



BREBNER EXPOSES SOLICITOR GENERAL

...names lawyers he worked with in criminal conspiracy to remove Mutembo from office

To page 2



L-r: Father Laston Lupupa, Secretary to Cabinet Dr Roland Msiska, Bread of Life International Bishop Joe Imakando and Minister of National Guidance and Religious Affairs Rev Godfridah Sumaili pray during a senior Church leaders' religious engagement at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross yesterday – Picture by Tenson Mkhala

Sumaili asks Zambians to pray for Day of Prayer

By Tenson Mkhala

Minister of National Guidance and Religious Affairs Reverend Godfridah Sumaili has asked the church to pray for the National Day of Prayer and Fasting which falls on October 18. She was speaking when she officiated at the church leaders' engagement meeting at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Lusaka yesterday.

To page 4

Zambians have a talent of complaining – Lungu

By Mirriam Chabala

President Edgar Lungu has challenged Zambians to stop the tendency of saying “Boma

ilanganepo” and focus on identifying their various inner potential to find solutions to their challenges.

To page 2

I'm willing to team up with opposition to kick out PF in 2021, says CK

By Tenson Mkhala

National Democratic Congress (NDC) leader Chishimba Kambwili says he is willing to work with other opposition political parties in order to unseat

the Patriotic Front in 2021 because becoming President is not his number one preoccupation.

And Kambwili who is also Roan PF member of parliament says he

is upset with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) for appointing President Edgar Lungu, a non-democrat, chair of the Defence Organ.

To page 3

UNZA student gets 18 months for trafficking

Story page 6

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By Mirriam Chabala
President Edgar Lungu has challenged Zambians to stop the tendency of saying “Boma ilanganepo” and focus on identifying their various inner potential which they would use to better their respective lives. Speaking in Mambwe District, Eastern Province where he went to commission the MISSOIL Processing Plant yesterday, President Lungu noted that most Zambians had a lazy attitude towards work and were always relying on government to give them handouts without working for them.
“I am very impressed with what I have seen, I say I am impressed because I have heard people say ‘we are suffering.’ But then I ask them ‘what are you doing to get out of that box of suffering which you are trapped in?’ because we all have it within ourselves to improve ourselves but most people most people want Boma ilanganepo (the government should look out for us), boma

Zambians have a talent of complaining instead of finding solutions - Lungu

ilanganepo bwanji? Me I tell them that we are simply here to create an enabling atmosphere or environment that is convenient for you to be able to identify your potential. What I am seeing is that Zambians have a talent of complaining and complaining, the truth is that we can break out of any suffering just like this lady has risen from nothing to where she is now where she has employed a lot of people,” said President Lungu.

“Let’s identify our different talents and capabilities so that we partner with those that have further knowledge so that we develop our potential. That’s why I am here to give honour and dedication to this project and I am advising her (the owner) that the sky is not the limit, you can do even much more. Now that you are successful, you can really claim ownership of this place. And Zambians I urge you to work hard, look for the potential which lies in you and

partner with others who have more understanding than you and you will see that tomorrow you will be a different person and you will lead a transformational life once you discover your full potential.”
And speaking before the President at the same event, a representative of MISSOIL Processing Plant and founder member, explained how she started her oil business as a young lady years back.
“I started this business a very long time ago when

I came here for the first time. I was with my mum and dad when I looked around and started to think how beautiful this land is, I started totally from the scratch, I remember I didn’t have anything I didn’t even have a bicycle but I had dreams. So I started up a small lodge called ‘Just Africa’ and my name appeared in the Brexit Travel guide and my partner in MISSOIL business saw it, read and traveled because this little story touched him. When he came to Mfuwe,

he saw what we were doing, and he went back and when he came back, he wanted to do business in Zambia. He picked on me that we should start up this beautiful business of MISSOIL. We looked around, my partner has a background of finance and I have a background of looking after customers at my little ‘Just Africa’, we started thinking of what could be done and we came up with making cooking oil because I was aware then that most of the cooking oil that we get is imported.”
“So we realised that if we started growing Sun Flower, we were going to be the only ones who were going to do it. So that was how we got the seed from Zamseed and after we brought it to the community, that was when we planned and started this MISSOIL... we have created a market for the farmers around here because we buy the crop on their door step. We have also gone to Chipangali, Chiparamba were have shades and we have extension officers who we provide with motor bikes and they are here to witness this special event. We have about 2,000 farmers from whom we buy the Sun Flower and the little capacity we have in the plant, we are able to provide 2,000 litres of oil. So I am standing here to tell everyone that it doesn’t matter where you come from, you can do anything,” explained the MISSOIL representative.



Chinese nationals at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross during senior Church leaders’ religious engagement under the theme ‘Prophetic agenda for national transformation’ yesterday – Picture by Tenson Mkhala

CSPR welcomes BoZ abolishment of unwarranted charges

By Abraham Kalito
Civil Society for Poverty Reduction (CSPR) Executive Director Patrick Nshindano has observed that financial institutions have failed to effectively provide affordable financial services and manage customer deposits.
Nshindano made the comment in the wake of Bank of Zambia’s notification to financial institutions to abolish unwarranted charges, including ATM charges and account charges on clients.
He said financial institutions had resorted to the easier way of making profits by slapping high charges on the customer accounts.

“As the civil society for poverty reduction we fully support and welcome the Bank of Zambia directive for commercial banks to revise and abolish some bank charges slapped on customers on different services offered. Financial inclusiveness is a critical component for national development and poverty reduction and the high bank charges on customer accounts and services discourage savings especially for the low-income category. We also note that banks and financial institutions generally have failed to play their role effectively of providing affordable financial services and managing customer deposits and instead resorted to the easier

way of slapping high charges on the customer accounts. Further to this, banks continue to offer high interest loans and very low interest savings whose interest is also eroded by the bank charges,” he said.
“Banks should aim at providing an incentive to grow savings which they in turn invest into different instruments as opposed to milking the savings of depositors. Further to this, most of the services charged by the banks to the customers are not fully known and banks do very little to inform customers of the charges on the different kinds of accounts and services. Customers must therefore also take it upon themselves to find

out the charges that will accrue to the respective account or service they intend to acquire and make an informed decision based on affordability. It’s our belief that bank charges should never be a deterrent to promoting savings as is the case now and should be charged within affordable limits for the consumers of bank services. Many Zambians especially the poor continue to be exploited with little to no recourse and if the banking sector is not able to offer quality and affordable services to the public its only right that government through BOZ intervenes.”
He said BOZ needed to also help create an enabling business

environment that would spur domestic private sector growth and participation.
“We believe that such measures will grow the financial sector through increased savings which in turn will lead to increased access to much needed affordable finance especially for the SME. In conclusion, BOZ should not end at the point of regulation but also through the respective line ministries such as Ministry of Finance, promote an enabling business environment that will spur domestic private sector growth and participation including reduced government domestic borrowing which crowds out the private sector and pushes interest rates up.”

I’m willing to team up with opposition to kick out PF in 2021 – Kambwili

By Mirriam Chabala
National Democratic Congress (NDC) leader Chishimba Kambwili says he is willing to work with other opposition political parties in order to unseat the Patriotic Front in 2021 because becoming President is not his preoccupation. And Kambwili who also Roan PF member of parliament says he is upset with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) for appointing President Edgar Lungu, a non-democrat, chair of the Defence security and politics troika organ. Speaking when featured on Diamond TV’s Costa show on Sunday evening, Kambwili said he was willing to enter into a pact with other opposition parties. “Unity of purpose can produce results, and for me I have no problem in teaming up with other opposition political parties to remove this PF before they throw the country into turmoil. And I have said, if we come together as opposition and the people that will come together, choose someone else to be

the Presidential candidate, who am I to refuse? Because this it not about myself, it’s about what the people will tell us to do or what they will choose. I am prepared to work with anybody, but if other people are not prepared then obviously we will go into it alone and we have to face the elections as NDC,” Kambwili said. And Kambwili said he was unhappy about SADC’s decision to appoint President Lungu as Chairperson for defence and security of it’s troika organ. “I really tend to get very upset when people describe President Edgar Lungu as a democrat. And by the way, I am even [more] upset with SADC for allowing him to be Chairman for defense, politics and security troika. How can he be allowed to assume that position when he is destroying the very tenets of democracy in the country where he’s President. you cannot go and clean up a neighbour’s house if you can’t clean your own house. If you want to introduce cleanliness in every organisation, first

