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June 25 - July 1, 2020

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SCOTT ESCAPES THE NOOSE..!

...extradition clause ties the hand of justice >> Pg 2

Lehlohonolo Scott



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WiseWORDS: Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it is time to pause and reflect. ~Mark Twain

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On This Day in History

JUNE 25



- 1959**
The Cuban government seizes 2.35 million acres under a new agrarian reform law.
- 1962**
The U.S. Supreme Court bans official prayers in public schools.
- 1967**
First global satellite television programme "Our World" broadcast featuring 19 acts representing 19 nations including The Beatles singing "All You Need is Love"

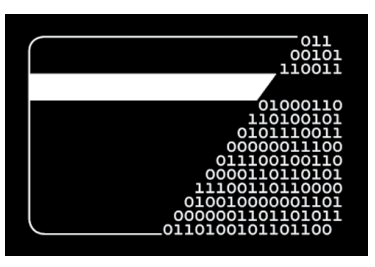
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2. Crime Hotline: 22313337
3. WASCO: 22262000
4. LEC: 52100000
5. Police Station: 22317262
6. Airport: 22350777
7. MRT0: 2232 5494
8. Ombudsman: 22316425
9. Metro News Tips: 2232 5494
10. Border Control: 22325740

Essentials

1. Trader's License: MI000+/-
2. Company Certificate: Free
3. Travel Passport: MI30 - M400
4. National ID: Free
5. Driver's License: M200
6. Car Registration Certificate: MI35 - M265
7. Number plate: M60 - M400
8. Special permit: M60 - M400
9. Fitness: MI20 - M400

Technology



Digital money

The rise of digital currency has massive ramifications for financial privacy. As the use of physical cash declines, so does the freedom to transact without an intermediary. Meanwhile, digital currency technology could be used to splinter the global financial system.

Last June Facebook unveiled a "global digital currency" called Libra. The idea triggered a backlash and Libra may never launch, at least not in the way it was originally envisioned. But it's still made a difference: just days after Facebook's announcement, an official from the People's Bank of China implied that it would speed the development of its own digital currency in response. Now China is poised to become the first major economy to issue a digital version of its money, which it intends as a replacement for physical cash.

China's leaders apparently see Libra, meant to be backed by a reserve that will be mostly US dollars, as a threat: it could reinforce America's disproportionate power over the global financial system, which stems from the dollar's role as the world's de facto reserve currency. Some suspect China intends to promote its digital renminbi internationally.

Now Facebook's Libra pitch has become geopolitical. In October, CEO Mark Zuckerberg promised American Congress that Libra "will extend America's financial leadership as well as our democratic values and oversight around the world." The digital money wars have begun.

Scott escapes the noose...! ...extradition clause ties the hand of justice

STAFF REPORTERS

MASERU - Double-murder convict Lehlohonolo Scott finally had his judgement day in court with two life sentences and a further five year jail term for escaping from custody.

And thanks to the extradition clause, he has been able to dodge the gauntlet, to which the presiding judge Justice Teboho Moiloa was not shy to mention it was deserved!

Scott will serve his sentence without an option of parole, whatsoever, the judge also said.

Handing down the verdict before the High Court on Tuesday, Justice Moiloa described Scott's crimes as some of the most heinous this country has ever dealt with.

Sentencing Scott's mother 'Malehlohonolo as the co-accused in the case, the judge handed down a ten-year jail term, which he, however showed was not fitting.

But he said the court took into account the frailty and persistent illness the woman has faced throughout the marathon case.

'Malehlohonolo was brought into the courtroom carried the morning before the hand down of the sentence.

"One day you will meet your God to answer for this," was all the judge could say after suspending the entire sentence for three years.

The Scotts were earlier this year convicted of the 2012 ritual murders of their two young male neighbours, which happened at Koalabata in the Berea district.

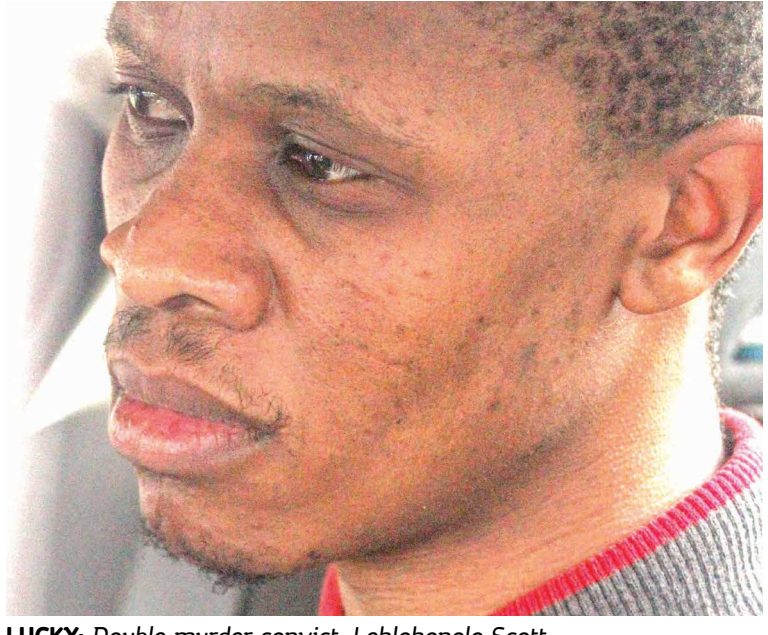
Lehlohonolo was also found guilty of escaping from the Maseru Central Prison after his arrest later that year, in a rather superficial way, which was later reportedly orchestrated by some highly placed persons in government and or in the prison ranks.

'Malehlohonolo was found guilty of aiding her son after he murdered one of the two boys.

Justice Moiloa, however, acquitted 'Malehlohonolo of one of the murders after the court could not find enough evidence linking her to the crime.

Handing down the long awaited verdict, Judge Moiloa had said among others, Scott volunteered to point out locations where the deceased's body parts were later found.

He said after his detention, evidence shows that Scott was assisted to escape from prison by men who were dressed in black and had their faces covered with balaclava hats.



LUCKY: Double murder convict Lehlohonolo Scott

In some of his remarks, the Judge pointed out that though the families of the victims could finally say justice was delivered, it was still going to be difficult to find total closure as some of the body parts of the victims were never discovered and the accused was never ready to shed light on their whereabouts.

The Scotts were charged with two counts of the murder of Moholobela Seetsa and Kamohelo Mohata in January and July 12, 2012, respectively.

Both mother and son were arrested on July 12, 2012 and later hauled before the Maseru Magistrate's Court where they were remanded in custody.

Scott escaped from jail in October 2012 but after his dramatic escape from jail, the prosecution was forced to postpone the trial to August 1, 2013, with the hope he would have been re-arrested.

'Malehlohonolo was in August 2013 released on M500 bail by the High Court after spending over 10 months behind bars.

This was after several applications for her pre-trial liberty were opposed by the prosecution and turned down by the court.

After securing the long sought-after temporary liberty for his client, Advocate Thulo Hoane who also represented both accused told the media justice had finally prevailed.

The matter had been postponed on several occasions before with the prosecution opposing the bail application, citing the gravity of the offence.

The seriousness of the charges, the prosecution showed, stemmed predominantly from the manner in

which they were committed.

The main trial was initially postponed in February 2013 because Scott, who was the main accused in the case, was missing.

But events took another twist in November 2013 when the then Minister of Justice, Mophatho Monyake announced an investigator that he had appointed had captured the elusive Scott in South Africa.

Monyake also pledged to deliver Scott in Lesotho within a fortnight of his alleged apprehension.

Scott was subsequently captured in Durban, KwaZulu-Natal on April 6, 2014 after almost two years on the run.

But following a long and bitter wrangle at the Durban North Magistrate's Court in South Africa to thwart his extradition to Lesotho, the court on May 5, 2015 ruled that Scott should be extradited to his native country.

The court maintained it had been convinced that Scott was the right person wanted by the Lesotho government in connection with the alleged ritual murders of 2012.

On October 21, 2015, Scott was finally extradited to Lesotho amid tight security.

Later that day, the fugitive was brought before Justice Moiloa who remanded him in custody until November 23 when his case resumed.

Shortly thereafter, Scott was returned to the Maseru Central Prison following more than a two-year absence without leave from the correctional facility.

A total of over 10 witnesses inclusive of police officers, the area chief and neighbours testified in the marathon trial.

Fast FACTS **3.95 billion**

Fashion retailer The Foschini Group (TFG) is asking shareholders to raise R3.95 billion as a precautionary measure against a possible Covid-19-induced downturn.

TFG CEO Anthony Thunström said the intention is to insulate the company's balance sheet against any shocks. Senior equity analyst at Sasfin Wealth, Alec Abraham shares the sentiment that TFG is raising capital due to Covid-19 uncertainty; therefore it needs to ensure there are enough funds in its balance sheet to pay for things such as stock and employee salaries.

Jargon Buster

Opportunity Cost

In everyday thinking, the cost of going to a university consists of tuition fees plus the cost of food, rent and so on. In economic terms, the opportunity cost is the "cost" incurred by not enjoying the benefit associated with the best alternative choice. When an option is chosen from alternatives. The true cost of choosing one option as the opportunity which had to be given up as a result. If you want to build a house and at the same time want to buy a car, but opt for a car, the opportunity cost is the house that you have forgone in order to have your nice car.

Cracks

The mental patient's act of love

Sello and Palesa were both patients in a mental hospital.

One day while they were walking past the hospital swimming pool, Sello suddenly jumped into the deep end. He sank to the bottom of the pool and stayed there.

Palesa promptly jumped in to save him. She swam to the bottom and pulled Sello out.

When the Matron became aware of Palesa's heroic act, she immediately ordered her to be discharged from the hospital, as she now considered her to be mentally stable.

When she went to tell Palesa the news she said, "Palesa, I have good news and bad news. The good news is you're being discharged; since you were able to rationally respond to a crisis by jumping in and saving the life of another patient, I have concluded that your act displays that you have a sound mind. The bad news is; Sello, the patient you saved, hung himself in the bathroom with his bathrobe belt right after you saved him. I am so sorry, but he's dead.

Palesa replied, "He didn't hang himself, I put him there to dry. How soon can I go home?"

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Metro

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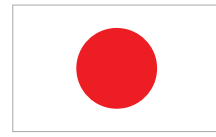
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NASDAQ100	19,130.33
Nikkei225	22,549.05
Dow Jones30	26,024.96
FTSE 100	6,325.35
JSE	55,443.00
Hang Seng	24,907.34
PRECIOUS METALS	PRICE (US\$)
Gold	1,761.20
Platinum	827.64
Silver	17.87
Copper	5,914.81
Crude Oil / Brent Oil	43.91
EQUITIES	
Bonds	17.21
Treasury Bills	17.21
Interest Rates	17.21

AGRICULTURE (Rates in Maloti/Rands)

Maize Meal p/kg	M4.80	Eggs p/tray	M45.00
Wheat Meal p/kg	M6.00	Milk (fresh) p/litre	M11.00
Cabbage p/kg	M6.00	Milk (sour) p/litre	M13.50
Potatoes p/kg	M8.57	Rice p/kg	M13.50
Brown Bread p/loaf	M8.00	White Sugar p/kg	M18.00
White Bread p/loaf	M11.00	Brown Sugar p/kg	M15.00
Sorghum Meal p/kg	M18.00	Beef p/kg	M80.00
Brown Beans p/kg	M24.00	Mutton p/kg	M85.00
Tomato	M8.00		

ENERGY (Rates in Maloti/Rands)

Petrol Unleaded 93 p/litre	M9.85
Unleaded 95 p/litre	M10.10
Diesel 50PPm p/litre	M10.40
500PPm p/litre	M10.40
Paraffin p/litre	M5.45
Water (Domestic) p/litre	M5.53
Water (Industrial) p/litre	M15.03
Electricity (Domestic) p/unit	M1.38
Electricity (Industrial) p/unit	M0.26
Gas p/kg	M0.43

STAFF REPORTER

Trout farm successfully funded, set for further growth

Africa's crucial aquaculture industry has been boosted by an investment into SanLei, a leading aquaculture company headquartered in Lesotho. SanLeiTM is a vertically integrated processor of trout located on the Katse Dam. The name "SanLei," loosely translated from Japanese, means "where the mountains meet the sky."

The transaction positions SanLei to accelerate its expansion towards becoming the largest trout operation of its kind in Africa. The company supplies premium trout to regional and offshore export markets while creating jobs and contributing to food security in Lesotho. SanLei currently sustains 90 jobs in Lesotho. With planned expansion of the production facilities over the next two to three years, this number is expected to double.

The capital restructuring of SanLei was undertaken by One Thousand & One Voices, a private family capital fund backed exclusively by industry-leading families largely from the USA. As part of the transaction, Mergence Investment Managers (Lesotho) (Pty) Ltd acquired a significant minority interest in SanLei on behalf of the Basotho.

Mergence Investment Managers is an independent asset manager founded in 2004 with capability across both listed and unlisted investments - spanning equity, debt, multi-asset class, private equity and infrastructure funds. Our clients are largely institutional, with a growing offering for individual investors. Working throughout the Southern African Development Community (SADC), we have offices in Cape Town, Johannesburg, Windhoek, Maseru and Mbabane.

Katse Dam is known for its deep, pristine waters and highly favourable environment for growing premium trout.

Semoli Mokhanoi, Director SADC & Head of Distribution at Mergence Investment Managers (Lesotho), said: "We are excited about what the future holds for this Lesotho company. With the benefit of a strong Lesotho-based shareholder in its capital

structure, SanLei is on a firm footing to further accelerate international opportunities, thereby benefiting the Kingdom of Lesotho and its people."

"With the Basotho in the capital structure, we believe SanLei is even better positioned than before for continued growth and expansion, which will allow us return capital to the investing families," said Krijn Resoort, Chief Executive Officer of SanLei. The announcement coincides with the recent release of the Ocean and Coastal Fishing and Fish Farming in South Africa 2020 report which notes that with natural fish resources in decline and growing demand for fish, aquaculture is becoming increasingly important. According to a 2018 article in Farmer's Weekly, for the purposes of aquaculture, trout can consume artificial feed from day one, can be mass reared at high densities, grow rapidly and can be harvested inside a year.



EXCITED: Head of distribution at Mergence Investment Managers Semoli Mokhanoi

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Basotho in SA could receive relief fund

NEO SENOKO

MASERU - Basotho in South Africa are set to benefit from the R350 Covid-19 social relief of distress grant as provided by government.

