ability to embrace change. If change happens to you, rather than you influencing that change, you are much more likely to feel like you are being dragged through life and career.

## WE ALL DOUBT AND FACE UNCERTAINTY

Everyone has fears and insecurities that stop us from doing this. This doubt and uncertainty is normal and you can never overcome it. All that you can do is learn to embrace it. There will never be a time where you are complete absent of these thoughts and emotions, you will just learn to act anyway, regardless of whether they are there or not.

## EMBRACE FEAR

Feeling sorry for yourself will often lead you down a negative path. When leading an organisation, it is counterproductive to change and it will keep you stagnant in your efforts. Never blame your surroundings for misfortune.

Stay focused and set your sights high and strive to achieve greatness. As you stay focused, you will learn that embracing change becomes easier and easier.

# 'BISHOP SLEPT WITH MY WIFE'

**KWAMHLANGA - Bishop Thabo Boshomane of Hope In Christ For All Nations is accused of having a steamy affair.**

The affair between the bishop and a congregant's wife allegedly began in June and kicked into over drive in December. They allegedly poked in her son's room, in a mall parking lot, at a roadside, and in the car in the yard.

"I've no idea what you're talking about. I know the couple you're referring to. I've nothing to say," said Bishop Thabo Boshomane of Hope of All Nations Ministries in KwaMhlanga, Mpumalanga. "I'm not giving you a response. The husband told me you called him."

So bad is the relationship the man who claims his wife is sleeping with Boshomane allegedly klapped her in front of the bishop during one of their confrontations.

The bishop's wife, a flight attendant, is away from home often. When the SunTeam asked the bishop to provide her contact details, he said she was overseas. "I'll need to ask for her permission first," he said.

The husband apparently hired a private investigator, who watched the bishop and cheating wife and later presented evidence.

He said among the evidence presented to him were nude pictures his wife

allegedly sent to the bishop, texts, and video calls. The SunTeam has audio recordings.

The church's social media pages including Facebook have been taken down. The bishop and his wife have shut down their personal social media accounts. The bishop said he deactivated them as he was fasting and on leave. His wife's phone rang unanswered and she didn't respond to text SMSes.

The source said: "He's been sleeping with the woman in cars, public parks, at B&Bs and everywhere."

He said the angry husband confronted the bishop and wife.

"They confessed they'd been having

sex for a long time. He broke down. They apologised. Even the bishop's wife said she knew what was going on and apologised on the bishop's behalf."

Daily Sun has a recording of a conversation between the husband and a friend he confided in.

The husband broke down when called for comment. "This is a sensitive matter. I don't want to talk about it. Who told you about it? I'm in no position to talk."

He referred the paper to church elder Lerumo Matloko, who said: "I'm not confirming anything. I'm supporting the family of the man and the wife."

The cheating wife said: "Where did you get my numbers? If you don't tell me I'm going to hang up."

She then hung up. *Dailysun*



**ACCUSED: Bishop Thabo Boshomane of Hope In Christ For All Nations.**



## ON THIS DAY

...FEBRUARY 18

1930 - Elm Farm Ollie became the first cow to fly in an airplane.

1930 - The planet Pluto was discovered by Clyde Tombaugh. The discovery was made as a result of photographs taken in January 1930.

1932 - Sonja Henie won her 6th world women's figure skating title in Montreal, Canada.

1949 - "Yours Truly Johnny Dollar" debuted on CBS radio.

1952 - Greece and Turkey became members of NATO.

1953 - "Bwana Devil" opened. It was the first three-dimensional feature.

1953 - Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz signed a contract worth \$8 000 000 to continue the "I Love Lucy" TV show through 1955.

1964 - "Any Wednesday" opened at the Music Box Theatre in New York City. The play established Gene Hackman as an actor.

1970 - The Chicago Seven defendants were found innocent of conspiring to incite riots at the 1968 Democratic national convention.

1972 - The California Supreme Court struck down the state's death penalty.

1977 - The space shuttle Enterprise went on its maiden "flight" sitting on top of a Boeing 747.

1984 - Reed Larson (Detroit Red Wings) got two assists to become the highest scoring, American-born player in the history of the National Hockey League. Larson broke the record by scoring his 432nd point.

1987 - The executives of the Girl Scout movement decided to change the colour of the scout uniform from the traditional Girl Scout green to the newer Girl Scout blue.

1998 - In Russia, money shortages resulted in the shutting down of three plants that produced nuclear weapons.

1998 - In Nevada, two white separatists were arrested and accused of plotting a bacterial attack on subways in New York City.

2000 - The US Commerce Department reported a deficit in trade goods and services of \$271.3 billion for 1999. It was the largest calendar-year trade gap in US history.

2001 - NASCAR driver Dale Earnhardt, Sr., was killed in a crash during the Daytona 500 race.

2001 - FBI agent Robert Philip Hanssen was arrested and accused of spying for Russia for more than 15 years. He later pleaded guilty and was sentenced to life in prison without parole.

2003 - In South Korea, at least 120 people were killed when a man lit a fire on a subway train.

2006 - American Shani Davis won the men's 1 000-meter speedskating in Turin. He was the first black athlete to win an individual gold medal in Winter Olympic history.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



**Dr. Dre**  
(Rapper)  
February 18,  
1965 (55 years)



**Molly Ringwald**  
(Actress)  
February 18,  
1968 (52 years)



## WHAT THE LAW SAYS

Utsini umtsetfo

## The Eswatini Communications Commission (Consumer Protection) Regulations, 2015



## CONTRACTUAL INFORMATION

10. (1) A supplier engaged in electronic commerce shall provide a consumer with a clear and complete text of the terms and conditions of the contract in a manner that enables consumers to make fully informed decision whether or not to enter into the transaction.

(2) Information concerning the terms and conditions of a contract shall be clearly identified and distinguished from advertising and marketing material.

(3) Information shall be clear, accurate, easily accessible and provided in a manner that gives consumers an adequate opportunity for review before entering into the transaction.

(4) A supplier shall provide all information online which they are required to provide offline either by law or by any relevant code of practice to which they subscribe.

(5) Where there is a legislative or other mandatory regime for the disclosure of contractual information, compliance with that regime is sufficient to meet the obligation of these Regulations in relation to the disclosure of that information.

(6) The manner of providing this information shall allow the consumer to retain a copy of the information.

(7) All information that refers to costs shall indicate the Swazi currency (lilangeni).

## INFORMATION ON TRANSACTIONS

11. Where applicable and appropriate given the nature of the transaction, the information relating to a particular transaction shall include –

(a) the functionality, including applicable technical protection measures, of digital content;  
(b) any relevant compatibility of digital content with hardware and software that the supplier is aware of or can reasonably be expected to have been aware of;

(c) mandatory safety and health care warnings that a consumer would get at the offline point of sale;

(d) as far as the calculation of the costs payable is concerned either –

(i) an itemisation of all costs collected by suppliers, or

(ii) where the total cost of a transaction cannot be ascertained in advance, a statement that a total cost cannot be provided and a description of the method that will be used to calculate it, including any recurrent costs and the methods

used to calculate them;

(e) notice of the existence of other costs to the consumer that are not collected by suppliers, this may include delivery, postage, handling and insurance and, where it would be reasonably known to suppliers, including taxes and other levies;

(f) in the case of a contract of indeterminate duration or a contract containing a subscription, the total costs per billing period or (where such contracts are charged at a fixed rate) the total month costs;

(g) notice ongoing costs, fees and charges and methods of notification for changes of those costs, fees and charges;

(h) if limited, the period for which the offer is valid;

(i) any restrictions, limitations or conditions of the contract, such as geographic limitations or parental or guardian approval requirement for minors;

(j) the terms of delivery;

(k) conditions related to termination, return, exchange, cancellation and refunds;

(l) details of any applicable cooling-off period or right of withdrawal, including the conditions, time limit and procedure for exercising that right;

(m) the circumstances under which the consumer loses the right to cancel;

(n) any conditions related to contract renewal or extension;

(o) details of any explicit warranty provisions offered by the manufacturer, supplier, or business;

(p) details of any after-sales service provided; and

(q) details of how to access complaints and dispute procedures referred to in regulations 17-18.

(3) where applicable, that the consumer will have to bear the cost of returning the goods in case of cancellation, and if the goods, by their nature, cannot normally be returned by post, the cost of returning the goods.

## CONCLUSION OF CONTRACT

12. (1) A supplier shall implement mechanisms that allow an opportunity for the consumer to –

(a) review and accept or reject the terms and conditions of the contract;

(b) identify precisely the product or service consumers intend to purchase or avail;

(c) identify and correct any errors or modify the order, and (d) retain a record of any purchase or order, transaction confirmation, acceptance of any offer they make.

(2) A supplier shall promptly send the consumer a confirmation that the contract has been concluded on a durable medium.

(3) The confirmation shall include all the information referred to in regulation 11, unless the supplier has already provided that information to the consumer on a durable medium prior to the conclusion of the distance contract.

(4) If the contract is for the supply of digital content and the consumer has given the consent and acknowledgement referred to in regulation 13, the confirmation shall include confirmation of the consent and acknowledgement.

(5) Subject to regulation 13, the confirmation shall be provided within a reasonable time after the conclusion of the contract, but in any event –

(a) not later than the time of delivery of any goods supplied under the contract, and

(b) before performance begins of any service supplied under the contract.

(6) For the purpose of sub-regulation (5), the confirmation is treated as provided as soon as the supplier has sent it or done what is necessary to make it available to the consumer.

## SUPPLY OF DIGITAL CONTENT IN THE COOLING-OFF PERIOD

13. (1) A consumer is entitled to cancel without any reason and without penalty any transaction and any related credit agreement for the electronic supply of digital content within seven days after the date of conclusion of the contract.

(2) Under a contract for the electronic supply of digital content, the supplier shall not begin the supply of the digital content before the end of the cooling-off period unless –

(a) the consumer has given express consent to the supply of the digital content; and

(b) the consumer has acknowledged that the right to cancel the contract under sub-regulation (1) will be lost.

(3) The consumer ceases to have the right to cancel such a contract if the consumer has given the consent and acknowledgement required by sub-regulation (2), and the electronic delivery of the digital content has begun before the end of the cooling-off period.

(4) The consumer bears no cost for supply of the digital content, in full or in part, in the cooling-off period, if –

(a) the consumer has not given prior express consent as required by sub-regulation 2(a); or

(b) the consumer has not given acknowledgement as required by sub-regulation 2(b); or

(c) the supplier failed to provide confirmation as required by regulation 12(4).



## REFLECTIONS



WITH MIKE DREW  
GUEST WRITER

WHEN delivering his second budget speech last week, it had been anticipated that the Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg might have offered a few creative ideas on the proposed direction of travel to address the current fiscal challenges.

To include an increasing burden of debt, which currently stands at 28.12 per cent of GDP. It had also been hoped that, the minister would have acknowledged more the recent timely reminder from both the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) with regard to the recommended benchmark for a manageable burden of debt.

With receipts from the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) being optimistically projected at E8.34 billion for the 2020/21 financial year, it is difficult to see how the minister is going to balance the books on the increased national budget allocation of E24.1 billion.

A budget speech that was met with total disinterest by a disconnected Legislature and which included the curious decision to recruit an additional 600 members to the security forces to further inflate the civil service wage bill, when there is currently a freeze on public sector recruitment?

To the best of the writer's knowledge, the kingdom has never been at war since gaining independence. Two of the key recommendations put forward by the IMF team following its last visit to the kingdom to conduct Article IV consultations included; 1) the urgent need for visible policy action to reduce the fiscal deficit and to stabilise public debt which presently stands at E19.2 billion and; 2) the need to see more efficient public spending on capital projects that are not going to offer an early return on investment.

#### Additional

The additional loan for the construction of the International Conference Centre and Five Star Hotel (ICCFISH) is a major contributor to the current level of public spending and public debt because of the continuing escalation in the cost of this capital intensive project.

A further Loan Bill to borrow over E1.2 billion from the Export-Import Bank of the Republic of China (Taiwan), to continue to finance the infra-structure project was tabled in the Minister of Finance's absence under a certificate of urgency in the first session of the 11th Parliament.

A loan which is still to be secured due to the government's continuing inability to find an operator.

The MPs who at the time expressed their vocal opposition to the loan bill, because there is little possibility of an early return on investment now that the Kingdom of Eswatini will not be hosting the Africa Continental Free

# SRA MUST BE MORE VIGILANT

*...Ingwenyama made it quite clear that the generation of more internal revenue is essential if the kingdom is to achieve its twin goals of self-sustainability and financial stability by attracting more foreign investors into the kingdom to stimulate economic growth in line with Vision 2022*

Trade Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat, must now be respectful of His Majesty's stated desire to see a timely delivery on this capital project.

During the State opening of the second session of the 11th Parliament, the Ingwenyama made it quite clear that the generation of more internal revenue is essential if the kingdom is to achieve its twin goals of self-sustainability and financial stability by attracting more foreign investors into the kingdom to stimulate economic growth in line with Vision 2022.

It also requires appropriate revenue laws to be implemented; the prioritisation of an efficient and effective tax collection strategy and adequate measures to control expenditure (but not at the expense of the poor, the sick and the elderly).

However, a more efficient standalone tax collection strategy will not be enough.

There must also be a reduction in the budget deficit and the present over dependency on expensive loan agreements.

No sooner had His Majesty delivered his very thought provoking speech, than the Commissioner General of the Eswatini Revenue Authority (SRA) Dumisani Msilela was very quick to announce that the Ingwenyama's call for a more efficient and effective revenue generation would be heeded.

To which the writer would respectfully add that the Commissioner General needs to address the latest unwelcome issues of tax revenue 'leakage' due to the continuing corruption within the SRA.

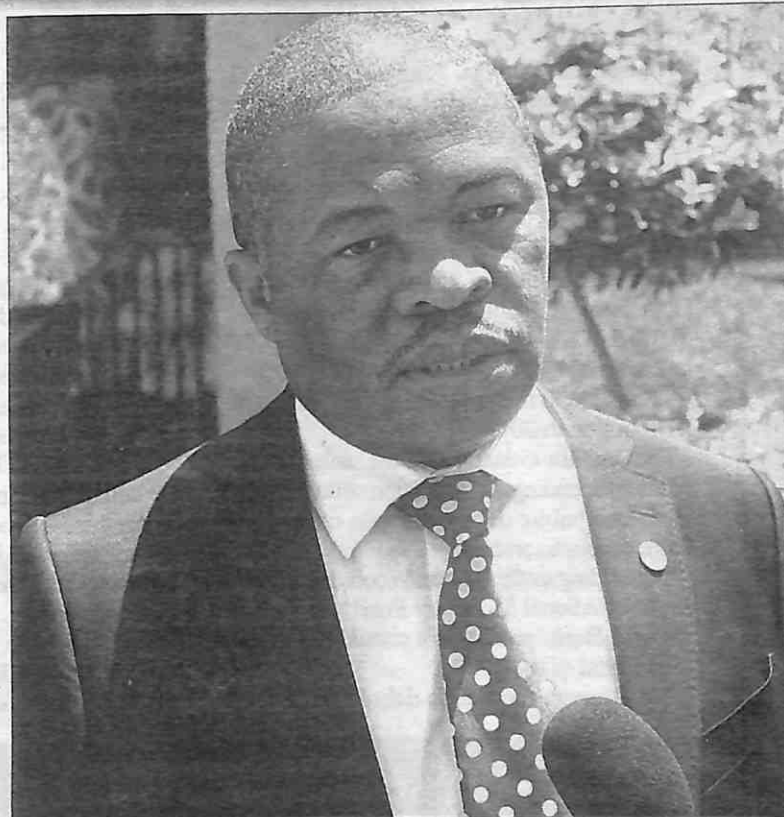
In addition to the employee fraud within the Category A parastatal, which made front page news late last year and which is conservatively estimated to have cost in excess of E2 million.

Not only is it clear that a number of tax officers were involved in the elaborate tax fraud but, it also equally clear that the internal audit control systems put in place by the SRA's Internal Affairs Division are not sufficiently robust.

The need to now train new tax officers will probably only further delay the collection of the outstanding tax revenue due during the current tax year.

#### Acknowledged

As Prime Minister Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini acknowledged, when filing his own tax return for the year-ending 30th June 2019 through the SRA's



Eswatini Revenue Authority Commissioner General  
Dumisani Msilela.

e-tax online platform, the level of compliance for the filing of income tax returns was only running at 46.7 per cent.

This might suggest a continuing lack of sufficiently robust processes and internal audit procedures in place within the SRA, to identify those officers still intent on committing fraud.

As evidenced by tax officers now colluding to assist certain individuals to obtain loans from certain financial institutions, by advising that the loan applicant worked for the SRA.

In effect, fraudulently using the SRA as security for the loans.

And now, in yet a further incident of employee corruption within the SRA, the Asian importers of used foreign cars exposed for fraudulently seeking to evade the tax due on imported cars amounting to millions of Emalangeni, through a sophisticated syndicated collusion with yet more "rotten potatoes" within the ranks of the SRA.

Yet more examples of the state capture of corruption, which may be addressed (in part) by the Minister of Finance's decision to allocate a special budget of E8 million to undertake independent forensic audits for some selected capital projects to include the controversial Nhlanguano/Sicunusa road project.

Because it may support the Auditor General, Timothy Matsebula's conclusions that before the contract was terminated, there were a number of 'irregularities' noted and therefore the possibility of corruption in the public procurement process at the highest level of government.

What also needs to be remembered is that some, if not all of those Asians involved in the latest import car fraud, are Bangladeshi nationals.

In December last year, Bangladeshi residents of the Lidlelantfongeni flats in Nhlanguano witnessed the murder of one of their own, with the two knife carrying co-accused being fellow countrymen.

Violence is not the way to integrate into a different culture or to endear yourself to the Royal Eswatini Police Service (REPS). Other unwelcome criminal incidents include an Asian national appearing in court, after offering an honest customs officer a bribe of E7 000 when he attempted to enter into the Kingdom with undeclared cellphones and accessories to the value of E47 885.

And now the recent arrest of the six Chinese foreign nationals as part of an illegal gambling machine syndicate.

The representatives of both the Bangladeshi Awami League of Eswatini

and the Bangladeshi Jubo League of Eswatini were very quick to engage with the press to condemn the murder of one of their own.

But not as quick to now engage with the REPS to apprehend those within their community intent on committing the latest fraud, which seems to be almost viewed as acceptable behaviour by their elders.

The law has (again) been broken by Bangladeshi and justice must now be seen to be done, because no foreign national is above the law.

Perhaps the most telling press comment made by the representatives from the local Bangladeshi community was that; "We want Eswatini peaceful as it was so that future generations of our community can come to invest in this country".

The writer would suggest that, the real end goal is not to invest to provide much needed jobs for Emaswati, but to hand on the business to "future generations" purely for their own selfish motives.

The privilege for "future generations" of foreign nationals to live and work in the kingdom should never be assumed nor abused.

That privilege can easily be taken away too, in the event of the continuing civil unrest within the community and the continuing fraudulent criminal activities.

Being allowed to invest in a business in another country is a privilege and not a God given right, but it also comes with certain moral responsibilities too.

#### Fraudulent

The recent fraudulent activities may have now provided an opportunity for the Bangladeshi community, through the two Leagues of Eswatini to openly engage more and to assist, rather than to obstruct the country's law enforcing agencies in dealing with the most recent incidents of fraud.

But also to look to engage more with the indigenous Swazi population, instead of continuing to live in secretive seclusion and to view the indigenous population as little more than a cheap form of easily dispensable labour.

Perhaps, it is now time to reflect on the unhealthy relationship which presently exists and which may have contributed to the increasing number of armed robberies on Asian owned businesses.

And to explore ways in which the most recent unwelcome events can be used as a catalyst for positive change.



# BUSINESS UPDATE

YOUR DAILY SOURCE OF FINANCIAL/BUSINESS NEWS

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## VITALS

Prime Rate	10%
First National Bank	
Inflation Rate	1.6%
Central Statistical Office	
Mortgage Rate	10%
Swaziland Building Society	
Bank Rate	6.5%
Central Bank	
Petrol (u)	E13.65 per litre
Replacement	E13.70 per litre
Diesel	E13.65 per litre
Paraffin	E9.15 per litre
Engen Garage	

## FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Correct as at 17 FEB 2020

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	14.8384	14.8884
British Pound/SZL	19.3485	19.4137
Japanese Yen/SZL	7.3782	7.4011
Swiss France/SZL	15.1088	15.1582
Botswana Pula/SZL	1.3429	1.3623
Australian Dollar/SZL	9.9818	10.0184
Canadian Dollar/SZL	11.2089	11.2459
Euro/SZL	16.0789	16.1331
Gold	1,581.9100	
Oil	57.96	

For more information contact:  
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Standard Bank

# PUBLIC DEBT INCREASES BY 45%, NOW AT OVER E18BN

STORIES BY QONDILE NTIWANE

THE total Public Debt increased by a massive 45 per cent to land at over E18 billion during the fiscal year ending 31 March 2019.

The statement of Public Debt shows that the total public debt stood at an exact E18 014 184 070.58, which is 27 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

This was revealed by Auditor General (AG) Timothy Matsebula during a press briefing held at the Hilton Garden Hotel yesterday.

He stated that the significant increase in the total Public Debt of E5.6 billion from the previous financial year's E12.5 billion was noted.

The said the increase in public debt was attributed to an increase of 37 per cent in Domestic Debt from E7.7 billion in the fiscal year 2018 to E10.5 billion in 2019, and a significant increase in External Public Debt of 57 per cent from E4.8 billion in the preceding financial year to E7.5 billion in 2019.

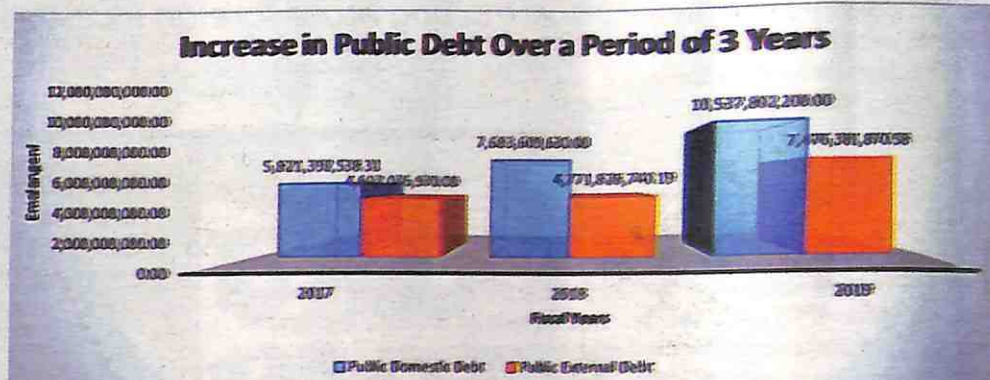
The Auditor General said the rising of government spending and reduction of revenue had increased public debt and also contributed to large domestic arrears.

"According to the Bretton Woods Institutions, the International Monetary Fund and the

World Bank, public debt should not exceed 35 per cent of the GDP.

Even though the public debt levels are still

...Even though the public debt levels are still below the threshold of the Gross Domestic Product, the rapid increase is alarming



below the threshold of the Gross Domestic

Product, the rapid increase is alarming. Since revenue collections continue to decline and public expenditure continues to escalate, it is likely that the Government's gearing level may increase beyond the acceptable threshold.

### Challenges

He added that one of the major challenges was that there was no official Debt Management Strategy endorsed in the country.

He however, noted that a draft strategy was being developed.

On another note, the AG noted that during the fiscal year under review the actual recurrent revenue collection was E15 504 301 028.72,

### PUBLIC DEBT AMOUNT

Total External Debt	E7, 476,381,870.58
Total Domestic Debt	E10, 537,802,200.00
Total Public Debt	E18, 014,184,070.58

and was slightly below the projection of E15 793 624 190.00, by E289 323 161.28, about 1.8 percent.

"Compared against the prior year, a decline of E1 738 801 390.97 about 10 percent of the previous year's collection of E17 243 102 419.69, was noted," he said.

He added that both domestic and SACU revenue collections for the year showed a decline of E1 738 801 390.97 which is 10 percent below last year's overall revenue collections," he said.

## Undisclosed invoices take govt arrears to over E3 billion

DESPITE efforts by government to pay suppliers and service providers, undisclosed invoices by ministries have taken the debt to over E3 billion.

Auditor General Timothy Matsebula stated during a press briefing yesterday that there were arrears amounting to E3 194 134 221.91 that had not been disclosed (reported) in the Detailed Statement of Liabilities.

"It was observed that ministries and departments submitted payments for processing to the Treasury Department during the financial year under review, which were subsequently not processed due to cash flow challenges.

"As a result, arrears for the financial year ended 31st March 2019 amounted to E1 810 458 400.06 while the previous financial year arrears amounted to E430 504 704.82.

"This shows an increase of E1, 379 953 695.24, about 321 percent in the arrears was noted. In addition to these



**UNDISCLOSED: Auditor General (AG) Timothy Matsebula flanked by Communications Officer Bongile Mavuso, Acting Deputy Auditor General Operations Samukele Motsa and Principal Auditor Ndumiso Mkhabela.**

arrears were unpaid invoices held by the ministries and departments, amounting to E1 383 675 821.85 totalling the arrears to the over E3.1 billion. Matsebula added that the non-disclosure of the arrears had understated total liabilities in the Financial Statements.

He further mentioned that the unrecoupled government accounts tend

to give an erroneous picture of Government's cash flow position.

"I recommended that the Treasury Department should develop a system that will enforce all Controlling Officers to report monthly all unpaid invoices and arrears at the end of the financial year, 31st March, to the Accountant General and Principal Secretary of the Ministry of Finance.

The Accountant General should ensure that all Government arrears are disclosed in the Financial Statements. "In his response through a memorandum, the Controlling Officer stated that the reporting framework was on cash basis, therefore the arrears are disclosed as notes in the Detailed Statement of Liabilities," he said.