it must start with you. You must lead by example, but our President, our dear friend has not lived the democratic tenets in this country. Look, I have been denied access to have meetings in my constituency. Even to visit a ward [in my constituency], they send police [for me],” he said. “For the past one year, I have never addressed a meeting in my constituency, I have never visited even a ward in my constituency or a market. But the police give permits to the honourable member of parliament for Luanshya, honourable Steve Chungu to go and address meetings in my constituency. For one year, I have applied for police permits and I think this permit I have brought here (showing the permit to the show host) should be the 15th or 16th permit that has been denied. But under normal circumstances, a member of parliament

doesn’t need to apply for a police permit but just to show them respect, I have always applied for permits which they don’t approve.” Meanwhile, Kambwili explained his vision for Zambia and the legacy he wanted to leave if elected as President. “Once NDC comes into office, the first thing that we are going to work towards improving the living standards of citizens. My ideology, our ideology as NDC is ubuntu. So we will make sure that we improve the living standards of the people. The legacy that I want to leave when I die is for people to remember me as someone who improved the living standards of people. Levy Mwanawasa fought corruption, President Chilumba brought democracy, I want to improve the economy of this country by creating more industries and more jobs. People have

just been talking about job creation but they miss a lot of important issues in the creation of jobs, people are saying ‘we want to diversify in the agricultural sector’ for instance... look the annual budget for Ministry of Agriculture for instance, 50% is to pay salaries, 30% is FISP. FISP to me is only household food security because they give four bags per farmer. But what can a farmer grow in four bags for him to remain with something to feed his family and sell the excess?” asked Kambwili. “Then you have only 20% for other agricultural programmes, you cannot grow the agricultural sector under those circumstances. What we need is more money pumped in the agricultural sector, more money put where you can realise benefits. When it comes to the manufacturing sector, how can you improve the

manufacturing sector when everything that you use in the country comes from abroad? So the legacy that I want to leave, and I want to tell the Zambians, I can change this country. This country is very dirt, it needs to be cleaned so that when I die, people will say ‘there was a Kambwili who cleaned up this country’, not the way they are playing with leadership today. Imagine if we had put \$15 billion into the manufacturing sector, into the agricultural sector. For instance, the \$377 million that they are wasting on the airport. If we took it to establish farms like the Mpongwe development farm [in Luanshya], which is employing about 18 to 20,000 people, how many Zambians could have been employed? So what has been happening is wrong priorities and when I come, I will do the right thing.”

RTSA closes 7 driving schools

By Mirriam Chabala
The Road Transport and Safety Agency (RTSA) has closed down seven Driving Schools in Lusaka for operating illegally and outside the provisions of the Road Traffic Act. RTSA Head of Public Relations Fredrick Mubanga disclosed in a statement, Monday, that this came to light when the agency conducted an inspection and enforcement exercise of driving schools recently, were it was discovered that the closed Schools lacked proper documentations. “RTSA has closed nine driving schools for operating illegally and outside the provision of the Road Traffic Act No.11 of 2002. The Schools have since been ordered to immediately close and stop offering driving lessons. The affected

Driving Schools are Galaxy Driving School, Puma Driving School, Vwanganji Driving School, Matcus Driving School, Peniel Driving School, Presmac driving School and Risemark Driving School. Some Driving Schools were found to be receiving payments from driving lessons using two different receipt books under different names in some instances, such that if one School is threatened with closure, the other School will get the payments on its behalf,” Mubanga stated. And Mubanga disclosed that nine vehicles were also impounded during the exercise for various offences and that they would only be released after full compliance with the provision of the law. “Further, a total number of nine motor vehicles

were impounded during the exercise from the named Driving Schools for not having Certificate of Fitness, not paying for Road Tax, failure to insure the vehicles and lack of qualified instructors. All the impounded vehicles are currently parked at the RTSA Dedan Kimathi station and will only be released after full compliance with the provision of the law. The RTSA wishes to warn other Driving Schools that are operating illegally to fully comply or face prosecution as the inspection and enforcement exercise will be extended to all the Provinces in the country. Members of the public are encouraged to learn driving skills from reputable, recognized Driving Schools registered with the RTSA,” stated Mubanga.

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By Zondiwe Mbewe

The Lusaka Magistrate Court has admitted a video of Muvi TV’s ‘Assignment’ program into evidence in the matter where New Labour Party leader Fresher Siwale is charged with defamation of the President. Principle resident magistrate Alice Walusiku ruled, Monday, that the video had met all the conditions required for the production of a video into evidence.

In this matter, Siwale is alleged to have on April 22, 2018, with intent to bring the name of President Edgar Lungu into ridicule, did publish defamatory matter by word of mouth to which he said ‘the President of the Republic of Zambia is not the actual Edgar Chagwa Lungu but Jonathan Mutawale, he must be arrested for having three National Registration Cards, he is an identity thief’.

In May this year, Muvi TV’s director of programs Mabvuto Phiri had testified that he he invited Siwale to feature on the Assignment

Court admits ‘The Assignment’ episode as evidence in Siwale’s case

program, where the latter branded President Lungu as an identity thief, with the aide of some scanned registration and voters cards. And when the full Assignment program was viewed in court that day, defence lawyers Keith Mweemba and Gilbert Phiri had objected to the admittance of the video into evidence saying the rules of computer generated evidence had been breached. They had argued that having viewed the contents of the program from the beginning to the end including things Phiri did not talk about, prejudiced the accused person and could amount to a mistrial. The duo had further argued that Phiri had not told the court the model of the computer that he used and

the scientific method he used to produce ID1 from the work station. They had argued that the DVD was secondary evidence and secondary evidence could not be produced in the court of law when the original was in existence. And when the matter came up for a ruling yesterday, magistrate Walusiku observed that the defence counsels, in their argument, had not provided the rule which stopped the court from viewing the contents of an exhibit before it was produced and therefore it was speculation. She said the video evidence had been identified by the witness and he had mentioned it’s contents. “Firstly the defence just said that there was no rule that allowed the court to view the contents of an exhibit

before it was produced. The defence however did not provide that rule which did not allow the court not to view the contents of an exhibit before it was produced. Therefore it was a speculation,” she said. “In this case, ID1 was identified by PW1 and PW1 mentioned the contents that the court was expected to find in the DVD, ID1. PW1 identified the said DVD and mentioned what the court was expected to find and he said that be was able to identify it. He said that it had a Muvi TV logo, the name of the program ‘Assignment’, his signature and a full stop before the word assignment. The contents were what accused person propagated [and] there were three video clips. This is what PW1 stated.” Magistrate Walusiku observed that the witness

was supposed to show the court what he was talking about and could only do that by viewing the said video. She said the argument by the defence counsels that viewing the video evidence before production could amount to a mistrial, was aimed at misleading the court and defeating the course of justice. “PW1 was supposed to show the court that what he purported to say, was what was in the said ID1. He was therefore supposed to show the court what he is talking about. It goes therefore that he could only show the court what he was talking about by way of viewing the said video to confirm that what he was saying was what was inside the said DVD. I wonder how PW1 was going to confirm that ID1 was what he purported

it to be if the contents were not viewed? There is no other way that PW1 could have confirmed the contents without viewing it’s contents. Therefore the issue raised by the defence that viewing ID1 before production leads to a mistrial is aimed at misleading the court and defeating the course of justice,” she said. And magistrate Walusiku ruled that there was no breach of computer generated evidence and that the video was the best evidence that the witness could have used. “The second issue is the issue raised by the defence that the rules of evidence on computer generated evidence are being breached. PW1 told the court that the computer that was used was in good working condition and could not be tempered with. This excluded the danger of manipulation and as such there was no breach of computer generated evidence. In this case, ID1 was the best evidence that PW1 could have used,” she said. Magistrate Walusiku further said that the court nowadays admitted all relevant evidence and did not just confine itself to the best evidence. “On the issue that the computer at Muvi TV must be brought to court and not ID1, this is what I would like to say. Muvi TV is a national broadcaster and asking him to produce this gadget to court would make it impossible for them to work. ID1 therefore must be admitted. Nowadays we do not confine ourselves to the best evidence. We admit all relevant evidence. The goodness or badness of it goes only to the weight and not to the admissibility. ID1 one therefore is the best evidence and at the hands of PW1,” she said. And on issue of the DVD not being brought in a sealed evidence bag, magistrate Walusiku said the defence counsels did not refer to the court as to which law of evidence said that. She said there was nothing that placed a burden on a person producing an exhibit to place the evidence in a sealed bag. Magistrate Walusiku ruled that foundation was led for the production of ID1 into video evidence. “With the foregoing I’m satisfied that ID1 has met all the conditions required to production and as such I rule that ID1 has been admitted into evidence and is now marked P1,” ruled magistrate Walusiku.