This follows a Pretoria High Court ruling on Friday last week that the SA government includes asylum seekers and special permit holders from Lesotho, Angola and Zimbabwe as recipients of the Covid-19 social relief distress grant.

The special grant was announced by President Cyril Ramaphosa in April as part of government's expanded social relief efforts during the Covid-19 pandemic. It is intended for people who do not have any other source of income during this period.

Since the Corona outbreak, Basotho in South Africa have been complaining, calling for the government of Lesotho to provide food and financial assistance as the South African government has restricted movement of people and the borders are closed.

Most Basotho who are still in South Africa are also not benefitting from the food parcels that are given to South Africans during this period.

In response, the government of Lesotho has since allowed hundreds of Basotho to come home through the available illegal ports of entry during the difficult times of Covid-19.

Those that are still left behind, however, are now likely to benefit from the R350 grant.

Initially, the SA government had made it clear through the Minister of Social Development Lindiwe Zulu, that the grant is available for South Africans and permanent residents only.

The matter was, however, challenged in court by the Scalabrini Centre of Cape Town, a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) based in Cape Town, providing specialised services for refugees, migrant and South African communities. On May 22, the Scalabrini Centre of Cape Town launched urgent litigation in the Pretoria High Court regarding

the exclusion of people on asylum-seeking process or special permit status from the six month Covid-19 Social Relief of Distress grant by the South African government.

On Friday last week, the Centre won a court order that may ensure that some South Africa's asylum seekers and special permit holders will be able to apply for the Covid-19 Social Relief of Distress grant.

"The court decision means people who hold asylum-seeker and special permit status in South Africa, whose documents were valid at the start of the National State of Disaster, will be able to apply for the grant. Applicants will need to provide their documents as issued by the South African government," the centre said in a statement following the court triumph.

While the new government of Lesotho has not said anything with regard to assisting those that are still in South Africa and not able to come home, a promise was made by the previous Thomas Thabane led government on

providing assistance.

Former Minister of Foreign Affairs Lesego Makgothi made a promise in April that Basotho who are in South Africa should stay in that country for the duration of the lockdown as government comes up with plans to assist them. He said government was working closely with the Lesotho High Commissioner in SA to study the situation as well as negotiate with their host government on how best to deal with the situation.

The National Emergency Command Centre (NECC) head of information and communications, Abeloang Ramakhula said in a brief interview with Maseru Metro on Wednesday that the current government has not promised anything to those in South Africa. Initially some close to 13 000 Basotho registered in South Africa for assistance, but the number was dismissed as too small as tens of thousands of Basotho are in SA, but mainly living there illegally or not formerly registered.

LCCI launches solidarity fund

KABELO MASOABI

MASERU - The Lesotho Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) has launched a private sector Covid-19 solidarity fund with the purpose of helping and making a meaningful contribution to the government's efforts to battle the Corona virus.

This was achieved with the advice of body's associate members with the launch taking place in Maseru recently. The Minister of Small Business Development, Cooperatives and Marketing Keketso Sello, also graced the event.

The aim of the fund is to make a significant and effective contribution to the country's efforts to fight the scourge of corona virus pandemic, the LCCI explained, adding the funds will be used to assist the government in its effort to fight the disease.

The specific fund raising activities invites for giant businesses, organisations of goodwill, associations and individuals to send through their financial contributions to assist in the fight against COVID-19. Contributions have already started flowing in, the LCCI noted.

LCCI said through an elected committee that will develop the rules and regulations for the management of the fund, it will also work in collaboration with the government and other stakeholders.

"The Solidarity Fund will not hand over cash to any entity but will make direct payments for materials that have been identified by those in the front line," said the chamber in its statement.

The LCCI has pledged to ensure that the funds collected are fully accounted for, while also ensuring that reports are provided on a given time-frame and all those that have made contributions are duly recognised.

In another statement in relation to the effects of Covid-19 on the nation, the LCCI said it has taken note of the adverse effects that the pandemic has and is continuing to have on business in all its facets.

In recognition thereof, it has sought to approach various stakeholders to seek an understanding of what role it can play as a business forum to mitigate the effects of the virus.

LCCI further recommended that all businesses be allowed to operate in a manner that observes public health mitigation measures; as our founded fear is that a continued full scale lock-down is likely to cause irreparable harm to businesses and job security.



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MARTYN DAVIES

How will Africa manage the post-COVID economy?

African economies are in danger of even further marginalization as a result of de-globalisation. African states can only deal with their debt burdens through renewed growth in their own economies. A shift to digital could delay an economic recovery in many developing African states.

It is too early to say that the global economy is entering the recovery phase after the humanitarian and economic damage inflicted by COVID-19. However, there are already three mega-trends emerging, which will also shape Africa's economic future – the three 'Ds' of the new world order.

The world is no longer converging but rapidly diverging in an alarming manner. Simple proxy indicators are air travel and shipping volumes, both of which have all but collapsed in the face of shutdowns and imposed travel restrictions.

With the global shutdown having impacted countries that account for over 80% of global GDP, the World Trade Organisation (WTO) recently warned that, as a worst case, trade could collapse by as much as a third this year. Even considering its most optimistic scenario, the WTO forecasts that trade could fall by 13% in 2020, a similar drop in trade as recorded in 2009 after the financial crisis.

The demand shock is being exacerbated by protectionist sentiment. Countries are clearly not actively promoting liberalized trade, seeking economic solace through protectionism. Multilateralism is now unfortunately on the backburner. Rising trade frictions will result in increased trade polarization, especially targeted at China, which is likely to respond in a similar fashion. We are likely to see a rapid erosion of the principles of free trade that could delay the global economic recovery.

Another trend is the increased significance of Asia as a trading bloc with China at its centre. In light of China's demand for commodities, both for its infrastructure roll-out and its industry, this will have strategic geo-economic consequences for developing countries, which have primary commodities as their main exports.

Already a minor player in global trade terms, African economies are in danger of even further marginalization as a result of these macro trends. It is unfortunate that the African Union has decided to postpone the implementation of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) to next year, perhaps the most ambitious free trade project since the WTO itself. It is envisioned that, through reducing barriers to trade, the economic prospects of a continent of over 1.3 billion people with a combined Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of \$2.5 trillion – almost identical to India's – will be boosted. It has been calculated that if Africa was to increase its share of global trade from 2% to 3%, the one percentage point increase would generate approximately \$70 billion of additional income per year for the continent.

The continent can do little to counter the global forces inclining toward de-globalization, but it can itself embrace a self-supportive regionalism through enhanced intra-African trade. Almost counter-cyclically, actively promoting trade liberalization to encourage new areas of growth would be a pragmatic response to the reduction in global trade, not to mention promoting Africa as an enhanced destination for investment from multinationals.

The outflow of capital from the emerging world has been huge in recent months and has left deep holes in developing countries' finances. Facing rising fiscal deficits, over 100 countries have applied to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for emergency funding. In addition, the G20 has called for a debt moratorium from bilateral sovereign creditors to provide payment relief to highly indebted African countries. Private creditors, however, have been less forthcoming, choosing to review debts on a case-by-case basis. It is imperative that multilateral financial institutions move rapidly to alleviate the dire financial situation in many capital-constrained African countries. Among Africa's largest creditors are

China's so-called "policy banks" that have been extensive lenders to African countries over the course of the past decade or more. It is to be expected that the continent's debt will increasingly become politicized between Western creditors and China.

Most importantly, African states can only remedy the growth-suppressing burden of debt through renewed growth in their own economies. It is imperative that Africa's aspiring emerging economies embrace true structural reform in order to unlock growth and enhance their competitiveness for the longer term. Ultimately this should become the tangible legacy of the COVID-19 crisis.

COVID-19 is acting as an accelerant for the adoption of digital technologies, as companies seek to boost competitiveness by slimming

down and reducing established costs in their business. Embracing remote work could impact many economies that are ill-prepared for rapid change driven by technology and behaviour. This shift could delay an economic recovery in many developing African states. But there are exceptions. Rwanda is seeking to set itself up as a tech-enabled services economy that is better able to leverage innovation in a post-COVID economy.

The current crisis will leave lasting scars in a new but challenging world order. The crisis has undoubtedly revealed the fragility of the growth models of developing countries and threatens to deepen the divide between advanced economies and the Global South. Rwanda's president Paul Kagame has said that it could take "a generation or more" for

many African countries to recover from the pandemic.

How African states respond and adapt in the coming months to these destabilising forces will have significant implications for their future economies and societies. The future appears to be one of increasing divergence between the advanced and developing world. The ability to counter the crisis and adapt will require a change in many stagnant political systems of African states that continue to impede change, now more than ever before. If this shift does not take place, then the quest for structural reform and inclusive growth will remain unachievable. Martyn Davies is Managing Director of Emerging Markets & Africa, Deloitte Africa; Senior Fellow at the Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth.

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NUL Innovation Hub targets South African markets

MASERU - Companies being born out of the National University of Lesotho (NUL) Innovation Hub are making products that are yet to be visible within the tiny Lesotho market but, lo and behold, they are already targeting a humongous South African market.

"People who don't understand incubation and innovation development phases such as research, incubation, acceleration and mass production often accuse us of not delivering enough to the Lesotho markets.

"Be patient good people. We are not even at acceleration stage yet, which is when you will begin to see significant foot print. Many people are not aware that real innovation is extremely hard because there are no short-cuts," the hub spokesperson continued to say;

"However don't think these Innovation Hub folks are aiming at Lesotho. Everything in the plan is aimed at overtaking the tiny Lesotho market

into South Africa. We are taking South African market very seriously and we will ultimately introduce our manufactured products and hi-tech apps there. Ultimately, we plan to even export our firms there."

According to the hub, here are the obvious reasons:

1. Lesotho has the privilege of being the only country in Africa that lives inside a belly of Africa's most advanced economy. Elsewhere, failing to take advantage of that reality would be a punishable criminal offence.

2. Anecdotal evidence shows that South Africans are crazy about Lesotho products.

3. Lesotho has only two million people or so. You can't confine yourself to such a tiny population if you are serious about business.

4. If the Innovation Hub's plan for "The Village Factories" works, there is no reason why such

factories can't be exported to the vibrant South African townships.

Sounds too ambitious? The present way of doing things is not an option for the Innovators of the Roma Valley. The NUL launched the Innovation Hub during the NUL Week at the main campus in Roma from November 14 – 15, 2018.

The NUL Innovation Hub was sponsored to the tune of M1 000 000 by Metropolitan Lesotho to secure space and buy equipment that will incubate a range of products that can add value to the people's ordinary daily lives.

Developed from research by NUL staff and students, some of these products have been developed into prototypes that have already hit the market and need to be nurtured into businesses that can generate income.

During the launch, faculties showcased their various programmes, research work and innovations.



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From next year trucks on the N3 could save 25% on fuel thanks to LNG – but motorists can't have any

Sometime around the third quarter of 2021, new fuel pumps are due to appear at two Total filling stations on the N3, one near Johannesburg, and one near Durban.

They will be offering liquefied natural gas (LNG), from wells in the Free State, for use by specially adapted vehicles – at a discount of at least 25% to the price of diesel.

But even if they had the vehicles to use it, motorists will have to wait in line. Because supply will be limited at first, the LNG will be sold on contract-only basis to trucking companies, and "a significant portion" of production is already spoken for.

That may, or may not, still be the case by the time more LNG pumps are rolled out on routes between other major cities.

Renergen, which operates gas wells near Virginia in the Free State, announced the resale deal with Total South Africa this week. It will come into operation as soon as the first phase of Renergen's LNG plant starts churning out LNG.

Thanks to the composition of the gas in its wells, the only onshore petroleum production site in South Africa, Renergen could end up as a significant global supplier of helium. The strategic value of that helium has attracted interest, and investment, from the likes of the United States government.

But much of its production will be natural gas which, when liquefied, serves as a cleaner fuel for vehicles than petrol or diesel. Besides cost, that also provides an advantage when carbon output is measured, and taxed.

LNG is considered a niche market fuel, suitably only for heavy trucks due to factors that include the need for well-insulated fuel tanks to keep it cold. But it is relatively easy to convert LNG to compressed natural gas (CNG) at a filling station, and CNG is more suitable for dual-fuel passenger vehicles.

Such dual-fuel cars are available in some parts of the world, though not all manufacturers are excited by their commercial prospects.

A lack of CNG filling stations has historically held back adoption of such vehicles. Business Insider

Botswana saws off horns to save rhinos from poachers

Botswana began removing the horns from its rhinos and moving them away from the iconic Okavango Delta as an unprecedented poaching crisis threatens their survival in the country.

The government said that at least 56 of the animals had been killed by poachers in the past two years, marking the worst onslaught since Botswana's black rhino population was wiped out in 1992 and the number of white rhinos dropped to just 27.

The horns are smuggled to the Far East where they are believed to cure cancer and other illnesses.

Dehorning, an exercise in which the horns are removed using chainsaws to render the animals valueless to illegal hunters, will "combat poaching and safeguard the future of this species", the Botswana Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources, Conservation and Tourism said in a statement. Tourism accounts for a fifth of the country's economy.

The size of Botswana's rhino population is a closely guarded secret. Official documents show that there were 153 white rhinos living in the wild by 2014, while private reserves had some black rhinos.

An additional 87 rhinos were brought in last year from South Africa. Analysts say the number of rhinos in the delta, where almost the entire wild population lives, has dwindled to a handful. The Okavango Delta, a vast wildlife sanctuary and Botswana's biggest tourist attraction, is under threat from crime syndicates which use the waterways and the lack of border patrols to hunt rhinos.

Previous wildlife intelligence indicated that poaching was led by liberation war veterans from Namibia and Zimbabwe who had ties to Asian networks. The dehorning programme will be accompanied by increased anti-poaching operations, said Mmadi Reuben, the principal veterinary officer of the department of wildlife and national parks.

"The message that rhinos have been dehorned must be spread far and wide," he said in a video distributed on social media by the government this week. Bloomberg

Indian state puts three Chinese investment proposals on hold after deadly border clash

An Indian state has put on hold three initial investment proposals from Chinese companies worth 50 billion rupees (\$658 million), a state minister said on Monday, after a deadly border clash between the two nuclear-armed nations last week.

The decision by the state government of Maharashtra, home to India's financial capital of Mumbai, comes days after it signed the investment agreements with the three Chinese companies, including Great Wall Motor Co.

"In the current environment we will wait for the federal government to announce a clear policy regarding these projects," Maharashtra's industries minister, Subhash Desai said in a statement, adding that the agreements, however, are not being cancelled.