## Poor financial performance attributed to decline in dividends

THE prevailing poor financial performance by Public Enterprises has attributed to a decline in dividends paid to government

According to the report of the Auditor General, government received total dividends amounting to E105 630 744.44, which was 7.5 per cent of the subvention paid amounting

to E1 409 355 886.00. Matsebula stated that Category A had remitted E20 690 031.16 and Category B E84 940 713.28, which also illustrated a decline of E1 414 330.00 (1%) from a base of E107 045 074.53 in the year under review.

The AG also mentioned during the briefing that other enterprises

including Eswatini Railway which paid no dividends for a couple of consecutive years, due to a loss of E47 421 097.00 in the financial year ended 31st March 2018 and a meagre profit of E21 315 031.00 in the financial year ended 31 March 2019.

He also cited Standard Bank Limited and Eswatini Fruit Canners, whom

he said were again not in a position to declare and pay dividends in the year ended 31st March 2019.

"The Eswatini Industrial Development Company: at the annual general meeting of the shareholders it was also resolved that no dividend would be declared for the financial year," he said.



# FI POLICY STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION FOR SME DEVELOPMENT

BY BAHLE GAMA

**THE Youth Enterprise Revolving Fund (YERF) has described the development of a financial inclusion policy by government as a step towards the right direction.**

Government, through the Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg, announced that the strategic plans for financial year 2020/21 included accelerating inclusive economic growth and job creation through financial inclusion, further committing to develop the financial inclusion policy, as well as legislation to increase access to development finance.

YERF CEO Bhekizwe Maziya said with such policies in place, MSMEs in particular the youth would be economically empowered. He added that government's commitment to continue promulgating pro-business policies in an effort to bolster business operating environment would also enhance the potential of the private sector

participation in economic growth.

"This is one of the key challenges facing young MSMEs locally. It is our wish to see an urgent implementation of that strategy to save a lot of MSMEs who are on the verge of collapsing.

"Being the major client for local MSMEs, government's failure to service its debts with them tends to affect their ability to service their debts with financial institutions," he said.

In terms of support for MSMEs development, government announced her intentions to continue fostering the developing and promotion of the MSME sector and has already set up national quality assurance infrastructure in order to assist MSME's to access international markets. Maziya said this would address their challenges of poor access to international markets.

He also mentioned that government's commitment towards clearing her arrears to suppliers of goods and services was well appreciated.



**STEP: YERF CEO Bhekizwe Maziya.**

ed. He, however expressed disappointment over the lack of mention of government intentions towards empowerment of the youth.

He said it was disheartening not to hear of specific mention of government's intentions towards empowerment initiatives for the young people especially the youth in Eswatini.

"Government has made specific mention of her intentions towards

improvement of the lives of Bogogo and Mkhulu as well as people living with disabilities, but there is nothing about the youth, when this demographic group constitutes about 70 per cent of the population of the Kingdom," he said.

He added that it would be much appreciated if the tone set from the budget speech would follow the speech from the Throne prioritise the youth.

## ...YERF budget allocation up by E600 000

**THE allocation budget for the Youth Enterprise Revolving Fund (YERF) has increased by E600 000.**

According to the Budget Speech, the fund was allocated E12 600 000 from the E12 million allocated in the previous financial year.

Commenting on the allocation, YERF CEO Bhekizwe Maziya

said a fair attempt had been made to address all the issues towards the revival of the country's ailing economy.

He mentioned that it was worth noting that despite the prevailing fiscal challenges, government has committed a five per cent increase allocation towards the Youth Enterprise Revolving Fund.

"While this allocation is below what the fund had submitted as a budget, the desire to increase the funding is acknowledged.

As a fund, we will make the best out of it and prioritise critical programmes while pursuing the youth empowerment mandate.

"Worth noting is that YERF has made the fifth call for loan appli-

cations from the country's youth and the process will end on March 2," he said.

Prior to this call, the fund revealed that they had disbursed a total of 72 loans worth E3.8 million.

Prior to the disbursement in their second call for loan applications, the fund received a total of 790 applications worth E39 million from all four regions of the country.

## ESE listed entities to dematerialise in next 18 month

BY QONDILE NTIWANE

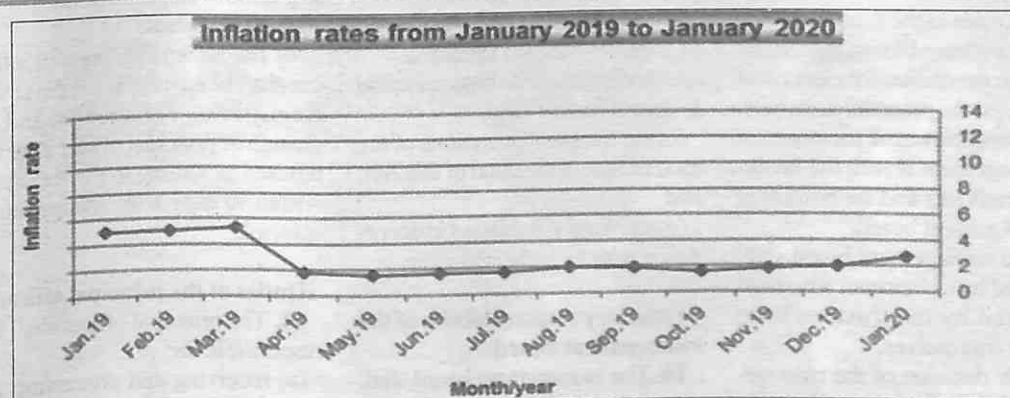
**EVERY deposited, registered or listed security in the Eswatini Stock Exchange (ESE) will have to be dematerialised within the next 18 months.**

A Dematerialisation (DEMAT) process is the move from physical certificates to electronic bookkeeping. Actual stock certificates are then removed and retired from circulation in exchange for electronic recordings.

This follows the dematerialisation, registered or listed Security Notice of 2020 published on a Gazette dated 10 February.

"In the exercise of the powers conferred by Section 116 of the Securities Act, No 09 of 2010, the minister of finance issues the following notice which may be cited as the dematerialisation, registered or listed Security Notice of 2020.

This Notice shall into force on the date in the publication of the gazette."



## Headline inflation rate at 2.7 per cent

BY BAHLE GAMA

**THE headline inflation rate in January 2020 for the country stood at 2.7 per cent.**

The headline inflation is the annual percentage change in the CPI in January 2020 compared with that of January 2019.

According to the January Consumer Price Index (CPI) report released by the Central Statistical Office, the annual rate of inflation is 0.7 index points higher than the corresponding annual rate of 2.0 per cent observed in December 2019.

The month on month inflation rate, is the percentage change in the CPI in January 2020 compared with that of December 2019 is 0.6 per cent.

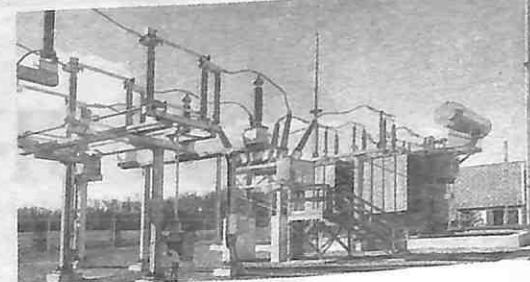
The higher headline inflation was due to increasing annual rates of change reflected in January in the price indices for transport, which increased from 1.8 per cent in December 2019 to 6.4 per cent in January 2020.

Transport services, such as passenger transport by road and air; as well as operation of personal transport equipment (fuels and lubricants) mainly contributed to the increase in this category. Food

and non-alcoholic beverages also increased from 2.7 per cent in December 2019 to 3.6 per cent in January 2020.

Food, such as sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery; and meat mainly contributed to the increased index.

Lastly, the increasing rates were slightly counteracted by decreasing rates of growth in the price indices for clothing and footwear which decreased from 2.1 per cent in December 2019 to 0.4 per cent in January 2020. Footwear (such as shoes) and clothing (such as garments) contributed to the lower index in this category.



## EEC looking for electrical suppliers

BY BAHLE GAMA

**THE Eswatini Electrical Company is (EEC) is looking for electrical suppliers who have the capacity, capability, technical expertise and experience with electrical equipment and measuring instruments; to supply and deliver such equipment to EEC's power stations.**

According to the company's Expression of Interest (EOI), materials will be supplied by manufacturers, electrical wholesalers and electrical suppliers within the Kingdom of Eswatini, and countries outside of Eswatini.

The EOI further states that suppliers will be required to supply the materials as guided by the EEC set standards as governed internally and externally.

"The EEC requires that tenderers observe the highest standard of ethics during the procurement process and execution of contracts," the invite reads.

Flow Transducers	D.O.L Starters
Pressure Transmitters	Temperature sensors (RTDs and PT 100s)
Contactors and Relays	Multi-meters
Level Transmitters	Electronic Displays / Indicators
Circuit Breakers	Push Buttons and selector Switches
Flow Switches	Timers
LED Lights and Light fittings	Electric motors
Limit switches	Programmable Logic Controllers
Diodes	Cables
Signal Converters / Power Supplies	Fuses

## Fuel with lower sulphur for shipping available at major ports

**CAPE TOWN - The enforcement of an International Maritime Organisation (IMO) ruling that fuel oil for ships should have a sulphur limit of 0.5per cent, versus 3.5 previously, from January 1, has not disrupted shipping and the cleaner fuels are available at major ports.**

South African Maritime Safety Authority Technical Spokesperson Captain Saroor Ali said there had been no disruptions.

The ports notified the vessels before berthing about their fuel requirements, specifications and if they had scrubbers on board - a scrubber allows the vessel to continue using the less cleaner fuel with a 0.35 per cent limit - and not a single vessel had been found to be non-compliant with the changes, he said.

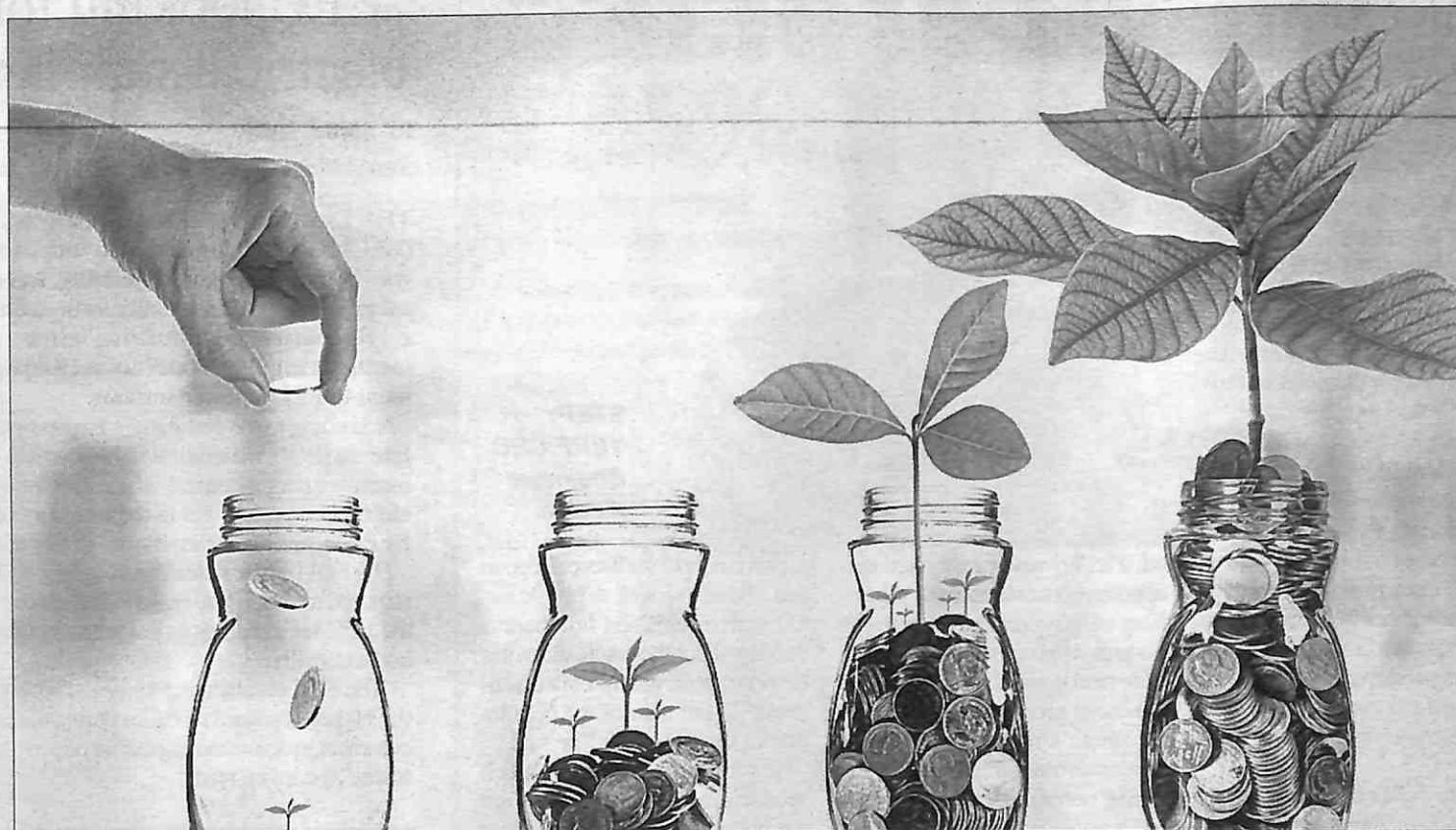
Glencore's Astron Energy, owner of the Milnerton refinery in Cape Town said they were producing Very Low Sulphur Fuel Oil with a sulphur content of 0.5 per cent, following a R400 million investment at the refinery. The fuel from the Milnerton refinery was available in Cape Town harbour as well as Richards Bay. *Business report*





## THE FSRA ON TUESDAY

A STAKEHOLDER  
EDUCATION  
FORUM



# Management of a Retirement Fund

**THE Retirement Funds Act, 2005 states the composition of a management board of retirement funds, its duties and the fiduciary responsibilities of the management board.** This below is an excerpt of section 8 to 14 of the Retirement Funds Act, 2005.

### Management Board of a retirement fund

8. (1) Every retirement fund shall have a controlling body which shall be responsible for controlling the business of the retirement fund and which shall be referred to as "the management board".

(2) The management board shall consist of at least four persons, who shall be referred to as "trustees", and of whom at least 50 per cent shall be elected by the members and the balance shall be appointed by the employer: Provided that, on application from a fund, and on the receipt of adequate information to his satisfaction, the Registrar may:

- (a) grant a fund permission to have a management board consisting of less than four persons if this number is impractical or unreasonably expensive, provided that, the members' right to elect at least 50 per cent of the trustees shall not be affected.
- (b) exempt a fund from the requirement that the members may elect at least 50 per cent of the trustees if:
  - (i) the members of the fund are

persons who are employees of more than three different employers who are not subsidiaries of the same holding company; or

(ii) the fund is a retirement annuity fund.

(3) The rules of the fund shall state the constitution of the management board, the procedure for election of the trustees, the procedures at meetings, voting rights of members of the management board, the breaking of deadlocks and the powers of the management board.

(4) The management board shall be headed by a chairman who shall be elected by the trustees from amongst themselves.

(5) Any decision of the management board shall be carried in a resolution which shall be minuted and each resolution shall be signed by a majority of the trustees: Provided that the chairman of the management board shall sign each resolution.

### Duties of the management board

9. The management board shall ensure that:

- (a) records of the operations of the retirement fund that completely and correctly reflect the operations of the fund are kept;
- (b) all minutes of meetings are maintained in such a manner that the resolutions of the management board are correctly reflected;

(c) the minutes of the management board meetings are kept in a bound book, such that it will not be possible to remove or replace pages of the minute book, or to insert pages into the minute book;

(d) members of the fund are informed of their benefits and rights;

(e) contributions are timeously paid to the retirement fund;

(f) the rules and operations of the fund are not in violation of this Act; and

(g) the fund is managed in accordance with its registered rules.

### Fiduciary responsibilities of the management board

10. The management board shall ensure that the interest of members is protected at all times by:

- (a) acting with care, diligence and good faith;
- (b) avoiding conflict of interest; and
- (c) acting impartially.

### Principal Officer of a retirement fund

11. (1) Every registered retirement fund shall have a principal officer who shall be a Swazi citizen resident in Swaziland.

(2) The principal officer shall be appointed by the management board of the retirement fund.

(3) If for any reason the Principal

Officer is unable to fulfil any duty imposed on him by this Act, the management board may appoint another principal officer within 30 days of the principal officer becoming unable to perform his aforementioned duties.

(4) The name of the principal officer shall be advised in writing to the Registrar on registration, and, a change of principal officer shall be advised in writing to the Registrar within 30 days of the change being effected.

### Duties of the principal officer

12. The principal officer shall be responsible for:

- (a) receiving and processing all communication made to the retirement fund;
- (b) ensuring that all decisions of the management board are implemented;
- (c) ensuring that all returns required in terms of this Act are submitted timeously; and
- (d) all other administrative functions required in terms of the rules of fund and applicable legislation.

### Rules of a retirement fund

13. (1) The business of a retirement fund shall be governed by a set of rules which shall comply with the prescribed requirements in terms of the Regulations.

(2) No rules shall be of any force

unless those rules have been approved, and endorsed by the Registrar after consultation with the Minister.

(3) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the rules of a retirement fund shall be binding on the fund and its members, employer and officers and any person who has a claim on the fund.

(4) Every member of a retirement fund shall be entitled on request to inspect a copy of the rules of the fund.

(5) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (2) and (3), if the rules of the retirement fund are found to be in conflict with the provisions of this Act on any aspect, then the provisions of this Act shall apply.

### Amendment of rules

14. (1) A retirement fund may alter or rescind or make any addition to its rules provided that no such alteration, rescission or addition shall affect the rights of any creditor of the fund other than as a member.

(2) All proposed amendments shall be submitted to the Registrar for approval within 60 days of the management board's resolution approving the amendment.

(3) Any amendment to the rules which affect the financial condition of the fund shall be accompanied by a valuator's certificate certifying that the amendment will not render the fund financially unsound.

(4) If the Registrar is satisfied that the amendment is not against the members' or employers interest, and not inconsistent with this Act, he shall register the amendment and he shall return an endorsed copy of the amendment to the fund.

(5) The resolution of the management board must state clearly the date on which the amendment will come into force and also the reason for the amendment and the Registrar shall not register any amendment which does not state the aforementioned date and reason.

(6) A fund may at any time consolidate its rules which shall take effect from a date decided by the management board: Provided that the Registrar is satisfied that the date will not prejudice the members' interest.

*For any further questions on management of a retirement fund please contact the FSRA at 2406 8000 or email [stakeholder@fsra.co.sz](mailto:stakeholder@fsra.co.sz)*

**Every retirement fund shall have a controlling body which shall be responsible for controlling the business of the retirement fund and which shall be referred to as "the management board"**



# Focus on Africa News

## Continental News

# THE NEW VORTEX FOR ISLAMIC EXTREMISM

**MAPUTO** - Mozambican President Filipe Nyusi was noticeably absent from the AU Summit as he urgently travelled to Cabo Delgado in the north of his country to address the rapidly deteriorating security situation.

The AU Peace and Security Council also highlighted the urgency with commissioner Smail Chergui saying the AU must provide equipment and training to assist the Mozambican government in addressing the militant threat.

Cabo Delgado has been the site of beheadings and kidnappings of villagers, as well as villages being burnt to the ground. The increasing attacks on civilians are by an Islamist extremist group which calls itself al-Shabaab (or "youth" in Arabic). The group is



**VORTEX:** Mozambican President Filipe Nyusi was noticeably absent from the AU Summit as he urgently travelled to Cabo Delgado in the north of his country to address the rapidly deteriorating security situation.

not an offshoot of Somalia's al-Shabaab, but has links to them.

To date the group has launched about 370 attacks since its first attack

on a police station in October 2017. There have been 909 recorded deaths, although this number is predicted to climb exponentially. Human Rights

Watch has called on the Southern African Development Community to urgently act against the insurgency that poses a risk to the whole region.

Few understand what is really happening in this impoverished corner of Mozambique, bordering Tanzania. But the combination of Wahhabi and Salafist influence from the Gulf and extremist Sheikhs from Tanzania and Kenya have brought a brand of extremism to northern Mozambique that has been germinating since 2015.

The Institute for Social and Economic Studies at the Eduardo Mondlane University of Mozambique produced an important study in September about the emergence of al-Shabaab, and is based on extensive on-the-ground interviews in northern Mozambique. *Independent Media*

## 14 children die in Cameroon massacre

**NTUMBO** - A massacre in an anglophone region of Cameroon left up to 22 villagers dead including 14 children, the UN said, with an opposition party blaming the killings on the army.

Armed men carried out the bloodshed on Friday in the village of Ntumbo in the Northwest region, James Nunan, a local official of humanitarian coordination agency OCHA, told AFP.

"Up to 22 civilians were killed, including a pregnant woman and several children," Nunan said, adding that 14 children under age 18 - including nine under age five - were among the dead. Eleven of the children were girls, said Nunan, head of OCHA's office for the Northwest and Southwest regions, which are home to the West African country's large English-speaking minority.

Separatists in the regions have been

fighting the central government for three years.

The Movement for the Rebirth of Cameroon, one of the country's two main opposition parties, issued a statement saying: "The dictatorial regime (and) the supreme head of the security and defence forces are chiefly responsible for these crimes."

A key figure in the separatist movement, lawyer Agbor Mballa, in a Facebook post also accused "state defence forces" of carrying out the killings. The three-year conflict between anglophone forces seeking to break away from French-speaking Cameroon has claimed more than 3 000 lives and forced more than 700 000 people to flee their homes. Friday's killings followed elections on February 9 that were marred by violence in the regions blamed both on separatists and security forces. *AFP*

## 'Chairing African Union a great responsibility'

**JOHANNESBURG** - President Cyril Ramaphosa said chairing the African Union is a great responsibility, and one he intends to execute with diligence and commitment over the coming year.

Ramaphosa was delivering his keynote address during the Ubuntu awards on Saturday.

Ramaphosa said a team of delegates returned from Addis Ababa earlier this week, where they formally accepted the chairship at the 33rd Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and

Government. "This in indeed an immense honour that has been bestowed on our country. As before, we are guided in this work by the rallying cry of the Freedom Charter, which says: Let there be peace and friendship. "Supporting our diplomatic machinery will be the men and women gathered here this evening. This is the second time that we are chairing the African Union. We first held the position in 2002, when the African Union was launched on South African soil and President Thabo Mbeki was elected as chair," he said.

Ramaphosa said there are people in the capitals of the world, from Helsinki to Washington, from Beijing to Perth, from Ougadougou to Harare, working tirelessly to promote the interests of South Africa and to foster peace and friendship.

*News24*



**GREAT RESPONSIBILITY: SA President Cyril Ramaphosa.**

## Locust invasion set to leave East Africa on verge of famine

**KENYA** - East Africa is facing a widespread famine if plagues of locusts devouring crops in the region cannot be brought under control, the UN has warned.

Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Eritrea and Djibouti - with a combined population of 276 million - could all run short of food.

The locusts are already thought to number more than a billion and their population could increase by 500 times in the next four months if nothing is done. David Beasley, director of the UN's World Food Programme, has called for \$76 million (£53m) to pay for pesticides and planes to spray the swarms.

He also warned that the countries being affected do not have the resources to combat the insects alone.

Beasley also warned that some 13 million people will need food supplies if the plague goes unchecked, at an estimated cost of \$1 billion. The locust invasion is the worst infestation in Kenya for 70 years and the worst in Somalia and Ethiopia for 25 years.

Kenya has begun spraying the swarms with pesticides, Uganda is sending the military to spray the insects, while Somalia has declared a state of emergency. It is thought the locust swarm began in war-ravaged Yemen three months ago, before moving to Ethiopia and Somalia in December.

By the end of the month they had reached Kenya, then crossed into Uganda in recent weeks. Desert locusts are typically solitary creatures, but can form into huge swarms under the right conditions. It is thought that heavy rainfall, which causes the population to boom, followed by a drought which forces the creatures into a smaller area is to blame. As the group is forced together the locusts' bodies flood with a hormone called serotonin, which produces the swarming behaviour. The change is so dramatic, that for decades scientists thought the solitary locusts and swarming variety were actually two different species, until it was disproved.

The swarm then moves away from its traditional territory in search of more food, and will keep going until the numbers fall back to sustainable levels, or the food runs out. *Daily Mail*

## BRIEFS

### Flights hampered by low visibility

**LAGOS** - If you're flying to Nigeria's capital, there might be a chance of your flight being diverted. Lagos's airport has been caught up in the annual Harmattan Haze for the last several days - when dust and wind reduce planes' visibility to land. Airlines like Emirates, Delta and British Airways have diverted their flights, with the former suspending all flights to Muhammed International Airport until their Instrument Landing System is fixed, according to This Day Live. Most flights have been diverted to Accra in Ghana, where many passengers have been stranded, or back to their origin. *This Day Live*

### Darfuris rejoice as Omar handed over

**SUDAN** - In the sprawling Camp Kalma, refugees displaced by the Darfur conflict are overjoyed at the decision by Sudan's new authorities to finally deliver President Omar al-Bashir to the International Criminal Court. Bashir, who was deposed in April 2019 following mass protests, has for the past decade flouted International Criminal Court arrest warrants on charges of genocide and war crimes in the ravaged Darfur region of western Sudan. Last Tuesday, Sudan's transitional authorities agreed to transfer him to stand trial before the court based in The Hague. *AFP*

### Acid attack survivors seek justice

**UGANDA** - Ugandan university student Linette Kirungi was on her way to class when she heard footsteps behind her. The next thing she felt was liquid on her face - then burning agony. She had just turned down a marriage proposal from her ex-boyfriend. He responded by throwing acid. "I screamed and fell down," the 27-year-old told AFP. "The pain was too much. The skin was peeling off." Acid is cheap and easy to find. Some just use acid for car batteries. It melts the flesh, sometimes to the bone. That attack was in 2012. Today, Kirungi works to support survivors of acid attacks in Uganda - and close a legal loophole that allows attackers to easily evade justice. *AFP*

### Secretary wraps up visit to Senegal

**DAKAR** - Secretary of State Mike Pompeo wrapped up a visit to Senegal on Sunday, where he discussed the US role in security issues in Africa. This visit came as the US Defense Department is conducting a global force review and has indicated there likely will be a reduction, but not a complete withdrawal, of US forces from Africa. The next stop on Pompeo's trip is Luanda, Angola before he moves on to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Pompeo will also visit Saudi Arabia and Oman before returning to Washington after his nine-day trip. *ALLAFRICA*





## Focus on SA Scene

Your Daily Mzansi News

### Enoch Mpianzi fifth child to die at Nyati School camps

**JOHANNESBURG** - Enoch Mpianzi, the 13-year-old Parktown Boys' High School Grade 8 pupil, who drowned at the Nyati Bush and River Break lodge during an orientation camp, was the fifth child to die at the notorious lodge since 1999, Sunday Times reported.