Sumaili asks Zambians to pray for National Day of Prayer



By Tenson Mkhala

Minister of National Guidance and Religious Affairs Reverend Godfridah Sumaili has asked the church to pray for the National Day of Prayer and Fasting which falls on October 18. Speaking when she officiated at the church leaders’ engagement meeting under the theme ‘Prophetic agenda for national transformation’ at Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Lusaka, Rev Sumaili asked the clergy to keep praying for the national day of prayer. “May I take this opportunity to call

upon all clergy in this country to start preparing and praying for the National Day of Prayer and Fasting which is on October 18, 2018. As you may be aware, this is a big day to this nation. A day of reflection. A day of unity and above all, a day of reconciliation,” Rev Sumaili said. “We must love this day because other countries are admiring us. I have interacted with people from other countries and they have told me that they wish they had such a day like us. This is a special day which should be embraced by all Zambians.”

And Rev Sumaili said national values and principles were meant to give direction in the manner people conduct themselves in their day to day lives. “Zambia was declared a Christian nation and as such, we need to embrace our principles and values. Real transformation of the mind must be that of a Christian nation. It must start with you the clergy. We need to give direction to our leaders. You are our spirituals parents. I am saying real transformation starts with our mind. Let us change and renew our minds in order to give

proper directions to this nation,” said Rev Sumaili. Rev Sumaili further said the transformation agenda must be embraced by all stakeholders including the civil society and private sector. Among the people that attended the event were Secretary to Cabinet Dr Roland Msiska, Bread of Life International Bishop Joel Imakando and Advocates for the declaration of Zambia as a Christian nation Bishop Billy Mfula. Others were Senior Chief Ngabwe of Central Province and Chief Kaputa.

Sampa closes bar, orders arrest of patrons for drinking before 10 hrs

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
Lusaka Mayor Miles Sampa has closed and revoked the operation licence for the famous Clans bar and night club in Libala for operating beyond the stipulated time. And Sampa has warned that all bar operators, employees as well as bar patrons who will be found in the bars outside the stipulated time will be arrested. He said this when he inspected some bars in Kabwata constituency, Monday. “We are at Clans in Libala. There has been complaints from residents that this bar opens early in the morning as early as 09:00 hours and then doesn’t close the whole night and makes a lot of noise for neighbours. That is public nuisance. And the license given by the Lusaka City Council to restaurants and bars, you are supposed to open at [11:00 hours] but there is a complaint [that] you open at 09:00 hours. So those that are opening bars early and closing them outside [the] stipulated time. The bar owners and those working in those bars, the council will be arresting them, even the patrons, those who go to drink early before time is allowed for drinking, they are also accomplice to breaking the law. So this is



an example to all the bars in Lusaka,” Sampa said. And Sampa said those who play very loud music were not an exception. “Those who play too loud music, there is a heap of complaints in my office for nuisance noise making at the bars in all the constituencies of Lusaka. Complaints are coming from Matero, Kalingalinga, Mtendere, Chawama,

Avondale, Libala and so we’ve started with Libala and we are giving an example. Any bar owner who doesn’t respect the law and doesn’t respect any neighbourhood and residents, making noise and also starting to open bars at 09:00 hours drinking alcohol, it is illegal. You should check your license. So here at Clans, the council has revoked the license. We

have closed this bar until we are satisfied with their paper work, until we are satisfied that the management will start obeying the guidelines of the council,” Sampa said. He said despite people using their money to drink, it was important that they engaged in productive activities during the day and drink later at a stipulated time. “And this is a warning to

everyone going to drink alcohol in the morning at the bars outside regulations, you will also be arrested because you are the ones supporting these bar owners to break the law. And what are you doing buying early in the morning, I know it’s your money [but] what are you doing drinking alcohol at ten o’clock instead of working or doing something constructive? At least go to

a bar during regulated time zones. So even all those bars that remain open in Kalingalinga around 04hrs-05hrs, we will also move in there and close them,” Sampa said. Sampa said the complaint about Clans’ lack of adhering to council regulations had reached higher offices including that of Home Affairs Minister Stephen Kampyongo. “So in this bar, we are leaving the council police, we have closed it until further notice, for breaking the law, for drinking beer in the morning and playing loud music for residents. This complaint had reached higher level, it reached Home Affairs [Hon] Kampyongo and he complained to me about this and indeed I had to respond quickly to ensure that we maintain law and order in the city of Lusaka. So this is the start not the end. We will be closing all the bars that are not adhering to council regulations and that are encouraging drinking alcohol outside normal stipulated time, and that are playing loud music disturbing the neighbours and being a public nuisance. And these people will be taken to court, prosecuted and the judge will make a ruling on them, we have a court at the council. So immediately the council officials please ensure that these people are taken to court, preferably today so that the judge will tell us what to do with them,” Sampa said. And Sampa ordered his council officials to locate the owner of Clans only identified as a Mrs Mutemwa so that she could be charged for an offense. “And let the owner also be located. So include Mrs Mutemwa (owner of the bar) also to the case, and the workers and those who were drinking also so that we have law and order. The President of Zambia Mr Edgar Changwa Lungu wants law and order in the city. Anyone that breaks the law, as a council we will move in, in the bars, bus stops or markets. Our priority now is stop these bars that are making noise with music and are intoxicating people outside regulations hours,” said Sampa.

Govt bans business-class travel for CEOs of loss making firms

By Diggers Reporter
Government has ordered all chief executive officers of loss making state owned companies to stop travelling business class as part of austerity measures. And government has abolished personal to holder motor vehicles for all employees in state owned institutions. In the Cabinet Office circular minute of 2018 disbursed on July 24, Secretary to the Cabinet Dr Rowland Msiska stated that CEOs of loss making state owned companies were only allowed to travel business class if the flights were more than six hours to the destination country. “Reduce expenditure to both local and foreign travel and workshops to cut down on the cost of running government. Henceforth, chief executive officers of loss

making state owned companies and statutory bodies shall travel economy class on flights not more than six hours to the destination country, and business class on flights of more than six hours to the destination country. All their subordinates will travel economy class. The maximum size of the delegation accompanying the chief executive officer shall not be more than five officers,” Msiska stated in the circular which was addressed to the board chairman of the Industrial Development Commission and copied to the Office of the Vice-President, deputy secretaries to the Cabinet, Secretary to the Treasury, State House principal private secretary, the Auditor General and all permanent secretaries. “Only chairpersons of boards and chief executive officers of profit

making state owned companies and statutory bodies shall travel business class; the Industrial Development Corporation shall institute strict cost cutting measures for the state owned companies, statutory bodies which are non-revenue generating institutions will be required to demonstrate efficient financial management to reduce wasteful expenditure as key performance indicator. Chief Executives of institutions registering high wasteful expenditure and audit queries shall not be allowed to travel business class when undertaking any foreign trips.” And government abolished personal to holder motor vehicles for all employees in state owned institutions. “Reduce expenditure on maintaining the motor vehicle fleet

by disposing off excess vehicles and abolishing personal-to-holder motor vehicles for all employees in all state owned companies and statutory bodies in line with the government policy to be advised by the Ministry of Works and Supply... the Industrial Development Corporation to immediately implement the directive to relook at the portfolios with a view to attract equity participation for the ones that are viable,” stated Msiska. Meanwhile, Msiska also stated that government would halt the contraction of all pipeline debt as well as cancel some contracted loans which had not yet been disbursed, to reduce the debt burden. He stated that the Ministry of Finance would only finance projects which were 80 per cent complete.

Changala exposes how Solicitor General was involved in criminal conspiracy

By Joseph Mwenda

Civil rights activists Brebner Changala has narrated to the Constitution Court, in a witness statement, how Solicitor General Abraham Mwansa and Lusaka Lawyer Lewis Mosho used him in a criminal conspiracy to remove former Director of Public Prosecutions Mutembo Nchito from office.