India said last Tuesday 20 of its soldiers had been killed in clashes with Chinese troops at a disputed border site, in a major escalation of a weeks-long standoff between the two Asian giants in the western Himalayas.

Reuters

New Development Bank approves US\$1BN loan for SA



The New Development Bank (NDB) – formerly called the BRICS Development Bank will be giving South Africa a US\$1 billion loan to help the country fight the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic.

According to a statement published by

National Treasury on Saturday morning, the NDB board approved this Emergency Assistance Program Loan to South Africa on Friday.

"National Treasury welcomes the approval of the loan and together with NDB are

working on final technical and administrative requirements. Final details on the loan will be published once all processes have been concluded," said Treasury in a statement.

In a separate statement, the NDB said it wanted to help SA roll out better healthcare response and to provide a social safety net to most vulnerable individuals who've borne the brunt of the economic mayhem that Covid-19 has caused in the country.

"The Program envisages preventing, detecting and responding to the health threat posed by Covid-19, and providing social grants to vulnerable groups affected by measures implemented to prevent and contain the disease," wrote the NDB in its statement.

The bank established an Emergency Assistance Facility to help its member countries which are Brazil, Russia, India, China and SA. It said the Emergency Program Loan to South Africa is the third to be approved by its board in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. The bank provided these emergency loans to China and India earlier this year. Business Insider

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This is Lesotho...

... In News



JAILED: Former first lady 'Maesaiah Thabane

There isn't much telling in the news these days, unless it has something to do with the Corona virus. This the South Africa journalist who fled his country and took exile in Lesotho during lock down was expected to be helped back to his home in Meqheleng, Ficksburg after weeks of negotiations and interventions while in other news the public has been asked to be vigilant with scams coming up to dupe them their hard earned money because of the corona virus.

Yes! Even cases in court are heard on the proviso that Covid-19 regulations are adhered to and that is why the court will only give decision on Friday whether the former First Lady 'Maesaiah Thabane will be granted bail, probably because for a judge who felt a little bit ill, it was not advisable that he sits the bench. But news being news, there are more cases now before the police to deal with and even the DCEO has finally made a voice with the story of Victoria Hotel having been made to change hands in some of the most rotten deals ever crafted...

... In Politics



Prime Minister Dr Moeletsji Maserake

It was boos this week as the deputy Speaker of the National Assembly lost a motion of no confidence and dragged out of the House following a ten vote margin that analysts say spells danger for the newly seated government led by Dr. Moeletsji Maserake.

Though not totally all new, daggers have always been drawn against deputy Speaker Lehloenyane for some of the decisions he has made in the House even before the collapse of the Thabane led government.

What political analysts believe, is that the quitter motion has yet put to test the numbers in parliament, especially in daily drifting of Selibe Mochoboroane's MEC from the new government amidst his appearance in court where he is facing treason charges. The question has been, How safely can Maserake guide this new government to 2022, or will it collapse and crumble under its weight?

MoneyMatters make it count

How to prepare your business for the future



CONFIDENT: Head of WesBank's SME segment, Futhi Cabe

FUTHI CABE

Knowing exactly what the future will bring has never been a sure thing - but Covid-19 has taken this to extreme & daunting new levels. As part of a strategy for being future-fit, inspired leaders of small businesses relentlessly advance their key people using every opportunity to evaluate, coach and build self-confidence. According to Futhi Cabe,

Head of WesBank's SME segment, in order to move forward you have to know where you're starting from. In the fifth part of WesBank's How to grow your business series, Futhi explains how to get to grips with some basic principles.

Having understood the importance of setting realistic goals and hopefully started your journey of revising the plans you had set for your business; you should now be able to develop and document

a plan that will map out your business's future direction. This involves strategic planning and utilising current resources to chart the course for the future.

Here are some suggestions on how you can go about this critical exercise:

Be clear about where you are currently positioned - It is really great to know where you are going. However, if you do not know where you are, you will find it difficult to reach your target. When thinking about and crafting your future, analysis to determine your current situation is as important as a clear vision of the targeted future. Conduct a critical analysis of all your resources.

Involve key stakeholders - During your analysis of your key resources, be prudent enough to involve relevant stakeholders. Whether your business is very small or relatively medium-sized, long-serving and highly credible employees, and perhaps selected clients, should form part of this exercise.

Your discussions should focus on the following: Identify areas of uniqueness for your business. Is it your technology? Is it that you have the best skilled people in your industry? Be very clear about what your best assets are, decide on a strategic position to exploit that identified uniqueness and consider trade-off areas that neither contribute to nor complement that uniqueness.

The main purpose of this exercise is to have a better understanding of the most unique resources that set you apart in your industry of choice. In other words, what makes your business cut through the clutter? Isolate these, quantify them as they stand today, and compare them against the desired future.

Document and disseminate the findings - Share the outcomes of the preliminary process described above with all the stakeholders who participated. Wherever possible, this should be done by reassembling the group. Clearly indicate to the contributors those suggestions you are taking on board and those you will not, and why not. Keep your key stakeholders abreast of all the steps you will take going forward.

Gain the agreement of your key people - Involve your key people in the process. Remember that those with a vested interest in keeping things as they are have become experts at derailing threats to their comfort and security.

Out of The Ordinary

Man fined for farting

An Austrian man was fined more than R10 000 after farting in front of police with 'intent'.

Police officers said he loudly farted in front of them.

According to police, the man was acting "provocatively and uncooperatively" during an encounter, and when he stood up from a

park bench he "let go a massive intestinal wind apparently with full intent," all while looking at the officers, the Associated Press reported.

"Our colleagues don't like to be farted at so much," police wrote in the incident report.

The Oesterreich newspaper reported that the incident happened in Vienna, Austria, on June

5, and that the man, who has not been publicly named, was fined for "offending public decency."

Police said the fine could be appealed, but if it goes unpaid, the man could face up to five days in jail, according to Newsweek.

The fine is worth €550, the equivalent of some R10 800.

In a tweet seen by AP, police assured the public that "no one is reported for accidentally 'letting one go,'" and that this was a special incident.



Metro HEALTHY Living

Lesotho records 5 new COVID-19 cases



CONCERNED: Incident Manager at the Ministry of Health Dr Llang Maama

LINEO MABEKEBEKE

MASERU - The tally of positive Covid-19 cases in Lesotho has increased to a double digit within a space of less than a week after the Ministry of Health reported five more new cases on Tuesday.

In a statement that was released on

Tuesday, the Ministry of Health announced five additional Covid-19 positive cases, of three Basotho with travel history to the Republic of South Africa, one without any travel history and a South African who was in and out Lesotho.

This brings it to total of 17 confirmed cases, with victims ranging from one - 47

years of age. The ministry has also raised concern that there is now a registered local case with no travel history.

In another turn, with the COVID-19 cases on the increase, the ministry through the National Emergency Command Centre (NECC) has confirmed having received a letter from the Ministry of Health in Zimbabwe indicating that the country has recorded four Coronavirus imports from Lesotho.

This is after the Zimbabwean ministry of health announced 62 new COVID-19 cases, claiming that four of them had been imported from Lesotho, as according to the ministry.

Sharing Lesotho's point of view, the International Health Regulations manager in the Ministry of Health in Lesotho, Khotso Mahomo said these are four females who were allegedly residing in Lesotho.

He confirmed having received this report from their counterparts in Zimbabwe but noted that there are predicaments regarding the said cases.

Amongst others, Mahomo assured the nation that the four people in question do not appear on the Zimbabwean nationals' repatriation list from Lesotho.

Furthermore, he pointed out that the challenge of tracing contacts is also aggravated by the fact that upon registration in their country, the four did not indicate names and or contacts of people they met

even those they stayed with while in Lesotho.

However, Mahomo is adamant that the ministry will do everything in its power to follow up on these cases, further pledging to give feed back to the nation at a later stage.

In relation to testing, more and more tests are being conducted on suspected people.

For his part, the Minister of Health Motlatsi Maselepo admitted that this is a serious issue, which is new to everybody.

The matter, he said also poses a lot of challenges which are entirely new to the health team, adding it keeps on developing all the time, therefore urging Basotho to adhere to the set regulations.

The director of disease control in the Ministry of Health Dr Llang Maama said the country has now tested a total of 3 000 people, adding that some of them were tested in the country.

About the one suspect who had no travel history, she said they are still in a process of learning what might have happened with the suspect to contract the virus.

Dr Maama said the increasing number of COVID-19 patients in the country means that Basotho need to be very vigilant in their daily lives.

This comes after WHO released its predictions indicating that COVID-19 is not over yet and that countries of the world including Lesotho are yet to register more and more cases in the near future.

COVID-19 makes it difficult for the blind

LINEO MABEKEBEKE

MASERU - Virus prevention measures were drafted without concern for those with partial vision or blindness.

This is a concern raised by people living with partial visual disability or blindness as more and more restrictions are being lifted and major sectors of the economy return to normalcy.

Touching surfaces when walking is a basic requirement often used by visually impaired people to ground themselves and to locate where they are, but this has become increasingly dangerous to use with the spread of COVID-19 in the country and worldwide.

Touching a contaminated surface or object, and then touching one's face may lead to contracting the virus, and visually impaired and blind communities are acutely aware of the increased factor.

They note that although some of WHO guidelines are that people should practice social distancing and wash their hands regularly with soap for at least 20 seconds to help curb the spread of covid-19, this however, might be an impossible task for those who are living with visual impairment. Globally, the most common causes of visual impairment are uncorrected refractive errors, which include near-sightedness, far-sightedness and stigmatism.

Some of the visual impaired people who spoke to the Metro say that they struggle to follow some of the precautionary measures put in place by the government to help combat the spread of Covid-19.

Some problematic measures include social distancing and consistent hand-washing as well as avoiding to touch or sometimes balance on objects and rails created to support their ease of

movement.

They indicate that some of these measures are not doable for some of them who cannot see, adding that it is impossible for them to stick to the social distancing rule as most of them require a helping hand at all times, where they need to be accompanied and hand held, especially when they go into public spaces.

They also showed that they struggle to practice proper hygiene which puts them on extra risk of contracting the virus.

"You know for some of us it is a huge task to locate where the soap and water are. If I'm alone at home, it becomes extra difficult to practice proper hygiene and the worst part is that I have to touch a lot of surfaces, most of the time. I worry that I might be at more risk of catching the Coronavirus," said Tšiu Maoeng.

The reduced or absent eyesight can have major and long-lasting effects on all aspects of life, including daily personal activities, interacting with the community, school and work opportunities as well as the ability to access public services.

Persons with severe visual disabilities have trouble accessing education and employment opportunities, while households headed by persons with disabilities have less access to basic services compared to households headed by persons without disabilities.

Life is extra difficult for these people as they are no longer supposed to touch surfaces as they move around.

Under normal circumstances, touching things around them is their weapon which they use to locate things. But now Covid-19 can be transmitted through touching surfaces that have been touched by a person who has the virus, making life harder for the virtual impaired.



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One of the major causes of heart burn is lack or disturbed sleeping pattern as not having enough sleep increases acid formation in the stomach. Sleeping well also keeps stresses away and mind refreshed, which in rebound keep acid formation in check. Studies show that sleeping at an incline decreases reflux symptoms and allows your body to get stomach acid back to your stomach quicker.

Shin Splints

Shin splints are throbbing, aching, or stabbing pain on the insides of the lower leg. Shin splints are a repetitive use injury that may occur in runners or those who are beginning to exercise. Pain occurs when muscles and tendons around the tibia (the larger of the two lower leg bones) become inflamed. Stretching, resting, and applying ice can help relieve shin splints. Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) can reduce pain and swelling.

Metabolism

The first law of thermodynamics holds that energy can neither be created nor destroyed - it can only change form. Your basic function as an organism is to consume (ingest) energy and molecules in the foods you eat, convert some of it into fuel for movement, sustain your body functions, and build and maintain your body structures. There are two types of reactions that accomplish this: anabolism and catabolism. Taken together, these two processes are called metabolism.

TO YOUR GOOD HEALTH

Tuberculosis (TB) is a serious bacterial disease and Lesotho is considered to be the most affected country in the world. It is a particular public health concern because it can spread through the air when a person with TB disease coughs, sneezes, laughs, sings, or even speaks. TB is found most often in the lungs, but can spread to other parts of the body. Untreated, it can destroy lung tissue and make breathing difficult or impossible. Left untreated or improperly treated, TB can be fatal.

How does TB spread?

TB is spread through the air from one person to another. The TB bacteria are put into the air when a person with TB disease of the lungs or throat coughs, sneezes, speaks or sings. People nearby may breathe in these bacteria and become infected. TB is most commonly spread to others in confined, poorly ventilated spaces. Although anyone can be exposed to TB disease, certain groups are at higher risk for exposure, including health care professionals, the homeless, and individuals from countries where TB is highly prevalent.

TB is not spread by: shaking someone's hand, sharing food or drink, touching bed linens or toilet seats, sharing toothbrushes or kissing.

What are the symptoms of TB?

The general symptoms of TB disease include feeling tired, weight loss, loss of appetite, fever, and night sweats. The symptoms of TB disease of the lungs also include a bad cough that does not improve and which lasts three weeks or more, chest pain, and coughing up blood. Symptoms of TB disease occurring outside of the lungs depend on the area affected.

Since symptoms of TB usually start gradually, often TB is not suspected, or is misdiagnosed as another illness.

Maluti Adventist Hospital receives ICU equipment



WELL-EQUIPPED: The new Intensive Care Unit at the Maluti Adventist Hospital in Mapoteng

LINEO MABEKEBEKE

BEREA – The Maluti Adventist Hospital, in Mapoteng, has launched an Intensive Care Unit ward after receiving the equipment to help fight the virus, as part of the national readiness for Covid-19.

Coronavirus patients who have problems with their lungs are usually admitted in ICUs so that they can get help breathing.

On behalf of the Maluti clinical staff, Dr Noel Noa Lehoko, chief medical officer, said although Lesotho has not yet registered a significant number of confirmed Covid-19 case, everybody

should, however remain vigilant at all times.

He noted that some of them are on the front-line of the dangerous virus, therefore thanking the Ministry of health, World Health Organisation (WHO) and other institutions that are helping on a daily basis to navigate through the pandemic with guidelines, gazettes as well as lectures from various health professionals.

For his part, the deputy Minister of Health Nto Moakhi urged Maluti Hospital nurses and doctors to take good care of the equipment.

The equipment he said is not only going to benefit the Mapoteng community or Berea people, but the country at large.

He also warned them that having received the equipment means there will be more people accessing services from the hospital.