Mpianzi disappeared when a makeshift raft he and other boys were on overturned on the Crocodile River on January 15.

His body was found two days later after other pupils allegedly repeatedly warned camp facilitators that Mpianzi had last been seen struggling in the water and that he had gone missing, but were ignored.

According to Sunday Times, Grade 8 Northview High School pupil Portia Sowela, 14, drowned in the river while on a sports camp in 1999. Like Mpianzi, she was swept away by river currents during a water activity. And similarly, no one reportedly realised she was missing and her body was only found the following day.

Mellony Sias, 18, from Adamantia High School in Kimberley, drowned in the river at Nyati during a camp of his school's hockey team, EWN reported. His drowning was confirmed by the school as well as someone who was involved in a search-and-rescue mission that tried

to locate Sias at the time.

Sunday Times further revealed that Grade 10 Malvern High School pupil Thuso Moalusi, 17, drowned in the lodge's dam, not the river.

Provincial Police Spokesperson Colonel Adele Myburgh told that publication that Moalusi had drowned in 2002 "while taking part in an obstacle course at the dam during the Nyati marathon activity".

Lastly, Grade 6 Welgedag Primary School pupil Tumi Mokowane, 12, reportedly drowned in the lodge swimming pool in September 2009. Like Mpianzi, he was missing for hours before the alarm was raised about his disappearance.

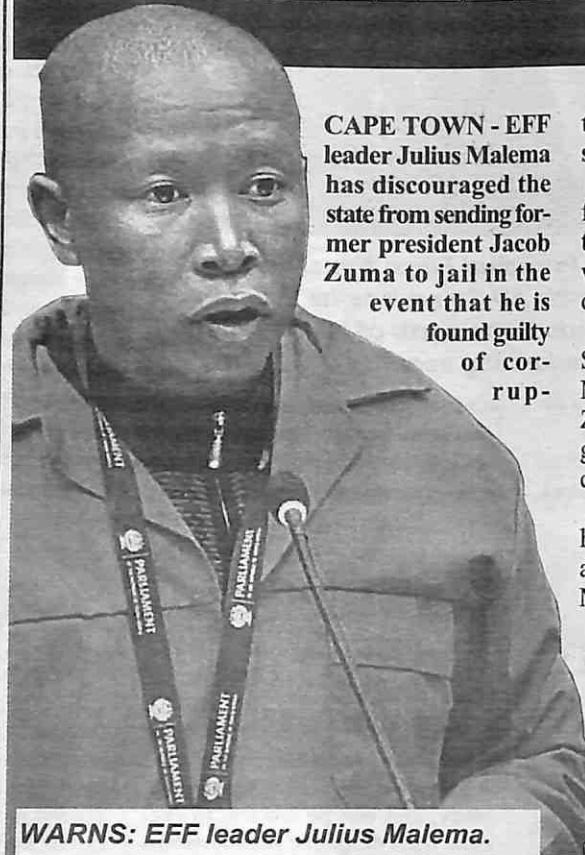
Myburgh told Sunday Times that no one was found liable following inquests into the deaths.

Probe 'well under way'

Last week, the Gauteng Department of Education appointed an independent law firm, Harris Nupen Molebatsi Inc, to investigate Mpianzi's death, due to inconsistencies in 'alleged facts' surrounding the turn of events at the camp, News24 reported. Education MEC Panyaza Lesufi held a media briefing on Friday morning, where he gave updates on the developments of the case surrounding Mpianzi's death. He said the probe into the teen's death was 'well under way'.

News24

## MALEMA WARNS AGAINST JAILING ZUMA



**CAPE TOWN** - EFF leader Julius Malema has discouraged the state from sending former president Jacob Zuma to jail in the event that he is found guilty of corruption.

tion relating to the arms deal saga.

This comes as Zuma is still fighting charges against him at the Pietermaritzburg High Court, with his next appearance being on May 6.

Addressing the Press Club of SA in Cape Town on Friday, Malema stressed that he believed Zuma had to account for the allegations against him before the courts.

"If there are charges against him, he must go to court and answer those charges," said Malema.

He said he was however not convinced that Zuma had to be imprisoned if found guilty.

"Jail time for an old person like that is not advisable. What type of a society have we

become to jail such old people? But it is for the court to decide," he said.

"Zuma must go to court. Zuma must answer his allegations and the court must decide but in taking its decision, his age must be taken into consideration. The purpose of jail is correctional. That is why it is called correctional service, so we correct you and send you back to society. So, what are we going to correct with Zuma because he is an old man," Malema said.

He said Zuma deserved alternative punishment if he was found guilty.

Malema instead slammed why President Cyril Ramaphosa was still not charged for Marikana.

"If there is a person who must go to jail, it is Cyril, (former minister) Susan

WARNS: EFF leader Julius Malema.

### Two pupils killed, scores more injured as bike, taxi crash

**JOHANNESBURG** - Two school pupils died in an accident in Tembisa, east of Johannesburg, on Monday.

Gauteng education department spokesperson Steve Mabona said they were travelling in scholar transport when the crash

occurred. Mabona said 21 pupils were in the taxi when it allegedly collided with a biker.

"All the injured pupils were taken to Tembisa Hospital. The two deceased pupils and a biker are still stuck in the

taxi," Mabona said. Education MEC Panyaza Lesufi was on his way to the scene. The latest deaths bring to 16 the number of Gauteng pupils who have died in tragic circumstances since the start of the year. *Times Live*

### Roodepoort crèche owner, 62, in court for explicit child porn

**JOHANNESBURG** - A 62-year-old married man, who is also the owner of a crèche in Roodepoort was expected to appear in court yesterday after he was allegedly found in possession of explicit child pornography.

The pensioner is part of a group of five people who were arrested in the past few days in an operation called 'Moonlight', where several personal computers, hard drives, flash drives, tablets and cell-phones which contain explicit child pornography were seized.

The ages of the children in the materials are believed to be ranging between 11 and 16.

The operation was conducted by members from National and Gauteng SECI in collaboration with the United States of America's Department of Homeland Security officers, National Crime Intelligence Cyber Crime Unit and Gauteng Forensic Social Work Services.

Police's Colonel Brenda Muridili said although the man owns the crèche, it



was managed by his wife.

Another man, who is 34-years old, was also expected to appear at the Kempton Park Magistrate's Court to face the same charge of being in possession of child pornography.

Muridili said five years ago the man was sentenced to five years for the rape and sexual assault of five boys aged between 14 and 16.

However, Muridili said, the man received a five year suspended sentence that was to end on March 15, 2020.

"Although he has not been arrested for a similar charge he was convicted and sentenced of five years ago, child

pornography is along similar lines and there might be a process to reinstate those charges," Muridili said.

Other people who were arrested include a 30-year-old Rietfontein, Pretoria man who lives with his parents.

He appeared in the Pretoria Magistrate's Court where he was granted R5 000 bail. His case was postponed to March 12.

The second man aged 42, was also arrested in Claremont, Pretoria.

Muridili said the man was married with three children. He appeared in court last week and his case was postponed to February 28.

On Thursday, a 42-year-old man was arrested in Daspoort, Pretoria. The man, who also lives with his parents had already appeared in court and he will appear again on 8 April 2020.

Muridili said a search warrant was executed in Garsfontein, Pretoria for a man who had been on the police's radar for some time. *The Star*

### Zindzi Mandela 'heartbroken' about ANC's 'defence' of FW de Klerk

**JOHANNESBURG** - SA's Ambassador to Denmark, Zindzi Mandela has condemned the ANC for 'defending' former apartheid president FW de Klerk, saying she is 'heartbroken'.

"As a loyal and dedicated member of the ANC, I am heartbroken this happened to my mother (Winnie Madikizela-Mandela) and many others under de Klerk's watch," she said on Twitter at the weekend, referring to treatment they received.

She also questioned what the ANC stood for.

"According to his interview, he justified this, therefore saying that my mother and others deserved this aggression. What do we stand for?" she wrote.

Mandela's tweet comes after De Klerk's recent interview on SABC, in which he said he did not agree with the UN's declaration that apartheid was a crime against humanity. "I don't fully agree with that. I'm not justifying apartheid in any way ... I apologised for that, profusely apologise for that, but there's a difference between calling something a crime. Genocide is a crime, apartheid cannot be, that's why I'm saying this. "It cannot be compared



HEARTBREAK: SA's Ambassador to Denmark Zindzi Mandela.

with genocide. There was never a genocide under apartheid. Many people died, but more people died because of black on black violence than because of apartheid," he said.

Last week, while marking the 30th anniversary of his speech unbanning political organisations such as the ANC, PAC and SACP, de Klerk told eNCA that he had no regrets about the decisions he made during his time in government. *Times Live*





## Focus on SA Scene

Your Daily Mzansi News

### QUIT EFF IF YOU'RE SCARED TO DIE!

**DURBAN** - This is what the party's Secretary-General Marshal Dlamini said during an address to party members in Durban, KZN yesterday.

"Fighters, the war has started," he said.

"Eskom is the lifeblood of the country. So, if you're handing it to white people, you're giving them the whole country. It's going to be rough. So, those who fear death or prison, here's the door. Leave now!"

Dlamini said President Cyril Ramaphosa declared war by

announcing the government would buy electricity from independent power producers.

He said there was no longer gold or platinum in the ground, and that's why whites wanted Eskom privatised so they could have something to sell.



He said buying electricity from independent suppliers would be so expensive that poor people would not be able to afford it.

He said by allowing SAA to cancel its routes, the government wanted British Airways to run them.

*Daily Sun*

Shabangu, (former police minister) Nathi Mthethwa and (former national commissioner) Riah Phiyega.

"Those are the people who have to go to jail for having killed our people (in) daylight," he said. He said Ramaphosa and other leaders had to be also subjected to

orange overalls if Zuma was facing jail time.

He also slammed the court for issuing Zuma with a warrant of arrest when he failed to appear over a medical condition, instead of asking the doctor who produced his medical certificate to testify.

*Political Bureau*

### R200k reward offered for recovery of R4m Lamborghini

**JOHANNESBURG** - The owner of a Lamborghini Urus that was stolen in Bedfordview, Johannesburg, has offered a reward of R200 000 for information leading to its recovery.

The luxury vehicle, with an estimated cost of R4m, disappeared on February 4, according to private investigator An'ion Koen of NoJack Vehicle Tracking — a company that specialises in the retrieval of hijacked and stolen vehicles. The white vehicle has the registration plate JD89ZJ GP and engine number DHU000986. Koen said there had been an increase in the theft of high-end vehicles and alluded to a scam. "There is definitely a spike, we have two verified cases of high-end vehicles being taken around last week. There is a very sophisticated scam that these people use to lure the owners. They are very strategic and in many cases work with the dealership," he told SowetanLIVE's sister publication TimesLIVE.

Koen said the perpetrators normally phoned the owners of the vehicles and alerted them to a problem with their vehicles. In some cases they would go to their homes or the vehicles would be hijacked. In this case, the owner, who does not want to be identified, received a call from someone claiming to be from a dealership, saying there was a problem with his car and that a person from the "dealership" would come to his house to assess the problem. Someone arrived at his home and the owner gave his car keys to the person whom he believed to be from the dealership.

*Sowetan Live*

### A Pakistani bank, Duduzane Zuma and some major irregularities

**JOHANNESBURG** - A Middle East operation of Pakistan's largest bank displayed 'significant irregularities' in dealings with politically exposed clients and screening some transactions, according to an inspection by the South Asian nation's central bank that took place more than a year after the lender was shut out of the U.S. financial system.

The findings are contained in a State Bank of Pakistan report, finalised in the first half of 2019, on Habib Bank Ltd.'s operations in the United Arab Emirates. The inspection was conducted after the Financial Action Task Force, a global watchdog for illicit financial activities, put Pakistan on its monitoring list.

FATF is due to review whether to downgrade Pakistan a step further,

to its blacklist, at a meeting in Paris that started on Sunday. That would have serious consequences for the nation's economy and its bailout program with the International Monetary Fund.

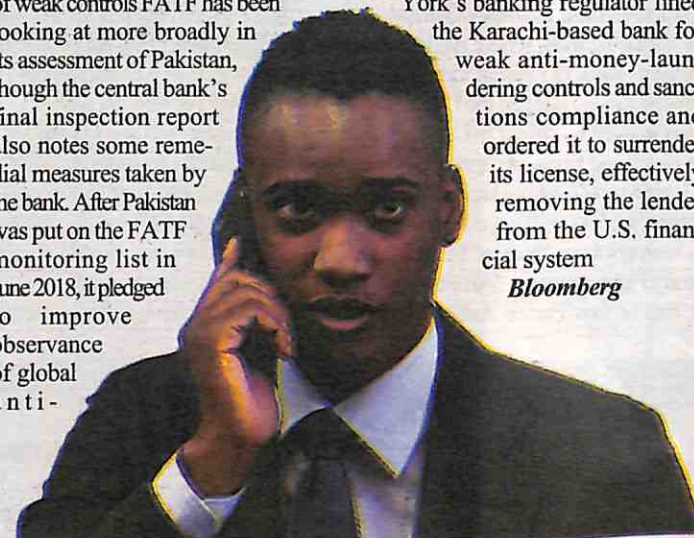
Employees in some of Habib Bank's U.A.E. branches helped certain customers disguise transactions by issuing pay orders in their own names, while gaps in risk profiling and monitoring reflected an "ineffective compliance function and compliance culture," the central bank said. In an earlier draft version of its inspection report, also seen by Bloomberg News, the central bank said U.A.E. staff skirted rules when opening an account for Duduzane Zuma, the son of former South African President Jacob Zuma, and for relatives of Gabonese President Ali Bongo.

The critical nature of the findings, which haven't previously been reported, offers further evidence of the sorts of weak controls FATF has been looking at more broadly in its assessment of Pakistan, though the central bank's final inspection report also notes some remedial measures taken by the bank. After Pakistan was put on the FATF monitoring list in June 2018, it pledged to improve observance of global anti-

money laundering and counter-terrorism financing controls.

The previous September, New York's banking regulator fined the Karachi-based bank for weak anti-money-laundering controls and sanctions compliance and ordered it to surrender its license, effectively removing the lender from the U.S. financial system

*Bloomberg*



### Anti-corruption unit arrests its training instructor for alleged drunk driving

**JOHANNESBURG** - A traffic police firearm instructor is to appear at the Pretoria Magistrate's Court on Monday on drunk driving charges.

According to Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC) spokesperson Simon Zwane, the 45-year-old instructor from Boekenhoukdoof Traffic Training College was arrested by members of the RTMC's nation-

al traffic anti-corruption unit and Gauteng traffic police on Friday. The anti-corruption unit was alerted by concerned members of the public who saw the instructor allegedly drinking at a liquor outlet in Pretoria West. He was bust when he drove away after spending approximately four hours at the watering hole. The instructor was driving in an unmarked RTMC

vehicle with a portable blue light when he was apprehended. He was also found to be in possession of his official firearm and wearing an RTMC uniform. The alcohol screening indicated that he was above the permitted alcohol limit for driving. He was then taken to a district surgeon at Steve Biko Academic Hospital where confirmatory blood samples were taken.

"The RTMC welcomes the arrest as it proves that no one is above the law. It is an embarrassment that a person in this position of responsibility allegedly failed to respect the law," Zwane said. "The anti-corruption unit is commended for demonstrating that law enforcement officers must do their work without fear, favour or any other consideration." *News24*

### 'I'll send De Klerk the UN Convention on apartheid'

**JOHANNESBURG** - Former president Thabo Mbeki has undertaken to send apartheid's last president, FW de Klerk, the UN convention declaring apartheid a crime against humanity.

"We were sitting next to each other in Parliament, I asked him about that (De Klerk's comments that apartheid was not a crime against humanity).

"What transpires, is that he actually did not know that there is a convention declaring apartheid a crime against humanity," Mbeki said.

He was speaking on the sidelines of the KwaZulu-Natal ANC provincial executive committee (PEC) political school which he addressed.

On Sunday, the Desmond and Leah Tutu Foundation called on the De Klerk Foundation to withdraw a statement on Friday that apartheid was not a crime against humanity.

This after the EFF disrupted the state of the nation address on Thursday evening, demanding that De Klerk be kicked out.

In 1966, the UN General Assembly labelled apartheid a crime against human-

ity. The Apartheid Convention was the ultimate step in the condemnation of apartheid.

"He said to me he had been asked a question, and he had said apartheid was reprehensible, he apologised for the bad things that had happened but he was making a very narrow comment," said Mbeki, recalling his conversation with De Klerk.

"He did not know that there is a legal document in international law which says apartheid was a crime against humanity. I want to send him the convention, so that he knows that there is an international convention which says apartheid is a crime against humanity. That is how we discussed it," he said.

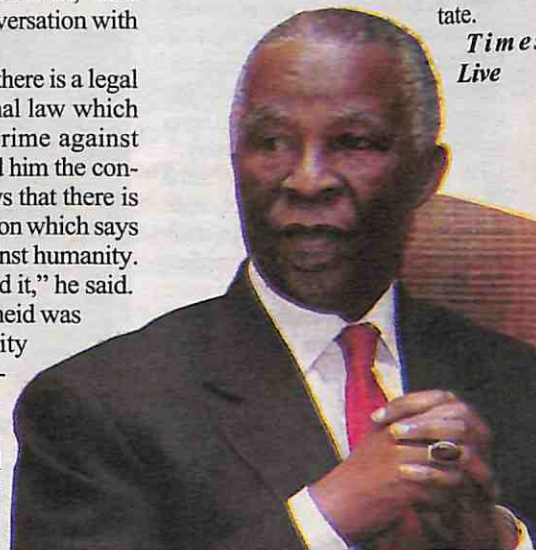
The UN has said apartheid was a crime against humanity because it met two key elements — it was both "widespread" and "systematic".

President Cyril Ramaphosa could not begin his state of the nation address on Thursday evening, as the EFF asked that De Klerk be removed

from the National Assembly chamber's public gallery.

However, De Klerk has remained adamant, saying through his foundation that the notion that apartheid was a crime against humanity had merely been "Soviet agitprop" — propaganda meant to agitate.

*Times Live*



**OFFERS:** Former SA president Thabo Mbeki.

### Nine-month-old baby dies in KZN shack fire

**KWAZULU-NATAL** - A nine-month-old baby died in a shack fire in the Feligisee informal settlement, near Umkomaas, in KwaZulu-Natal on Sunday.

According to KwaZulu-Natal Emer-

gency Medical Services spokesperson Robert McKenzie, paramedics and firefighters responded to a report of a fire at an informal dwelling.

"Firefighters from eThekweni search and rescue extinguished the blaze.

Afterwards, it was discovered that a girl aged about nine months had sadly succumbed to injuries due to the fire."

McKenzie said the cause of the fire was unknown and was under investigation. *Citizen*



# Focus on World News

Global News

## CHINA WILL START DESTROYING CASH

**HONG KONG** - China's central bank in Guangzhou announced it will destroy cash collected by hospitals, buses and markets in coronavirus-afflicted areas to curb the outbreak's contagion, financial news outlet Caixin reported Saturday.

The People's Bank of China ordered all paper currency with high exposure to the outbreak withdraw cash for either destruction or disinfection, according to Caixin. Commercial banks were told to place banknotes from infected areas aside, clean them, and hand them to the central bank.

The coronavirus continues to spread around the world and most heavily hit China's population. The outbreak is responsible for 1 670 deaths with nearly 70 000 infected as of Sunday afternoon. Coronavirus has already prompted economists to lower their expectations for global growth, and major corporations have warned that the drag on global supply chains will likely hit quarterly results.

The People's Bank of China will use high temperatures or ultraviolet light to disinfect bills and store the cash for more than 14 days before placing it

...with high exposure to the coronavirus



**CONTROL:** A doctor at a quarantine zone in Wuhan, China

back into circulation. Central banks around the world frequently destroy old notes to balance out the supply with new cash. The practice doesn't affect the money supply, though the coronavirus-related action is separate from such regular measures. An unnamed deputy chief at a large bank in Guangzhou told Caixin that, while customers will be asked where their deposited cash is from, "it would be difficult for such

a measure to be completely effective."

The central bank's deputy governor, Fan Yifei, said on Saturday that 600 billion yuan (R1.2 trillion) has been injected into China's financial system since January 17, according to the South China Morning Post. About 4 billion yuan had been sent to Wuhan, where the outbreak originated, before the Lunar New Year holiday on January 25. *Business Insider*

## Taiwan embraces cute mascots for coronavirus prevention campaign

**TAIWAN** - Images of cute animals have featured in daily social media updates from government agencies to tackle disinformation and prevent the spread of infections.

While China deploys stern communist slogans in its battle against a deadly new coronavirus, democratic Taiwan has embraced cuddly mascots and humour to ease public anxiety and educate on best practices.

Images of cute animals have featured in daily social media updates from government agencies to tackle disinformation and prevent the spread of infections.

The health ministry has deployed a cartoon 'spokesdog' — a Shiba Inu called Zongchai — that has proved a hit with hashtags of his name going viral and posts shared hundreds of thousands of times.

Recent contributions have included advice on hygiene and quarantine regulations as well as reminding people to use face masks judiciously given the ongoing shortages since

the new virus exploded in China. "Leave face masks for the people who need them, frequently wash your hands with soap, reduce touching your eyes, nose and mouth with your hands," read one update.

In a Valentine's Day message, Zongchai offered practical advice for dating during an outbreak, from regular hand washing to staying sober and practising safe sex.

The post ended with a question: "What if I am single?" to which the pup quipped: "Stay home then!"

The foreign ministry has rolled out a pigeon in a facemask to announce entry restrictions on foreigners with recent travel history to China, adopting the slogan "Virus OUT, Safety IN".

"So quacking exaggerated" The economic affairs ministry plumped for a goose when it announced that rumours of disposable paper meal boxes running out were "so quacking exaggerated".

AFP

## Christians forced to convert to Islam

**A Christian pastor and his 14-year-old daughter have been abducted from a predominantly Muslim refugee camp in Bangladesh after families were viciously attacked and robbed by an angry mob.**

Dozens of attackers beat up Christian residents, vandalised homes, and looted personal property in the sprawling Rohingya refugee camp in Cox's Bazaar, Human Rights Watch reported. The pastor and his daughter were abducted the day after the attack and his wife claims the teenager has been forced to convert to Islam and marry.

More than 700 000 Rohingya Muslims live in the refugee camp after fleeing the Myanmar mili-

tary's 2017 campaign of ethnic cleansing. Approximately 1 500 Rohingya Christians are among them.

The abducted pastor, named only as Taher, were abducted from their shelter in the camp on January 27. His wife Roshida told Human Rights Watch that she fears her husband has been killed. She added: "No one can give me any clear information, but my relatives told me that my daughter has been forced to convert to Islam and marry."

Police said that scores of men attacked 22 Christian families living in Kutupalong Camp 2 in Cox's Bazaar the night before the abductions.

*Daily Mail*

## Prince Andrew brazenly groped girls on Jeffrey Epstein's paradise island

**LOS ANGELES** - Prince Andrew brazenly 'groped girls' while staying at the so-called 'Paedo Island' home of his friend, convicted child sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, a top prosecutor has claimed.

Denise George, Attorney General of the US Virgin Islands, where Andrew was a frequent visitor to Epstein's private island Little St James, alleged the Duke of York never sought to shield his activity from the disgraced financier's staff.

George, who is taking legal action against Epstein's £500 million estate to prevent his lawyers from 'hiding' his assets, told Vanity Fair magazine: "An employee told me that he saw Prince Andrew on a bal-

cony out at Little St James groping girls right out in the open. He said he remembered walking up to him and saying, 'Good morning, your Highness.'

The claims cast further doubt on the Prince's judgment in remaining friends with Epstein even after the billionaire admitted procuring an underage girl for prostitution in a controversial 2007 plea deal. An American woman, Virginia Roberts, has accused Epstein of 'forcing' her to have sex with Andrew on three occasions, the first in London in 2001 when she was 17 and the following year in New York and during an orgy at the financier's island home.

Prince Andrew has vehemently denied



**ACCUSED:** Prince Andrew.

all her claims, with Buckingham Palace saying: "It is emphatically denied that the Duke had any form of sexual contact or relationship with Virginia Roberts. Any claim to the contrary is false and without foundation." *Daily Mail*

### BRIEFS

#### Suspect nabbed while shoplifting

**VIRGINIA** - The Virginia teen was allegedly trying to steal hair dye, a change of clothes and a backpack from a store in Durham, North Carolina, when police arrested him Saturday evening. But Levi Norwood, a 17-year-old high school junior, is accused of a far more disturbing crime than shoplifting. He has been charged with two counts of murder in the shooting deaths of his mother, Jennifer Norwood, 34, and his brother Wyatt Norwood, 6. At a news conference Sunday, Fauquier County Sheriff Robert Mosier said investigators have yet to recover any guns used.