This is a matter in which Nchito is challenging his removal from office on grounds that the process used was illegal.

In February 2015, police arrested Nchito for alleged abuse of office, prompting President Lungu to appoint a tribunal that later recommended his removal from office.

Among the charges, Nchito was accused of allegedly disrespecting judicial proceedings, taking over prosecutions of court cases in which he had vested interest, and that he planted illicit drugs on Changala.

But according to a witness statement filed in the Constitutional Court, Changala narrated how he participated in the criminal conspiracy to remove Nchito from office.

“I was a witness at the Tribunal set up to investigate the allegations of misconduct against Mr. Mutembo Nchito SC in his office as Director of Public Prosecutions and confirm the evidence that is on the record of that Tribunal. My involvement in the matter stems from a letter that I wrote in 2012 to the President at the time Mr. M.C Sata, regarding a nolle prosequi entered in

a Rajan Mahtani matter. I wanted to have that matter investigated because there were allegations that it was improperly done by Mr. Nchito as DPP. I have now come to learn that Mr. Nchito was not involved. With hindsight, the events leading up to the setting up of the Tribunal after the death of President Sata were carefully orchestrated by a number of persons in a manner that amounted to criminal conspiracy and I regret having participated and I now wish to set the record straight,” Changala stated.

“That after the demise of President Sata and a change in leadership, I was contacted by Honourable Lucky Mulusa who intimated that State House was ready to act on the complaint that I had earlier submitted to Mr Sata concerning Mr. Nchito SC. Honourable Mulusa then invited me to a meeting with Mr. Lewis Mosho and others at Lewis Nathan Advocates’ offices on Independence Avenue. I went to the meeting in the company of Honourable Mulusa and Mr. Thomas Zygambo. When we arrived at the Lewis Nathan offices, we were directed to sit in a boardroom where we were joined by Mr. Mosho, a man I was meeting for the first time and he was introduced to me. Other people began to arrive and these included a person I came to know as Mr. Chabinga and Mr. Keith Mweemba. I knew Mr. Mweemba as he and

Mr. Gilbert Phiri had represented me when I was detained.”

He stated that the lawyers involved in the conspiracy drafted the complaint for him against Nchito and asked for his signature, but he refused to append.

“During the meeting, a document with close to seventeen (17) charges/ allegations against Mr. Mutembo Nchito SC was produced in the meeting, that included a charge that Mr. Nchito had planted drugs on me and several others regarding the issue of nolle prosequi. The strategy now was to have Mr. Nchito SC arrested and removed from office. I was asked to come back the next day to sign an affidavit that would exhibit these charges in order to take the matter to court. When I went back to the Lewis Nathan offices the following day to sign the Affidavit I found Mr. Makebi Zulu as well. After questioning the new charges, I asked for evidence and/or witnesses for the new allegations for me to comfortably sign the Affidavit. I was assured by Mr Makebi Zulu and a Mr Chabinga (a man I was also meeting for the first time) that evidence was available for all the charges but I still asked that the allegation of planting drugs be removed before any signing, as I did not agree with it and I left without signing of the affidavit,” he explained.

“The next day I was surprised to hear on the radio 13:00

hours that Mr. Mutembo Nchito SC had been arrested and taken to Chongwe. I called Honourable Mulusa who did not answer. I then called Mr. Makebi Zulu and asked who had signed the Affidavit and I was informed that it was Mr. Newton Nguni, a former deputy Finance Minister in former President Chiluba’s government who is also a relation of Mr Mosho at whose offices the meetings to deal with the DPP were being held. Although Mr Ng’uni signed the affidavit for Mr. Nchito’s arrest he had never been present during the earlier meetings that I attended. The ploy to arrest and convict Mr. Mutembo Nchito SC failed after he appeared before Honourable Lameck Mwale and a nolle prosequi was entered in the matter.”

He narrated that Solicitor General Mwansa also drafted a complaint against Nchito on his behalf and asked him to sign, adding that despite refusing to sign the letter of complaint, the unsigned document was produced as exhibit in court.

“Sometime later, I received a call from the Solicitor General, Mr. Abraham Mwansa, SC who was also acting Attorney General at the time, who asked me to take to him the letters of complaint that I had written to Mr. Sata and other institutions concerning the DPP. I went to Mr. Mwansa, SC’s office with my letters and gave them to him. The same day Mr. Mwansa SC

called me again and asked if I could go back to his office which I did. I found that he had drafted a letter of complaint to the President against Mr. Nchito SC for me to sign. I had not asked him to draft that letter for me. The letter he drafted had allegations similar to what I had seen at Mr. Mosho’s office including the one alleging that Mr. Nchito SC (DPP) planted drugs on me. Mr. Mwansa SC informed me that I would have to sign it so that it could then be taken to the President to act upon,” Changala narrated.

“I asked Mr Mwansa SC what evidence was available for the added allegations especially the one involving drugs which concerned me personally. He assured me that witnesses were available and that they would be produced. I was still uncomfortable to proceed without seeing the witnesses and therefore did not sign the letter the Solicitor General was asking me to sign. I now know that although I did not sign the letter he asked me to sign the Solicitor General caused an unsigned copy of the letter he drafted for me, to be exhibited as JHS8 to an affidavit of Mr. Joe Simachela, which I attach, claiming that it was the letter I signed. It will be noted that even the spelling of my name is wrong. My name is Brebner and not Brebnar.”

Changala stated that Eastern Province Minister Makebi Zulu and another

lawyer Gilbert Phiri finally succeeded to convince him to sign a complained letter, despite his discomfort.

“After I had refused to sign the letter the Solicitor General drafted for me, a few days passed and then I received a call from my lawyers Messrs Gilbert Phiri and Makebi Zulu to meet them at Mr. Phiri’s office. When I arrived at Mr. Phiri’s office my lawyers asked me to sign the letter of complaint against the then DPP to the President. This letter had already been prepared. It was largely the same as the letter Mr. Mwansa SC drafted for me. They assured me that evidence for new charges was available and would be produced by them concerning the DPP. They indicated that it was urgent as Amos (Chanda) was going to collect the letter to deliver it to the President. I trusted my lawyers and signed although I knew nothing about the new allegations contained in the letter. After this letter, President Mr. Edgar C. Lungu eventually set up the Mutembo Nchito SC Tribunal to investigate the allegations contained in my letter,” stated Changala.

“Sometime later, Ms Alita Mbahwe, Commissioner, Drug Enforcement Commission (“DEC”) invited me to her office where she rendered a full apology about my detention. Ms Mbahwe is the one who explained to me that Mr. Lameck Phiri and Mr. Shubert Sinkala in whose matters Mr. Nchito SC had entered nolle prosequi were officers of the DEC and that Mr. Nchito SC had acted on information provided by the DEC in entering the nolle prosequi that he did.

I confronted Mr. Makebi Zulu with this information and asked if he knew that the nolle prosequi for Mr. Lameck Phiri and Mr. Shubert Sinkala were for officers of the State and not friends of Mr. Nchito SC as I had been led to believe, he laughed it off. Although evidence was promised, I saw no witness that proved the allegations that Mr. Nchito was involved in planting drugs on me or any other allegation I signed for. With hindsight the removal of the then DPP was orchestrated and executed by a consortium of lawyers having vested interests. These lawyers had full access to State power to do as they wished to achieve their goals.”

UNZA student gets 18 months for trafficking

By Zondiwe Mbewe

The Lusaka Magistrates’ Court has sentenced a University of Zambia student to one-year-six-months imprisonment with hard labour for trafficking in 800.7 grams of marijuana.

Kasongo Chizelu, 22, had pleaded guilty to trafficking in psychotropic substances before magistrate Mwandu Sakala’s court.

It was alleged that on August 10, 2018, Kasongo trafficked in 800.7grams of marijuana, a herbal product of cannabis, sativa, without authority.

Facts in this matter are that on August 10, the Drug Enforcement

Commission officers received information that the UNZA chief of security had a male student in his custody.

The said student, Kasongo, was apprehended while the university’s security officers were conducting routine checks in hostels.

He was found in possession of 79 suspected satchets of drugs.