He therefore urged them to work together with patients and hand-in-hand with their colleagues to produce good services all the times.

Meanwhile, as shortage of resources remains a huge challenge in different health facilities and Moakhi expressed gratitude for the ICU ward, further calling for preparedness amongst health professionals as the number of confirmed Covid-19 cases increases.

Speaking at the same occasion, the chief executive officer of the hospital Thabang Pulumo said the equipment will provide treatment and close monitoring for patients who are too ill to be cared for in other parts of the hospital.

He extended his vote of thanks to the donor for having considered their hospital to be one of the hospitals with ICU, and for having trusted them with the equipment to be placed at their hospital.

Maluti hospital is the second hospital with ICU equipment in Lesotho, after the Queen 'Mamohato Memorial Hospital.

The medical equipment donated include: two ventilators, two suction machines, four ambu bags, 36 endotracheal tubes, two glucometers and stripes, two examination lamps and four oxygen masks for adults as well as children.

The intensive care unit worth M1.2 million is a donation from Standard Lesotho Bank. The Maluti Seventh Day Adventist hospital is one of the facilities allocated to take care of critical Covid-19 patients.

Metro-Scope

AQUARIUS: 21 Jan. - 19 Feb.

While Mercury retro may require you to take extra care at work, other areas of life, such as finances and romance, could slowly begin to improve. As Neptune rewinds, you might finally be able to make progress with a money matter that has confounded you. Another positive tie suggests that solid steps forward are possible, even if progress continues to be a tad slow.

PISCES: 20 Feb. - 20 Mar.

If you have longed to move forward and yet been uncertain of your direction, matters can take an upward turn as nebulous Neptune goes into reverse. Over the weeks ahead, it might be easier to discern what you really do want as opposed to what others want for you. The Quarter Moon can find you ready to take a creative project further, and it may have therapeutic value as well.

ARIES 21 Mar. - 20 Apr.

This week can be a time of decisions associated with tying up loose ends and finding closure on matters that may have been ongoing for too long. You may be ready to forge ahead with financial and relationship plans with gathering confidence. But the big news is that feisty Mars your ruler, moves into your sign over the weekend, and this can boost vitality like nothing else.

TAURUS: 21 Apr. - 21 May

Venus your ruling planet turns direct this week in your money zone, beginning a new phase in your relationship to finances, resources, skills and talents. During her recent retro phase your perspective may have changed, giving rise to new ideas and positive decisions. Ready to make dynamic changes to your life? Mars in your psychological zone might prove very effective too.

GEMINI: 22 May - 21 Jun.

Keen to resolve any financial issues? With Mercury in reverse in your money zone, this is a good time to review spending and make a few wise moves. With Venus pushing forward in your sign, you'll have a better idea of how to approach a relationship that might have had you a tad confused. In need of greater social connection? From later this week, things can begin to heat up.

CANCER: 22 Jun. - 23 Jul.

Dreamy Neptune rewinds, which could see you questioning beliefs that you have held for some time. Gradually the truth will dawn, and you'll be ready to embrace more life-enhancing options. As Mars makes a tie with sobering Saturn, it might be easier to find a concrete solution to a relationship issue that has confounded you. Perhaps a conversation can put things into perspective.

LEO: 24 Jul. - 23 Aug.

Been mulling over changes to your social life? You may be ready to let go of contacts who seem to take more than they give, and doing so could be a relief. The Sun in a quiet zone means you might choose to enjoy more alone time, as you reflect on your life and how you can improve on key aspects of it. This week's Quarter Moon could encourage a heartfelt chat with someone Leo.

VIRGO: 24 Aug. - 23 Sept.

Need to get a handle on a relationship? With aquatic Neptune going into reverse this week, it may become easier to see things more clearly and to know what to do next as clarity is restored. Lovely Venus turns direct in a prominent sector, which might bring progress regarding a contract or other deal over the coming week or so. A collaboration could begin to show positive results.

LIBRA: 24 Sept. - 23 Oct.

It's worth putting your best foot forward and getting your CV out there or promoting your talents, even if Mercury retro delays results. If you proceed carefully, things can begin to move forward. As the attracting Venus turns direct, you could get confirmation that an idea or opportunity is the right one, and push ahead feeling good about the path you are embarking on Libra.

SCORPIO: 24 Oct. - 22 Nov.

Confused about your feelings for someone? As Neptune regresses, you may gain insights that eluded you previously, and these could help you to make an informed decision. You might find that financial or business affairs start to right themselves and that positive solutions begin to emerge. Trust your instincts over the weekend if you need to make a key decision, Scorpio.

SAGITTARIUS: 23 Nov. - 21 Dec.

If you've been through a time of negotiation and discussion regarding a relationship, then your efforts might now begin to bear fruit, as sweet Venus pushes ahead this week. A focus on an intense zone hints that now is the time to let go of the past and embrace new options. Regarding household expenses, a cautious Mars/Saturn tie might see you eager to make savings.

CAPRICORN: 22 Dec. - 20 Jan.

Have deals or contracts been mired in confusion? As Venus moves forward and ethereal Neptune turns retrograde, things can begin to make sense and you may soon feel ready to make a decision. With Mars forging a positive aspect to practical Saturn, other key plans might begin to fall into place. From the weekend, home and family affairs could move higher up your list of priorities.

COVID-19 tests now done locally

LINEO MABEKEBEKE

MASERU - A team of health professionals from the Ministry of Health (MoH) led by Director General, Dr. Nyane Letsie, have assured the nation that the Ministry through National Reference Laboratories (NRL) has now started testing locally.

This came out at a press conference held at the MoH Auditorium in Maseru on Wednesday.

Testing Locally now means that the Ministry will now be coming out to announce results regularly with the recent report being that of Tuesday where an additional five cases were publicised, bringing the number of COVID-19 cases to 17 in the country.

The MoH said it is convinced that COVID-19 cases are increasing and that whether the nation likes it or not it is no longer business as usual and all particularly media are advised to disseminate messages that can transform the image of the country for the better.

In this regard, Dr. Llang Maama, Incident Manager, at the command centre, appealed to

Basotho to ensure that their relatives adhere to home quarantine regulations, if directed to do so, as those are key if the country is to curb COVID-19 cases.

Pertaining to the issue of COVID-19 patient from Qacha's Nek who was allegedly neglected by Berea Isolation facility thus went back home using public transport, Dr. Mpho Shale in charge of the facility, denied these allegations saying the hospital had organised transport only to find the patient was impatient thus decided to depart.

However, she assured the nation the patient's health status as according to WHO guidelines was not putting any body at risk because even though she tested positive but she had no COVID-19 symptoms and completed her quarantine term.

To date, 1700 tests have been done in the country.

The ministry has also noted that because village health workers are vital in that they deliver health services to the communities, in the current COVID-19 context, their role

expands beyond engaging communities in prevention of COVID-19 to include detection and responses and contributing to containing the outbreak.

An epidemiologist Dr Tšepang Lekhela said they have also trained village health workers in six districts, whom they are going to work with, to make sure that everybody who is put in home quarantine, adheres to that.

She also indicated that there will be a second batch of village health workers, who shall also receive training to help fight the virus.

The ministry has committed to meet the media regularly from now onwards as a way of clarifying and doing away with false and fake information making the rounds in the country.

The government of Lesotho is already in the process of restructuring the national command centre, having already seconded the Director General of the Lesotho Revenue Authority, Thabo Khasipe, to oversee the operations of the Centre and give it a shape that will make its work viable and ready to serve the nation.

Unilever to invest 1 billion euros in climate change fund over 10 years

SIDDHARTH CAVALE

Unilever Plc said on Monday it will invest 1 billion euros (M19 billion) in a fund to invest in climate change projects and reduce to net zero greenhouse gas emissions from all its products by 2039, 11 years ahead of the Paris Agreement deadline.

Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch consumer products company whose brands include Dove soap and Knorr soup, said it was responding to the "scale and urgency" of the climate change crisis.

The fund will invest in projects including reforestation, water preservation and carbon sequestration over the next ten years, it said.

The net zero emission target is an extension of efforts already underway to cut emissions within the company by 2030 - such as reducing electricity consumption within offices.

Unilever's total greenhouse gas footprint was around 60 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent in 2019 according to its website.

"We are now going much wider in our commitments, we call it a cradle to shelf commitment...across the value chain," Unilever Chief Supply Chain Officer, Marc Engel said.

Unilever, which has an annual turnover of 52 billion euros (\$58.5 billion), said it would prioritise partnerships with suppliers who have set emission reduction targets and has set up a system where suppliers must declare the carbon footprint of goods and services provided. All packaging will show the carbon footprint of the product in the future, the company said.

Unilever joins a handful of companies in promising net zero emissions from their supply chain.

Kit-Kat maker Nestle and German elevator maker Thyssenkrupp AG are others though their targets are set for 2050, which is the deadline set by the Paris Agreement on climate change to limit global warming to 1.5° degrees.

Unilever on Monday also said that it aims to make all product formulations biodegradable and achieve a deforestation-free supply chain by 2023, among a raft of other moves to fight climate change.

The company said it will use satellite monitoring, geolocation tracking and blockchain among other digital technologies to increase traceability and transparency within its supply chain. Reuters

The Arctic hit its hottest temperature on record, almost 38°C

The Arctic Circle hit temperatures almost 38°C on Saturday. If verified, it would be the region's hottest day on record.

The Siberian town of Verkhoyansk reached 38°C, or 3.3 degrees higher than normal temperatures, CBS news reported. The same day, extensive fires blazed east of Verkhoyansk, satellite images show. On the East Siberian Sea, north of the town, those images showed open water instead of ice.

The Siberian town, about 5,000km east of Moscow, Russia, is historically one of the coldest places on Earth. Last November,

temperatures dropped to almost -51 degrees.

Siberian temperatures have broken records in the past several months, however, and last winter was "the hottest in Siberia since records began 130 years ago," Marina Makarova, chief meteorologist at Russia's Rosgidromet weather service, told The Guardian.

In late May, Khatanga recorded 26°C, CBS News reported. Two weeks later, Nizhnyaya Pesha reached 30°C. The month of May was 10 degrees higher than average in western Siberia.

If not for man-made climate change, Siberia's record-shattering heat would be "a 1 in 100,000 year event," Martin Stendel, a climate scientist at the Danish Meteorological Institute, said on social media.

Searing, record-breaking heat is also occurring in the United States.

Caribou, Maine, hit a record 36 degrees Celcius on Friday and stayed in the 90s through Saturday.

Meteorologists said earlier this year that 2020 is on pace to be one of the hottest years ever. "It is virtually certain that 2020 will be a top 10 year," the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said in April, and there's a 75% chance it could be the hottest on record.

Climate change will be felt most severely in the Global South, especially among the poor and working class.

Business Insider

EXPERT SENSITIVITY RELIEF

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Forbes names Tunisia as one of top destinations to visit post Covid-19

CHAD ANTHONY WILLIAMS

American business magazine Forbes has announced a list of seven countries that have the potential to become top travel destinations post-Covid-19 and Tunisia has made the cut.

Due to national and international travel bans issued by countries around the world to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus, many countries have had to close their

borders to avert large-scale contagion, crippling economies and especially the tourism industry.

Tunisia, like many nations, has announced plans to reopen its borders by the end of June.

Forbes wrote that Tunisia's pristine beaches, ancient ruins and Maghrebi cuisine position the North African country to be a serious contender in the resurgence in the tourism industry on the continent once the pandemic has been

contained.

The Tunisian Ministry of Tourism last week issued directives for a health protocol to be followed by hotels and tourist sites as the country prepares for the reopening of its second-largest sector, reported French-language online newspaper La Presse.

Tourism in Tunisia increased by 17.4 percent in 2019 compared with the same period in 2018, wrote London-based Arabic newspaper Asharq al-Awsat.

Tunisian authorities have announced plans to reinstate intercity travel from June 4 and expect to open up land, sea and air borders from June 27.

Tunisia has seen a relatively low coronavirus infection rate compared with other African countries, recording 1,086 cases of whom 965 have recovered.

Representing the African continent, Ethiopia was also named in the list of destinations with the potential to become top tourist destinations post-Covid-19, wrote Forbes magazine. The five other countries that complete the list include Iran, Myanmar, Georgia, the Philippines and Slovenia.

ANA



Recipe Of The Week

Key Lime Coconut Shrimp and Rice



Ingredients

Rice:

- 1 cup jasmine rice
- 1 cup coconut milk (canned)
- 1/3 cup water
- 1 lime (juice) juice only
- 2 tsp sugar
- salt

Shrimp:

- 1 lb shrimp peeled and deveined
- 1 large lime juice AND zest
- 2 tsp sugar
- 1/3 cup coconut milk (canned)
- salt
- pinch cayenne pepper optional
- fresh cilantro for topping optional

Methods

Rice:

- Combine water, lime juice, and coconut milk in a small pot over medium-high heat.
- Once mixture starts to simmer, stir in sugar and salt.
- Lower the heat to low and add

rice. Stir, cover, and cook until rice is done. Remember to stir rice occasionally and break up the clumps.

Once rice is cooked, take off heat right away.

Shrimp:

In a small mixing bowl, combine coconut milk, lime juice, lime zest, sugar, salt and if using, cayenne pepper powder. Mix well and add shrimp. Stir well and let it sit while preheating the pan.

Preheat a cooking pan over medium-high heat.

Add a little bit of canola oil to the pan. Take out the shrimp and sear on both sides until opaque.

Add the coconut mixture that shrimp marinated in to the pan. Let it simmer for a minute or two. Take off heat.

Divide rice among two bowls and top it off with shrimp and sauce.

Optional: garnish with some fresh cilantro.

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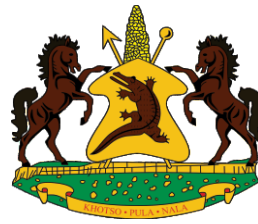




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Lockdown hits hard on artistes

KABELO MASOABI

MASERU – With no end in sight to the wrecking coronavirus that has crippled nearly all sectors of the economy and forced many local entertainers to stay home, the continued lack of activity and gigs appears to be taking its toll on many celebrities with most of them mournful.

While several artistes were forced to cancel their music tours across the globe, their colleagues in Lesotho have also been counting their losses as lack of shows and strict enforcement of lockdown rules in all districts across the country simply means all are currently not finding it funny.

For some deejays, musicians, and comedians who are regular anchors of events where they rake in thousands of Maloti weekly,



HARD-HIT: Kwaito artiste Manyofi



ALSO AFFECTED: Hip-hop star Dunamis

the last two months have seen many of them adjust to the realities on the ground as their incomes continue to dwindle and shrink.