*The Washington Post*

#### Coronavirus cases on Japan ship rise

**TOKYO** - The number of people who have tested positive for the new coronavirus on a quarantined ship off Japan's coast has risen to 355, the country's health minister said. The new figures came as the United States was preparing to evacuate some of its citizens from the Diamond Princess, which has been in quarantine since February 5 in the port of Yokohama, near Tokyo. Hong Kong also said it would offer its 330 citizens on board the chance to take a charter flight back. Canada, too, announced a similar decision to repatriate its nationals on the ship. "So far, we have conducted tests for 1 219 individuals."

AFP

#### Woman arrested over sex tape

**PARIS** - French police have arrested the girlfriend of a Russian activist who released a sex video of a prominent ally of French President Emmanuel Macron, prosecutors said. Pyotr Pavlensky's girlfriend was arrested on Saturday evening on charges of invasion of privacy and publishing images of a sexual nature without consent, the Paris prosecutor's office said. Her arrest stemmed from the release by Pavlensky, a protest artist best known before now for nailing his scrotum to Red Square in Moscow, of a video of a man masturbating accompanied by screengrabs of racy text messages sent to a woman.

AFP

#### Ban sees dozens of unmarried couples arrested

**INDONESIA** - Whether it's wine and chocolates in a hotel room or a takeaway and a night on the sofa at home, millions of people around the world celebrated Valentine's Day on Friday with special gestures for their loved ones. But not so in some parts of Muslim-majority Indonesia, where celebrations and displays of affection were banned for violating the country's 'culture and ethics'.

Authorities in Makassar, on Sulawesi island, and Depok, near the capital Jakarta, both warned people against public shows of affection, while celebrations were also banned across the entirety of Sharia Law province Banda Aceh.

*Daily Mail*



# ESWATINI Observer ENTERTAINMENT

REVIEWS | STAR SIGNS | CELEBRITY WATCH | CARTOONS

## DJ FRESH FOR HOUSE MUSIC FESTIVAL!

BY PHETSILE MAMBA

... Full line-up has been revealed!

**SOUTH** African seasoned spinner and renowned presenter DJ Fresh is coming to the country on March 7.

The star is billed to perform at the second edition of the House Music Festival to be held at Esibayeni Lodge.

This was confirmed by Swazi Boy Entertainment PRO Ur Gal Zee yesterday.

DJ Fresh needs no introduction; he is one of the spinners who have been in the entertainment industry for so long.

He is a starring deejay, producer and entrepreneur better recognised for his ground-breaking fame and career. The DJ is arguably one of the most thrilling radio presenters in South Africa with an extensive career of more than three decades. DJ Fresh gained acclaimed fame in 1997 when his label became a household name across the country. Apart from his debut album released in 2001, the DJ has released 32 others over the years. He is now among the most competitive DJs in both SA and cross-border clubs. Ur Gal Zee said compared to last year, more females were responding well to the event. There's that misconception that it was an event tailored for men because of the genre, yet it is actually about music, food and culture.

"We have food, brands (merchandise), drinks, tattoo parlours and more. It's very exciting and

### HOUSE FESTIVAL FULL LINE UP

**Phase one:**  
Christos  
Oscar MBO  
Mistosoul and the band  
Msakrie  
Spin Doctors (Dr P & Simza)  
Speech Umlangeni  
LomaSoul  
Tonic  
Smish

**Phase two:**  
Earl W Green  
DJ Slotta,  
Trend Twins,  
DJ Wicked  
Mseto  
Fantasy  
!Sooks  
Ipeleng

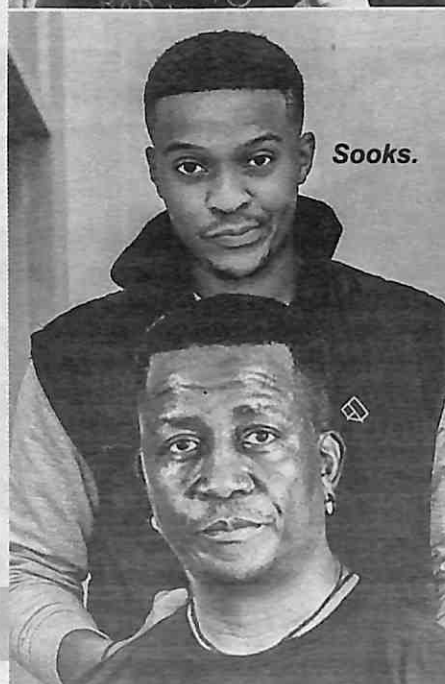
**Phase three:**  
DJ Fresh  
Sculptured Music  
Xstracy  
Fantasy  
New Black  
Mbo  
Crooks

we would appreciate it if people came out as early as 2:00pm on the day. Tickets are selling very well so we are anticipating a huge crowd. We promise to deliver a well-organised event from the sound, stage and proceedings so people should not worry," Zee said.

MC of the event will be the well-known Phila 'PhD', who will come in with his own flavour.



DJ Christos.



Sooks.



DJ Freshh.



**ATTENTIVE:** A section of attendees listen to the speakers during the Men's conference held at the Chi Executive Lounge on Saturday. (Courtesy picture)

## We could have done better- Men's Conference organisers

BY SETSABILE NKAMBULE

**THE** recently held Men's conference organisers say they could have done better at organising the event if they had enough time.

This followed the Men's conference which was held on Saturday at Chi Lounge, with just a crowd of about 30 people.

One of the organisers Mlondi Mpanza said they were able to do their primary objective for the event which was to try and influence behavioural change through engaging with men on societal issues that affect them.

### Preparations

"For a fresh idea in Eswatini, we were happy with the attendance considering that we only had a couple of weeks to put this together. It is worth noting that we have received so much interest from Eswatini men, whom we believe will definitely form part of our next edition of the conference.

"Those include mental health, depression, SODV, manhood, masculinity, impact of absent fathers, all of which we managed to successfully have presentations on," he said.

### Future

Mpanza stated that even though the event went well, there were things they need to improve on, which included looking for corporates and companies to sponsor the event.

He added that in future they will plan early as if they had enough time they would have been able to get sponsors.

"Due to the fact that we had less time between the date of the event and when we started planning, we could not get sponsors.

"Now that we have this one out of the way, we will soon be meeting with the team to start working on next year's edition. Interestingly, we are already receiving interest from certain stakeholders who are applauding the initiative and hoping to partner with us, going forward," he added.

## Smallz, S'lwane, Gogo set to film first movie

BY SETSABILE NKAMBULE

**COMEDIANS** Smallz, S'lwane and Gogo will be taking their careers to the next level as they will soon be filming their debut movie.

This was revealed by the comedians' PRO Mzameni Mpanza yesterday.

The movie, according to Mpanza is a Siswati chronicling about adventures a grandmother headed family which comprised of crazy members united by their fondness of each other, one missing link and a fun-filled and crazy adventure to search for this missing link.

Mpanza stated that the movie was an adventurous comedy, which saw the trio expand and translate what they do on their videos on social media. He said the movie was a perfect blending of their brand of craziness, humour and their perfect Siswati.

"My team and I are very excited about the opportunity to give emaSwati a movie. The project is 100 per cent Siswati and is written by us and will star Smallz The Comedian, S'lwane and Gogo.

"We will expectedly blend their elegant style of craziness, whilst taking their brand of humour into the bigger screens in and out of the kingdom. We are happy to confirm that the collec-

tive is for the better part of March shooting their first movie in a project helmed by one of South Africa's most respected studios, led by an exciting director alongside an equally capable technical team," he said.

Mpanza stated that the movie was being shot in secret locations around Eswatini and neighbouring South Africa.

He said details around the movie would be shared on all their media platforms in due course.

Furthermore, he stated that it was worth noting that there would be so much to share around it as they would soon be calling out all aspiring Swati actors, actresses, musicians/producers and make-up artists who would join them on the project.

He then mentioned that the movie would be shown in

Cinemas in and around Southern Africa.

Mpanza said thereafter it would be available on selected BluRay and DVDs then selected TV stations.

"Whilst bound by contractual obligations not to fully-divulge all that happens in the project yet, we will work on putting Eswatini and our beautiful mother tongue on the global map of all good things ever out of Africa," added Mpanza.







WATCHING: Part of the audience watching the movie.

# LOVERS INTIMATE AT OUTDOOR MOVIE

BY PHETSILE MAMBA

THE Albert Millin sealed the Valentine's weekend by hosting an outdoor movie day for lovers.

It was almost a picture from a romantic movie scene when lovers sat down and enjoyed the movie.

Couples came in their numbers to experience this kind of set up at The Millin on Sunday.

They came with their camp chairs and throwers to keep warm as they were watching the movie.

Couples looked happy and in love as they shared light moments with their lovers.

Not only couples were there, also single people came with their friends and some came as a family to watch the movie.

Popcons were sold alongside drinks at the venue.

It was a beautiful moment to watch as they were all seated, facing the big screen.

When couples were asked about the experience after the movie, they shared that this was a great experience for them and they truly enjoyed



CHILLING: Some of the people watching the outdoor movie at The Millin.

it.

They all suggested that this should be something done frequently since it's one of the unique and beautiful adventures for most people.

Sibusiso Msibi said they loved

everything about the show and he enjoyed the movie.

"I really had a relaxed night. What a way of ending our Valentine's weekend, it was truly worth it, I promise that I would do it again,"

Msibi said.

Speaking to the event's organisers Pearl Tukamuhebwa, she said that the outdoor movie was a great success.

She shared that this was the third edition of the outdoor movie night which was first premiered in September 2018.

## Perfect

This concept is a collaboration of three local companies; namely Jabula Events, CreativMotif and Kuandza Dreams who then partnered with the Albert Millin for the venue.

"We have been working a plan for 2020 and decided the Albert Millin is the perfect place to start to implement due to proximity, quality of the environment and their excellent service.

"We will be seeing a lot more outdoor movie concepts that will cater to everyone's taste. We are expecting to be showing another outdoor movie by March 2020,"

Takamuhebwa said.



ROLE: Ntombifuthi Simelane.

## Liswati scoops Generations; The Legacy role

BY SETSABILE NKAMBULE

LOCAL actress Ntombifuthi Simelane has landed herself a role in South African soapie Generations the legacy where she will be playing the role of a nurse.

Simelane said getting the role came as a surprise as she was competing amongst the best.

She said when she auditioned for the role a month ago, she did not expect to get the role.

"I got the role through Microphone Media World casting agency, where they helped me by sending my picture to the Generations crew.

I went for auditions and on February 11, I got a call that I had bagged the role. I thank God and my ancestors for helping me through this and paving my way," she said.

The actress stated that they began shooting on Monday, where she was at bit scared a first but she eventually was able to get through her fears and nail it.

She further stated that the contract was for seven months and she was looking forward to learning, expressing and exposing herself to the world in terms of her acting skills.

Generations The Legacy has quickly established itself as one of the top soapies in the South African TV industry.

It goes live directly after the show has aired on TV and will remain available for seven days after the TV broadcast.

## Photographer pleads for youth to join hands

BY SETSABILE NKAMBULE

PHOTOGRAPHER Sikhanyiso Dlamini has pleaded with the youth to join him and his team in experiencing the beauty of the kingdom through OBWF youth-led mountain hiking initiative.

According to Dlamini, the initiative is to expose the kingdom both locally and internationally bringing the youth together to enjoy certain views and experience great places.

He said the project was an ongoing movement to encourage emaSwati to travel within before travelling outside.

"Ours is to give the kingdom's people and the international community a sneak peek into Eswatini's rich landscape.

We are a family of hiking enthusiasts with an appetite for heights, diverse indigenous flora and scenic views up the kingdom's celebrated peaks and down its descends, telling tales of a kingdom once were; we are very intentional on experiencing the days of Ngwane, to stand on mountains walked by greats before us," elaborated Dlamini.

### Piloted

Dlamini mentioned that from the time they began the project until now, they were able to visit places such as Mahamba Gorge, Mantenga Nature Reserve and Cultural Village where they piloted the 'Glimpse of a kingdom' series hiking up Sheba's Breast Rock that set social media abuzz with surreal images of Ezulwini from an elevated point of view.

"We are taking eyes of networks such as National Geographic Wild, infor-

mative as it is, and taking our people to a whole new experience cushioned in nature, with convenient rides, energy snacks and lunch provision. We hope to achieve greater numbers, raise a people that are going to marvel at the work of God and be the leading initiative propelling the youth into participating in matters of health and fitness, mind relaxation and defending the kingdom; for they will not have only seen it but a part of it now lives in them. We have hopes of expanding," he said.



PHOTOGRAPHER: Sikhanyiso Dlamini.





**SINGING:** Revellers singing along to Nomalungelo's songs.



**PERFORMING:** Nomalungelo interacting with the crowd.

# Nomalungelo **shuts** down Solani's on Valentine's Day

BY PHETSILE MAMBA

**NOMALUNGELO** Dladla brought Solani's Shisanyama down with her electrifying performance on Valentine's Day.

The singer, who looked elegantly ready in a black sheer top and skinny jeans paired with a yellow jacket, took fun lovers on an energy-packed performance.

Accompanied by DJ Czar, Nomalungelo performed her songs which were mostly not new to the revellers.

The stage and surrounding areas came to a standstill, literally when the singer rendered her popular song 'Water Me'. "Listen, this girl shut down the whole place she has proved to be very versatile and fitted in everywhere.

"We had a good time really," said a fun lover Zethu Zwane.

Resident deejay Aya City, who played hours before Nomalungelo's performance, had nothing but praise for the singer, saying they were totally stunned with everything she did on stage. "She is something else,

what she did on that stage was amazing. From an artist point of view, she is a good performer," applauded the deejay.

Nomalungelo said her performance exceeded her expectations.

"When I was approached to headline the event, I was very skeptical because that's not a crowd I'm accustomed to. But to my surprise, the crowd was so open-minded to me being there," Nomalungelo said.

"I'm very grateful for the experience, every stage is a gift. I would like to do more shows in places that allow me to diversify my sets. Currently, I have a festival set, that's an eight piece band set, a more corporate set that's five people working on stage and the back track option that's fused with deejay elements, which is what we went with at Solani's," Nomalungelo shared.

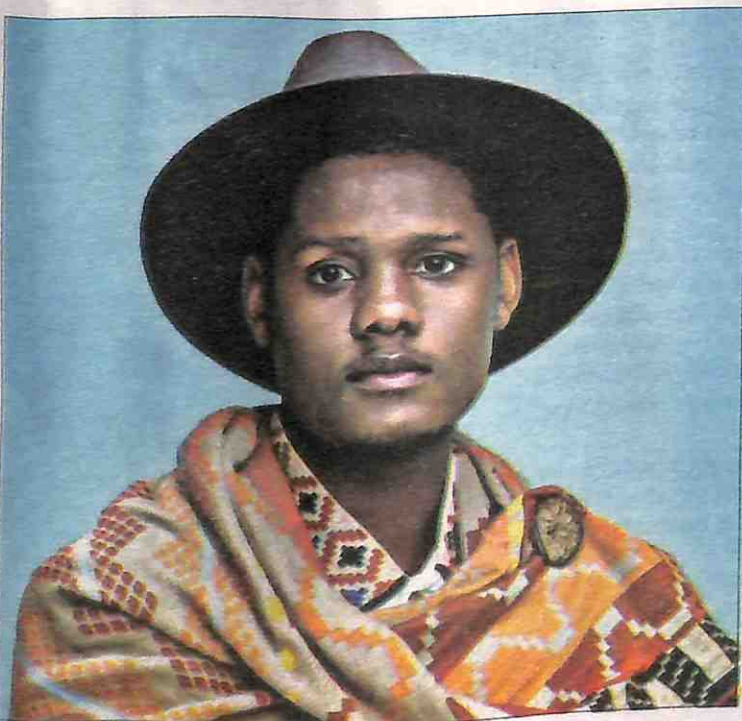


**SET:** Yanda manning the turntables.



**PLAYING:** DJ Lady Zee on the one's and two's.

**BEAUTY:** Nomalungelo serenading fun lovers at Solani's Shisanyama on Friday.



## Destiny Music partners with Sibebe Resort

BY AYANDA DLAMINI

**DESTINY** Music and Sounds has partnered with Sibebe Resort Family Fun Day as the sound system supplier of the event.

Destiny Music has been supporting local initiatives as the year begins. The company felt the need to partner with the event as it looks like it will be the biggest family day do and Sibebe Resort is currently the best weekend and holiday destination.

"We value local owned businesses," said Boyce who is the manager at destiny Music. "We believe by supporting each other it will grow to become the best in Africa," he said.

"Sibebe Resort boasts of its new infinity pool which attracts hundreds of people every weekend and the event came as an icing on top as all roads will lead to Sibebe," said the event's PRO, Larry Mhlanga.

"We are excited about the partnership and we believe it will go a long way in making this event a huge success. We are calling upon other partners to come onboard and buy tickets.

"Tickets are available at Molly's in Mbabane and Manzini as well as at Sibebe Resort," he added.

It is also worth noting that gospel award winning artist Nduduzo Matse and Banele Dlamini have been added to the inaugural Sibebe Resort Family Fun Day.

Amongst the performers will be South African artists Samthing Soweto, Kaygee and Bizizi.

The 'Kokota' hit makers have urged the fans to come early to experience their

performance during the day.

This will be their first time performing for the children and families as they perform in clubs at night.

For Something Soweto, this will be the first time performing his latest album in the country.

**"We are so excited about the partnership and we believe it will go a long way in making this event a huge success"**





# Celebville

International Celebrity News

## Zahara delivers a show to remember

**PRETORIA** - Music stars Zahara, Msaki and Berita strummed their way to the hearts of music lovers with their guitars at the Emperors Palace, Kempton Park, on Saturday night.

In spite of some sound technical glitches in the Theatre of Marcellus, the trio of guitarists gave a splendid performance, leaving music lovers asking for more. The night of fun started out on a high note with Zimbabwean-born Afro-soul singer Berita warming up the stage and gearing up the music lovers for a serious entertainment.

She proved to be a crowd pleaser as she delivered one of her greatest live show.

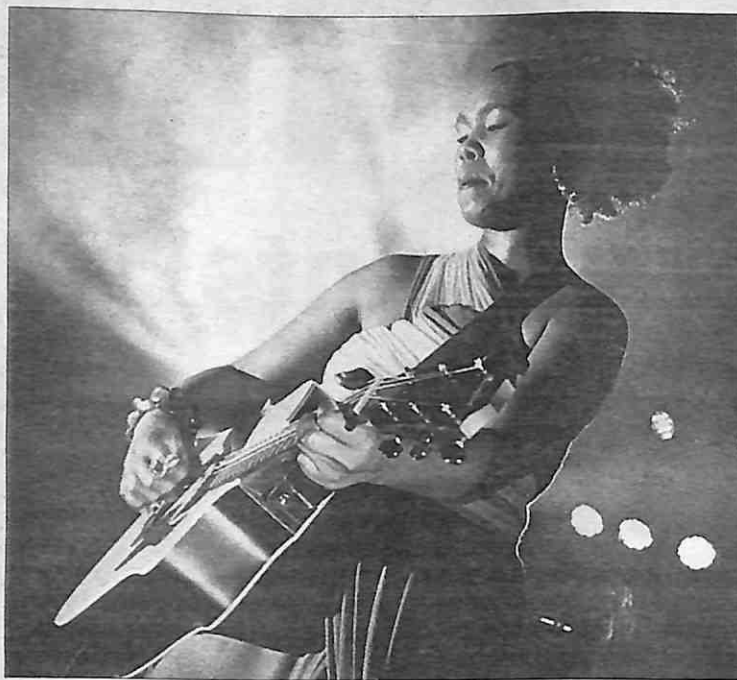
Berita was followed by Msaki, who is among leading composers in South Africa today. Msaki wasted no time to shake consciences as she began her set with a song that addresses gender-based violence against LGBTI+ community and women. Her angelic voice and composure lends her music the quality

of healing, thought-provoking and hope.

Msaki showed off her vocal flexibility as went a variety of song types, via titles such as the soulful Liwa Lentliziyo and dance-floor hit Fetch Your Life among others.

She ended her set with her famous hit Imfama Ziyobona, one of the germs contained in her album Zaneliza: How the Water Moves.

"I love Zahara. I love how she has taken the guitar to another level. We had women who played the guitar in South Africa but Zahara just took it to the forefront," Msaki said. "She inspired many young musicians. I connected mostly to the story of her first album uLoliwe which was very honest and very sincere. Kids in my village in Gqamakhwe knew that there was this beautiful girl, who tell stories that sounded like something they were going through. I just want to honour her tonight." As if fuelled by the praises of a fellow music star, multi-award winning Zahara



closed the night with a powerful performance. Zahara, who wore a white dress and welcomed on stage with roaring applause, kicked off her performance with a well-loved

church hymn Lizalis' idinga Lakho which was written by Tiyo Soga, a multi-talented intellectual, journalist and composer who died in 1871. *Sowetan Live*

## Lerato K got a Kardashian-level Valentine's Day

**SANDTON** - While many of us were having Valentine's Day naps or chilling in front of the TV, Lerato Kganyago's home was filled to the brim with rose petals.

The passage was filled with her name spelt out in roses and in the lounge, musicians serenaded her on piano and saxophone. "This week I had a bit of a heavy heart but there will always be those people that put a smile on your face," she wrote on social media.

Celebs, including Pearl Modiadie, K Naomi, Linda Mtoba, Khanyi Mbau and Enhle Mbali, filled her comments section with messages gushing about the gesture.

It was similar to a gesture by US star Travis Scott, who surprised his bae, Kylie Jenner, on her birthday last year by covering the floor of her home with a thick layer of red rose petals.

*Times Live*



ROSES: Lerato Kganyago.

## Rami Chuene responds to 'SAFTAs snub'

**PRETORIA** - The SA Film and Television Awards (SAFTAs) nominations were released recently, and Rami Chuene didn't score a nod, something that left actress Nokuthula Mavuso and many other tweeps asking questions about the credibility of the awards.

Award season in the acting industry always splits Mzansi. While most people seemed to generally agree with the batch of nominees announced

recently, there was no ignoring the apparent 'snub' of some actors, including Rami. Fellow actress Nokuthula was one of the people who queried why Rami was not nominated. If fans had their way, Rami would be among those who got the nod for keeping viewers glued to their screens. Her character, TGOM, is one of the most on TV. Rami used her response to Nokuthula's tweet as an opportunity to school Twitter on how productions recommend the best actor candidates for the awards. The actress also revealed that a production she worked

with over the past year only submitted one best actor and one best actress recommendation.

"It starts with the production submitting me. Only one best actor and one best actress were submitted, with all those leads. Imagine! They should have cast the net wider, like other productions. So we'll sit together in the losers' corner and root for Loy," she said. Rami said she hopes the SAFTAs will make it possible for actors to submit themselves as worthy of recognition, instead having the production 'play God'. *Times Live*

## 3 memorial services for Joseph Shabalala

**CAPE TOWN** - Three memorial services have been scheduled for Ladysmith, Durban and Johannesburg to remember and celebrate the life of isicathamiya icon Joseph Shabalala.

The first service will take place today in the Ladysmith Indoor Sports Centre, from 11am. The next one will be in Durban's Playhouse on tomorrow, at 1pm. The Johannesburg memorial will take on February 20 in the Standard Bank Arena at Ellis Park, from 1pm.

Shabalala died aged 78 last Tuesday at Life Eugene Marais Hospital in Pretoria after a long illness. He was in and out of hospitals for most of the year in 2019, six years since he announced his retirement from performing with Ladysmith Black Mambazo.

Towards the end of the year, his health became critical that Shabalala was airlifted from Ladysmith in KwaZulu-Natal to

Pretoria in Gauteng. The legend's official funeral service will take place in his Ladysmith hometown, at AG Magubane Stadium in Steadville township Saturday.

Mshegu, Shabalala's clan name by which he was also known, was the founder of the five-time Grammy Award winning Black Mambazo, and has been hailed as a music genius by the industry.

Mambazo, as the group is affectionately known, is a well-decorated Isicathamiya (a type of a capella music deeply rooted in Zulu culture) group that has also since become a beacon of hope and pride of the African continent.

The group's manager Xolani Majosi said all memorial services will be open to the public. Shabalala is survived by his wife Thoko Shabalala and children Nkosinathi, Msizi, Thulani, Ssongiseni, Thami and Cindy.

*Sowetan Live*

## DAILY SOAPIE DIGEST



CATCH UP WITH: Zekhethelo on Uzalo



Jabu plans to break up with Ntwenhle. Pam wants to make up with Skhaleni, but when she discovers he is using the money to help other people, she decides to save him from himself.



Claudette wages war on Ayivor. Sibiya finds himself in a catch-22 of his own making. Anja tries to get her head around Lalage dating Marius.



The missing cloak leaves the royal family in shambles, who took it? Matshidiso is not ready to lose to Marang, so she manipulates her. Warona is keen on taking a new job on the side.



Just when Lucy thought she was rid of her sister-in-law she realises she was wrong. Thembeke is shocked to hear why Palesa wanted to see her. Ayanda arrives home and is unsettled by what she finds.



Harriet finds out just how ruthless the Theron's can be. Sonnyboy goes to great lengths to keep Goodness away from Tshepo.



Nkunzi is determined to find out what MaNgcobo is up to. Sibonelo gets an unexpected ultimatum. Sbu attracts a new friendship.



Gloria discovers that when days are darkest, friends become fewer.



The English I speak with you is the one that looks just like you, so don't correct me when I speak. I know what I'm doing

Follow Us @  
No Chill In Mzansi



## TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

### Capricorn December 22 – January 19

A minor conflict with a romantic partner in the morning is likely to end with a tearful reunion and much reassurance by mid-afternoon. The end of the day could find the two of you planning a romantic trip abroad, even down to the restaurants you want to try! Discussions of spiritual or psychic matters could also bring you closer together. All in all, it's a tumultuous but romantic day.