“Kasongo was found on the roof top of Africa six hostel in possession of 79 suspected sachets of drugs. DEC officers went to the university where its security handed over Kasongo and suspected drugs to the law enforcers. When shown the suspected drugs, Kasongo admitted ownership. DEC

officers apprehended Kasongo and seized the suspected drugs which were later taken to the University Teaching Hospital and drug control laboratory,” read the facts.

“A public analyst identified and confirmed the suspected drugs to be marijuana, a herbal product of cannabis sativa weighing 800.7grammes. Katongo admitted the charge and was formally arrested.”

And in mitigation, Kasongo asked the court not to send him to prison saying he had realised the negative effect of marijuana on his life.

He asked the court to give him a fine as he was a fourth and final year

student remaining with a few months before graduating.

“I have realized that marijuana caused destruction to my life,” he said.

And passing judgement, magistrate Sakala said Kasongo deserved leniency but drug trafficking was a serious offence attracting a 25 year maximum jail term.

She said the amount of drugs he was found with was substantial.

“The way you packaged the drugs shows that they were meant for sale. I sentence you to one-year six months imprisonment with hard labour from the date of your arrest,” magistrate Sakala said as the accused wept.



Talking Business with Chibamba Kanyama ...only in Diggers!

Consistency!

By Simon Sakala

My own experience shows that every business has its own obstacles. Just starting a business has many obstacles. Some are external and others associated with the lack of confidence on the part of the entrepreneur; am I doing the right thing? Suppose I fail the way my neighbour failed, will friends not ridicule me?

You also have to source finance not only at the beginning of the business but throughout the business life. Financial doors do not easily open. However, entrepreneurs keep searching and knocking every possible opportunity. You have to source equipment, secure land, work space and even find the necessary assistance. However, entrepreneurs always respond to these obstacles in a forthright and courageous manner. One of the obstacles is that the environment may just be the wrong one for business. In certain environments, the economy may be highly inflationary. I actually never thought that there would be any entrepreneur surviving in Zimbabwe when inflation had risen to several trillion percent. But entrepreneurs have the instinct to see themselves even more successful under a tough environment. Somalia and Ethiopia have produced more aggressive entrepreneurs than most stable economies.

Another obstacle could be that systems in a given country simply do not function. To survive and win a tender, you have to know someone in a position of influence. However, entrepreneurs forge ahead even when systems are corrupt and non-transparent. The Jews (reflected in one of my books) value business ethics to the point where they believe (according to the Talmud) that the very first question an individual is asked in the next world at the final judgment is: ‘Were you honest in your business dealings?’

Entrepreneurs should have faith in the systems they trust. Many entrepreneurs I have counseled know me for some important questions: what is your business focus; what has worked for you all these years and what principles will help you trade? If you have been in business for some time, you must have systems and values that have worked for you. To some, they will maintain their ethical conduct at all times. To others, they will always tell the truth even when doing so may deny them an opportunity to make huge money.

Telling the truth at all times has worked very well for him. His personal philosophy is that deceit will always be uncovered and once the market discovers your insincerity, everyone will avoid you. Every entrepreneur will always need to go back to the drawing board when things get chaotic. This is the time to revisit your mission and value statements. We all know about very important brands. Brands are in businesses, in products and personalities. Predictable values produce brands. It is difficult to build a brand name. It takes many years of consistency. All brands once upon a time faced challenges. But it was during the time of difficult and testing encounters they became brands.

There are times when I personally feel I should flatter politicians and tell them nice things even when I do not mean to. But this is not my philosophy. I become very weak in my pursuit of achievement when I make temporary compromises just for the sake of getting a good appointment. There are many entrepreneurs who have sent strong signals of hard work, responsibility, honest dealings and fairness to the marketplace. The marketplace will treat them as such. Unfortunately, there come moments when certain business packages come with sweeteners and they abandon their principle just to polish up their books. That becomes the genesis of never ending

financial problems.

Business is not for the inconsistent. You must take action in the face of significant obstacles and challenges. It has been proved that consistent entrepreneurs always take persistent actions. They can switch to an alternative strategy to meet a challenge or obstacle but all this will be done within defined boundaries. Just like in football where you can switch from a three-two-four to a four-three-three formation, you can also strategically redesign your business.

Entrepreneurs further take personal responsibility for the performance necessary to achieve goals and

"deceit will always be uncovered and once the market discovers your insincerity, everyone will avoid you"

objectives. An UNCTAD manual states the following about entrepreneurs, ‘The motive for achievement is a need that makes people accomplish great things. They love challenges. They want to drive themselves so that they are capable of doing what they aim to do.

‘The desire to achieve is evident in all aspects of their personal and professional life. Entrepreneurs love the freedom and independence of being their own boss. Entrepreneurs have to be free to pursue their own ideas, follow their own road. They are the movers and shakers, the people who make things happen.’

For next four weeks, as I make a trip abroad, this column will feature a guest writer and personal colleague Simon Sakala, an entrepreneur in Japan.

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Party of National Unity (PNU) leader Highvie Hamududu says Zambia needs an economic Indaba in order to revamp its economic standing. Speaking in an interview with News Diggers! Hamududu also urged the PF government not to restrict itself to outsourcing only from those in the political cycles but to look around for other people with proven integrity within the country.

“This is doable even now, you don’t need to have a government from somewhere. We need a better country, and PF, they know where the resources are to make a country better. If they want to

Zambians who can revive economy are outside politics, says Hamududu

outsource, there are better Zambians, not even in politics, the best intelligent Zambians, the most experienced Zambians are not even in politics. Let the PF look around. There are people who can run the economy better than all these in politics. There are even better people than in parliament. The Magandes are there, the Fundangas are there, the Oliver Saasas are there and not us elements who have gone into politics, we are

not the best. So let them look for these resources. Mwanawasa looked for these people, he went and hunted for the former UNIP people. Let us not waste time experimenting. This country requires an economic indaba and we have people with proven economic integrity. The reason why there is all this political tension is because the economy is bad. When the economy is okay, everyone becomes happy,” Hamududu said.

“We need to sit down as a country and have an economic indaba. For me an economic indaba is more important than all these so-called dialogue they are talking about. Let us have an economic indaba. Mwanawasa called [for] and economic indaba and left these political peacock dances [that] we are having in this country. The biggest problem of this country is bad economy and poor service delivery,” he said.

And Hamududu said given a chance to lead, he would make a better president.

“The common denominator in this country is the economy. That woman selling tomatoes there, that vendor there, that farmer there, they must feel the good economy, they must receive better prices, they must receive better extension services, they must have good infrastructure, their children must go to better schools. All children of

this country must afford to go to the university. That is what Zambians want first. It is not about whether Hamududu wants to be a president, of course I can be a better president I can tell you. But the issue is let us do acceptable things to our people. We want a better economy, we want better service delivery and one way to stop it [is] let’s stop the greedy, let us stop the abuse, let us stop the corruption, and start afresh,” said Hamududu.

Former Minister of Justice Mr Wynter Kabimba State Counsel last week raised a thought provoking observation regarding the complexity of prosecuting white-collar crimes in Zambia, especially among top government officials.

He was defending Lusaka Province Minister Honourable Bowman Lusambo who had come under attack for humiliating traffic police officers who were caught taking bribes from erring motorists.

In his comment, Mr Kabimba observed that open corruption, like the one involving the police officers, was easier to prosecute, but called for the establishment of a special unit under the DPP's office to prosecute white-collar crimes which he said are often too complicated for inexperienced prosecutors.

"What the police officer does along the road is open corruption crime. So it is easier for you to catch that one than it is to catch a permanent secretary or a minister in government. And that is why my view is that if we are going to fight corruption at the highest level, which manifest itself in terms of white-collar crime, we need a specialised unit to prosecute these cases. Some of the acquittals that we see in the subordinate court are not because people are not guilty. It is because the people that are prosecuting and the people that are investigating have not been trained enough in the area of white-collar crime, they do not have the professional competence to prosecute white-collar crime," said Mr Kabimba.

"You can't get a police officer who is trained

News

Diggers!

Ear to the ground

Diggers! is published by NEWS DIGGERS MEDIA LTD
Temp 8, Alex Chola Road, Nyumba Yanga, Lusaka.
PO Box, 32147. Cell: +26 0965815078/0977708285
Email: editor@diggers.news/mukosha@diggers.news

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Our DPP is a product of white-collar crimes

to prosecute a traffic offence and take him to go and prosecute an offense of embezzlement or misappropriation of funds under the Auditor General's report. Or a state advocate who has just come out of ZIALE and give her a complicated case of fraud. I think we must invest money in training a specialised unit in the police service and in the DPP's chambers to prosecute white-collar crime."