Nightclub owners are also feeling the pinch and they fear the worst is yet to come. With most of them currently not operating, nightlife experience is gradually fading away from the memories of several night revelers who are regular patrons of the club houses.

Top local artiste, DJ Scandal said he has over the years made a solid work relationship with most night club which is now on the brink of ruin.

“I worked hard for a lot of night club owners over the years. I launched most night clubs and even guided owners on how to run their business. Close friends and relatives know about my plan to open my own club. Yes, I saved money and bought night club equipment.

“I also secured a place of my dream which most people know about in Maputsoe. All I am trying to say is that I had to cancel the contract and the place is no longer mine. I have had enough with Corona and it must go to hell before it kills and stop everybody’s dreams. This is the pain that this virus brought into my life and I can never forget.”

He ends with an advice: “Dj’s, swallow your pride, let’s go out there and create jobs.”

Another artiste warned, “Don’t let anybody deceive you, the boat is gradually sinking. Those who were doing giveaways are no more doing them because they are gradually running out of cash but they won’t come out to tell you”.

Speaking on the impact of the pandemic on his craft, popular Kwaito musician, Manyofi said he will not deny that he has been frustrated by lack of shows.

He said the creative industry plays a big part in keeping the economy running but with the state of things, many artistes are currently worried.

Popular event organisers in Maseru intoned their frustration as well describing the situation of most musicians who live on shows as terrible.

Dunamis, who dropped his anticipated hip-hop album ‘The Undefeated’ weeks back, said he cannot launch the album through a gig because of the restriction.

He said he has also released the album online hopeful that people will stream and download so that he can make money.

Siyabonga Chefa of the Alegro Deejays stable regrets the virus citing their new Blue Point Café that was launched shortly before the lockdown, could have gone a long way in organising events of top notch.

NOTICE

MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT: ASSET VERIFICATION

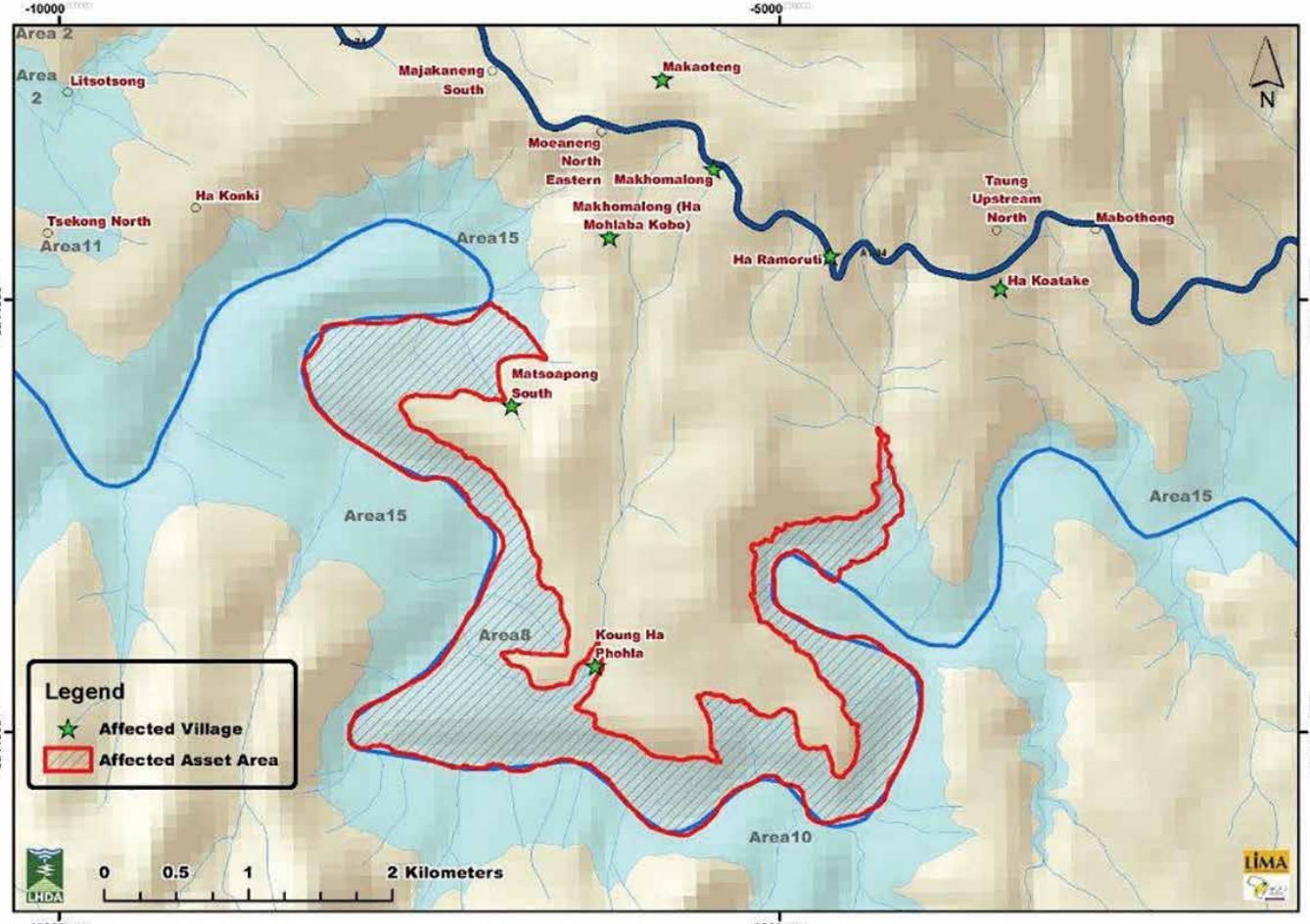


The Lesotho Highlands Development Authority (LHDA) wishes to announce the continuation of the verification of assets affected by the Polihali Project. The LHDA has completed its surveys and registration of assets in the village of Koung Ha Phohla located within the Inundation Area (below the 2080m line). LHDA now invites owners whose assets have been surveyed to avail themselves for the verification of the recorded assets. Each owner has to verify their assets in person. In the event that owners are married, both spouses must be present to verify their assets. Proof of identification, such as a valid Identity Document, Driver’s License or Passport, is required when verifying ownership.

Affected asset owners are encouraged to make arrangements timeously to attend the asset verification process on the following date and venue:

Affected Community	Number of beneficiaries	Commencement of Verification	Venue	Time
Koung Ha Phohla	92	14 – 17 July 2020 23 – 24 July 2020	Phohla Primary School	10:00AM – 4:00PM
Matsoapong	23	20 - 22 July 2020	Phohla Primary School	10:00AM – 4:00PM
Makhumalong	5	20 - 22 July 2020	Phohla Primary School	10:00AM – 4:00PM
Ha Ramaruti	4	20 - 22 July 2020	Phohla Primary School	10:00AM – 4:00PM

For more information please contact: Gerard Mokone by telephone +266 2224 6300 or mobile +266 6200 8642 or email mokong@lhda.org.ls



Rand weaker as budget risk raises second wave Covid-19 fears

The rand weakened early on Monday, reflecting the gloom in global markets as fears of a second wave of coronavirus infections around the world increased investor jitters ahead of a local emergency budget later this week.

At 0700 GMT the rand was 0.49% weaker at 17.40 per dollar from Friday’s 17.32 close, with the sell-trend that took root last week, pushing the currency to its lowest in June, set to continue until at least Wednesday’s budget.

Bonds also took a hit, with the yield on the government issue due in 2030 up 9.5 basis points at 9.315%.

Finance Minister Tito Mboweni is expected to paint a bleak picture in a revised budget that comes almost three months after government announced a R500 billion stimulus package leaning heavily on new borrowing. Reuters

Metro OBITUARIES + IN MEMORIAM

Tributes to family and friends



DEAD: Joel Schumacher

PAUL BRADSHAW

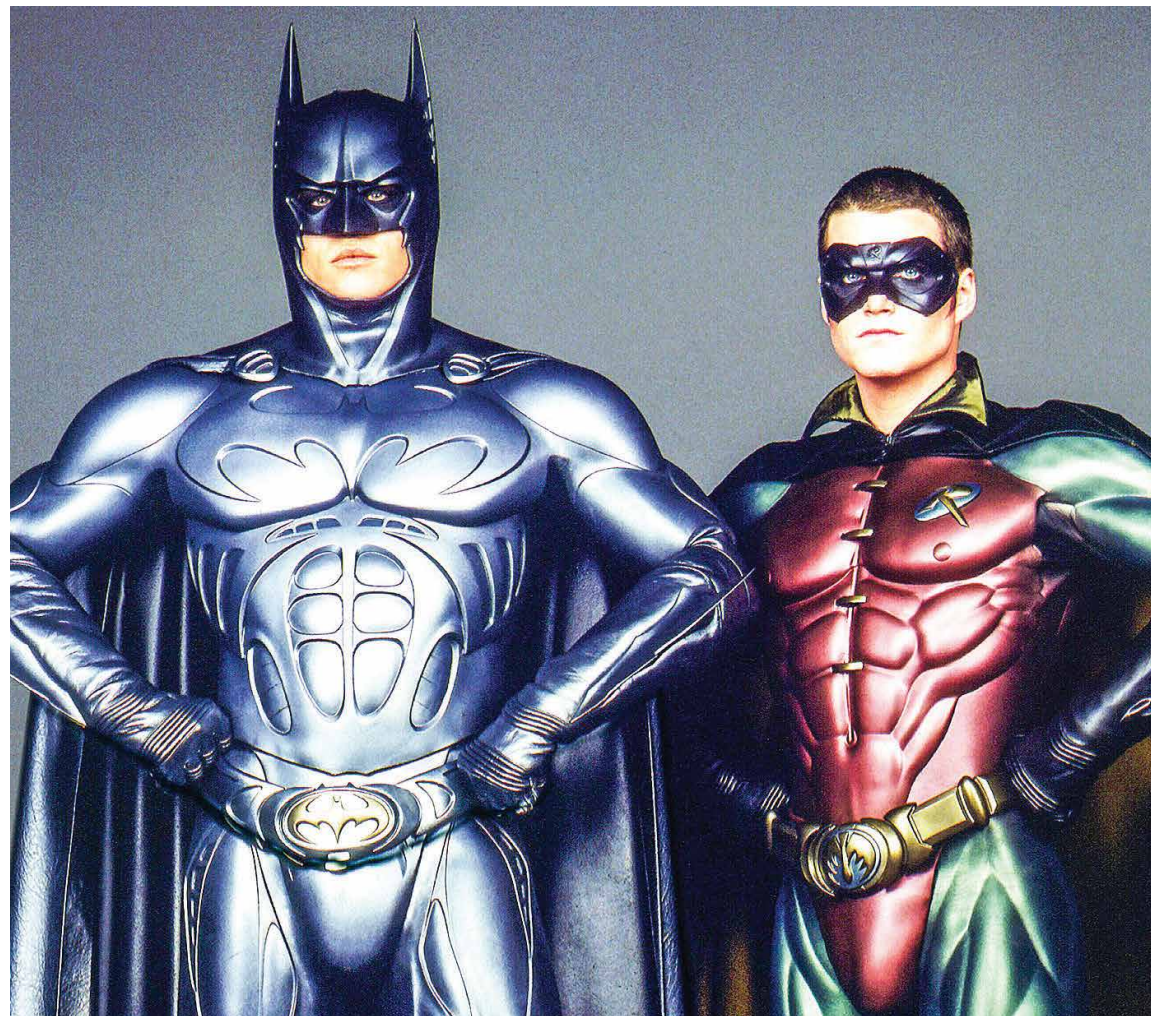
DIED aged 81, Joel Schumacher died on June 22 after a year-long battle with cancer, leaving behind a legacy of 24 films, dozens of TV episodes and a fine crop of music videos – not to mention the hundreds of Hollywood careers that owe everything to him, now lining up to remind the world what a funny, sad, sweet and genuine talent he really was.

When Minnie Driver starred in *The Phantom Of The Opera*, she really, really hammed it up. Hearing someone else on set moaning about her performance, she went over to director Joel Schumacher and asked if she was being too over the top. “Oh honey,” he said, barely looking up from his monitor, “no one ever paid to see under the top.”

Finding the “top” and going way over it became Schumacher’s trademark across almost 50 years in the business – directing everything from sci-fi, superheroes, political thrillers, war movies, courtroom dramas, musicals and comedies with big, colourful, witty style and a rare sense of humour. Some of his films flopped, some were forgotten altogether, others stood as solid studio flicks and a handful leapt out as modern cult classics, but all were unmistakably Joel Schumacher movies.

Schumacher got his break in Hollywood as a costume designer (yep, the same guy who later put nipples on the Batsuit...), moving

The maverick director who made studio films with serious style



Batman and Robin

from dressing windows in New York to dressing Woody Allen on the set of *Sleeper* and *Interiors*. Costume work turned to script writing, and a few early directing duds turned into a bigger opportunity when he met The Brat Pack in 1985 for cool-kid coming-of-age drama *St. Elmo’s Fire*.

Two years later, the runaway success of that film and most of its young stars led to *The Lost Boys* – a moody, sexy, vampire film that was shot with music-video flair and quickly became everything *Twilight* wanted to be 20 years later. The early ‘90s brought another dozen changes in direction for Schumacher as he honed his craft on most of the

best films of his career including rom coms (*Cousins*), grown-up sci-fi (*Flatliners*), angry social dramas (*Falling Down*) and taught courtroom dramas (*The Client*).

By 1995, he was big enough for Hollywood’s greatest responsibility – taking on a Batman movie. Tim Burton had already laid the groundwork with two hugely successful and highly stylised movies, so Schumacher’s decision to come in and flip the whole franchise on its head was one of the ballsiest moves in superhero history. Swapping Burton’s dark and moody palette for neon camp and a Seal soundtrack, *Batman Forever*

walked Bruce Wayne closer to the comics than ever before – proving the biggest hit of Schumacher’s career.

Fair enough, then, that his sequel, *Batman And Robin* proved to be his biggest turkey – and the one film that he often gets wrongly remembered for. “We deserved it,” he later reflected. “But isn’t it wonderful to remember a time that America was once so innocent that all we had to worry about was the next Batman movie?”