### Aquarius January 20 – February 18

Your intuition, imagination, and insight have served you well on the job, and should pay off soon. A raise, commission, or perhaps a chance to invest in the company could be offered to you. Your self-esteem will definitely receive a boost! You might also find that you're growing even more intuitive than usual, and people are looking up to you because of it. Give yourself a pat on the back. You deserve it.



### Pisces February 19 – March 20

You can count on a very idyllic and romantic day today, Pisces. You're feeling especially warm and sensual, and you tend to view the partner in your life through rose-colored glasses. He or she is very likely to regard you in the same way. If you've been longing for a dinner for two, complete with champagne, candlelight, and red roses, this is the day to go for it. And don't forget the violin music!



### Aries March 21 – April 19

Someone who is a student of natural healing may come to visit you and share some ideas today. You tend to be interested in matters concerning health, and you might want to learn not only about herbs and nutrition but also spiritual healing. This is a good time to train your own healing abilities. Aries, as your sensitivity is high and you're more able than usual to tune in to the healing energies.



### Taurus April 20 – May 20

Books and movies may inspire you to get involved in artistic activities. Your aesthetic sense is very high today, Taurus, and you may be drawing your inspiration from the higher realms. You might want to stroll through an art gallery or museum and try to sense the feelings of those from the past. A warm and loving letter or phone call could come from a romantic partner, elevating your mood even more. It's a very emotionally gratifying day.



### Gemini May 21 – June 21

You could be feeling a bit flush today, Gemini, and therefore you might decide to do a little work on your house. This is more likely to be redecorating than any major repairs, as you're more into beauty right now than practical matters. Your aesthetic sense is very high, inspired from the higher realms, and therefore decorating decisions you make today are likely to be beautiful. Go to it!



### Cancer June 22 – July 22

You're feeling especially psychically and mystically inclined today, Cancer. You might want to read about such matters or attend a lecture or workshop given by someone in the field. Telepathic communications are coming your way. Don't be surprised if more than once during the course of the day you and another say the same thing at the same time. You might also experience a powerful kinship with people from the past.



### Leo July 23 – August 22

You're usually a very practical and down-to-Earth person, but today you may be more inclined than usual toward mysticism. Spiritual matters seem extremely appealing, and you could find yourself gravitating toward metaphysical bookstores or seeking discussions with people who are well versed in such matters. You also find your imagination working overtime. Indulge in a few flights of fancy, Leo. We all need to escape from time to time!



### Virgo August 23 – September 22

Group activities involving meditation, psychic or spiritual topics, or artistic pursuits are probably very appealing to you right now, Virgo. This is the perfect day to start a class or attend a lecture on such subjects. You could meet some interesting people who become close friends. You're likely to feel a psychic bond with anyone you meet today, and you're likely to get the feeling that your life has changed for the better. Enjoy!



### Libra September 23 – October 23

You're normally a very intuitive person, and today you may experience clairvoyance that could rival Jeane Dixon's. You could be feeling especially attuned to other planes, and your dreams are likely to be powerful and vivid. Use the messages you receive to inspire creative pursuits. Try your hand at painting, music, or poetry. You might not only be amazed by the results but learn even more from the work itself.



### Scorpio October 24 – November 21

Your imagination is flying high today, Scorpio. Your interest in mystical and metaphysical matters is at an all-time high, and you could find yourself strolling through New Age bookstores. Travel to distant places may seem especially appealing, and you might dream of flying to India, Israel, Egypt, or Ireland. This is all wonderful as long as you stay grounded. Plan a trip if you can. Join a meditation group. Go with the flow!



### Sagittarius November 22 – December 21

Some wonderful news concerning money and career matters could come your way today, Sagittarius. Your natural kindness and sympathy for others has led you to make some good friends who are also valuable business contacts. This is definitely paying off. Your aesthetic sense is at an all-time high, so this is a great day to start any creative projects that you have in mind. Success is definitely coming your way!



## BABY BLUES



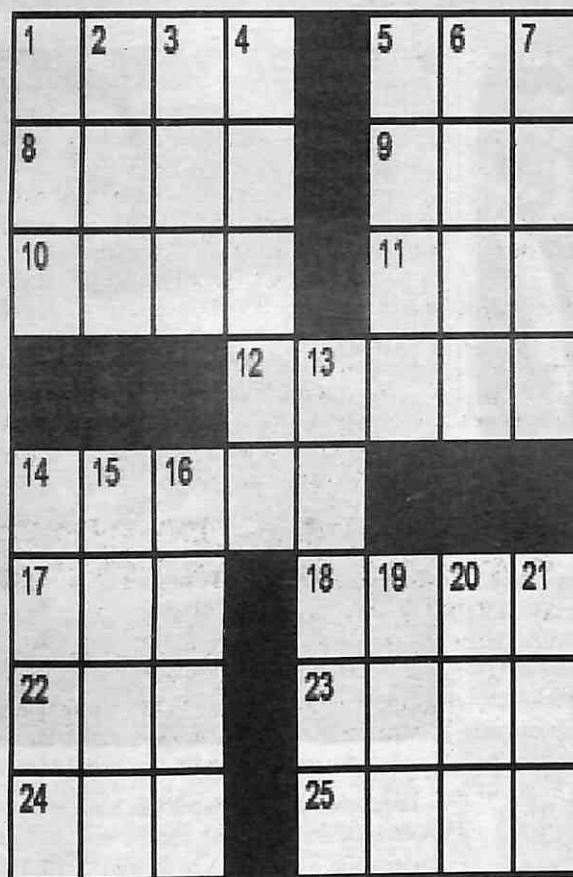
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### DOWN

- Write briefly or hurriedly
- Self
- Make a mistake
- Regenerate
- A great distance
- Part
- Encounter
- Glisten
- Hilltop
- Travel by horse
- Matured
- Beam
- Mischievous fairy
- Witness

### ACROSS

- Scoff
- Supply with weapons
- Fiend
- Enemy
- Ripped
- Brew
- Heron
- Free-for-all
- Horse-drawn vehicle
- Part of the eye
- Poem
- Epithet
- Marry
- Sort



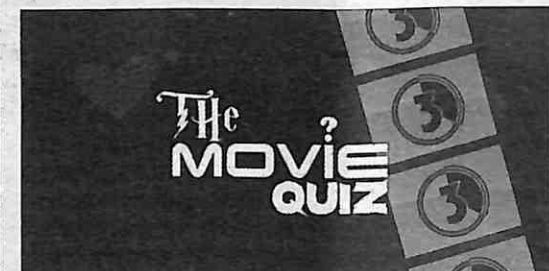
## CUDDLE

One of the most wonderful things in life is to wake up and enjoy a cuddle with somebody; unless you are in prison.

## DID YOU KNOW

- Less than 20 percent of laughter comes after jokes.
- There may be 2,000 active serial killers in the US right now.
- Beethoven could still hear after going deaf.
- Ants have a built-in FitBit

## MOVIE QUIZ QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



## YESTERDAY'S QUIZ

- What actor lends his trademark swagger to the Iron Man role? Answer: A. Robert Downey Junior

## TODAY'S MOVIE QUIZ

- Which two performers sang 'Shallow' from the film A Star is Born? Answers: A. Jennifer Lopez and R Kelly B. Bradley Cooper and Lady Gaga





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# New love on Isibaya

**WILL these new couples stand the test of time?**

Love is always in the air on Isibaya. How long that loves lasts... well you will just have to stay tuned to see. We take a look at new couples on the show that Mzansi is rooting for. Who is your fav new Isibaya couple?

## JABU AND NTWENHLE

The forbidden lovers have taken Mzansi by illicit storm. Ntwenhle feels she is no longer in love with Dabula and Jabu is right on time with new love and passion. Given how quickly she fell in love with Dabula in similar passionate hast and Jabu erh, history with secret lovers; can we trust their love to survive?

## DUMA AND QONDI

In a short space of time, Duma and Qondi have been through it. From keeping their love a secret, to the rabbit he had to hunt for her in the mountains, to her resignation from the council and that epic fight between him and Fezile for her heart. Does

this mean they could last?

## DAM DAM AND VAVA VOOM

Not so new and not quite old school love, this couple is a firm favourite. There is nothing they haven't survived including family being against their relationship and Beauty's recent betrayal which nearly left them destitute. Can we officially say this is the kind of love that will stand the test of time?

## SENGWAYO AND MAMKHIZE

They have been on that ride or die tip so long we forget that Sengwayo and MaMkhize are actually newlyweds. He saved her from Dabula's clutches when she had been kidnapped and she got him out of jail, their love is tried and tested.

Is it love or is it an arrangement, we are not sure but we are here for it. Blade has Iris' back and even goes as far as beef-

ing up the security at her place in times of trouble. Well, if that ain't love then we don't know what is, at least from Blade's side.

Blade increasing the number of guards at Iris' place while Sengwayo cuts MaDlamini off.

Which couples will make it to old school love status? Stay tuned to

#Isibaya to see how the love stories unfold.



## No Roses for Amor and Michaela – The Bachelor SA

**All the drama and roses from episode 1.**

At the end of the tearful first episode of The Bachelor SA Season 2, there were two roses short for the group of 22 stunning ladies who walked the show's red carpet to possibly start a love journey with handsome Marc Buckner. It was time to say goodbye to Blue Bulls babe Amor Kruger (27) and beautiful client liaison officer Michaela Liebenberg (24), both from Pretoria.

Up for grabs on the evening was the iconic First Impression Rose, eighteen red roses during the rose ceremony, and for the first time ever in the local series, a mysterious white rose. But despite making memorable entrances, Amor and Michaela left The Bachelor SA mansion empty-handed.

Michaela walked up to Marc with a bowl of limes which she dropped as he approached him, asking "would you mind helping me pick them up because I am terrible at pick up limes," while our Bachelor called Amor "an Egyptian princess". She entered the show in a stunning body-hugging blue gown, and a Toyota decorated with wedding cans and the words "Future Mrs Buckner". Both the ladies managed to grab time at the cocktail party with Marc, but unfortunately, it just wasn't enough to receive one of those all-important roses.

"My heart absolutely sank into my shoes, I was extremely disappointed," Michaela said while a teary-eyed Amor believed she tried



her best and it just wasn't meant to be.

Marc ended the evening saying it was much more difficult than he expected and that he can only imagine it's going to get much tougher, but that he's looking forward to amazing adventures with the remaining ladies and can't wait to get to know everyone a lot better.

## THE FIRST IMPRESSION ROSE

26-year-old vegan activist and boxer Silke Geugis from Cape Town caught Marc's attention on the red carpet, with a wrapped gift that he could only open at the Cocktail Party, once he found her.

Taking matters into her own hands, Silke approached Marc at the Cocktail Party to hand him his gift, but also, to score extra time with him. She wowed him with a hand-drawn portrait of his beloved rescue dog Luna – a big win in Marc's eyes, who thought the gift was deeply thought-



ful.

To reciprocate Silke's efforts, he later awarded her with the First Impression Rose, much to dismay of the twenty one envious ladies.

## PRESSER FIRST IMPRESSION ROSE THE WHITE ROSE

When the ladies lined up for the season's very first rose ceremony, you couldn't help but noticing that one rose – and one rose only – stood out from the bunch.

Unlike the other red ones, it was white! Marc called up bombshell dancer Pasha (27) first, and handed her this mysterious flower, a first for the local series.

"I was excited but then I'm nervous at the same time, because I have no idea what the white rose means," Pasha said. In the throw-forward at the end of the episode, host Jason Greer told her that it would give her some sort of power.

What could this desirable white rose symbolise? And how will it impact Pasha's relationship with Marc and the ladies?

Find out what happens with the white rose in the next episode on 20 February at 19:00 on M-Net channel 101.

The Bachelor SA Season 2 will be screened on M-Net every Thursday

Will they make it

official? - Ultimate Love

**WE take a look at the bonds that have been formed in the Love Pad and so far only four potential couples have emerged.**

With just a few hours left before the Love Guests officially become couples, one can't help but wonder how things will pan out. After all the uncertainty and confusion, we've witnessed in the Love Pad, it's so difficult to be certain who'll go with who. All we can do is just guess and hopefully everyone will emerge happy and ready to go on that love journey.

## Cherry & Michael

Cherry and Michael seem ready to travel this road together as they spent most of the afternoon in bed and whispering sweet nothings to one another. On the other hand, Michael also made advances on Bolanle who gently turned him down. Meanwhile, Uche seems to have his eyes on Cherry, so it will be interesting to see if they stick together or they'll go their separate ways.

## THERESA AND IYKE

These two Love Guests have been inseparable, and it looks like they're getting stronger by the day. They seem to have a mutual understanding and it doesn't look like they're about to look the other direction. We'll have to see how things go and hopefully it will be a love tale that will be told for years to come.

## EBITEINYE AND OBICHUKWU

When there's prayer and fasting involved, you know the relationship means more than anything in the world. Obichukwu and Ebiteinye's relationship hasn't been a walk in the park as she felt he was giving her mixed signals. However, things are looking up for the potential couple and we can only pray that love truly prevails.

## ROSIE AND DAVID WILSON

If confusion was a person, it would be David Wilson. He's won Rosie's heart and only now he feels like there might still be someone out there for him. After being the ideal potential and doing all the things a girl would say yes to, he's made it clear that he's not committed to anyone. What will that do to Rosie? But because we love love, we're hoping he'll make his choice and it will be one that makes everyone happy.

Africa Magic's thrilling new show, Ultimate Love, airs 24/7 from Sunday, 9 February at 19:30 WAT / 20:30 CAT. Make sure you're watching DStv Ch198 and GOtv Ch29 to play your part in shaping Naija's most epic love story yet. For more updates, like our Facebook Page, light up our Twitter mentions using "#UltimateLoveNG" and get immersed in all the TLC on our Instagram





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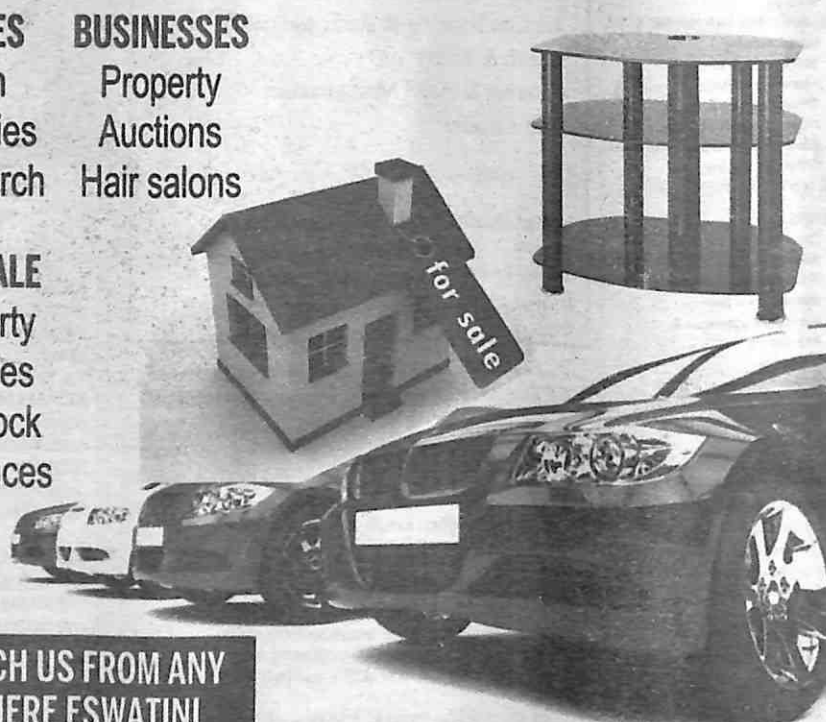
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# Hosts come from behind to stun Conte's side

**MILAN** - Lazio mounted a superb second-half comeback at the Olympic Stadium to beat Inter Milan 2-1 and move above Antonio Conte's side into second place in Serie A on Sunday.

The visitors drew first blood when Ashley Young fired home his first Inter goal on the brink of half-time.

But Lazio drew level through a Ciro

Immobile penalty early in the second half, before Sergej Milinkovic-Savic found space in a crowded box to curl in the winner on the 69th minute.

The victory moved Lazio into second on 56 points, one behind leaders Juventus and two ahead of Inter in third.

The result also saw the Roman club extend their club record unbeaten run

in Serie A to 19 games as they ended Inter's own sequence of 16 games without a league defeat.

"We played a great game tonight," Lazio coach Simone Inzaghi told Sky Sport Italia.

"In the first half we were so convinced we would win that we allowed a few avoidable Inter counter-attacks.

"At half-time, I said that if we continued to play like that with a little more quality in the final ball, we could turn this around and win the game."

Lazio came agonisingly close to the lead after just nine minutes when Milinkovic-Savic's long-range shot cannoned back off the crossbar.

But it was Inter who broke the dead-

lock a minute before the interval, when Thomas Strakosha parried an Antonio Candreva shot into the path of Young, who fired a volley off the ground and into the roof of the net.

The hosts mustered a rapid response in the second half when Immobile was bundled over from behind by former Lazio defender Stefan De Vrij, and the Italy striker dispatched the resulting penalty to take his tally for the season to 26 league goals.

*Daily Mail*

# PLAYER WALKS OFF THE PITCH AFTER RACIAL ABUSE

**PORTO** - Porto's Mali international striker Moussa Marega walked off the pitch in disgust after being subjected to a torrent of monkey chants in a stormy Portuguese league game at Vitoria Guimaraes on Sunday.

The 28-year-old had scored a 60th-minute winner for Porto against his former club which sparked the home fans to aim even more vitriol at the France-born player which had started as early as the pre-match warm-up.

In the 71st minute, Marega signalled to the bench that he was walking off in protest even though team-mates, Porto coach Sergio Conceicao and Vitoria players tried to get him to stay on the pitch.

As he walked off, an angry and upset Marega gave a thumbs-down signal with both gloved hands to the home fans.

He had already been given a yellow card for his goal celebration.

Marega played for Vitoria Guimaraes from 2016-2017 on loan from Porto, scoring 13 goals in 25 games.

Marega later wrote on Instagram after the game, which Porto won 2-1, that his tormentors were "idiots who come

to the stadium just to make racist chants."

"And I also thank the referees for not protecting me and for giving me a yellow card because I am defending my skin colour."



**WALKED OFF:** Porto's Mali international striker Moussa Marega.

"I hope I will never see you again on a football field. You are a disgrace."

Conceicao blasted the home fans before posting a photo of his player on social media with the message: "We are all Moussa."

"We are completely indignant at what happened," he added.

"We know the passion that exists at Vitoria and I think that most fans do not recognise themselves in the attitude of other people who insulted Moussa."

"We are a family, regardless of nationality, skin or hair colour."

We are all human, we deserve respect. What has happened here is lamentable."

Vitoria Guimaraes or the Portuguese football federation were yet to comment on the incident.

Sporting Lisbon, one of Porto's bitterest rivals, issued a statement supporting Marega and "repudiating any act of racism or social prejudice".

*Daily Sun*

## FAF quits Proteas captaincy

**JOHANNESBURG** - FAF du Plessis has announced has stepped down as captain of the Proteas' Test and T20 teams with immediate effect.

Du Plessis has cited a need to take a step back from captaincy in order to help facilitate the emergence of the next generation of leaders within the team under the new stewardship of Quinton de Kock.

With a calendar that is jam-packed with international tours both home and away, including the T20 World Cup in Australia later this year, Du Plessis wants to focus on contributing to the team as a batsman and a senior player, who will offer

guidance and advice to the new leadership group as part of their succession planning.

Du Plessis has captained South Africa in a total of 112 international matches across all three formats since 2012.

He led the Proteas for the very first time against New Zealand in a T20 series.

The has scored 5 101 runs in all formats as captain amassing 11 centuries and 28 half-centuries as he went and guided the Proteas in several famous victories, including the team's five-nil inbound ODI series and 2-1 outbound Test series victories against Australia in 2016. *Daily Sun*

## REAL MADRID 2-2 CELTA VIGO:

## Mina scores late equaliser as La Liga leaders held on Hazard's return

**MADRID** - Real Madrid welcomed back Eden Hazard just in time for the return of Champions League football, but had their LaLiga wings clipped by Celta Vigo who won a point at the Bernabeu.

Madrid had taken a 2-1 lead with Hazard winning a penalty which Sergio Ramos scored to put the home team ahead. But from Denis Suarez's sublime pass Santi Mina scored a late equalizer to leave Real Madrid just one point clear of Barcelona at the top.

On seven minutes Celta Vigo were ahead. Igor Smolov took a superb Iago Aspas through ball on the turn and shot past Thibaut Courtois.

Madrid were stunned and Hazard back in the team for the first time in 81 days led the fightback but for all their chances Madrid could not break Celta down.

Gareth Bale laid the ball off to Casemiro who shot over. Bale then went close from distance himself and Marcelo also tried his luck from long

range.

Madrid laid siege on Celta's goal and Bale's flicked finish went wide after Hazard and Benzema had linked up brilliantly down the left.

But for all the pressure it was Joseph Aidoo who almost scored next. His towering header from a corner was pushed away by Thibaut Courtois.

Madrid had peppered the Celta box but few were finding a white shirt and although there had been plenty of shots none of them had been on target.

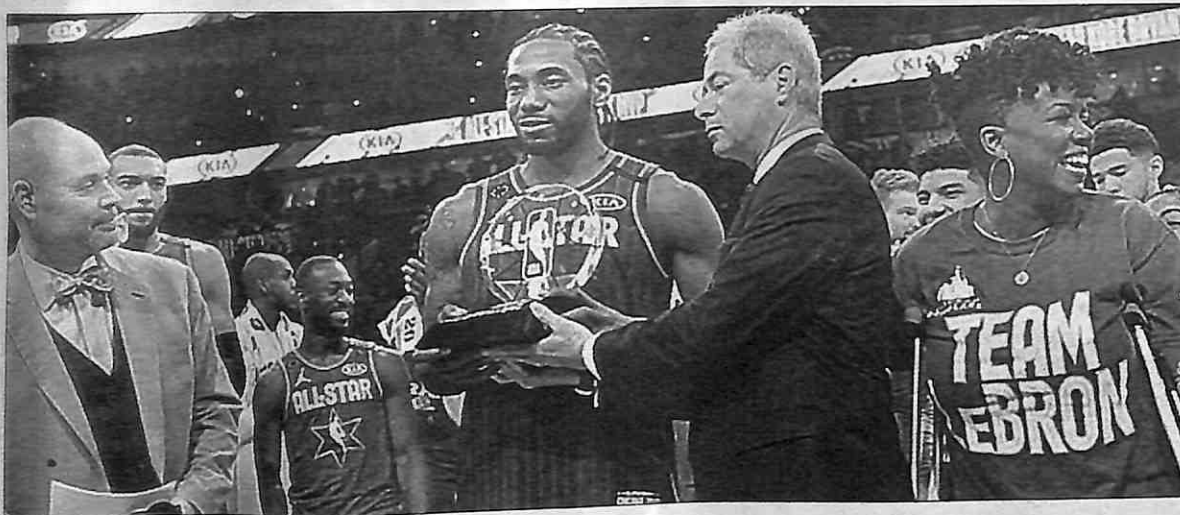
Sergio Ramos had the ball in the net at the restart. But before he could celebrate with Bale who had dropped the ball onto his right foot, Bale spotted the raised flag correctly ruling out the goal.

Toni Kroos was next to hit the back of the net and this time there was no flag. It was with his 'wrong' foot if he has such a thing - gliding the ball across the turf and past Ruben Blanco from Marcelo's pull-back.

*Daily Mail*



**GOOD COMPOSURE:** Ramos showed good composure from the spot as he scored his fifth league goal this season.



**WALKED AWAY:** Kawhi Leonard walks away with the Kobe Bryant MVP award at the NBA's All-Star game.

## Leonard lifts first MVP award named after Bryant

**LOS ANGELES** -Kawhi Leonard made it look effortless, nailing one 3-pointer after another and nearly matching an All-Star Game record.

The tough part came afterward. Finding the right words to express how he felt after becoming the first Kobe Bryant MVP award winner wasn't so easy.

Leonard scored 30 points and hit eight 3-pointers to lead Team LeBron to a 157-155 victory over Team Giannis on

Sunday night. He was presented the MVP trophy that the league renamed after Bryant on Saturday, three weeks after the Lakers great and his 13-year-old daughter Gianna were among the nine people killed when their helicopter crashed near Los Angeles.

"It's very special," Leonard said. "Like I said, I had a relationship with him. Words can't explain how happy I am for it. Able to put that trophy in my room,

in my trophy room, and just be able to see Kobe's name on there, it just means a lot to me. He's a big inspiration in my life. He did a lot for me." Bryant had a huge presence over the first All-Star festivities in Chicago since 1988, when Michael Jordan delighted the home crowd by beating Dominique Wilkins in a classic slam dunk contest and scoring 40 points to take MVP honors in the game. *Daily Mail*



# UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

## NEYMAR BACK FROM INJURY

**DORTMUND** - Neymar has been named in the Paris Saint-Germain squad for today's Champions League last-16 first leg at Borussia Dortmund, despite missing the French club's last four games through injury.

The world's most expensive player has been struggling with a rib problem, but was expected to be fit in time for the game at Signal Iduna Park.

The Brazilian missed last season's surprise last-16 loss to Manchester United with a foot injury, while he also sat out the second leg of the defeat at the same stage of the competition by Real Madrid in 2018.

Neymar was rested, along with Kylian Mbappe, for PSG's remarkable 4-4 draw at Amiens in Ligue 1 on Saturday.

"He will be in Dortmund, I'm sure of it, but without being in the best shape he was in two weeks ago," Tuchel said before the Amiens game.

"But he will help us. I am sure and convinced of that."

