



JAIL IS WAITING



Leakages force govt to cancel G7, 9, 12 exams

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Lungu will go in like Olmert - Changala

By Mirriam Chabala

Civil rights activist Brian Changala says it's a mockery to the people of Zambia for President Edgar Lungu to welcome former Israeli Prime

Minister Ehud Olmert who is a corruption convict, to State House and flaunt him around to citizens when the country is bleeding from systematic corruption.

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Zambia under African-led dictatorship - OASIS Forum

By Abraham Kalito

The Oasis Forum says Zambia has been re-colonised by the African elite who have gradually imposed a dictatorship and formed an autocracy to subject the citizenry to the same type of rule they experienced more than 54 years ago.

And the Forum says Zambians must now struggle to regain the country's independence and economic freedom, the same arduous task it had more than 54 years ago before it gained the initial Independence from Britain.

In a communique issued to

News Diggers! Tuesday, ahead of the Independence Day celebration in Lusaka, Oasis Forum chairperson Eddie

Mwitwa said the similarities with the colonial system of government with the current regime are startling. To page 5

Fighting in Parley is normal because it's not heaven - Mumbi

By Zondiwe Mbewe

PF deputy SG Mumbi Phiri says there is nothing sinister about physical fights in Parliament because the National Assembly is not a sacred place like heaven.

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ZRA denies any involvement in fraud, says its records are clear

By Stuart Lisulo

The Zambia Revenue Authority says the letter sent to the Ministry of Finance purported to have been written by employees, alleging

that the institution has been reporting false tax collections using VAT refunds to prop up its position is misleading and should be ignored.

In a statement sent yesterday, ZRA Corporate Communications Manager Topsy Sikalinda explained that the Authority had refunded a total of K7 billion between January and October 2018, adding that 80 per cent of the amount was paid to mining companies. This was in reaction to a story published by News Diggers! in its Tuesday Edition.

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Lungu pardons 300 prisoners as Zambia turns 54

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Big thieves can't be caught, they bathe in charms - CK

By Mirriam Chabala
National Democratic Congress (NDC) leader Chishimba Kambwili says the real plunderers of public funds cannot be fired or arrested because they bath in charms day and night to cover up their offences. And Kambwili says last week's arrest of members of the clergy along with Centre for Trade Policy and Development (CTPD) officials in Ndola is an indication from God that the Church should wake up and mobilise its members to challenge government. Commenting on the ongoing dismissals of civil servants for theft of public resources, Kambwili, the former chief government spokesperson, argued that it did not make any difference if government fired junior officers because the biggest thieves were still in the system. He alleged that they bathe themselves in charms to cover up their crimes. "The Financial Intelligence Centre (FIC) has mentioned ministers who have been involved in corrupt activities, and anybody is able to see that these ministers have become rich within the last two years that they have been in government. Even some people at State House have become very rich! Owning properties that are not commensurate with their earnings, but none of them has been fired. So, the fight against corruption should not be targeted at junior officers; we want the big fishes to be booted out! It's hypocrisy of the worst kind to try and show that you are fighting corruption when you are leaving yourselves, who are

the major plunderers. We know the people who are the real plunderers in this nation. So, they should not pretend by taking action against civil servants who have done misapplication or misappropriation of funds. In any case, misapplication or misappropriation is just using funds for purposes, which they are not intended for," Kambwili told News Diggers! in an interview. "But politicians are becoming stinking rich! And the President knows about it. Some of these politicians we know that they use juju so that they cannot be fired. They carry juju on their bodies. Nga mwabanunsha banukafye ifimuti, ifimishila.

Chilabushiku kusamba imishila! (Some of these Ministers bathe in charms every day, every time they bath in roots so that they are not caught for stealing!) They are plunderers who cannot be arrested, plunderers who are openly boasting that they are so rich and that now they can rule the country because of their riches. They are left out and they just want to be dealing with junior officers. But the day for reckoning will come. How can the Ministry honestly lose money without the Permanent Secretary knowing? Because Permanent Secretaries are controlling officers. So, if that's the case, then the Permanent Secretaries are incompetent!"

He wondered why National Development Planning Minister Alexander Chiteme was giving government's position on the matter when he was not the designated Chief Government Spokesperson. "Is Chiteme the Government Spokesperson? What has planning got to do with resources? That's why this government is a 'Chipantepante' government. We want a statement from the Minister of Finance or the Chief Government Spokesperson. Why should it be the Minister of Planning to talk about theft of public funds? We want an official statement from the Minister of Finance or the Minister

of Information. It's not just anybody who should be talking in this government. The real thieves are walking the streets! Those real thieves, if they are taken to court today in the morning, by mid-day they will be convicted. So, why are we wasting time on small fish when the big fish are walking the streets freely? What has happened to the people who bought fire engines at US \$1 million each? Nothing! We want them to deal with the theft in the purchase of fire engines. We want to see the arrest of people that received vehicles as gratification. Why are you avoiding to arrest them? We want people who have built property around Lusaka [and]

all over the world, which they all know, but they are not being arrested. When they went into government, when they went into State House, they were poor people," he said. Meanwhile, Kambwili appealed to the Church to organise itself and rise against the PF government for the injustice they were suffering. "Now, we have started arresting pastors and civil society for just analysing the budget? I want to tell Mrs Katanga, the Copperbelt Police Chief, that you are being used. But God will punish you. And when the hour of reckoning comes, don't cry foul," warned Kambwili.