Brushing off the fallout, Schumacher continued into the ‘00s with another crop of varied, interesting, original films – each one pushing him into new genres

and different directions. Working with Nicolas Cage on seedy noir 8mm led him to a Vietnam war epic, *Tigerland*. Tight thriller *Phone Booth* was followed by Cate Blanchett’s journalist drama *Veronica Guerin* and then *Driver*’s “over the top” performance in gothic musical, *The Phantom Of The Opera*, which earned him three Oscar nominations. 2011’s claustrophobic crime caper *Trespass* was Schumacher’s last film, but it was far from his best work – proving for the last time that his career was so much more than whatever movie he happened to be making next.

As actors, directors, musicians and friends take to Twitter to tell their best Joel Schumacher stories, it seems like his legacy is going to be much more than his work anyway. An openly gay director who claimed to have slept with 20,000 men at a time when Hollywood was still half-afraid to step out of the closet, Schumacher lived his life as boldly as he made his films – and he did it all without ever becoming a tyrant on set.

Seal remembers how he made the video for ‘*Kiss From A Rose*’ for free, just because he liked the song (“that pretty much defined my career” he says). Matthew McConaughey wrote about how grateful he was that Schumacher cast him in his first film (“Joel not only took a chance on me, he fought for me”), joining the likes of Demi Moore, Kiefer Sutherland and Colin Farrell who owe everything to him.

Speaking in 2017 at a retrospective of *Batman And Robin*, Schumacher reflected on his whole career. “I think I’m one of the luckiest people that ever lived,” he told the audience. “I got my dream. I got it so much bigger than even I could have dreamed it. You know, I’m just a kid whose parents died very young who was on his own and grew up behind a movie theatre before TV, and I wanted to tell those stories, and look what happened.”

NME

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MultiChoice to add Netflix and Amazon Prime Video to DSTV decoders

MultiChoice, one of Africa's largest video entertainment company announced that it has signed agreements with Netflix and Amazon.com to offer the companies' streaming services through its next-generation Explora personal video recorder (PVR) decoder.

The announcement was published as part of the company's annual 2020 financial results presentation and noted this to become part of its plans to further enhancements to customer experience - improve retention.

While MultiChoice already runs its own subscription video-on-demand (SVOD) streaming service Showmax,



its latest 2019/2020 financial results revealed that subscribers to the service are at 19.5 million - which is a 5% increase from the previous year.

However, the annual results for the year also showed a continued decline in Premium subscribers showing year-over-year subscriber decline of 4% or 100 000

subscribers in the region.

In a report by MyBroadband, MultiChoice chief financial officer Tim Jacobs told the media house that the launch of this unified streaming platform was "imminent", and that customers could expect to hear more about it in the coming weeks.

Guzzle Media



Fastback 9 Strip/Tape Binding Machine - FB9

Condition: Brand new. Was bought in 2018 and only used once to bind samples.

Specifications: 3.5 times faster than traditional punch-and-bind systems. Binds both soft and hardcover books. 250 sheet binding capacity. Machine Dimensions: 19.5"W x 11"H x 13"D. Maximum weight: 17 lbs (7.7 kg). Spine Lengths: 8.5", 11", A4, A5. Spine Thickness: Narrow, Medium.

Application: The Powis Fastback 9 binding machine is one of the most compact and affordable systems on the market. With a footprint of just 13" x 19.5", it's a perfect choice for even the smallest work desks, whether in a copy shop or at home. The Fastback 9 is suitable for both tape binding and hardcover book binding, and has a binding time of 35-45 seconds - 3.5 times faster than traditional punch-and-bind systems.

Price: POA

The equipment will be sold to the highest bidder. For viewing, and in order to place your bid for this equipment, please contact the owner:

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Being car considerate shouldn't stop after the break-in. Drive with care every day and your car will reward you with longer intervals without repair.

Do not race your car's engine during start-up: This is a quick way to add years of wear to your engine, especially if it's cold outside.

Accelerate slowly when you begin your drive: The most wear to the engine and drive train occurs in the first 10 to 20 minutes of operation.

Warming the engine by letting it idle in the driveway is not a smart idea: The engine doesn't operate at its peak temperature, resulting in incomplete fuel combustion, soot deposits on cylinder walls, oil contamination, and ultimately damaged components.

Put less strain on your engine and automatic transmission, by shifting to neutral at red lights: Otherwise, the engine is still working to push the car

even while it's stopped.

Avoid driving at high speeds and accelerating quickly: especially when it's very hot or very cold outside: Such driving behavior will result in more frequent repairs.

Extend the life of your tires with careful driving: Observe posted speed limits. Avoid fast starts, stops, and turns. Avoid potholes and objects on the road. Don't run over curbs or hit the tire against the curb when parking. And, of course, don't burn rubber.

When turning your steering wheel: don't hold it in an extreme right or left position for more than a few seconds. Doing so can damage the power-steering pump.

Consolidate your short driving trips: Most of the wear and tear - as well as the pollution your car generates - takes place in the first few minutes of driving. Doing several errands at once, during low traffic hours if possible, will keep your engine happier longer.

PRITESH RUTHUN

Why you should think twice about using non-accredited car workshops

As more and more South Africans feel the pressure of economic strain under lockdown, servicing of vehicles in the country is expected to become erratic for the remainder of 2020.

Already cash strapped, it's believed that consumers will either put off their car's next service completely or opt to send it to a "friend" who does "vehicle repairs" from home in a bid to save money.

You might think that it's ok to send your car to a "yard-based" mechanic, but depending on your vehicle and its warranty status, you might be shooting yourself in the foot by trying to avoid servicing at the OEM's outlet.

The Retail Motor Industry Organisation (RMI) believes that the battered economy has placed immense pressure on all of our pockets and that many consumers will be considering the option of using a home-based workshop, but Dewald Ranft, Chairman of the Motor Industries Workshop Association (MIWA) says cutting corners doesn't necessarily save pennies in the long run.

"Accreditation is the consumer's guarantee that the job will be done correctly and according to stringent industry standards," Ranft says.

This guarantee encompasses such factors as ensuring a workshop is Covid-19 compliant and following the correct protocols to minimise exposure to the virus; to ensuring that staff are properly remunerated according to wage legislation; are registered for UIF, and have a pension, with representation through the motor industry bargaining council (MIBCO).

Accreditation protects not only the employees but the consumer as well. Accredited workshops are required to meet certain requirements that have a real impact on a car's performance if neglected. For example, says Ranft, all workshops with MIWA accreditation undergo regular audits to ensure that they are fitted with proper diagnostic equipment and that they use reputable branded quality aftermarket



parts that carry a warranty.

Ranft explains that, with more than 2400 MIWA accredited workshops throughout the country, consumers should never struggle to find an outlet that is able to meet their needs. What's more, because all workshops are graded, they are assured that both workmanship and service will meet exacting standards.

"Our three, four and five-star graded workshops have been put through a rigorous grading process to make sure they are able to

provide excellent service," he says, adding that "workshops that have earned the highly sought after five-star grading have been found to deliver flawlessly on factors such as workshop design and equipment, customer satisfaction assessment tools and service options, such as vehicle washing prior to delivery or complimentary shuttle service."

With audits carried out on an ongoing basis, workshops need to work hard to maintain their star status - yet another assurance that

consumers seeking reasonable pricing and quality service won't be let down.

Also important is the fact that should consumers find that their workshop fails to deliver as promised, they have the option of contacting the RMI.

Home-based, non-accredited, workshops, in contrast, do not have this RMI backup.

"You need to consider what's going to happen if the workmanship is of sub-standard quality. Typically, these home-based workshops don't offer any insurance on defective workmanship. Are they able to honour a six month or 100 000km warranty on labour, as an accredited workshop would?" Ranft asks.

This is a real concern since there is no guarantee of compliance with oil removal protocols, nor can you be sure that pressure vessels have been tested, or that vehicle hoists have been serviced or performance tested. "What happens if your vehicle is damaged on-site or, worse still, stolen?" he adds.

These issues aside, Ranft points out that accredited workshops have an onus to train and upskill employees regularly, and are contributors to job creation - claims that a home-based workshop may not be able to uphold.

"Then there are matters of compliance. Is the workshop VAT registered? Is it registered with the Motor Industry Ombudsman of South Africa (MIOSA)? Are they paying the municipal rates required to operate a light industrial business from a residential address? Do they comply with occupational health and safety regulations?"

From this perspective, it's easier to see how making use of a non-accredited, home-based workshop may be a case of penny wise, pound foolish. |o|

Volkswagen's T-Roc to complete the SUV range in South Africa



out into two different line structures offering different levels of specification to suit the different customer needs. The T-Roc offering has the Design line for customers looking for more styling elements and the R-Line is aimed at customers looking for more sporty levels of specification.

The T-Roc is the first Volkswagen SUV that will be available to order in two-tone paintwork with visually contrasting roof section (including the A-pillars and exterior mirror housings). On the Design derivatives, customers have a choice of pure white, red and black on the roof and exterior mirror housings. These roof and exterior mirror housings can be paired with various exterior colours, thus giving T-Roc customers 26 different colour options. The R-Line derivative will have 21 different colour options.

The Design derivatives come standard with the 17-inch Mayfield alloy wheel and have two further options of an 18-inch Montego alloy wheel as well as an 18-inch Grange Hill alloy wheel. The R-Line derivative comes standard with the 19-inch Suzuka alloy wheel.

Efficient turbocharged engines with outputs ranging from 110kW to 140kW with the T-Roc, Volkswagen is completing its range of SUVs in South Africa and will go on sale in South Africa, Namibia and Botswana at the beginning of November 2020.

Volkswagen has added a fifth model to the brand's SUV range in South Africa, the T-Roc. The T-SUV range in the Southern African market now consists of the T-Cross, T-Roc, Tiguan, Tiguan Allspace and the Touareg.

The SUV market is growing rapidly in South Africa and from 2015 to 2019, it increased by 44%. International experts estimate that the compact SUV segment worldwide will almost double in size over the next decade. It is for this reason that Volkswagen South Africa is introducing another attractive model in the compact SUV space, less than 12 months since the launch of the T-Cross.

As part of the biggest model offensive in its history, Volkswagen is extending its model range by adding a compact-class crossover. The new crossover from Volkswagen brings fresh impetus to the compact SUV class and sets a new benchmark in the SUV segment with its functionality, dynamic handling and technology. The T-Roc, which slots above the T-Cross and below the Tiguan in the Volkswagen SUV range, offers maximum personalisation, innovative digitalisation, perfect connectivity, class-leading driver assistance systems, dynamic engines and above all a modern and expressive design. In the local market, the T-Roc will be available in the following derivatives: 1.4 TSI 110kW Design, 2.0 TSI 140kW 4MOTION® DSG® Design and the 2.0 TSI 140kW 4MOTION® DSG® R-Line. The introduction of the T-Roc comes with new naming for the trim lines under Volkswagen's new "Y" structure line up. The base models will branch

Lewis Hamilton can expect a quicker car when racing gets underway

ALAN BALDWIN

Six times world champion Lewis Hamilton can expect a quicker car when the Formula One season finally starts in Austria next month, with Mercedes promising plenty of updates.

The W11 car unveiled in February has yet to race, with the season delayed since March by the Covid-19 pandemic, and team technical director James Allison said months' worth of improvements were in the pipeline.

"There was the whole of January, the whole of February, March, all making the car quicker in the wind tunnel and also in the design departments," he said in a video on the Mercedes YouTube channel on Friday.

"So we've got quite a lot of ideas about how to make it quicker... our challenge now is to make sure that that quarter of a year of development can get off the drawing boards and onto the car as swiftly as possible.

"We hope to have a chunk of that for the first race in Austria, and the season that follows will of course take as much of the development as fast as we can get it onto the car in turn."

Mercedes has won the last six drivers' and constructors' championships and was fastest in pre-season testing in Spain in February.

A seventh title for Hamilton would equal Michael Schumacher's all-time record.

The season will start with two races at Austria's Red Bull Ring on July 5 and 12, and Allison said that already felt 'desperately close'.

He said Mercedes was 'utterly paranoid' about ensuring the team kept its 'balance and poise' while blowing away the cobwebs and ramping up to go racing.

Eight races in 10 weekends, all in Europe, have been scheduled initially with the second part of the campaign yet to be finalised.

Allison expected Hamilton and team mate Valtteri Bottas to return strongly after the blow of going all the way to Australia only for the season-opener to be cancelled in March.

"It will be a sign of their resilience and their competitiveness to see them bristle back to work full of the vim and vigour that is necessary to be right on it from the start," he said. Reuters

04 - 30 June 2020

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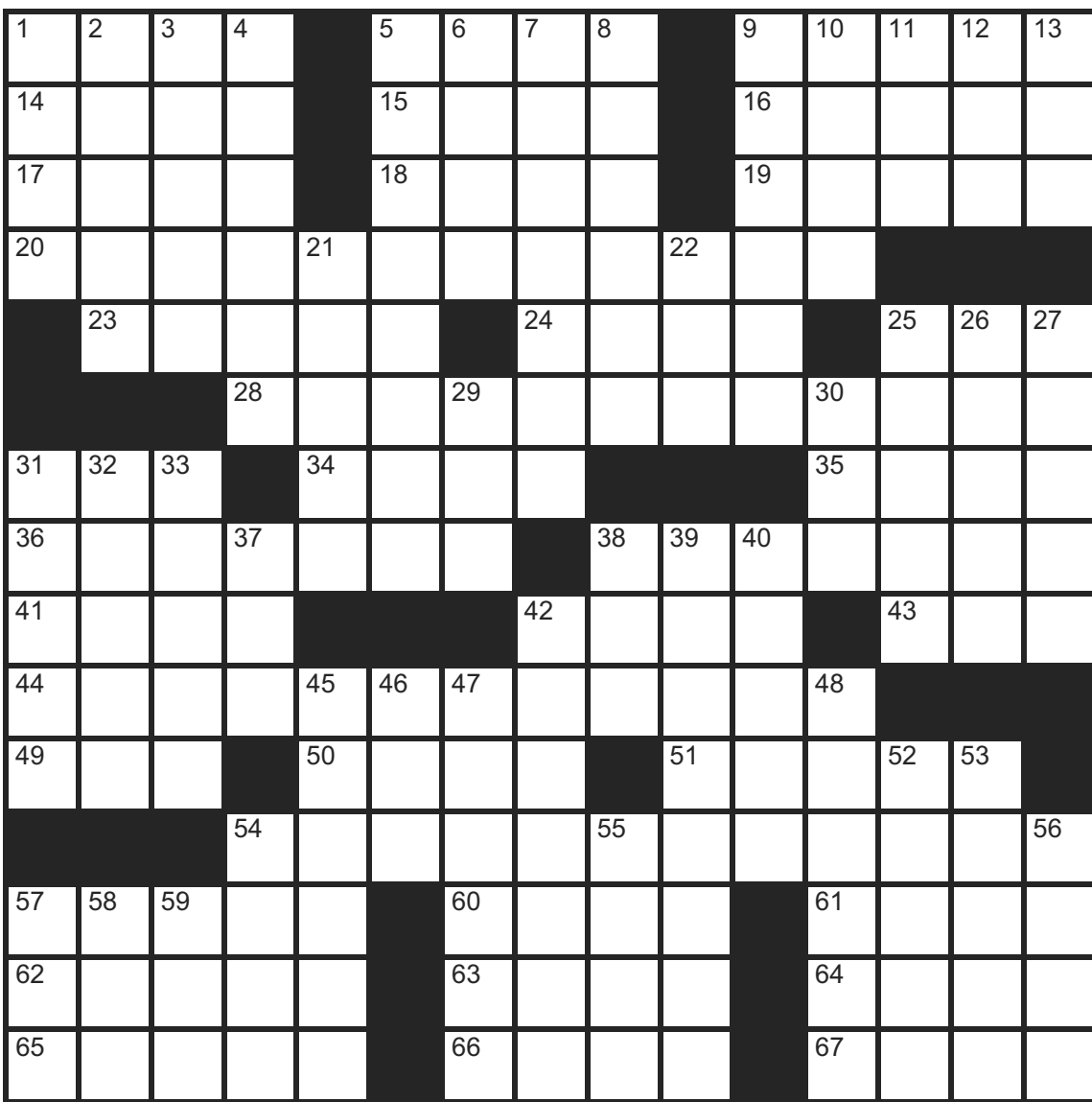
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General Crosswords