PSG are yet to reach the Champions League semi-finals since being bought by their Qatari owners in 2011, with their run to the last four in 1994-95 still the closest they have come to lifting the European Cup. **AFP**

## Klopp glad to see Mane back

**LIVERPOOL** - Liverpool Manager Jurgen Klopp says Sadio Mane's goal-scoring return to action came at just the right time as the Reds prepare for Atletico Madrid.

Senegal attacker Mane climbed off the bench to prod home the only goal of the game and seal Liverpool's 17th straight Premier League win in a scrappy affair at Carrow Road.

The wind and rain of Storm Dennis spoiled any chance of attractive football, and the Reds rode their luck en route to yet another league win. Boss Klopp's men are now just one win away from matching Manchester City's Premier League record run of 18 consecutive victories.

The Reds will now make the trip to Atletico Madrid for today's Champions League last 16 first-leg clash, with Klopp tipping Mane to be ready to star again in Spain.

"It helps when you have such quality on the bench to bring on," said Klopp. "Yes Sadio could have started today of course but I want to have a free decision for Tuesday."

"You don't think they should play two games in such quick succession. The quality of the others is just too big that you have to push somebody through. It was perfect for Sadio to have a few minutes but it looked like he was ready, yes." **AFP**

### CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FIXTURES

<b>18 February</b>		
Borussia Dortmund	v Paris SG	22:00
Atletico Madrid	v Liverpool	22:00
<b>19 February</b>		
Atalanta	v Valencia	22:00
Tottenham Hotspur	v RB Leipzig	22:00
<b>25 February</b>		
Napoli	v Barcelona	22:00
Chelsea	v Bayern Munchen	22:00
<b>26 February</b>		
Lyon	v Juventus	22:00
Real Madrid	v Manchester City	22:00

# HAALAND GOES HEAD-TO-HEAD WITH MBAPPE

**DORTMUND** - At just 21, Kylian Mbappe is already a World Cup winner while at only 19, Erling Braut Haaland has emerged as a rising fast-star this season.

As Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi approach the end of their careers, could Mbappe and Haaland be the next duo to dominate football?

AFP Sport looks at the star forwards who meet when Haaland's Borussia Dortmund host Mbappe's Paris Saint-Germain in today's Champions League last 16, first leg, tie.

### Erling Braut Haaland

Haaland had barely arrived last month in Dortmund when the records started tumbling.

He justified the 20 million euros (US\$22 million) Dortmund paid Salzburg by becoming the first player to score a hat-trick on his Bundesliga debut.

Having scored 28 goals in 22 games for Salzburg, including eight in this season's Champions League group stage, Haaland picked up in Germany where he left off in Austria.

He made his debut coming off the bench with his new team 3-1 down at Augsburg in mid January. His clinical finishing produced three goals in 20 minutes to seal a 5-3 victory.



The teenager was praised by Dortmund's sporting director Michael Zorc, yet calmly replied: "You signed me to score goals".

Another two followed in a 5-1 rout of Cologne, then Haaland grabbed two more goals when Union Berlin were crushed 5-0.

He claimed his eighth goal in four games in Dortmund's German Cup defeat at Werder Bremen.

The Norwegian teen netted again in Friday's 4-0 thumping of Eintracht

Frankfurt to extend his own record to nine goals in six games for Dortmund.

His attitude also impresses his new team-mates.

"When a young player has been so hyped, with everyone saying how good he is, then he can be a difficult person," said goalkeeper Roman Buerki.

### Kylian Mbappe

For a player who turned 21 in December, Mbappe's achievement's are astonishing.

The World Cup winner is also France's reigning player of the year

and has won three Ligue 1 titles with two different clubs.

Mbappe recently reached a century of club goals, and his 19 in the Champions League is a record for a player before his 21st birthday.

The second youngest player to score in a World Cup final after Pele, Mbappe hit double figures for Champions League goals before he had even turned 19.

By that time he had already become the second most expensive player in football history when PSG signed him from Monaco for a total reported fee of 180 million euros (US\$215 million).

Mbappe has been to Dortmund's Signal Iduna Park before. He scored twice when Monaco drew 3-3 there in the 2017 Champions League quarter-finals, a match postponed by 24 hours after a bomb attack on the Dortmund team bus.

He scored another in the return leg as Monaco advanced to the last four.

At that time, he was the teenage sensation.

Now, he is a World Cup winner and is PSG's top scorer this season with 24 goals.

## Atletico seek old habits to upset Liverpool, the odds

**MADRID** - Atletico Madrid might once have relished the challenge of resisting an opponent like Liverpool, but reaching the Champions League's quarter-finals will require a performance not yet seen from them this season.

Diego Simeone's side are no longer the same Atletico famed for their inch-perfect defence, relentless work ethic and a knack for grinding down even the most assured, attacking teams.

Instead, they are 12 points adrift of leaders Real Madrid in La Liga and last week sat sixth, a reflection of a deflating few months during which their old identity has blurred and their esteemed coach been questioned.

When it was pointed out to Simeone on Friday that both of Valencia's goals in their 2-2 draw at Mestalla had come from set-pieces, he said: "We don't have the same characteristics now. Just like we attack differently, we also defend differently."

Out of the title race before March and knocked out of the Copa del Rey before the last 16, many in Spain believe Atletico's season is in tatters, with the assumption they will soon depart the Champions League too.

The debate has

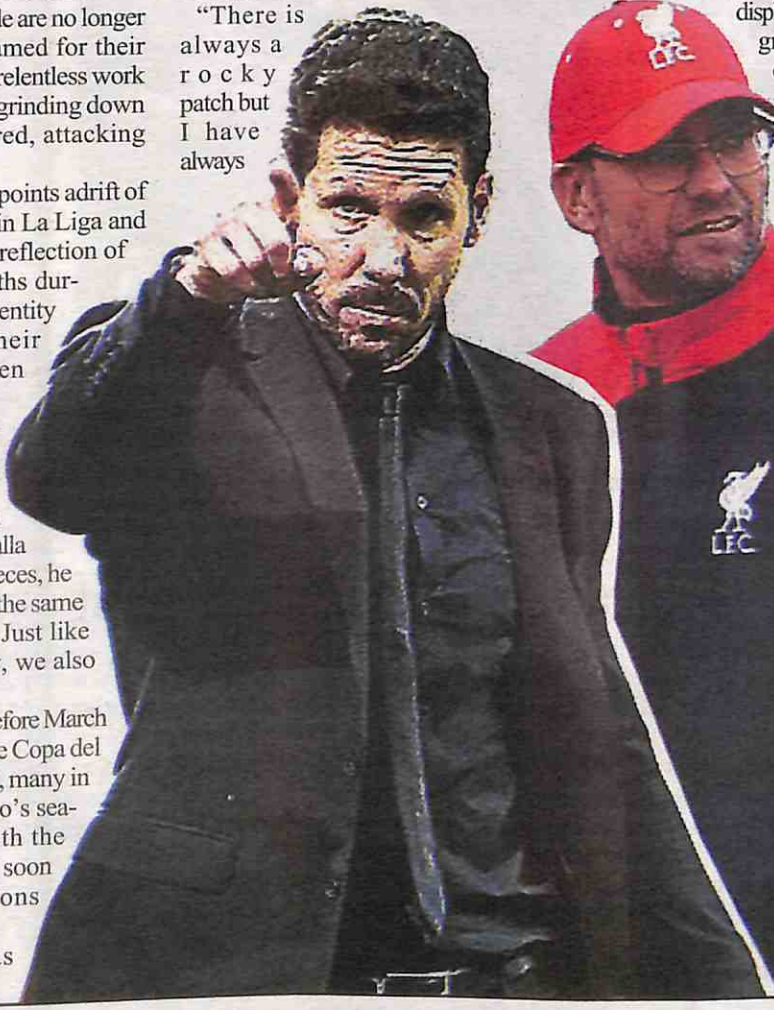
inevitably turned to Simeone and whether he remains the man to better those high standards he himself has set. "In the eight years I've been here, every year it's been said the squad isn't with me," Simeone said in December.

"There is always a rocky patch but I have always

had patience, energy and confidence in what I believe. We can win or lose but I am convinced of what I want because I know my players."

To prove the doubters wrong against Liverpool, Simeone will have to

extract a throwback display from a new group of players and against the finest team in Europe, both in terms of current form



and the last name written on the cup.

Atletico might take heart from their record at home, where they must surely avoid defeat on Tuesday to keep the tie alive ahead of a daunting second leg at Anfield.

They have lost only once in 21 Champions League games in front of their own fans, even if Liverpool will hardly feel uncomfortable at the Wanda Metropolitano, where they were celebrating last June after lifting their sixth European Cup.

And a sense of inferiority might also appeal to Simeone, whose Atletico have often appeared to excel when the chance of victory seemed low.

In recent years, they have prevailed against Barcelona, Bayern Munich, Juventus and Real Madrid.

Yet all logic points to a Liverpool victory, particularly given Atletico are likely to be without Diego Costa and Joao Felix, the 120 million Portuguese forward who has so far struggled to live up to the hype.

**AFP**

**DUEL:**  
Atletico Madrid coach Diego

Simeone with his Liverpool counterpart, Jurgen Klopp.



# PRESSURE ON CHIEFS AHEAD OF DERBY - ZINNBAUER

JOHANNESBURG - Orlando Pirates coach Josef Zinnbauer says all the pressure will be on Kaizer Chiefs in this month's Soweto Derby as his side closes in on an unlikely title challenge.

When Zinnbauer took over The Buccaneers in December, his side were 17 points behind Chiefs, but a run of 22 points from a possible 24 has seen them surge up the table and within six of the AmaKhosi, though they have played a game more.

Still, another victory in the Soweto Derby on 29 February and Pirates will cut that gap further, and also allow the likes of Mamelodi Sundowns to claw back some ground in the title chase.

The latest win came in a 1-0 success at Black Leopards on Sunday as Vincent Pule scored a fortuitous



**CALM:** Orlando Pirates coach Josef Zinnbauer.

goal in injury-time to win the game.

"We look always to the next game and then we have a big game for the supporters, we have nothing to lose on this game," Zinnbauer said.

"Kaizer Chiefs is under pressure now and we have fun, we're very glad for the next game, the big game for the supporters and us."

Zinnbauer admitted his side found

it difficult to break down Leopards and only a wonder-save from goalkeeper Wayne Sandilands prevented them from falling behind.

"First-half was very difficult for us, the opponent played very strong and they had the good solution, the set-pieces, they counter-attacked (but) we have (Wayne) Sandilands, this was our luck today yes.

"The second half, the first five minutes was not so good, we needed a little time to come in the game and from minute to minute we come more and more in the game and then we have the control, the lead of the game."

Pirates are next in action against Chiefs, while the AmaKhosi have a Nedbank Cup Last 16 clash with Highlands park to contend with first on Saturday.

**Mzansi Football**



## Middendorp laments 'casual' Chiefs in defeat

JOHANNESBURG - Kaizer Chiefs coach Ernst Middendorp says his side were too "casual" as they slipped to a surprise 2-1 home loss to Maritzburg United in their Absa Premiership clash at the weekend.

Chiefs dominated most of the game, but a brace from Daylon Claassen gave the KwaZulu-Natal side a 2-0 lead before Serbian forward Samir Nurkovic pulled a goal back.

Chiefs could not force an equaliser though as they slipped to a third defeat of the season and allowed the chasing pack to make up ground in the title race.

"It is difficult to process this result," Middendorp told reporters. "At halftime, we were sitting at two goal attempts, excellent shots. But all of a sudden you are 2-0 down after you had opportunities to be far ahead in the first half already."

"We were perhaps too casual. Regarding the performance, we were aware it was going to be a difficult game. They were sitting deep waiting. We did well in defence and didn't allow them the counter-attack."

"We were quite organised in terms of our attacking movement and goal attempts was maybe 22-to-two but in the end the transition could have been faster."

"We have to learn that we need to minimize making mistakes in such a game because you make it difficult for yourself. We are disappointed," he added.

Chiefs are next in action on Saturday away at Highlands Park in the Nedbank Cup last 16.

**Mzansi Football**

## I'M STAYING, I AM A FIGHTER - AMAZULU COACH

DURBAN - AmaZulu coach Josef Vukusic refused to label the dire situation at his club a crisis, even after they dropped down into last place in the Premiership standings at the weekend, suspended several experienced players and saw their assistant coach walk out on them.

"We are not speaking about a crisis but that we are in a relegation fight is a reality," said the Slovakia coach, brought in to rescue the club

after they made a poor start to the season. AmaZulu gave up a late winner to neighbours Lamontville Golden Arrows at the weekend to lose the derby at Durban's King's Park Stadium and then saw assistant coach Mabuthi Khenyeza depart to take over as coach of Championship outfit TS Galaxy. With just two victories in their last 12 matches, turmoil has been brewing at AmaZulu over the last months but was taken up another notch last week when

they suspended five players - Lehlohonolo Majoro, Michael Morton, Jabulani Ncobeni, Thembele Sikhakhane and Nhlanhla Vilakazi. Vukusic refused to talk about the five even though AmaZulu are now running short of players with away matches at Chippa United and Kaizer Chiefs next on their programme. "This is not a theme for me. The players were suspended and I will not give you any answer on this theme. I don't want to speak about

it," he said. The five were alleged suspended for 'poor attitude' and are training apart from the first team squad. "We cannot panic now," Vukusic warned. "That could make it even worse. I don't want to look for excuses but it has been tough. "We must believe and I believe that we can survive. Our only target now must be to ensure we stay up in the league. Before we could have had a bigger ambition but now we just have to fight for survival."

## It's amazing to be part of this Pirates team

JOHANNESBURG - Wayne Sandilands was full of praise for everyone at Orlando Pirates after he received the man of the match award following their 1-0 win over Black Leopards.

The goalkeeper pulled off numerous impressive saves at Thohoyandou Stadium on Sunday to help the Buccaneers clinch a narrow win, thanks to an own goal from Thabiso Mokoena in stoppage time.

The victory moved Pirates back up to second position on the Absa Premiership standings, where they trail Kaizer Chiefs by six points after securing a sixth consecutive league win. "I don't know where to begin, it's just amazing what this team is doing, it's just amazing to be a part of this team. I mean it's not just me to deserve



**HAPPY:** Wayne Sandilands.

this [award], it's the whole team," Sandilands told SuperSport TV.

"The effort from the top to the bottom, the coaches, the players, everybody. Orlando Pirates, this is the place to be, we just got to continue, remain humble. We know that this is such a hard place to come."

"Like I said, it's just amazing what's happening in the team

right now, we can come here and get the three points.

"Credit should go to our goalkeeper coach, we push each other in training like I said, it's a team effort. I'm just grateful for the three points today, hopefully, we can continue to push on. Very grateful (for the clean sheet)."

**-TeaTalk Media**

## THOBEJANE RETURNS, REPLACES EX-BUCS MAN

JOHANNESBURG - Former Baroka FC coach Kgotho Thobejane is back in football as head coach of a new club. Thobejane has taken over the coaching reins at Mpumalanga ABC Motsepe League team Passion FC.

The former Bakgaga coach has replaced former Orlando

Pirates defender Lizo Mjempu, who took the team to the last 32 of the Nedbank Cup.

### Job

Passion CEO Nicholas Mudua has confirmed that Thobejane has taken over the head coach position at the Carolina-based club and will start his job on today.

"We needed someone with new and fresh ideas," Mudua tells KickOff.com.

"Lizo will still be around but will serve the club in a different role."

Thobejane is famous in local circles for coining the phrase "this football can kill you" during a post-match interview.

## AMAKHOSI FANS WANT KHUNE BACK

JOHANNESBURG - Calls for Itumeleng Khune to return to the field grew louder at the weekend after

Kaizer

Chiefs' defeat by Maritzburg United.

Amakhosi played against the KwaZulu-Natal team at Johannesburg's FNB Stadium, where they suffered a 2-1 defeat.

Nigerian Daniel Akpeyi's performance did little to impress

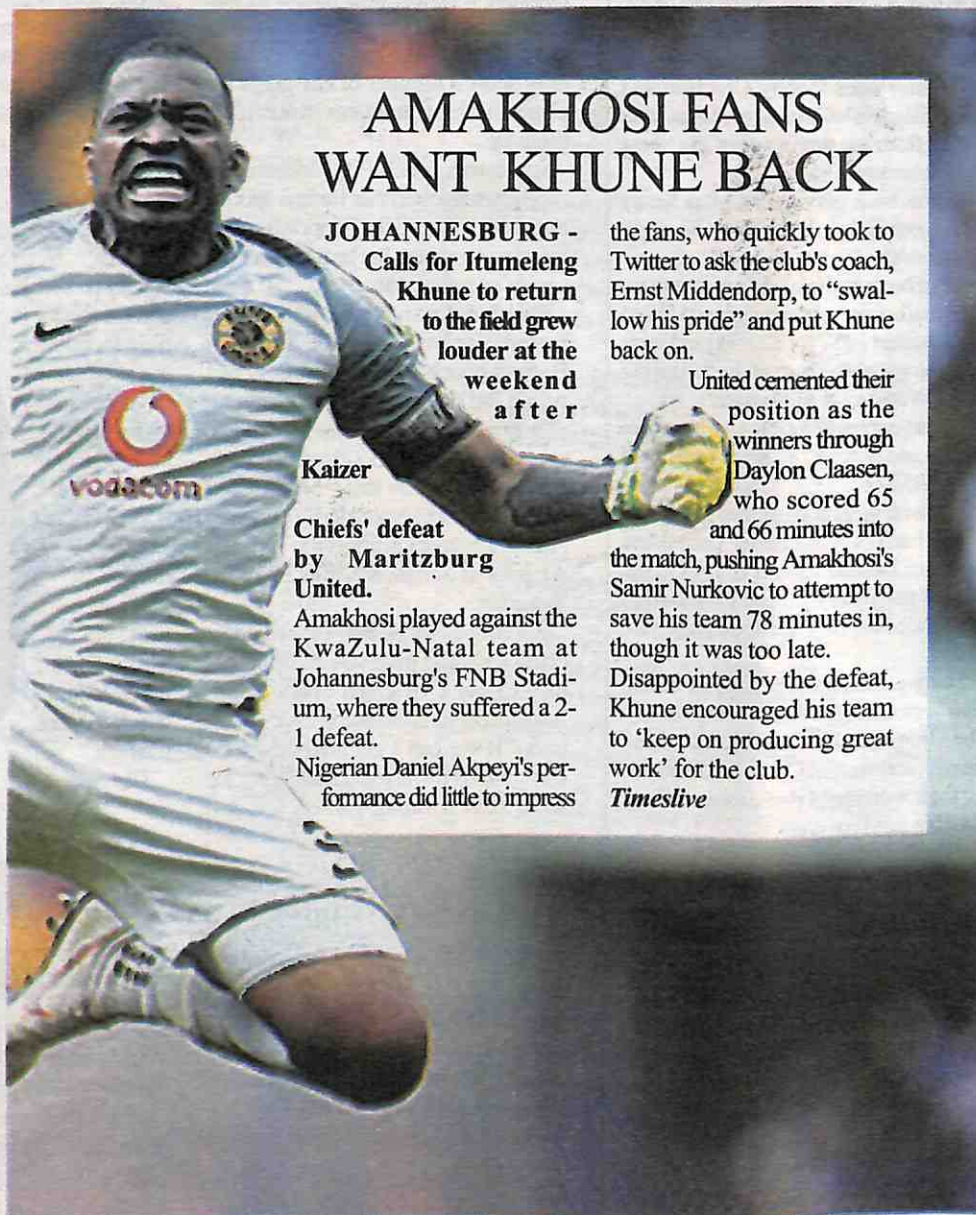
the fans, who quickly took to Twitter to ask the club's coach, Ernst Middendorp, to "swallow his pride" and put Khune back on.

United cemented their position as the winners through Daylon Claassen, who scored 65 and 66 minutes into

the match, pushing Amakhosi's Samir Nurkovic to attempt to save his team 78 minutes in, though it was too late.

Disappointed by the defeat, Khune encouraged his team to 'keep on producing great work' for the club.

**Timeslive**





# SA men's team qualifies for World Team Cup finals

JOHANNESBURG - Nairobi, Kenya, 17 February 2020 - South African men's wheelchair tennis team have secured their spot in the 2020 BNP Paribas World Team Cup finals with a clean sweep victory over Morocco in Nairobi on Sunday.

Twelve teams from eight countries battled it out on the courts of Nairobi Tennis Club, from February 13-16, to vie for a spot in the final of the world's preeminent wheelchair tennis team competition.

## Players

The 2020 BNP Paribas World Team Cup will be held on 4-10 May at the Vilamoura Tennis Academy in Portugal.

The players competing for Team South Africa in the qualifying event were the country's top ranked player Evans Maripa, Leon Els and rising star Alwande Sikhosana.

The three players had a strong showing, notching back-to-back straight-set wins in all their singles and doubles rubbers against Tanzania, Cameroon and hosts Kenya en-route to the final.

"It wasn't easy, but the team worked very hard," said South African Team



QUALIFIES: South African men's wheelchair tennis team.

Manager Patrick Selepe.

"Evans proved to be a formidable No 1 for us, and Leon Els simply was dominant at the No 2 position. Alwande embraced his role all week and was a tremendous asset to our team and has a terrific future. It's been a great week that should provide great momentum going into the final. Congratulations to all the three players for representing

their country with pride," added Selepe.

The BNP Paribas World Team Cup is often referred to as the Davis and Fed Cups of wheelchair tennis. The initial event took place in California in 1985 involving six men's teams. The women's competition began the following year, with quad and junior events introduced in 1998 and 2000 respectively.

*Supersport.com*

## CAF to set surprise CL final venue?

JOHANNESBURG - The 2019/20 CAF Champions League final will mark the first to be decided by one match in the and the venue could also come as a surprise to many.

With the eight quarter-finalists all previous champions, the current African Champions League campaign promises to be one of the most memorable to date.

And with the CAF deciding to change the format from a two-legged final to a once-off clash at a neutral venue, interest has started brewing over where the continental event will take place.

In a statement released by CAF, any potential host will have by Thursday to submit a bid with the requirements of the stadium, training facilities, accommo-

dation plans and government guarantee the main factors for consideration.

Despite the statement, CAF President Ahmad Ahmad, vice president Constant Omari along with Cameroon legend Samuel Eto'o travelled to Rwanda last weekend.



It's believed that the trio met with Rwanda President Paul Kagame and Rwandese Association Football Federation (FERWAF) President Jean Damascene Sekamana over hosting the showpiece in Kigali.

The bid winners will host the Champions League and Confederation Cup final, which will take place on 24 and 29 February respectively. *Kick-Off*

## MAN CITY COULD BE RELEGATED TO LEAGUE TWO

MANCHESTER - After being handed a two-year ban from the UEFA Champions League, Manchester City could face an even harsher domestic punishment, one that could

see them drop down to England's fourth division.

On Friday, UEFA sent shockwaves throughout the footballing fraternity when it was confirmed that City had been banned from the Champions League for two seasons following a breach in Financial Fair Play (FFP) regulations.

Following the European football governing body's decision, it now appears likely that the Premier League will conduct its own investigation into the reigning champions' finances, and could impose punishment as extreme as relegating the club to League Two.

## Report

That's according to the Daily Express, who report that clubs need to provide financial information that matches the information supplied to UEFA in order to obtain a Premier League licence.

Should Pep Guardiola's side be found to have breached the EPL's own FFP regulations, the club could be handed a points deduction or face relegation, with a recent report by The Independent confirming that expelled clubs must 'start over' in League Two.

AFP

## Munich air crash hero, goalkeeping great Gregg dies

MANCHESTER - Harry Gregg - hailed as a hero for saving lives in the air crash which killed eight of Manchester United's 'Busby Babes' in Munich - has died at the age of 87.

Gregg, who was United's goalkeeper, rescued a mother and her baby daughter, team-mates Bobby Charlton and Jackie Blanchflower and manager Matt Busby from the wreckage of the plane on 6 February, 1958.

He was back playing for Manchester United just 13 days later against Sheffield Wednesday.

Gregg became the world's most expensive goalkeeper when he joined United in December 1957 for £23,500 and went on to be voted the best at the following year's World Cup in Sweden.

He was capped 25 times by Northern Ireland and played 247 times for United from 1957-66.

"It is with great sorrow that we inform of the death of Manchester United and Northern Ireland legend Harry Gregg, OBE," the Harry Gregg Foundation announced on its Facebook page yesterday.

"Harry passed away peacefully in hospital surrounded by his loving family. The Gregg family would like to thank the medical staff at Causeway Hospital for their wonderful dedication to Harry over his last few weeks.

"To everyone who has called, visited or sent well-wishes we thank you for the love and respect shown to Harry and the family."

United posted a tribute on their website. "It is with deepest sadness that we have learned of the passing of former player Harry Gregg OBE," said the club.

"The thoughts and prayers of everyone at the club go out to Harry's family and friends."

AFP

## Ntseki to give everyone fair chance

JOHANNESBURG - Mamelodi Sundowns star Gaston Sirino was born in Uruguay but could still don the colours of Bafana Bafana in future.

Sirino has been a key member of the Brazilians team and has now become a household name in the Premier Soccer League thanks to his creative play that has seen him not only score a number of key goals by also assist his teammates in notching them up.

Sundowns coach Pitso Mosimane recently suggested that Bafana should consider naturalising Sirino since he is yet to represent his birth country's senior national team.

But that doesn't look like it will materialise any time soon, although Bafana coach Molefi Ntseki is not ruling out that possibility in future.

"My approach for now is to give every South African a chance. I think I'm doing exactly that," Ntseki said at the KwaZulu-Natal derby between AmaZulu and Lamontville Golden Arrows at Jonsson Kings Park on Saturday.

"Giving every South African a fair chance should give you an opportunity to say I've given every South African player a chance in every position. "If we can't get anybody who can give us different dimensions for us to start winning games, we will

give a report," he added.

Ntseki and his troops will be busy with the Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) qualifiers next month and will take on Sao Tome in back-to-back matches.