We would like to agree with Mr Kabimba's observation but we stand to disagree with his solution. The problem we have in this country is not the lack of capacity to prosecute crimes; it is the desire by individuals in authority to shield criminals because they are beneficiaries of these criminal acts. That is why we are witnessing a corruption fight that is targeting the weak and vulnerable.

Unless the operating guidelines under the DPP's mandate have been changed, what we know is that the Director of Public

Prosecutions is the one who assigns state advocates to prosecute cases depending on the complexity of the matters at hand. As such, the DPP reserves the right to personally prosecute white-collar crimes which are too complicated for inexperienced advocates who may be fresh from college.

This is the reason why former DPP Mutembo Nchito State Counsel personally handled the corruption case involving former president Rupiah Banda because he felt it was too complicated for a junior prosecutor. Mutembo knew that in order to succeed in the fight against corruption, he needed to avail himself and a selected team of top State advocates to deal with top white-collar crimes.

It was this desire to deal with white-collar crimes that actually cost Mutembo his job. What we saw was a collusion by beneficiaries of white-collar crimes giving orders to police to physically drag the country's DPP out of office through an

illegal arrest. The fact that Mutembo is still out of office today, gives us proof that perpetrators of white-collar crimes are above the law in this country.

What we saw next was an appointment of Mutembo's replacement in the name of Lillian Shawa Siyunyi State Counsel, who went on to lose all the key cases that her predecessor had made so much progress on.

Mr Kabimba is not only a reputable State Counsel, he is also a well-connected politician and we believe he knows what transpired in the Rupiah Banda case. By now, Mr Kabimba should know of some shocking submissions made by DPP Siyunyi in cases which her office has won in the subordinate court and in the High Court, and when the matter goes to the Supreme Court, she says she does not support the convictions. What kind prosecutor does that? Can you defeat white collar-crimes with that level of professionalism?

We can add that, in a normal country where laws are respected, DPP Siyunyi

would be losing sleep over developments happening in South Africa where that country's Constitutional Court has nullified the appointment of the Chief State Advocate who was hired under the same circumstances as her.

But DPP Siyunyi can't lose sleep over what is happening in South Africa because she knows she is safe; the people who appointed her will see her through all the tribulations that might threaten her job. So then, how can a country succeed in fighting white-collar crimes if perpetrators influence judges' decisions?

What is worse is that this habit of protecting culprits stretches beyond white-collar crimes; it is also common in open corruption cases such as the one referred to by State Counsel Kabimba.

We can challenge Mr Kabimba today to call Inspector General of Police Mr Kakoma Kanganja and ask him if those police officers who were caught in the act have taken plea in any court of law in Zambia.

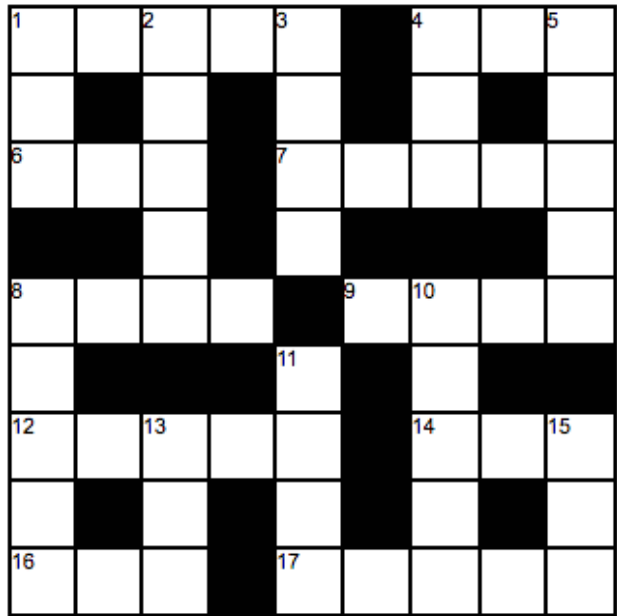
In fact, we can bet anyone that those officers were never arrested, let alone charged for corruption. This is for the simple reason that there are many bwanas in the police hierarchy who benefit from the crimes that those officers were caught committing. So they will deliberately complicate this matter in order to protect the culprits.

Again, we can assure Mr Kabimba that the reason why those traffic officers will never be prosecuted is not because there are no competent prosecutors. It is because protecting criminals is big business in Zambia. Those tasked to fight corruption are getting rich by, not only protecting criminals, but also helping them commit more crimes.

So in our opinion, there is nothing that a specially trained unit under the DPP's office can do which the DPP herself is currently failing to do. She has the power and she knows the culprits, but her legal backing cannot overturn the will of the political office that appointed her. Just like the name suggests, white-collar crimes are extremely complicated, and as such, accomplices of these crimes are usually too powerful, influential and sensitive to criticism. But the truth has to be told.

Our beloved DPP is a product of white-collar crimes. We say this because her predecessor Mutembo Nchito was removed by acts of white-collar criminals. It is because her predecessor was removed from office that Ms Siyunyi became our DPP. That makes her a product of white-collar crimes.

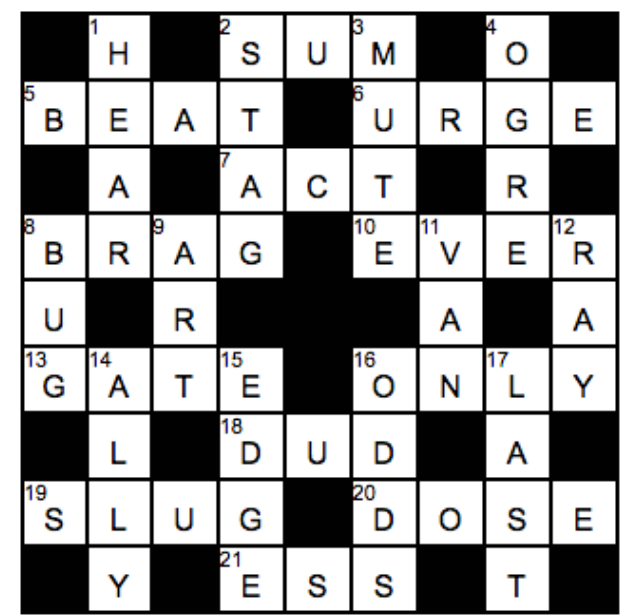
Crossword puzzle 174



"All men make mistakes, but a good man yields when he knows his course is wrong, and repairs the evil. The only crime is pride"- Sophocles

- Across**
1. Overactive
4. Friend
6. Cause imperfection
7. Challenged
8. Give a hoot
9. In the near future
12. Did nothing
14. Pooch
16. Morning moisture on grass
17. Highway divisions
- Down**
1. Kind of meat from pig
2. Less contaminated
3. Disrespectful
4. Apiece
5. Weighed down
8. Youngster
10. Antiquated
11. Thing that's worshipped
13. Attorney's expertise
15. Fuel

Solutions to puzzle 173



Reader's feedback

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Go to our News Diggers Facebook page, select a story you like and jot down your comment. We will pick that as your feedback and get you published on this page. The shorter the comment the higher the chance of getting published.

Note that we block Facebook users who use abusive language.

Kalaba pledges to defeat tribalism once in State House

'On which political party will he contest the 2021 elections?' - Godfrey Handondo.

he/she can only change things if and only if they are In state house. Take a que from John McCain,' - Joseph Chisenga.

'Hon Kalaba should first defeat the pf to defend his sit in parliament then we can talk about defeating the other things later,' - Wesley Mambwe.

'Why is that everybody thinks



'oooho, I have recorded you will wait for 2021. #ck' - Raymond Nachilobe

'Kalaba should stop isolating himself from fellow opposition leaders! Bahati is not Zambia. Just join existing political parties!!' - Chanda Emmanuel

'Harry kuwayawafye. He will be crushed very soon by ECL's machinery. Achepa Harry. Just own up and join the winning team. You are just chasing the wind bwana mkumbwa,' - Joseph Chakumika.