ACROSS

- 1. Insect in a colony
- 5. Eyes, poetically
- 9. Humiliate
- 14. Like some hands
- 15. Mrs. Dithers of the comics
- 16. Avian chatterbox
- 17. Boutique
- 18. Hullabaloo
- 19. Chessman
- 20. Clay-shaping tool
- 23. Some like it hot
- 24. In the vicinity
- 25. Frequently, in poetry
- 28. Invariably
- 31. Lanka
- 34. Pasty

- 35. At the summit of
- 36. Life estate
- 38. Swiss cheese
- 41. Dwarf buffalo
- 42. Shade of blue
- 43. Circle meas.
- 44. Ordinary
- 49. Mole
- 50. Butcher's cut
- 51. An unwholesome atmosphere
- 54. Extended
- 57. Swipe
- 60. Ancient Chinese capital
- 61. Lacquered metalware
- 62. Rice dish
- 63. Give off

- 64. Wrinkle remover
- 65. Implement
- 66. Cub Scout groups
- 67. Small change

DOWN

- 1. Bit of smoke
- 2. Literally, "for this"
- 3. A deadly sin
- 4. Digestion
- 5. Egg-shaped wind instrument
- 6. Fishing equipment
- 7. Junior Girl Scout
- 8. Waistbands
- 9. Current amount
- 10. Get-out-of-jail money

Sudoku Puzzle

	4	9					5	3
	7			8				2
				5		7		
		2	9			4	6	1
9	6		8		7		3	5
5	3			2	6			7
3			5				8	4
2		6	4	1			7	9
			7	9		5	2	6

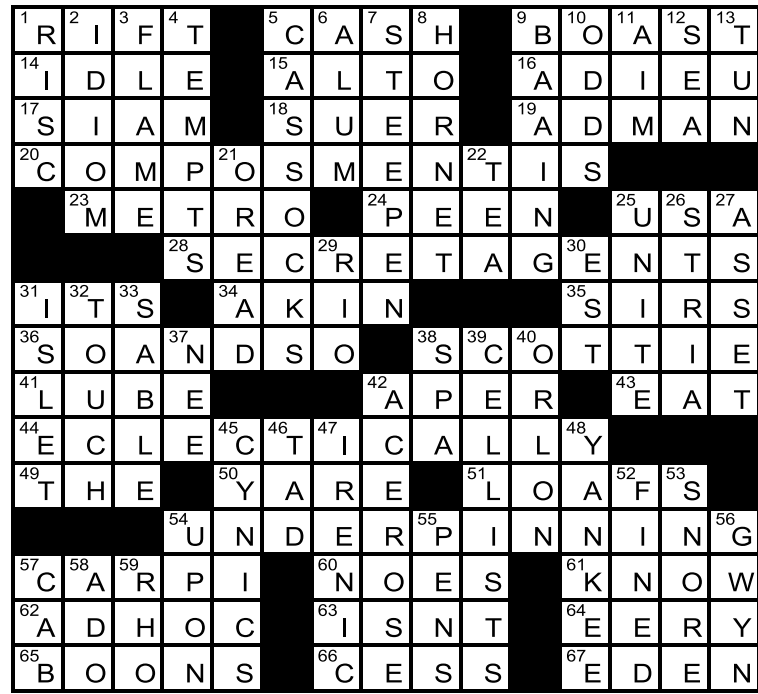
Fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, each column and each 3x3 square contain all the from 1-9

This is the Quick Sudoku for the solver in a hurr: target time, ten minutes.

Last Week's Solution

8	2	5	7	4	1	3	9	6
4	6	1	9	5	3	2	7	8
9	7	3	8	2	6	1	5	4
5	3	4	2	6	9	7	8	1
6	8	9	5	1	7	4	2	3
7	1	2	3	8	4	9	6	5
3	5	8	4	7	2	6	1	9
2	4	6	1	9	8	5	3	7
1	9	7	6	3	5	8	4	2

Last Week's Solution



- 11. Air hero
- 39. Garments
- 12. Egg holder
- 40. Pitch-black
- 13. Dolly, for one
- 42. Penny
- 21. Take the honey and run
- 45. Downy
- 22. "Mangia!"
- 46. Preschooler
- 25. Playful aquatic animal
- 47. Made a disapproving noise
- 26. Plant life
- 48. Milk-related
- 27. Written with a keyboard
- 52. Beach
- 29. Foxy
- 53. Honeydew, e.g.
- 30. Dissenting vote
- 54. Kind of agreement
- 31. Identifying marks
- 55. Parade spoiler
- 32. Increase
- 56. Bad impression?
- 33. O. Henry device
- 57. Place to relax
- 37. Chinese principle
- 58. Puppy's bite
- 38. High school class
- 59. Matterhorn, e.g.

So You Think You are Genius

Question (Answer next week)

My first is in horse but not in pony.
 My second is in coyote but not in jackal.
 My third is in shrew and also in vole.
 My fourth is in panda but not in bear.
 My last is in baboon but not in monkey.
 What am I?



Last Week's Answer

Badminton: this is the only sport which does not use a ball, it uses a shuttlecock.



Fish River Canoe Marathon cancelled



Participants at a previous Fish River Canoe Marathon

The organisers of this year's Fish River Canoe Marathon have decided to cancel the race scheduled for September 25-26 due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

The event has become the biggest paddling event in the country and was set to host the South African National K1 and K3 River

Championships.

"Although South Africa is currently operating under level 3 of the lockdown regulations, there is no indication when mass participation events and functions will be able to start, or what the protocols will be," Roy Copeman, chairperson of the organising

committee, said via a press statement.

"Given the scale and budget of the Fish, and the impact that it has on so many spheres of the Cradock community, we had to make a decision now. We strongly believe our solution is the one that benefits our paddlers the most."

Copeman added that there were multiple

factors that led to the cancellation of the two-day tournament.

"Cross provincial travel restrictions might potentially ease during lockdown level two but the status of 'hotspots' can fluctuate and prevent travelling between provinces any time during lockdown," he said.

"Mass participation events will only be allowed to take place under lockdown level 0 and we are unsure of the time-frame of the various levels or when level 0 will happen.

"There is also uncertainty around when supporting businesses can operate normally, such as accommodation establishments and restaurants. This has a huge impact on our event," he added.

Despite the cancellation the committee is still continuing with an open mind with the option of a social Fish River Canoe Marathon still on the table later in the year.

"If the opportunity presents itself later in the year, we will organise a 'Social Fish'. The possible plan will be to start Day One at Prospect and finish at Baroda. Day Two from Knutsford to Cradock, finishing at the Cradock Canoe Club."

Orlando Pirates win race to sign Bafana captain Thulani Hlatshwayo from Bidvest Wits

Orlando Pirates have won the race to sign Bafana Bafana captain Thulani Hlatshwayo from Bidvest Wits. TimesLIVE has established.

Sources close to the player say Hlatshwayo will pick playing for Pirates rather than Mamelodi Sundowns, who had expressed interest in him after it emerged the Wits owners were selling the club.

"Pirates have got him. He has told Sundowns he will join Pirates," a source told TimesLIVE.

Majority owners of Wits, Bidvest, have put the club up for sale and a deal with Limpopo businessman Masala Mulaudzi is already in place. The impending sale has brought about panic in the club, with several players now looking to secure a move and many, it is understood, reluctant to relocate to Limpopo, where the new owners will move the team.

Hlatshwayo, 30, is arguably Wits' most prized asset at the moment and it was no surprise that both the Buccaneers and Sundowns were eager to have him.

While Sundowns did the initial approach, Pirates are now understood to have won Hlatshwayo's heart. His agent Mike Ntombela would not confirm or deny that the central defender is headed to Bucs.

"The fact of the matter is that he belongs to Wits. He renewed his contract and has two years to run still," Ntombela said.

"For anything to happen, Wits must give the go-ahead."

But he did confirm there had been interest from both Pirates and Sundowns, adding only Hlatshwayo will make a decision on where he wants to play.

"He decides for himself. I can only advise here and there, but ultimately, he decides. He can play at any team, including Sundowns and Pirates."

Hlatshwayo has been on Pirates' radar for over two years, with Wits turning down an offer last year.

The Clever Boys' hand has now been forced by their impending sale, with several other players set to leave the club.

Sundowns had bid for Hlatshwayo, Haashim Domingo and Deon Hotto, but a source said they will only succeed with Domingo at this stage, with Hotto also undecided between going to the Brazilians or Bucs.

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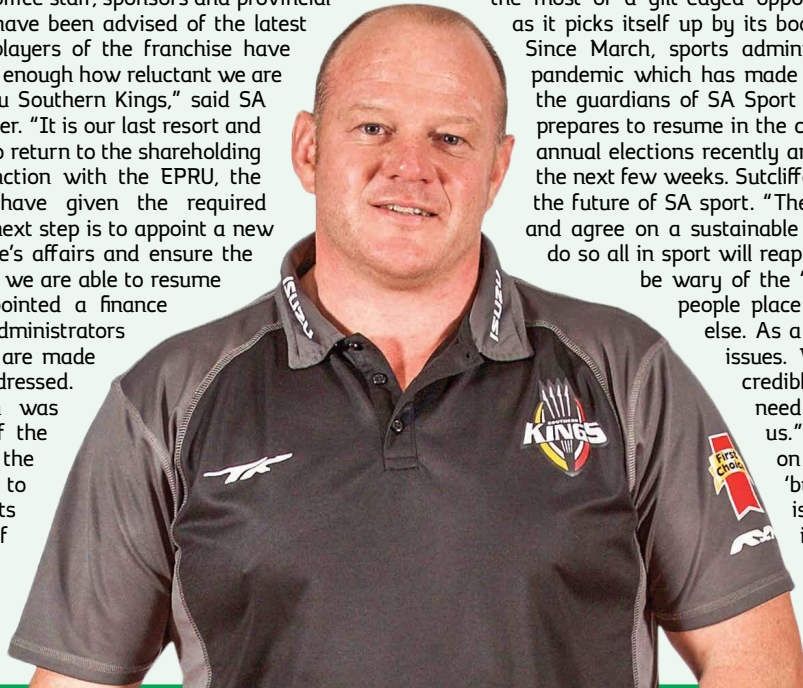
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News in Sports

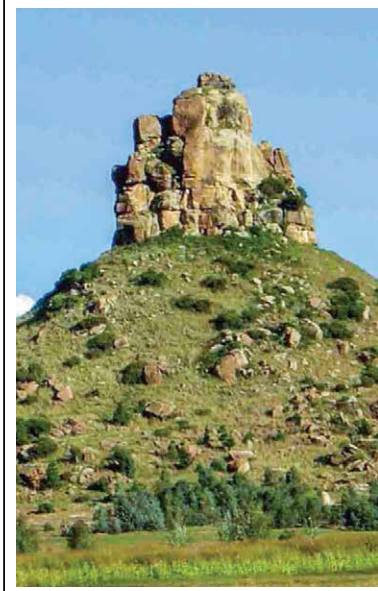
SA Rugby has assumed management control of the Southern Kings, having taken back a 74% shareholding in the organisation. South Africa's director of rugby, Rassie Erasmus is liaising with Kings director of rugby and interim coach, Robbie Kempson (pictured), on immediate team needs. Players, management, office staff, sponsors and provincial and metropolitan authorities have been advised of the latest developments. All staff and players of the franchise have been retained. "I cannot stress enough how reluctant we are to resume control of the Isuzu Southern Kings," said SA Rugby President Mark Alexander. "It is our last resort and we are keen to explore ways to return to the shareholding to another's hands, in conjunction with the EPRU, the minority shareholder, who have given the required approval to the decision. The next step is to appoint a new board to oversee the franchise's affairs and ensure the team is match ready for when we are able to resume playing." SA Rugby has appointed a finance team to work with franchise administrators on ensuring salary payments are made and business needs are addressed. Alexander said the decision was taken following the failure of the Greatest Rugby Company in the Whole Wide World (GRC) to meet its financial commitments relating to the acquisition of the shareholding. The decision ensures the Southern Kings will participate in Guinness PRO14 and/or any other competitions that may be



established within the constraints of the Covid-19 pandemic lockdown.

Toby Sutcliffe, the chief executive at the University of Pretoria's High Performance Sport Training Centre, says South African sport must make the most of a gilt-edged opportunity to shape a sustainable future as it picks itself up by its bootstraps during the Covid-19 outbreak. Since March, sports administrators have had to deal with the pandemic which has made for extraordinary times. Sutcliffe says the guardians of SA Sport must "think outside the box" as sport prepares to resume in the country. Many codes of sport have held annual elections recently and a few more are in the pipeline over the next few weeks. Sutcliffe says these elections will be crucial for the future of SA sport. "There is no better time than now to unite and agree on a sustainable plan for the future. If we manage to do so all in sport will reap the rewards," said Sutcliffe. "We must be wary of the 'Travel and Tracksuit Brigade' because people place their selfish interests above anything else. As a result, players have competency trust issues. We need people who are honest and credible to run sport. "We in South Africa need to learn to put our aspirations behind us." Sutcliffe believes there will be changes on the sporting landscape. It will not be 'business as usual' when the pandemic is over. Sport will, however, remain an integral part of Mzansi life. "At times, sport has united us as a nation. One only has to cast one's mind back to the 2010 World Cup, and the three Rugby World Cup wins in 1995, 2007 and 2019," said Sutcliffe.