"It is a feeling from any coach that he can be of help to the national team by recommending any player.

"We really appreciate their help and that's why we have this club visit programme because we want to have good relationships with different clubs," Ntseki elaborated.

"Any South African will be given a chance to play for Bafana but if we don't have the quality we look for and there is a foreign quality in the country, maybe we will have a look, but if not, we are happy to look at South Africa players."

*The Star*

## GERRARD 'INTERESTED' TO SEE IF PREMIER LEAGUE WILL TAKE ACTION

LONDON - Former Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard has said he will be keeping a close eye on whether the English Premier League punishes Manchester City for breaching financial regulations.

City have been banned from European

...against Manchester City for breaking financial regulations

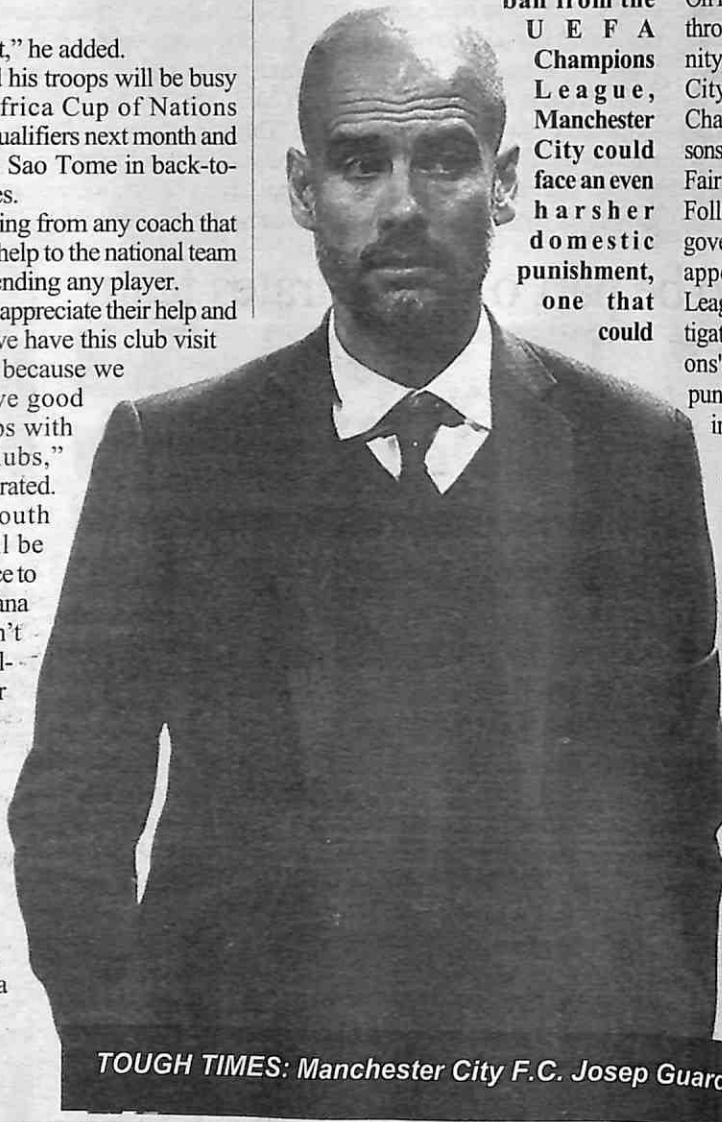
competition for the next two seasons and fined 30 million euros (\$32.52 million) by UEFA after an investigation into alleged breaches of Financial Fair Play rules. City have denied any wrong-

doing and confirmed they are appealing the ruling to the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

The Premier League have also opened an investigation into City, who won

the 2013-14 league title by finishing two points ahead of Liverpool.

"I'm really, really interested in it ... for obvious reasons," Rangers Manager Gerrard, who captained the Liverpool side during the 2013-14 campaign, told reporters. *Reuters*



TOUGH TIMES: Manchester City F.C. Josep Guardiola.



# Sports Results

Compiled by Jongile Xuba

**EswatiniBank Cup Round of 32**

Seven Dreams	1	Tambuti FC	1
<i>(Tambuti won on 5-2 penalties)</i>			
Tinyosi FC	0	Young Buffaloes	2
Umbelebele	0	Green Mamba	2
Mbabane Citizens	0	Denver Sundowns	4
Vovovo	0	Madlenya FC	2
Tycoons	1	M Pirates	3
TP Mazembe FC	0	Milling Hotspurs	6
Nsingizini	0	Royal Leopard	12
Magwanyane FC	1	Callies	3
Illovo FC	3	Mhlume Peacemakers	0
Louis XI FC	0	Malanti Chiefs	3
L. Killers	0	Black Swallows	4
Rail United	1	Manzini Wanderers	1
<i>(Wanderers won 5-2 on penalties)</i>			
Hawane	1	Mbabane Highlanders	4
Sisonke FC	0	Mbabane Swallows	1
Rangers	1	Manzini Sea Birds	4

**ETISA Games Results**

<b>Soccer</b>			
Ngwane College	5	Good Shepherd College	1

<b>Netball</b>			
Ngwane College	29	Good Shepherd	8

<b>Volleyball – Men</b>			
Good Shepherd College	3	Ngwane College	1

<b>Volleyball – Ladies</b>			
Ngwane College	3	Good Shepherd	0

**Malindza Football Zonal**

Eleven Angels	4	Lubhuku United	2
Umseshi	3	Siweni Utd	0
Malindza Utd	2	Calabash	0
Promising Stars	2	Mshana	1
Juventus	2	Black Mamba	1
Lubhaku Y Stars	2	Highway	1
Zamalek	1	Dvokodweni	0

**RSSC Siyakha 1800 North – East**

JB	0	Silver Stars	3
XI Stars	1	Arsenal	6
Professionals	0	Zwelabantu	0
Bacambi	1	Classic	1
Juventus	2	Summerise	2

**Lubombo Western Zone**

Vultures	4	Mamisa Professionals	2
Sea Birds	2	Manchester	3
Black Swallows	1	Stone Breakers	0
Mighty Birds	1	Bombers	1
Red Lion	1	Tawem	1
Heroes	1	Celtics	3
Mamisa United	1	Bhunu Mall	1
Nkunzemnyama	2	Kukhanyeni	2

**Sigaweni Zonal League**

Sisonkhe	2	XI Experience	1
Choppers	2	Wizard	0
Bombers	2	Kasi Warriors	1
Tec Spurs	0	TKZee	0
Heroes	3	Aces	2

**Milky-Max Mbabane Juniors League – E10 000 U13**

Imbumba	0	M. Swallows	3
Freestyle	3	Mantsholo	3
Dark City	0	Supersport	0
Mangwaneni	0	Hurricane	3
Real Tec	0	M. Celtics	0

**Furniture Warehouse Mbabane Juniors – U19**

Dark City	1	Malanti Chiefs	0
The Wallers	3	Veni Cosmos	0
Imbumba	3	Zulwini	0
Mvutjini Utd	3	Sivutsa	0
Mantsholo Utd	3	PG Dribbling	0
Aces United	0	Multi Classic	3
Mangwaneni	1	Lubhedze	5
Hurricane	3	Real Tec	0
Mbabane Celtic	2	Hurricane	1

**Mandla Mahewu Mbabane Juniors – U15**

Freestyle	3	Mantsholo	4
Bloemfontein	0	Waterford	10
Multi Classic	0	The Wallers	3
Malangwane	3	Umbelebele	0
M. Swallows	3	PG Dribbling	0
Supersport	3	Mangwaneni	0

**Swazi Trac Hhohho Super League – E77 000**

<b>Southern Zone</b>			
Swazi Sun	3	Imbumba	1
Corporation	1	Emajukujuku	2
Junior Stars	4	Sdwashini Utd	1
Burning Spear	1	Mbabane City	1
Lobamba Sunrise	0	Community	0

<b>Northern Zone</b>			
Manchester	9	Machibini	1
Khanjana	5	Msahweni	1

**Mandla Mahewu Mbabane League – E70 000**

<b>Promotion</b>			
Amaweke	3	Real Tec	1
PG Dribbling Stars	0	Mb. Celtics	1
Sandla	1	Amaweke	2

<b>B. Division</b>			
D. Darkies	1	Hurricane	1
Lusoti	3	R. Dynamos	4
Mangwaneni	2	Y. Fighters	1
Real Stars Utd	1	Veni	0
Rangers	0	Mantsholo	1
Mantsholo Utd	1	Red Stars	3
Movers	2	Junction Stars	0
Mbabane Utd	4	Mphalati	1

**Buy Cash Pigg's Peak League – E50 000**

Peak Forest	1	Darkies Utd	3
White Killers	1	Nkomazi	4
Ndeva Galaxy	1	Bush Bucks	2
19 Celtics	1	Mhlathane	0
Rise & Shine	3	Hotspurs	1
Supersport	1	Maguga	4
Citizens	1	Mangwaneni	1
Phophonyane	3	Peak City	2
Rockville	0	Thuluzobona	0

**Futis Nkhaba League – E30 000**

Nkoyoyo Jnr	1	Kasie XI	3
Barcelona	1	Nkoyoyo Utd	0
Crocodiles	0	Ngwenya Utd	2
Mhlosheni Celtics	0	Atletico	1
Majotini Rebels	3	Bafana	1
Motshane Very	3	Manyisa Utd	0
Mahangeni Cosmos	1	Lubhedze	4
Dribbling Stars	2	Fast Movers	1
White Rhinos	4	H. Arsenal	1
Super Stars	3	Majotini Utd	2

**ShebzaNtabinezipisi Football League – E50 000**

<b>Promotion</b>			
Russian Bombers	2	D. Darkies	0
City Stars	1	Hungry Lion	1
N. Swallows	2	SkomBoyz	1
Mazulwini	1	Buhleni Aces	1
Golden Arrows	1	M. Arsenal	7
Y. Professionals	5	Super Stars	1
Special Killers	2	Manchester U	1

**South Star Mdzimba Football League – E65 000**

<b>Promotion</b>			
Highlanders	5	Top Centre	0
Chiefs	1	Arsenal	2
Monaco	0	Sibuyeni	1
City Stars	1	Bombers	1
Achievers	2	Swallows	1
All Stars	4	Driekoppies	1
Timbungulu	0	Green Sea	2
Africa Stars	1	Sundowns	2
Killers	1	Rangers	2
Bush Bucks	4	Barcelona	2
Rhinos	3	Cosmos	2

**Oupa Mhlangatane Football League – E50 000**

<b>Western Stream</b>			
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Arsenal	1	Lonhlalane	1
Manchester	1	Zinyane	0
City Stars	0	Mpofu Aces	5
Thuluzobona	2	Hotfighters	1
Fats Movers	3	Sihhoye	1
Celtics	1	Chelsea	2
Weirna	2	N.Liverpool	0

**Eastern Stream**

M. Bombers	2	Makhweya	2
Manjengeni	3	Cosmos	0
Newcastle	2	Liverpool	7
XI Men	1	Swallows	2
Macocweni	1	H. Defenders	2

**Tee & Jay Lobamba Football League – E90 000**

<b>Promotion</b>			
Fast Reaction	1	Kasi Warriors	1
Lusito Lions	5	E. Rangers	3
Vutha	2	Zulwini Aces	1
Emaselesele	0	L. Wanderers	0
E.United	1	Power Stars	1
L. Cosmos	3	L. Dynamos	2
City Stars	2	Liwakawaka	1
Real Masters	1	Servest	2

<b>B. Division</b>			
Zabeni All Stars	0	X- Eleven	3
Stoke City	2	Luveve Killers	1
M. Invaders	10	Scorpion	0
Masters Utd	0	Silomo	3
E. Vultures	2	Ezulwini	0
Stoke City	0	M. Invaders	8

**BakhanyiseleMabulala&Gongz Maphalaleni****Football League – E65 000**

<b>Eastern Stream</b>			
Manchester	5	Umkhokha	0
Young Lovers	2	Khulangwane	1
XI Experience	4	Stone Breakers	0
Blue Birds	1	Young Stars	2
Professionals	4	Thuluzobona	0
Barcelona	0	Liselesele	3
Killers	0	Rangers	1

**Western Stream**

Jubukweni	3	Mighty Birds	0
Love & Peace	2	H. Fighters	0
Sunrise	0	Academy	1
Lunkanka	1	H. Tigers	0
Rollers	1	Young Aces	0
Hill Stars	5	Top Classic	1

**MP Sompisi Ntfontjeni Football League – E40 000**

Royal Madrid	3	H. Pirates	1
Express	2	Sdwashini	3
Mabatane	2	Nkonjaneni	1
Zibonele	4	Hellenic	0
Ntintinyane	2	Gunwane	2
Seven Up	2	Foster Utd	1
Sun City	2	Barcelona	0
FC Casino	2	Y. Tigers	1
Arsenal	2	Chelsea	0
Trounge	4	Teenagers	0

**Bhulane Resort Ndzingeni Football League – E50 000**

<b>Mvuma Stream</b>			
Happiness	1	Mphondla	3
FC Academy	3	Red Sea	2
Lozaza	0	D. Darkies	0
Blue Ocean	0	KK Ajax	3
Tihlabani	2	Gebhulas	3
Zizweni	2	Tsunami	2
Super Aces	0	Volcano	0

**Bulandzeni Stream**

Arsenal	2	M. Professional	3
Supersport	0	Mpumalanga	2
B. Rebels	1	Liverpool	1
Roman Utd	1	White City	2
Young Stars	1	Young Chiefs	0
Kubongeni Celtics	0	Sweet Banana	2

**MP Nelson Mamba Timpisini Football League – E25 000**

<b>Promotion</b>			
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Young Stars	3	Mbasheni	1
Young Tigers	2	Matsamo	2
Star Wanderers	1	Ellegence	1
Golden Arrows	1	Besutfwini	1
Sundowns	2	Vusweni	1
Soccer Rose	6	AK 47	0
Kudvwaleni	4	Ngonini	3
Hhohho Pirates	1	Najkeni City	2

**B. Division**

Superstrikes	2	Sikhaleni	1
Rockville	2	Najkeni	3
JB Arsenal	1	Blue Birds	2
Nhl. All Utd	3	Y. Bombers	2
Gunners	8	Y. Swallows	0
Zamalek	3	Red Lions	1
All Stars	3	Mv. All Utd	3

**Pot Construction Sigangeni Football League – E30 000**

<b>Promotion</b>			
Real United	4	Villa Sport	1
M. Celtics	0	Black Aces	6
Mighty Chiefs	3	Young Fighters	1
Ntsetse Flyers	2	L. Nationals	1
U. Eagles	3	Sigangeni	1
Real Touch	1	Mhlane Utd	2

**Dabulamanzi Manzini Super League**

Villa Stars	1	Hub Sundowns	2
Vickery nomads	3	Ludzeludze Brothers	1
Luve Cosmos	2	Timbutini	4
Mhlaleni United	0	Stumbo's XI	3

**Manzini Promotion League**

Combine Stars	1	Maliyaduma	0
Wonderful Touch	0	Two sticks	1
Siboniso Selwandle	1	Kholwane F. Birds	1
Bad Boys	0	Green way	2
Manzini United	5	Superstars	1
Ngwane Park	1	The Bones	1
Home Sparrows	0	F.C North	1
City Eagles	0	African Chiefs	1

**KPMG Manzini First Division League**

Chaos LTD	1	Brema United	3
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**OK Foods Kwaluseni Promotion Division League**

Real Professional	4	Mhlaner United	3
Zama United	0	Nsenga Comrades	1
Kwaluseni Rebels	0	Supersport	0
Kwaluseni United	0	Sacrament	4
Fashion International	0	Umtfunt F.C	4
Zombodze United	2	Gum Valley	1
Gocweni Trompies	4	Dark City	2

**OK Foods Kwaluseni First Division League**

Bafana Bafana	2	Ludzeludze Kicks	2
Mhlaleni Superstars	8	Boyane United	1
Ludzeludze Celtics	2	Ludzidzi	0
Junior Eagles	1	Mahashulane	0
Matsapha Town	0	Fc Logoba	1

**Nsingweni Promotion League**

Highlands Blues	0	All Stars	5
Talibans	1	Mfeni Spurs	1
Mcengeni United	1	Black Aces	3
Young Madrid	1	Nsuka Fighters	2
Red Lions	4	Young Lovers	2
Mcengeni Sundowns	5	Bhudlwini	3

**Kukhanyeni Thkhundla Promotion League**

1995 Mbuluzana	0	Umsihina Wedurtmund	2
Brave Lions	1	Kukhanyeni	2
Bhekinkhosi	3	Mdayane	0
Diakadla	0	Mphola Celtics	2
Estate Classic	0	Mbhijwana Rovers	2
Kukhanyeni	4	1995 Mbuluzana	0



# THE SUCKER PUNCH

...with Mphikeleli Msibi [STRIKING, STRAIGHT AND STRENGTHENED] POW!

## NO MAJOR UPSETS IN IDLALA KAMNANDZI

**AFTER** three days of exhilaration action, 16 teams have bitten the dust and 16 are through to the next stage of the lucrative tournament.

There were no major upsets as the country's big three teams in Mbabane Swallows, Mbabane Highlanders and Manzini Wanderers had a perfect start.

Action started last Friday, where we saw a double header at Somhlolo National Stadium where defending champions Young Buffaloes and Tambuti beat Tinyosi and Seven Dreams, respectively.

The beautiful game continued to be a feast for the passionate football loving people, especially those from Nhlalanga and Big Bend, who were treated to top shelf football, which is something they do not usually get to see despite having two facilities in the King Sobhuza II Memorial Stadium and Mayaluka Stadium. The Saturday games saw Mhlume Peacemakers losing to Illovo in what was the first major upset of the tournament. The other

Premier League teams won their games and are through to the next stage of the tournament.

These are Green Mamba, who beat Umbelebele while Denver Sundowns thrashed Mbabane Citizens at the Prince of Wales Ground.

Royal Leopard, Moneni Pirates, Milling Hotspurs, Malanti Chiefs, Pigg's Peak Black Swallows and Sea Birds also won their games on Saturday. Then

Sunday was the grand opening, where we saw the big three teams playing under one roof.

We also saw hub giants Manzini Wanderers beat Rail United 5-2 after penalties in another tough match. Rail United also displayed a great performance but only to miss two penalties in the lottery shootout. Capital city giants Mbabane Highlanders went on a

rampage, beating another Super League side Hawane Shooting Stars 4-1. The scoreline should not deceive you as Highlanders struggled to eventually win the match in the second half, where they scored three goals.

Another capital city side

Mbabane Swallows had it tough on the day as they had to dig deeper into their reserve of courage to finally break the deadlock in the second half.

One must say Sisonkhe displayed a spirited performance.

The difference between the Premier League and regional teams was evident as the minnows eventually lost against the heavyweights despite displaying promising performances against the so-called 'big guns'. It was encouraging to see regional teams displaying a gallant performance before bow-

ing out of the competition with dignity. I would also commend the throngs of fans, who came out to watch the games throughout the weekend. They were well-behaved and we hope the spirit of fair play will prevail until the end of the tournament.

The spectators were given what they expected, as it rained goals after a total of 61 goals were scored in the last 32 games. Not to be outdone Royal Leopard were the top scorers over the weekend with their 12 goals, the sharp shooter being Thabiso Mokokoane scoring eight goals.

Surely other striker will have a hard time matching him for the top goal score award. We are now looking forward to an exciting last 16 draw, where we are anticipating some intriguing ties matches as the race for the E1.2 million first prize money continues. The draw is scheduled for this morning at the EswatiniBank Auditorium in Mbabane.

*Sidlala Kamnandzi!*



### The PLE must reinstate Simanga Nhleko

**IT is critical that the integrity of the Premier League of Eswatini must be without question, but time and again I find myself questioning the sacking of former CEO Simanga Nhleko.**

I still don't get it why Nhleko was fired. Now that Nhleko has since taken the matter to the High Court for unfair dismissal, I can only hope that the PLE is well aware of the costs.

Clubs are in financial dire straits and the last thing they want to hear is the PLE losing money for being reckless in their decisions.

I will not say much, but I think they should reinstate the former CEO before it's too late. I am well aware that the matter is pending at the High Court but again I feel it should have not even got to that stage.

They should just bring back Simanga Nhleko and move on.

I think the PLE still has a chance to resolve this issue without attracting too much unnecessary costs.

#### Failure

PLE Chairman Peter 'Touch' Magagula should take the initiative and resolve this matter because if they lose it, all fingers will point at him. There might be someone misleading him for now, but in the end he will be all alone in this. They will see him as a failure and it will be the very same people who are misleading him now.

I wonder if the association considered all the consequences before taking the decision that led to Nhleko's dismissal from his E25 000-a-month job last year.

I doubt they went through a meticulous process to make sure that the decision of sacking Nhleko was fair.

Nhleko wants to be reinstated because he believes he was dismissed unfairly. And, should he not be reinstated, he wants to be paid money that I don't think the PLE has. It is for this reason that I think they should resolve the matter soon and just reinstate him.

#### Channels

I was hoping the PLE governors would meet to discuss the matter and reach a conclusion to reverse the decision, but it looks like that is not happening.

When looking at the crux of the matter, I somehow noticed that there were no proper channels followed in the process of firing Nhleko. I repeat, I think it is best for the PLE to reinstate Nhleko.

## BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR SPORTS NOT ENOUGH

**IN** September 2000, the United Nations Summit came up with the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), whose aim was to eradicate or reduce poverty, hunger, child mortality and disease, and to promote education, maternal health, gender equality, environmental sustainability and global partnerships.

The target date for achieving the MDGs had been set for 2015, but notably most African States failed

dismally in meeting the targets if politely put. On a larger scale, efforts collapsed dramatically like a deck of cards. Sport had been recognised as a viable and practical tool to assist in the achievement of the MDGs. While sport does not have the capacity to tackle solely the MDGs, it was noted that it could be very effective when part of a broad, holistic approach to addressing the MDGs.

Indeed, a multi-billion dollar industry it had the great potential in synergistic relationship with the others, to help meet some if not all MDGs but by and large governments are falling short in their pocketing for funding in sports development. Notably, sometime last year, Honourable David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala, then standing in for the Sports Minister at the launch of TZD Sports probably borrowed from the MDGs when he described how participation in sports was critical in reducing pressure on health provision by creating a healthy nation.

"Exercising is important in creating a healthy person and nation, which leads to less pressure on health provisions at our clinics and hospitals. Therefore, I encourage everyone to take up exercising as part of contributing to the creation of a healthy nation," said Ngcamphalala. For the sports loving yours truly, it raised hopes that this financial year's budget presented last Friday by our Finance Minister,

Honourable Neal Rijkenberg was going to reflect positively on creating a healthy nation by probably having a significant

investment in the industry.

Given that one of the millennium development goals had an emphasis on investment in sports, it surely would not have been a global misdeed to raise the budget allocation towards sports given the significant cost rise in the industry. But alas the budget remained significantly lower than the expectations and costs of implementing sporting and yet it should be noted that sport can be used as a platform to speak out for the realisation of human rights, including the right to an adequate standard of living, the right to social security and the equal rights of women in economic life, which have direct impact on the goal to end poverty. Sport can also be used as a platform to campaign for socio-economic progress and raise funds to alleviate poverty as a market in which people, activities, business, and organisations are involved in producing, facilitating, promoting, or organising any activity, experience, or business enterprise focused in sports.

It is the market in which the businesses or products offered to its buyers are sports related and may be goods, services, people, places, or ideas. Given such, it is my conviction that government's investment through funding should be significant, unless I stand to be corrected.

*Finance Minister Neal Rijkenberg.*





# ESWATINIBANK CUP 2020

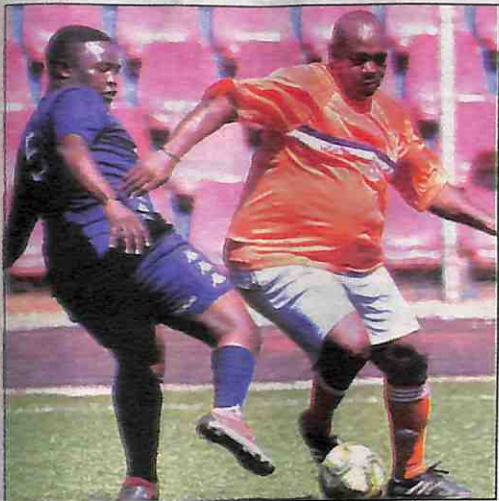


**PUSHING:** Sisonkhe's Mancoba Mbonane pushes Mbabane Swallows' Sizolwethu Shabalala.

## MORE ON ESWATINIBANK CUP GRAND OPENING



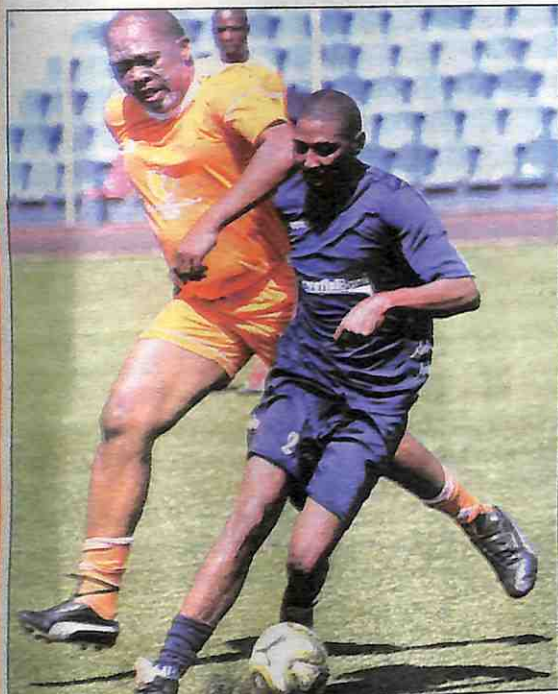
**OOPS!** Hawane Shooting Stars' Seluleko Mdluli and Mbabane Highlanders' Mthunzi Hlanze fall on the turf.