'Trying to reverse what he tried to escalate. We are here bwana because of the people who worked with,' - Bex Maila

'Kalaba is just another politician. Apart from resigning citing corruption which he could not name there is nothing he has done to merit the vote of Zambians. Just another hypocrite trying to dupe the people.' - Michelle Chellah

Samora Machel Airport rehabilitation to gobble K41m

Dear Editor,

'Of the K41m, how much is the genuine cost and how much is corruption money?' - Mike Phiri.

'How many planes land at that airport?? is it necessary to spend that money at such a time kwena??' - Sally Shamaila.

'I thought we are under austerity measures' - Naleli Ashley Mwenda

'Why are we naming our airport that name, why can't we use our own

heroes or local chiefs,' - Emmanuel Sakala

'This money can go a long way in paying retirees who have been waiting for the unknown,' - Godfrey Handondo

"An airport that nobody uses or has any ideas of location let alone it's existence will gobble K41 million of tax payers money under auterity measures! Only in Zambia can such things be true and only under one Edgar Chagwa Lungu the worst president ever." - Monde

RTSA records sharp decline in speeding, waives fines on Airport Rd

Dear Editor,

'Ba RATSA with all the mandate you are given by the state you are supposed to do things for the good of the citizenry in all your works. Help us to move from bad to better, from ignorance to knowledgeable citizens etc. Find time to consult and make tangible solutions with the citizens you are working to help. Do not just lump directives and changes like you are mending or patching ichimpombwa. We know that power lies in you finally but do not work to punish us. This is evident from the way things have been changing in the past few days /weeks- cameras installed and people learn afterwards, no signs on roadsides, wrong speed limits, meetings with owners, fines re-imbursements to selected culprits etc etc. This shows that you are not consulting with us. You mean well but please consult the stakeholders through well arranged meetings' - Stanley Sitali.

'Hypothetically speaking, how will the suppliers of the speed cameras generate revenue if all motorists decided to stop over speeding?' - Mike Phiri.

'Good good. There is some kind of orderly driving on great east road now. Traffic flows smoothly ...no chipante pante so far. Well done' - Matutu.

Two Reuters journalists in Myanmar face a ruling Monday that could see them each jailed for up to 14 years, a landmark case that ignited global outcry after they were arrested while investigating a Rohingya massacre.

Wa Lone, 32, and Kyaw Soe Oo, 28, have been in Myanmar's Insein prison since December after they were invited to a dinner with police in Yangon and pounced on as they left the restaurant.

They were charged with violating a colonial-era state secrets act for possessing classified documents about Rakhine state, claims undercut by a police witness who said his superior had ordered a set-up and by arguments that the documents had been published in state media.

Reuters denied the charges and hired prominent rights attorney Amal Clooney to help, arguing the journalists were simply doing their job in working to expose abuses.

"We tried for them as much as we could the whole time," Than Zaw Aung, one of the lawyers for the journalists, told AFP a day before the verdict.

"Our journalists will be free tomorrow (Monday) if the judiciary is free and fair."

Myanmar's former junta routinely jailed and censored the media, and journalists fear the Reuters trial shows

Myanmar Reuters journalists face verdict in landmark case



that the repressive reflexes are on the rise even under civilian leader Aung San Suu Kyi.

The trial on the outskirts of the former capital has been packed with well-wishers and family, with Wa Lone

flashing a trademark double thumbs up upon arrival and Kyaw Soe Oo embracing his young daughter in emotional reunions.

Wa Lone's wife gave birth to their first child this month.

The two consistently gave

stirring defences of their work when speaking to reporters at the courthouse.

"We are not wrong and the things alleged by the prosecution are baseless," Wa Lone told the media after closing arguments last week.

Kyaw Soe Oo and Wa Lone were probing the September 2017 massacre of 10 Rohingya men and boys in the Rakhine state village of Inn Din, a week after the military launched a sweeping crackdown on members of

the stateless Muslim minority.

The United Nations and Washington have labelled the campaign "ethnic cleansing", after some 700,000 Rohingya fled Rakhine to Bangladesh, bringing with them testimonies of rape, arson and indiscriminate killings in the northern part of the state.

The Myanmar army leadership has denied most allegations of abuses, and said they were responding to attacks on police posts.

But they conceded about a month after Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo were arrested that the Inn Din massacre occurred, prompting speculation that authorities had attempted to thwart the story.

In February, Reuters published its account of the murders, which contradicts the military's claim that the killings happened after the village came under seige by Rohingya fighters.

If convicted, the two journalists can appeal and would also be eligible for a possible pardon by Myanmar's civilian president, a staunch Suu Kyi ally. **AFP**

Colombians fail to approve tough anti-corruption measures

Colombians on Sunday failed to approve rules that hardened punishment for corrupt officials, a measure sent to voters as a referendum after congress proved reluctant to implement stricter anti-graft measures.

Some 36 million voters were called to the polls amid an ongoing bribery scandal involving Brazilian construction giant Odebrecht that has engulfed the region.

With almost all ballots

counted by late Sunday, the measure was 470,000 votes short of the 12.1 million votes needed for approval, election officials said.

"Ninety-nine percent of those of us who voted support the initiatives," President Ivan Duque said in an address to the nation.

"Unfortunately the number of votes did not reach

the minimum needed for approval," he said.

Duque, in office only since August 7, was in favor of the measure even though it had only had lukewarm support from members of his rightwing party, the Democratic Center, which have a majority in the senate.

"We were five cents short,

but change is unstoppable and here there was a shaking of the traditional political class," said Green Party Senator Angelica Lozano, who also supported the measure.

Colombians "want genuine changes to the political practices and to corruption," she told reporters. **AFP**

The measure included seven proposals, from cutting high-ranking officials' salaries to

imposing term limits to eliminating house arrest as a punishment.

While mostly aimed at cracking down on abuses by public officials, the initiative would have also made private contracts with the state more transparent, and ban companies convicted of corrupt practices from dealing with the public sector. **AFP**

Court gives bail to Bobi Wine



Ugandan Afropop star and MP Bobi Wine has been granted bail by a court in the northern town of Gulu.

The court ruled that he did not constitute a flight risk, and could keep his passport.

Newly elected MP Kassiano Wadri was also granted bail, a journalist has tweeted:

Bobi Wine, whose real name is Robert Kyagulanyi, has been charged with treason following an attack on a vehicle in President Yoweri Museveni's convoy.

His allies say he is being targeted by the government because he has emerged as a fierce critic of Mr Museveni since he became an MP last year, and has drawn huge crowds at rallies. **BBC**

Kenyatta to meet Trump for 20 minutes

Kenya's President Uhuru Kenyatta will meet UK President Donald Trump in the Oval Office for 20 minutes before going into an expanded bilateral meeting in the Cabinet Room with their delegations.

The US is the largest source of tourists to Kenya and the country hopes direct flights from Nairobi to New York from October will boost arrivals.

Kenya is the 85th largest supplier of goods imported into the US and trade between the two countries is worth \$1.5bn (£1.17bn), according to America's Department of Commerce.

Kenya also wants to secure financing for a new \$4.5bn highway from the port city of Mombasa to the capital Nairobi.

Kenya is seen as a strategic partner to the US in the fight against terror in the East and Horn of Africa and both countries have troops in Somalia.

Strengthening security cooperation will be on the agenda when the two leaders meet in Washington DC.