National Weather



MASERU		
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	14°C / -4°C	
16°C / -3°C	SUNDAY	
	16°C / -2°C	
MAFETENG		
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	9°C / -1°C	
10°C / -2°C	SUNDAY	
	13°C / 0°C	
MOHALE'S HOEK		
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	9°C / -1°C	
10°C / -2°C	SUNDAY	
	13°C / 0°C	
QUTHING		
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	13°C / -2°C	
16°C / -3°C	SUNDAY	
	15°C / -2°C	
QACHA'S NEK		
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	18°C / 2°C	
18°C / -1°C	SUNDAY	
	20°C / 0°C	
THABA TSEKA		
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	9°C / -2°C	
9°C / -3°C	SUNDAY	
	15°C / 0°C	
MOKHOTLONG		
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	13°C / -5°C	
15°C / -5°C	SUNDAY	
	20°C / -5°C	
BUTHA BUTHE		
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	11°C / 0°C	
11°C / 0°C	SUNDAY	
	11°C / -1°C	
LERIBE		
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	15°C / -4°C	
17°C / -4°C	SUNDAY	
	20°C / -2°C	
BEREA		
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	10°C / -2°C	
11°C / -1°C	SUNDAY	
	15°C / -2°C	

NEW
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Lesotho Sky postponed to 2021

TEBOHO JAFETA

MASERU - The 10th edition of the Lesotho Sky has been postponed to 2021 due to coronavirus pandemic.

In a statement released on Tuesday, Lesotho Sky mentioned that it decided to postpone this year's edition because the coronavirus outbreak affects majority of the work of the event in the tourism, sports and other events locally and internationally.

"It is with heavy heart that we have decided to postpone the 10th anniversary edition of Lesotho Sky by one year," the statement reads.

Sky events mentioned that the new dates set are the 20th - 25th September 2021 and the company believes that this is the best they can do to be proactive in this Covid-19 situation.

Lesotho Sky statement also highlights that as of February 2020, Lesotho Sky adjusted its asphalt pump tracks from one to the total of three pump tracks in Lesotho. The pump tracks are located in Roma, Maseru and Mantšonyane respectively. It further shows that on the

Roma pump track. Lesotho Sky have acquired expertise through hosting sky cycling league together with Sky gate tours and adventures every month since 2018 until February 2020.

In an interview with Metro, Sky League manager Tumelo Makhetha said they are not aware of which category the Lesotho Sports and Recreation (LSRC) have put them with regards to risk of Covid-19 in Lesotho, but mentioned that their plan is to commence with the sky league monthly events immediately upon being given the permission to do so. He said sky league had to pause in March this year due to Covid-19.

The Lesotho Sky is a 6-day mountain bike stage race that takes place in the Kingdom of Lesotho. The event has been sanctioned by the Federation of Cycling since 2011 and has been accredited as category 1 by the Union Cycliste International (the UCI). The event first took place in 2011 covering 430 km over the 6 days. More recently the route has shortened to 340 km with a time trial through the capital, Maseru. The Lesotho Sky is a small event but

attracts professional and amateur riders from around the world. Riders are required to ride in teams of 2 that must stay within 2 minutes of each other throughout the event. The times taken for each team to finish each day are added together and the shortest total time is the winner.

The Lesotho Sky was founded in 2011 by Christian Schmidt and Darol Howes. The idea was conceived on a mountain bike tour across the mountainous Kingdom of Lesotho in January 2011. Starting in the village in Morija on the west to finish going down Sani pass on the east. Christian is from Germany but spent several years in Morija in Lesotho during his youth and knew that Lesotho had huge potential for mountain biking.

The route is typically between 340 kilometres and 400 kilometres in length split over 6 days. The route starts in Lesotho's Capital Maseru with a 20 kilometres prologue that was introduced during the 2013 edition of the race. The following 5 days are all in rural areas of the Maseru and Mafeteng districts.



Contestants of a past Lesotho Sky race

Olympic day celebrated differently

TEBOHO JAFETA

MASERU - President of the Lesotho National Olympic Committee (LNOC) president 'Matlohang Moiloa Ramoqopo says the international Olympic Day is celebrated differently this year due to the global Coronavirus outbreak.

Moiloa Ramoqopo who is also a member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) made these remarks on Tuesday when delivering her speech during the virtual celebration of the Olympic Day as sports personalities could not meet to celebrate this day due to Covid-19 crisis.

She said this year's celebration set a new record of the most highly active virtually connected event, as the whole world partakes

in the online workout sessions championed by Olympic athletes to embrace the day.

She said sports like other sectors have been affected by the unique circumstances brought by the pandemic, adding that therefore sports people are compelled to rethink their position.

"We are compelled to pause and rethink our position, and pose a question, can sports bounce back!?" she said.

She said while they put health and safety as their top priorities, they would remain stronger and would engage in talks with athletes as well as youth on finding new ways to assist sports to resurface. She said they will also focus on better lifestyle choices and open a window for sport to be technologically driven.

"We must all work together to ensure a safe

return of our athletes and youth on the field of play," she added.

The message for the celebration of this year's Olympic Day is "Stay strong, stay active, stay healthy".

The Olympic Day is celebrated to mark the formal establishment of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) back in 1894.

On 23 June 1894, IOC was formally established through the efforts of Pierre de Coubertin promoting competitive sport as a revival of the ancient Olympic Games.

Due to World War II, Olympic Games had not been held in either 1940 or 1944. The city

of London rose to host to the Games of the XIV after World War II.

In January 1948, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) approved the idea of Olympic Day to commemorate the creation of the IOC on 23 June 1894 in Paris, a sort of "birthday" of the Olympic Movement at the 42nd IOC Session in St Moritz, Switzerland.

Olympic Day was held for the first time June 23 with a total of nine National Olympic Committees (NOCs) hosting ceremonies in their respective countries: Austria, Belgium, Canada, Great Britain, Greece, Portugal, Switzerland, Uruguay and Venezuela.

We deserve it either way - Mafoso

MASERU - Bantu coach, Bob Mafoso, says A Matšo Matebele will be worthy champions if the Lesotho Football Association (LeFA) decides to end the domestic season and hand them the title after the football season was halted by the Corona Virus pandemic since March.

Mafoso was sharing his thoughts regarding the debate on what should be the way forward for football in the Mountain Kingdom following a long break brought by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Last week the Botswana Football Association joined a host of countries that ended their domestic league and declared Jwaneng Galaxy as champions with 10 rounds still left to play.

Galaxy were a point ahead of Opara United and defending champions Township Rollers when football was suspended because of the Coronavirus outbreak in March.

However, LeFA has on several occasions stated that its wish is to see the remaining eight matches of the Econet Premier League and the lower divisions played to the finish.

When the football mother body suspended all football activities in March, Bantu were enjoying a healthy 16 points advantage over second placed Matlama in the race for the league title.

Mafoso, who won his first league title as the assistant coach to James Madidilane during the 2017/18 season, is adamant his side will be deserving champions based on their dominance

that saw them unbeaten in 18 games.

Bantu were looking to emulate LDF, who went the whole season unbeaten as they clinched the championship in 1997.

"All we wanted was to win the championship at any cost. We just wanted to be the best team in the league and win gold," the Bantu mentor told this publication.

"If the football authorities decided to end the season and award us the championship, I think we would still be deserving champions because by the time football activities were suspended, we were enjoying a 16-point advantage over second placed Matlama.

"If you look at history of the championship in recent years, you will realise that it has been won on 58-62 points and we were on 50 points with eight games to go. Of course, it would be nice to play the season to the end and win the championship in the field of play," Mafoso also said.

The Mafeteng outfit is well on course to clinch its fourth Lesotho Premier League title before the suspension.

Bantu won their first league title during the 2013/14 season under the mentorship of the late Motlatsi Shale.

Attempts by LeFA to resume the football season might prove difficult due to the increase of Corona Virus infections in the country after the Ministry of Health last week announced eight additional cases increasing the total number of confirmed cases to 12.



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Who is Zinedine Zidane?

Zinedine Zidane was born on June 23, 1972, in Marseille, France. A three-time FIFA World Player of the Year, Zidane led France to victory in the 1998 World Cup and starred for clubs in France, Italy and Spain.

His career ended in shocking fashion when he was expelled from the 2006 World Cup final for head-butting an opponent, though he remains regarded as one of the sport's all-time greats.

Zidane took over as manager of Real Madrid in 2016, and went on to win three consecutive Champions League titles with the club.

Childhood

Zinedine Yazid Zidane was born on June 23, 1972, in Marseille, France. The son of Algerian immigrants, Zidane learned to play soccer in the streets of La Castellane, a rough section of Marseille. After starring for local youth clubs, 14-year-old Zidane was discovered at a French Football Federation training camp by AS Cannes recruiter Jean Varraud, and spent the next three years honing his skills in Cannes' youth division.

Professional Career

Zidane made his first professional appearance for Cannes at 17, scoring a goal in his debut. He transferred to Bordeaux in 1992, and in ensuing years the attacking midfielder earned fame for his sterling all-around play. Prone to the occasional flash of temper, Zidane otherwise was the embodiment of control with the ball at his feet, seemingly knowing when to maneuver through the defense, find a teammate with a pinpoint pass or rocket a shot at the goal.

Zidane transferred to Juventus F.C. in Italy's prestigious Serie A League in 1996. The move brought a marked increase in visibility and expectations, but Zidane proved he was up to the challenge by steering Juventus to an Italian Super Cup, a UEFA Super Cup, an Intercontinental Cup and a pair of Serie A titles over the next two seasons.

At his peak when France hosted the 1998 World Cup, Zidane spearheaded Les Bleus' march through the tournament with his crisp passing and dribbling, and then scored twice as France shut down Brazil in the final, 3-0, to become a national hero.

Two years later, Zidane again was the linchpin of the French team's run to international glory, which culminated with a 2-1 win over Italy for the European Championship.

In 2001, Zidane signed with Spanish club Real Madrid for a world-record transfer fee of more than \$66 million. The investment paid immediate dividends, as the French import helped Real Madrid win the coveted UEFA Champions League title in his first year and La Liga the following season.

Zidane had indicated he would retire after the 2006 World Cup in Germany, and it appeared his career was heading for a storybook finish when France advanced to the final against Italy. Instead, it ended in shocking fashion when, enraged by opponent Marco Materazzi's comments to



Zinedine Zidane

him in extra time, he slammed his head into the Italian player's chest. Zidane was thrown out of the game, and France subsequently lost on penalty kicks.

Real Madrid Front Office and Manager

Zidane joined Real Madrid's front office as an adviser and was named the club's sporting director in 2011. The following year, it was announced the French soccer legend would begin coaching at Real Madrid's youth academy, and in 2014 he was named coach of the club's B

consecutive Champions League titles. He also led Real Madrid to two UEFA Super Cups, two FIFA World Club Cups, one Spanish title and one Spanish Super Cup, before announcing he was stepping down in May 2018.

However, Zidane was gone from the post for less than a year, as he returned to manage Real Madrid in March 2019.

Legacy

In 2004, Zidane was named best European soccer player of the past 50 years by the UEFA Golden Jubilee Poll and was included in the FIFA 100, Pelé's list of the 125 greatest living players. He remains one of a handful of greats to win the FIFA World Player of the Year/Ballon d'Or award three times.

Appointed a United Nations Goodwill Ambassador in March 2001, Zidane annually captains a team of soccer stars against a side led by fellow retired idol and U.N. Ambassador Ronaldo in a match for charity. In 2010, he also served as a high-profile ambassador of Qatar's successful bid to host the 2022 World Cup.

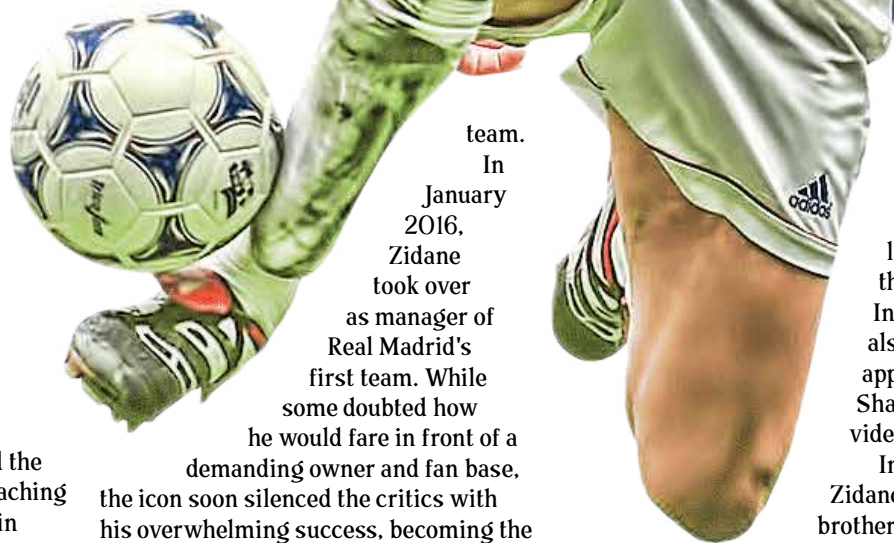
Family

Zidane met his wife, Véronique Fernández when he was just 17 years old. The couple got married in 2005 and got their first child, a boy named, Enzo Zidane Fernández in 1995. Their second son, Luca Zidane Fernández was born in 1998. Theo Zidane Fernández, the couple's third son was born in 2002, while the last born, Elyaz Zidane Fernández was born in 2005.

In 2005, a documentary 'Zidane: A 21st Century Portrait' was filmed by Douglas Gordon and Philippe Parreno, which x-rayed his matches as a professional footballer.

In November 2006, Zidane made an appearance in the animated series, Family Guy, where he infamously head-butted an elderly lady in one of the episodes. In 2010, he also made an appearance in Shakira's music video, 'Waka Waka'.

In July 2019, Zidane lost his elder brother, Farid to cancer.



team. In January 2016, Zidane took over as manager of Real Madrid's first team. While some doubted how he would fare in front of a demanding owner and fan base, the icon soon silenced the critics with his overwhelming success, becoming the first manager to win two and then three