**MOVE:** S'thofeni Ginindza attempts to go past Phathizwe Msibi during the CEOs and Media XI game. Media XI won 3-2.



**ON KNEES:** Sisonkhe's Bonginkhosi Simelane clears away the ball from Swallows' Menzi Sithole.



**MY BALL:** Thokozani Zulu wins the ball from Darius Dlomo.



**GAME PLAN:** Mbabane Highlanders coach Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati, Technical Director Zenzele Dlamini and PRO Paul 'Magidza' Masilela in discussion.



**TECHNOLOGY:** A drone which was in use at Somhlolo National Stadium on Sunday.



**STRANGE:** Swallows goalkeeper Sandanezwe Mathabela clad in a jersey branded with an Inyatsi logo yet the other players were using Eswatini Mobile branded kit.



**FOLLOW ME:** FA XI's Peter Simelane wins the ball from the EswatiniBank player.

**EISH:** Tony Tsabedze reacts after missing a scoring chance.



**IDLALA KAMNANDZI:** Manzini Wanderers supporters celebrate their victory against Lubombo Super League side Rail United.





## FOOTBALL TALK

All your latest WORLD FOOTBALL News

● Pep Guardiola will remain as Manchester City manager even if the club fail to overturn their two-year ban from the Champions League. (*Mirror*)



● Juventus legend Alessandro del Piero believes Guardiola would be a "good fit" at the Serie A club. The City manager has been linked with replacing Maurizio Sarri in Turin. (*Sky Sports*)

● Manchester City winger Raheem Sterling's agent says the 25-year-old England international "will not be distracted by any talk of transfers to any club at the moment". (*Mirror*)

● City accept that some players will want to leave the club at the end of the season if their Champions League ban is upheld. (*Telegraph*)

● Manchester United manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer does not think missing out on a Champions League place will impact the Old Trafford club's summer transfer plans. (*Mirror*)

● Solskjaer says 30-year-old Nigeria striker Odion Ighalo's loan move to United from Shanghai Shenhua could become a permanent deal. (*Manchester Evening News*)

● Barcelona would have to include France striker Antoine Griezmann in any deal to tempt Inter Milan to sell Lautaro Martinez to them.

The Argentina international, 22, has a reported release clause of £92m. (*Sun*)



● RB Leipzig insist Liverpool have not made any contact with them over 23-year-old Germany forward Timo Werner, who has scored 20 Bundesliga goals this season. (*Transfermarkt via Mirror*)

● Lille's 22-year-old Brazilian defender Gabriel Magalhães, a target for Arsenal and Everton, says that he would "love to" to play in the Premier League. (*Sun*)

● Inter Milan are in talks to sign Manchester United's 20-year-old Netherlands Under-21 winger Tahith Chong, who is out of contract at Old Trafford this summer. (*Tuttosport, via Sun*)

● Sheffield United's 27-year-old midfielder Ravel Morrison, who is on loan at Championship side Middlesbrough, is set to play international football after being called up by Jamaica for their friendly against Catalonia in Barcelona on 30 March. (*Sheffield Star*)

● Manchester City's 23-year-old English winger Jack Harrison is keen to make his loan move to Leeds United, who are chasing promotion to the Premier League, permanent. (*Football Insider, via Star*)



# VALENTINE, EVART WIN 'Q1 SPECIAL COMPETITION'

BY COLISILE SACOLO

**GOLF - A day after Valentine's Day, Valentine Maziya and Evart Madlopha won the first quarter of the 'Special Competition' played at Mbabane Golf Club on Saturday.**

The competition was played under the scramble drive betterball format. An impressive 44 golfers turned up for the competition.

Lots of prizes were on offer and golfers enjoyed a braai afterwards wherein they also shared business ideas. Maziya and Madlopha were the overall winners with 49 points.

Coming second was the pair of Zwelisha Dlamini and Siphelele Ngcamphalala, who accumulated 48 points.

Maziya also dominated the novelties as he won the men's longest drive and the nearest to the pin on hole 9/18. Nokuthula Dlamini won the ladies longest drive. Nelisiwe Mathabela, Phumlile Zwane and Ngeti Mkhonta also took part in the competition. Meanwhile, Sipho Mahlalela beat a field of 22 golfers at Mbabane Golf Club to win Friday's Leg of Lamb with an impressive 21 points. The runner-up was Sam Richards, who continued to impress

### Winners:

1. Valentine Maziya/Evart Madlopha	- 49 points
2. Zwelisha Dlamini/Siphelele Ngcamphalala	- 48
3. Moses Masilela/Bongani Shabangu	- 47
4. Clement Dlamini/Albert Mavuso	- 46
5. Sabelo Sibondza/Nathi Mabuza	- 45 c/b
6. Colani Dlamini/Tata Dlamini	- 45

### Novelties:

Men's longest drive	- Valentine Maziya
Ladies longest drive	- Nokuthula Dlamini

### Nearest pins

2/11	- Tata Dlamini
8/17	- Sive Dlamini
9/18	- Valentine Maziya

with 20 points. The leg of lamb is played every Friday at the Mbabane golf club. Mbabane Golf Club captain Kenneth Nkambule said this coming weekend the club would host the MTN Master of Masters.

## ROOKIES SHARP SHOOTERS CONTINUE TO IMPRESS IN DARTS LEAGUE

BY JONGILE XUBA

**DARTS - ESWATINI Royal Insurance Darts (ESRIC) E120 000 Darts League rookies Sharp Shooters continued to impress after winning all three of their fixtures on Saturday.**

With the league in full swing teams, the games were played at Correctional Gymnasium in Matsapha.

Sharp Shooters had a good day in office, beating REPS 13-12 before winning 13-11 against ESRIC as they also edged Smesh n Bonz 13-11. Another exciting match saw Correctional II beat rivals REPS 13-10 before recording a convincing 23-0 win against ESRIC.

### ESRIC E120 000 Darts League results

Kilowatts B	19-5	ESRIC
REPS	17-0	Railway
REPS	10-13	Correctional II
Sharp Shooters	13-11	Eco Water
Umlilo	12-12	Remnants
ESRIC	0-23	Correctional II
Smesh n Bonz	5-19	Remnants
Sharp Shooters	13-12	REPS
RSSC	8-16	Eco Water
RSSC	8-16	Umlilo
ESRIC	10-15	Smesh n Bonz
Sharp Shooters	13-11	Smesh n Bonz

### Highlights 180 s

Ntokozo - Correctional  
Machawe - 1 RSSC  
Brandon - Umlilo (twice)

Smesh n Bonz beat ESRIC 15-10 before losing to Sharp Shooters.

RSSC had a tough time as they lost both their games. They first

lost 8-16 to Eco Water as Umlilo also beat them 16-8. Remnants and Umlilo played to a 12-all with Kilowatts B beating ESRIC 19-5.

## School festival tournament on Thursday - Nqaba

BY COLISILE SACOLO

**TENNIS - THE Eswatini Tennis Association (ETA) will be hosting their fourth annual schools festival tournament on Thursday.**

This was revealed by Eswatini Tennis Association Secretary Nqaba Mkhalihi yesterday.

The tournament will be at Lobamba National Centre, starting at 8:30am.

Mkhalihi said they hosted this event at the beginning of every year.

"We see 10 to 12 schools participating in the tournament."

He said the festival was getting

ting bigger and better every year.

"The tournament helps us to select players for local and international competitions. We are happy that more schools are now involved in tennis, which makes it easy for us as an association to train someone who has a background on the sport," he said.

He then encouraged other schools to take part in the festival. "Outstanding performers will get medals after the tournament."

He said the juniors would be playing on Saturday with registration already open until Friday. "Mine is just to encourage all players to register early."



**FESTIVAL: Eswatini Tennis Association Secretary Nqaba Mkhalihi.**

## CORRECTIONAL LADIES KEEP TITLE HOPES ALIVE

BY JONGILE XUBA

**NETBALL - CORRECTIONAL Ladies netball team beat Mbabane Raiders in the Swaziland Building Society (SBS) Elite Netball League to keep their title defence hopes alive.**

This was during the games played at Zakhele Courts in Manzini on

Saturday. Correctional comfortably won 70-27 over the capital city side. Other results in the women's Elite League saw RSSC forfeit two matches after not showing up. This means their opponents OlympAfrica and Fashions were each awarded the points of the match with a 75-0 score line. EUDF thrashed Fashions by 91-27 while Vixens lost 32-46 to Manzini Ladies.

### SBS Elite Netball League results:

#### Females

Correctional	70	Mbabane Raiders	27
Vixens	32	Manzini Ladies	46
Fashion	27	EUDF	91
OlympAfrica	75	RSSC	0
Fashion	75	RSSC	0

#### Males

Correctional	81	EUDF	17
Vixens	21	REPS	88

In the men's league, Royal Eswatini Police Service (REPS) brushed aside Vixens 88-21 with Correctional winning 81-17 against UEDF.

## Meluleki Simelane, Nikiwe to help reduce drowning

BY NOMALUNGELO PHIRI

**SWIMMING - ROYAL Swaziland Sugar Corporation (RSSC) swimming coach Meluleki Simelane and Nikiwe Nxumalo will each train 400 people per year in a drive to reduce drowning in the country.**

This emerged during the African Swimming Confederation course held at the Garden Court in Johannesburg, South Africa over the weekend.

The duo was empowered on drowning reduction skills and urged to at least train 400 people a year.

Interviewed yesterday, Simelane said the programme was the first of its kind and they were now armed with skills on how to help a drowning person. "We will now be able to save lives."

"The course was an eye-opener to swimming coaches as we train swimmers each and every day. We were also given a chance to do practicals, at Jimiston Lake," he said.

### Programme

He stated that the programme had coaches from Senegal, Malawi, Zambia, South Africa, Tanzania, Ghana, Nigeria, Sudan, Mauritius, Seychelles, Lesotho, Botswana, Angola, Zimbabwe, Namibia and Uganda, among others.

Simelane urged the Royal Eswatini Police (REPS) to use them in cases of drowning as they now had the skills to assist drowning people.

On the same note, Eswatini Swimming Association (ESA) President Berger Nxumalo said they were happy to send the duo to take part in this programme as he believed it would not only benefit the association, but the country as a whole.



# 'Buffs' charged, face E110 000 fine

BY NOMALUNGELO PHIRI

**SOCCER - ARMY** side Young Buffaloes have been slapped with over E110 000 charges by the Premier League of Eswatini following the unsporting behaviour displayed by their players during their 0-1 loss to Royal Leopard in the Ingwenyama Cup.

Buffaloes were yesterday served with charges based on the tournament's rules and regulations after their players threatened to assault the referee during their match against Green Mamba. PLE Chief Operations Officer (COO) Pat Vilakati yesterday confirmed charging Young Buffaloes.

He stated that the army side has been in charged in accordance with article 103(d) and (f) of the Ingwenyama MVA Cup 2018/19 rules and regulations.

"The team has been charged following their misconduct during the Ingwenyama Cup quarter-finals match against Green Mamba at Somhlolo National Stadium," he said.

The team was slapped with five counts under the section which stipulates unsporting behaviour and mis-



**CONFIRMED: PLE Chief Operations Officer Pat Vilakati.**

conduct. According to article (d), club (s) that assault a referee is made to fine E10 000 and a maximum fine of E100 000.

In addition, the offending club shall be ordered to compensate the victim for any financial loss incurred due to the assault while article (f) says failure by clubs to control their officials or players or fans shall be charged a minimum fine of E3 000 and a maximum fine of E10 000 by the DC.

The team will now appear before

the National Football Association of Eswatini Disciplinary Committee today at Sigwaca House.

Young Buffaloes Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Sandile Gwebu said he was yet to see the charges when contacted yesterday.

"I heard about the charges but unfortunately the papers are not with me. I will be in a better position to give a proper comment once I see the charges. Someone else received the charges on behalf of the team."

## Mokenkoane leads EswatiniBank Cup scorers

BY MELUSI MLOTSI

**SOCCER - ROYAL** Leopard new signee the South Africa-born striker Thabiso Mokenkoane is leading in the Eswatini Bank Cup goal scorers' chart with eight goals under his belt.

The lanky striker scored all the goals during his debut against Nsingizini Hotspurs in a match played at King Sobhuza II Memorial Stadium on Saturday. Royal Leopard won the match 12-0 against the Super League side. Worth noting is that the striker

is the defending champion of the Golden Boot Award. He achieved this with Mbabane Highlanders last season where he scored six goals.

### Goals

Milling Hotspurs Hotspurs striker Siboniso 'Papa' Gamedze is second with four goals.

He helped his side to beat TP Mazembe 6-0 on Saturday. Royal Leopard mid fielder cum striker, Lungelo Tsabedze has three goals under his belt.

The top goalscorers award carries E10 000 prize. A total number of 61 goals were scored in the last 32 game.

### THE 2019/20 TOP GOALSCORERS' CHART:

1. Thabiso Mokenkoane	(Royal Leopard)	- 8 goals
2. Siboniso 'Papa' Gamedze	(Milling Hotspurs)	- 4 goals
3. Lungelo Tsabedze	(Royal Leopard)	- 3 goals
4. Sabelo 'Sawa' Gamedze	(Mbabane Highlanders)	- 2 goals
5. Muntu Mamba	(Tambuti)	- 2 goals
6. Mthokozisi Gwebu	(Manzini Sea Birds)	- 2 goals
7. Wandile Simelane	(Tambankulu Callies)	- 2 goals
8. Bongani Tshabalala	(Malanti Chiefs)	- 2 goals

## Dominic impressed by goalkeepers

BY NOMALUNGELO PHIRI

**SOCCER - NEW** Sihlangu head coach Dominic Kunene says he was impressed with the goal-keeping during the EswatiniBank Cup grand opening on Sunday.

Speaking after the game, the gaffer said the games were in high tempo as each team wanted to advance to the Last 16 of the tournament. "The goalkeepers made important saves. There is a huge progress, more especially because the Super League teams matched the elite teams and it shows that Eswatini football is headed to the right direction," he said.

The goalkeepers are Mbabane Highlanders' Khanyakezwe Shabangu, Innocent Adjah of Manzini Wanderers and Mbabane Swallows'

Sandanezwe Mathabela, who all displayed great performances.

Manzini Wanderers scrapped through to the last 16 while after penalties against Rail United with Mbabane Highlanders beat Hawane Shooting Stars 4-1, while Mbabane Swallows edged Sisonke FC 1-0.

**The goalkeepers made important saves. There is a huge progress, more especially because the Super League teams matched the elite teams and it shows that Eswatini football is headed to the right direction**

## IN CHAKUPEWA, OUT MAJA AT MBABANE CITIZENS

BY JONGILE XUBA

**SOCCER - MBABANE** Citizens have parted ways with Isaac Maja and appointed Julius Chakupewa as the team's new head coach.

This was confirmed by club Chairman Mandla Simelane, who said they settled for a seasoned coach to revive their season and avoid relegation.

"I can confirm that we have parted ways with Maja after he was unable to turn things around for the team. We are happy to announce that we have secured

the services of experienced coach Julius Chakupewa. He will be with us until the end of the season and his mandate is to help us avoid relegation," he said.

### Worked

The Zimbabwean-born mentor is not new to local football as he has worked with Manzini Wanderers, Denver Sundowns and Tambankulu Callies among others teams.

Chakupewa received a rude welcome in his first assignment when they lost 0-4 against Denver Sundowns in the EswatiniBank Cup round of 32 at Prince of Wales Sports Ground on Saturday.

Simelane said they were confident Chakupewa was the right man despite the result.

"The coach only had one training session with the team before we played the cup game last weekend. We have seen a few things that he can definitely turn things around for us especially now that we will be focusing on the league," he said.

The departed Maja is a former assistant coach at Baroka FC and worked under Kgoloko Thobejane. He leaves the team in position eight, one spot above the relegation zone with just 16 points.

## Mathonsi wins inaugural EPGA tourney

BY COLISILE SACOLO

**GOLF - AN** excellent golf display is the fitting description of the inaugural competition hosted by the Eswatini Professional Golfers Association (EPGA) at the Royal Swazi Spa Golf Course on Friday and Saturday.

This was a competition like no other judging by the final episode, where the winner had to be decided after four play-off holes. It is not typical in the local golfing circles to have a highly successful tournament strictly organised for the local professional golfers, who are not many in number.

To spice up the two-day tournament, the organisers invited the country's top amateurs who included the likes of Siboniso Simelane, Vusi G. Dlamini, Vusi H. Dlamini and, Nicolas Vilakati. The competition was won in a spec-

tacular fashion by veteran professional Raymond Mathonsi. This was after the 46-year-old Mathonsi had tied at 140 points on the second day with 23-year-old Jamie Pennington.

The exciting aspect was in having the winner decided after four play-off holes between the top two, who also happen to be good friends.

### Attempts

They equally recorded pars in the first three attempts on holes 18 and 10 and this spawned high-levels of anxiety to both players and the overly enthusiastic pocket of spectators. The fourth play-off hole, which was back on the dreaded 18th par three, was even more adrenaline-charged and brought a mixture of sensational and depressing moments.

This is where Pennington heartbreakingly missed a less than a metre-long putt for a birdie after Mathonsi had sunk his almost four-metre long one with magnificent poise.

Regardless of the heartbreaker, Pennington,



**STAR: Winner Raymond Mathonsi with Eswatini Professional Golfers Association President Musa Mdluli.**

who flew from Cape Town to feature in this tournament, was graceful in defeat as he commended the organisers of the tournament for

### TOP 5 RESULTS:

1. R. Mathonsi	35	36	71	33	36	69	140
2. J. Pennington	34	35	69	34	37	71	140
3. Meshack Zwane	37	38	75	33	35	68	143
4. Bredon Rennie	34	36	70	36	37	73	143
5. Oscar Dube	36	36	72	37	38	75	147

a job well done. He acknowledged that the two-day stretch took a toll on his energy levels considering that he featured in several tournaments in recent months.

### Course

"We had to push ourselves over the 36 holes on a golf course which was in exceptionally good condition. I did not play my best, but in relative terms I did fairly well and was let down by my putts," said Pennington.

Commenting about his turning professional in early 2018, he admitted to be learning a lot from the senior guys like Mathonsi. He is hopeful that this year will bring much better results.



**FIXTURES**



**UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE**

22:00 Atletico Madrid vs Liverpool  
22:00 Borussia Dortmund vs Paris SG



## 'I WANT HIGHLANDERS IN LAST 16'

STORIES BY MELUSI MLOTSA

**SOCCER - NATIONAL** First Division side Tambankulu Callies Chairman Sitsembiso Ngudze Mamba says he will be happy to be drawn against Mbabane Highlanders during the EswatiniBank Cup last 16 today.

The two sides are fresh from playing in the Ingwenyama Cup semi-finals, where Mbabane Highlanders won 2-0, courtesy of Sabelo 'Sawa' Gamedze's brace in the second half. Speaking to this publication yesterday morning, Mamba said he had unfinished business with the capital city giants.

"I will be happy to be drawn against Mbabane Highlanders tomorrow (today). In fact, I have discovered their secret, so they won't beat us this time around. My boys are now more experienced and they also told me that they want Highlanders in the last 16," he said. Mamba added that they did not want to play against hub giants Manzini Wanderers because they finished their business with them when they won 2-0 in the Ingwenyama Cup quarter-finals. "We are praying to get Highlanders."

## ...EswatiniBank Cup draw today

**SOCCER - THE EswatiniBank Cup last 16 draw will be held today at bank's auditorium in Mbabane.**

The event will start at 10am.

This was announced by EswatiniBank Public Relations Officer Phesheya Vilakati.

He said EswatiniBank Managing Director Zakhele Lukhele is expected to witness the draw.

"We also expect the 16 teams' representatives to participate in the draw," he said. Meanwhile, the champions of the tournament will walk away with E1.2 million, while runners-up will take home E500 000. Vilakati further mentioned that tomorrow (Wednesday) will see the official launch of the Under-20 Tournament to be held at the EswatiniBank Auditorium, starting at 11am. "The MD will announce this year's sponsorship package for the tournament."

### LAST 16 TEAMS:

Green Mamba  
Denver Sundowns  
Madlenya  
Mweni Pirates  
Milling Hotspurs  
Royal Leopard  
Tambankulu Callies  
Illovo  
Malanti Chiefs  
Pigg's Peak Black Swallows  
Tambuti  
Young Buffaloes  
Sea Birds  
Manzini Wanderers  
Mbabane Highlanders  
Mbabane Swallows

# 10 'BUFFS' PLAYERS IN SIHLANGU

...We have not had a chance to look at our international players, but we do have every intention of adding them to the final squad

BY JONGILE XUBA

**SOCCER - NEW** Sihlangu head coach Dominic Kunene has announced his provisional squad that has 10 Young Buffaloes players.

The squad was announced yesterday and will soon prepare for their AFCON Qualifiers against Congo Brazzaville in March.

The squad was confirmed by Eswatini Football Association (EFA) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Frederick Mngomezulu through an official communication.

After being recently appointed as the new national team coach, the former Young Buffaloes gaffer seems to have decided to keep faith in his former charges getting a bulk of the players to be part of the 28 man squad.

The squad was expected to have started a midweek training camp yesterday, which will end today.

This will be followed by two training camps between March 5 and 10 with the full-time training camp to begin on March 15.

Asked on the absence of international players from the squad, Kunene said they would be included in the squad in due course.



**ON DUTY:** Sihlangu head coach Dominic Kunene (r) with his assistants Anthony Mdluli and Gcina Dlamini.

"We have not had a chance to look at our international players, but we do have every intention of adding them to the final squad. We will pick those who will be best suited for what the team needs," he said.

The team will also feature new faces at senior level, including the return of an old one. Denver Sundowns'

Felizwe Vilakati, Milling Hotspurs' Linda Mbuli, Mweni Pirates' Mthunzi Motsa, as well as Manzini Sea Birds' Muzi Tsabedze will get a chance to present their case for the Sihlangu selection. The return of experienced Young Buffaloes shot-stopper Nhlahlhla Gwebu will provide a welcome boost of experience to the team.

### SIHLANGU NATIONAL TEAM SQUAD

- |                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Mathabela Sandanezwe | - Mbabane Swallows    |
| 2. Sizolwethu Shabalala | - Mbabane Swallows    |
| 3. Nhlahlhla Ngwenya    | - Mbabane Swallows    |
| 4. Nhlahlhla Ngwebu     | - Young Buffaloes     |
| 5. Siboniso Mamba       | - Young Buffaloes     |
| 6. Sihlangu Mkhwanazi   | - Young Buffaloes     |
| 7. Wandile Maseko       | - Young Buffaloes     |
| 8. Lindo Mkhonta        | - Young Buffaloes     |
| 9. Siboniso Ngwenya     | - Young Buffaloes     |
| 10. Fanelo Mamba        | - Young Buffaloes     |
| 11. Wandile Shabangu    | - Young Buffaloes     |
| 12. Sandile Gamedze     | - Young Buffaloes     |
| 13. Phiwinkhosi Dlamini | - Young Buffaloes     |
| 14. Khanya Shabalala    | - Mbabane Highlanders |
| 15. Simphiwe Manana     | - Mbabane Highlanders |
| 16. Sabelo Gamedze      | - Mbabane Highlanders |
| 17. Ncamiso Dlamini     | - Royal Leopard       |
| 18. Sikhumbuzo Dlamini  | - Royal Leopard       |
| 19. Miamuli Mshibi      | - Royal Leopard       |
| 20. Mzwandile Mabelesa  | - Royal Leopard       |
| 21. Sifiso Matse        | - Royal Leopard       |
| 22. Sidumo Dlamini      | - Royal Leopard       |
| 23. Felizwe Vilakati    | - Denver Sundowns     |
| 24. Sanelo Chauke       | - Green Mamba         |
| 25. Njabulo Tfwala      | - Green Mamba         |
| 26. Linda Mbuli         | - Milling Hotspurs    |
| 27. Mthunzi Motsa       | - Mweni Pirates       |
| 28. Muzi Tsabedze       | - Manzini Sea Birds   |

BY MELUSI MLOTSA

**SOCCER - THE Premier League of Eswatini has disputed former PLE Chief Executive Officer Simanga Nhleko's notice of application filed in the Industrial Court.**

According to an answering affidavit filed by PLE Chairman Peter Magagula through V.Z Dlamini Attorneys, the matter is fraught with material disputes of facts.

"I further submit that to prove that facts were foreseeable in the matter, the Applicant reported a dispute for a breach of contract to CMAC sometime in September or October 2019.

CMAC then issued a certificate of unresolved dispute on or about

## PLE disputes Simanga facts

November 4, 2019.

The Applicant subsequently instituted motion proceedings on or about December 13, 2019 based on the same cause of action and seeking the same relief he sought at CMAC.

He, however, failed to either annex the certificate of unresolved dispute or disclose this fact," reads part of the affidavit. The Respondent also denied that the honourable court has jurisdiction to hear and determine the matter by virtue of the apparent dispute of fact.

"The Respondent wishes to adduce oral evidence to prove that the Offer

of Employment was conditional upon party's endorsement of the contract of employment.

I humbly submit that the offer of employment alone is not consistent with all the essentials of an employment contracts, it does not define all the terms on which agreement was sought," reads the affidavit.

Moreover, there is a dispute regarding the terms that were offered to the applicant.

For instance, the Applicant alleges that he was offered gratuity and an institutional car, but the Respondent denies that such benefits were offered.

Such terms do not appear in the Offer of Employment. In the premises, oral evidence has to be led to afford the parties an opportunity to test the credibility of each case and in particular to prove the terms for which the Applicant worked in twelve (12) month period.

I admit that I approached the Applicant and notified him about the available position of the Chief Executive Officer in the organisation, the rest of allegations are unknown to me."

The PLE admitted that the Applicant was offered a basic salary of E25 000 per month, communication allowance in the sum of E750, housing allowance of E1 000 plus travelling allowance in the sum of E1 500 to be drawn as fuel.