President Kenyatta will also meet UK Prime Minister Theresa May on Thursday in Nairobi after she visits South Africa and Nigeria. **BBC**



Real Madrid's Karim Benzema celebrates scoring a goal against Girona on Sunday, Madrid won 4-1

Ronaldo should've stayed at Madrid like Messi has at Barca, says Van der Vaart

Cristiano Ronaldo should have followed the lead of eternal rival Lionel Messi and stayed at Real Madrid, claims Rafael van der Vaart. Having sparked talk of a move elsewhere on the back of a third successive Champions League triumph with the Blancos, the Portuguese superstar duly departed the Santiago Bernabeu in July. A €112m (£101m/\$130m) deal took the five-time Ballon d’Or winner to Juventus, with a record-breaking and goal-laden nine-year spell in the Spanish capital brought to a close. Ronaldo’s decision to take on a new challenge at 33 years of age came as a surprise to many, with Van der Vaart among those who feel he should have displayed the same loyalty to Madrid as Messi has to Barcelona. The former Blancos midfielder told Ukrainian news outlet Football.ua: “You know, guys like Messi... Messi will never leave Barcelona. “I’m slightly sad about Ronaldo’s departure.” Van der Vaart was on the books in Madrid when Ronaldo made a big-money arrival in the summer of 2009. His signing was a contributing factor to the creative playmaker eventually moving on to Tottenham, but the Dutchman has no regrets at having spent two seasons at the Bernabeu. Goal.com

‘Neymar & Mbappe are made to play together’, Barca's Umtiti hails PSG pair

Neymar and Kylian Mbappe are “made to play together”, says Samuel Umtiti, with the Barcelona defender expecting Paris Saint-Germain to prosper with two global superstars working in tandem. The reigning Ligue 1 champions are up and running again for 2018-19, with their leading lights illuminating early fixtures under new boss Thomas Tuchel. Umtiti expects further success to be delivered in the French capital, with PSG boasting an enviable array of attacking talent. The World Cup-winning defender knows all about two of those fearsome frontmen , with Neymar’s talents having been witnessed up close at Camp Nou while Mbappe is an international team-mate. The Barca centre-half told Canal+ of a star-studded side at Parc des Princes: "Neymar was a very good team-mate to have when he was at Barcelona. "He’s somebody who is always full of joy, who is always happy and who is always playing pranks and making jokes. "We know all about Neymar's qualities. He can unlock any match. He is [playing] at an exceptional level. "Neymar together with Kylian Mbappe ... players of their talent are made to play together. There is no reason why it should not work." Brazil international Neymar has been back in familiar surroundings on Monday, with a visit paid to Barcelona’s training base to catch up with old friends. His focus has turned back to domestic matters following a summer away with his country, with many of those in Catalunya doing likewise. Umtiti falls into that category, with the 24-year-old still coming to terms with the fact that he is now a world champion. "I think about the World

Cup title every single day," he said. "When I pick up my phone, I see it as it is my wallpaper. It is true that I think about it all the time, even when I speak with my family or team-mates who shared these moments with me. "We had a wonderful squad. Honestly, I could have spent two more months with them. It was fun, but at the same time, also serious. It is all well and good to have won the World Cup but there were other things behind it too. You have to stay focused and not try to be somebody else." While reflecting on the recent past, Umtiti has also

been looking to the future and revealed that he intends to go into management once the time comes to hang up his boots. He added: "I would like to go into coaching. "I think that it is a job that I will be able to enjoy after my footballing career." **Goal.com**

Chess federation demands Improved media coverage

By Alex Chilumbwe
The Zambia Chess Federation says it is saddened by how the media has yet again kept a low profile on reporting about Chess, a few weeks after the international tournament it hosted from 10th to 12th August, 2018. Speaking to Goal Diggers! federation president

Patrick Chilufya said there was need to keep covering the sport at all levels, and ensuring the media did not contribute to its low profile. "I'm saddened that after the tournament, only one or two media houses have inquired more about the game. All the publicity that other sporting activities enjoy are as a result of the

media but it seems the media has yet again kept a low profile about us. There are exciting chess competitions that should be talked about as you may know the game helps one become a fast problem solver. In schools, the game is quite dominant and all it needs is to be promoted. This promotion can be achieved if the media continues to work with us consistently," Chilufya said. The federation president also gave an update on the chess national team. "The international tournament we had was a big boost to our national team. They learnt more things from their international counterparts and will obviously work hard enough to be as good as North African players that give them trouble. We just need to organize more big tournaments and help our players maintain a high competitive standard. Their preparations for a grand tournament in Georgia is going on very well and the morale is high. Their concentration and will to compete against world grand masters is encouraging and they need to be motivated more so that they can hold the Zambian flag high after the competition." said Chilufya.

Bulldogs bark and bite

By Alex Chilumbwe
A few known sports teams can turn down the chance of being promoted to a super league because its owner or coach feels his or her players will not compete favourably and need more preparation. Well, Bulldogs basketball club has its own practical story that is characterized by record-breaking wins and two mendable losses. Bulldogs coach Mulemwa Balamani could not allow his team ascend to the super league last year because he noted the players were not ready

until this season. "We got promoted from the B league last year but I did not see my boys ready to compete in the super league. We are an academy and I thought they needed more preparations that would not make them merely participate in a league that has older and more experienced players. Well, this season we got into it and the results we are collecting are encouraging. We have so far played six games among which four are wins, and two losses. They are not bad results for an academy," Balamani said. On Friday, Bulldogs beat Matero Magic 72-68 and yesterday Sunday, they brought down another big team Green Buffaloes with a scoreline of 75-72. The youngsters managed the wins despite their unfavorable ages, sizes and heights. "75% of them are players that have gone through grassroot basketball in the under 12, 15 and 18 categories. They are not exactly new to the game but to the super league. We monitor their academic progress as most of them have gone through our education system so

we teach and allow them to strike a balance between sports and academics. Our main goal this season is to be able to compete like we are currently doing and anything other than that would be a bonus," Balamani summed. The longer-serving clubs in the Midlands basketball league should look out for stiff competition from a younger and highly-spirited Bulldogs' team that will be unleashed in the upcoming fixtures as they hold on to their upward mobility on the table.

BUFFALOES FAIL TO TOP ZESCO

By Alex Chilumbwe
A Green Buffaloes 1-0 home loss to Nkana FC means the army outfit has for the second time failed to unseat ZESCO United on the apex of the league table. ZESCO lost 1-0 away to Kabwe Warriors on Saturday, and a win for Buffaloes would have seen the combatants go top of the FAZ/MTN league. Green Buffaloes fans could not hide their anguish after their star players failed to convert chances. In an interview with Goal Diggers! Fans representative Billy Chalwa said he was hopeful the team would finally ascend to the top as first-placed Zesco United had lost. "We are the only team that had home advantage and failed to win. We were drumming support like never before because we wanted to be on top of the table and keep the first position but like others say, we lose every time Zesco loses. Why won't opponents call us title pretenders like this? Although I'm a die hard fan for GBFC, I'm extremely disappointed with this result," said Chalwa. Meanwhile, Nkana coach Bestone Chambeshi could not hold his excitement over a goal and the maximum

points he collected from the encounter. "There is no better feeling than a win when you are playing away. We die not win for Zesco but for ourselves even though our win gives Zesco an advantage over Green Buffaloes because Buffaloes could have gone above them. My goal is to win every remaining game and score more goals so that we become official title contenders. It was not an easy game against the army side and even the remaining ones will not be easy but [we] will train for all of them. Football is fun because sometimes your players wake up on the wrong side of the bed and simply fail to deliver. I just keep in mind

that it is either a win, draw or loss," said Chambeshi. And Buffaloes coach Biltone Musonda had little to say about a loss his side allowed. "It was not an easy game and at the end of the day, Nkana carried the day. We will go back to the drawing board and see how we can be capitalizing on given chances like this one we just had and it happens in the game of football," said Musonda. Green Buffaloes is currently stuck on second position with 62 points while Nkana has 52 points and is fourth-placed. In other result, the parliamentarians yesterday (Sunday) lost to KAYSA 2-1, a result that restored coach of the side, Chewe Mulenga's hope to leave the relegation zone. The goals came from Bevin Simpokolowe and George Quashire in this order. KAYSA needs three more wins to leave the relegation zone and watch New Monze Swallows and Forest Rangers battle for a longer shelf life in the super league.



Egyptian star Mohamed Salah was again Liverpool's goal-scoring hero in a 1-0 victory over Brighton. AFP



Cleveland Cavaliers guard Jordan Clarkson scored 25 points to keep the Philippines fighting, but South Korea took the game away in the final quarter. AFP

‘I’m a club man’: Mourinho insists United come before his future

Jose Mourinho insists he is only interested in the future prosperity of Manchester United rather than his own position at the troubled club. Mourinho has found his future as United manager the subject of much discussion after a tempestuous period, dating back to a frustrating close-season transfer window. That led to conjecture that Mourinho was not happy with the efforts of executive vice-chairman Ed Woodward, who handles player signings at Old Trafford.

Equally damaging has been Mourinho's relationship with star player Paul Pogba, which has come under close scrutiny after comments made by the France midfielder. Mourinho was in particularly dour and uncooperative mood ahead of his team's Premier League meeting with Mauricio Pochettino's Tottenham on Monday, although, in one of his few talkative moments, he did reveal his gratitude for the support shown by fans over the first two games of the season. AFP