Luxury jet belongs to Zambians, not Lungu, says Antonio Mwanza

By Mirriam Chabala
PF deputy Media Director Antonio Mwanza says the luxury jet which was purchased by the Zambia Air Force is not for President Edgar Lungu, but for the people of Zambia. And Mwanza says UPND vice-president Geoffrey Bwalya Mwamba advertises his ignorance every time he opens his mouth. Meanwhile, Mwanza has backed Minister of National Development Planning Alexander Chiteme's claim that none of the civil servants dismissed from government for plunder of


public resources belong to the ruling party. Speaking at a PF interactive forum, Tuesday, Mwanza said nothing which was bought for President Lungu during his time as Head of State belonged to him. "And this story about a jet, even when the Ministry of Defense has given an elaborate statement, through the permanent secretary Mr Sturdy Mwale that government, through ZAF is procuring some military software and hardware, they have continued to say that there is a jet which has been bought and people are able

to cook t-bone in the jet. The level of propaganda and desperation in the UPND is alarming. People must know that there is no jet that has been procured for President Edgar Lungu. ZAF has been given the mandate through the act and the procurement laws to procure military software for the people of Zambia and not for Mr Edgar Chagwa Lungu. So whatever is purchased, it is purchased for the people of Zambia and not for President Edgar Lungu. When President Lungu leaves office, he will go and leave everything he has been using including the

towels and the bed sheets he has been using at State House. He will leave them for the next President," Mwanza said. "So it is wrong for people to maliciously paint a picture that the president is enjoying life. People must know that the presidency is an institution. I don't think they want the President to be moving in a Corolla and the President to be moving unsecured. If anything happened to the President, this country will be on fire. So the cost of protecting the presidency must be secured and we must remove politics from issues of national security.


states," he said. Meanwhile, speaking when he featured on UNZA radio's Lusaka Star programme earlier, Mwanza encouraged Zambians to demand for stronger penalties against the thieving civil servants who were tarnishing government's image. "If you look at all these thefts going on in the civil service, it's not theft by PF. There hasn't been a PF official who has been involved in this. [The people who are stealing] are civil servants, our very own children who we sponsored to study here at the University of Zambia. The government gave them jobs and paid bursaries for them while in school and then government even gave them jobs. But when they get into these offices, they are the ones who are stealing from the government that has given them jobs. They are the ones that are stealing from the government that has sponsored them to school, they are the ones that are stealing from the people of Zambia that have given them an opportunity to work. These civil servants must be put in check and the people of Zambia must demand for stronger penalties against these civil servants that are stealing from the people and making government and the Patriotic Front party look bad," said Mwanza.

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Fighting in Parley is normal because it is not heaven, says Mumbi Phiri

By Mirriam Chabala
Patriotic Front (PF) deputy Secretary General Mumbi Phiri says there is nothing sinister about physical fights in Parliament because the National Assembly is not a sacred place like heaven. On October 16, Presidential Affairs Minister Freedom Sikazwe attacked Roan PF member of parliament Chishimba Kamwibili in the House after he was called a witch by the former Information Minister. And the former deputy Speaker who is now UPND Chairperson, Mutale Nalumango condemned the behaviour of the two lawmakers but hastened to mention that she understood the reason for their aggression because opposition members of parliament had no space outside Parliament to express themselves. Mumbi however said fighting in Parliament was not something new because the National Assembly was not a sacred place like heaven. “You are talking to a person who fought in Parliament before. Parliament is not Heaven, it’s a normal

arrangement like in a home. At that time when I fought in Parliament, I was provoked and I couldn’t hold the provocation that’s why I became physical. So people shouldn’t pretend like Parliament is in another world. These things have been happening from time immemorial. In fact for honourable Chishimba Kamwibili, this is not the first time. He fought with [Charles] Chimumbwa in the House when we were in the opposition. He fought inside the Chamber when honourable Nalumango was still deputy Speaker, why didn’t she politic then? In UNIP my late President Michael Sata also had a fight with somebody,” said Phiri. “So these things have been happening and people shouldn’t politic because when provocation goes beyond what you can handle, you can find yourself in such a situation like what happened between honourable Sikazwe and Kamwibili. Herself honourable Nalumango sent Chishimba Kamwibili to the privileges committee because she felt injured, it’s there



Vegetable traders at Lusaka’s Soweto market making some orders as early as 05:30 hours – Picture by Tenson Mkhala

on record. So as leaders we should be sincere, not every time politicking.” Phiri said it was unfortunate that the former deputy Speaker was politicising and defending Kamwibili’s character when she was also a victim of his abusive language during her time in the House. “Honourable Nalumango was deputy Speaker of the National Assembly. You know, we shouldn’t be politicking over bad things. Honourable Nalumango

was a victim of honourable Kamwibili’s abuse. So Honourable Nalumango shouldn’t even politic over the unfortunate situation which happened between Honourable Sikazwe and Honourable Chishimba Kamwibili. Deep down her heart, she knows that when she was deputy Speaker, she was a victim of Chishimba Kamwibili’s abusive language herself. The insults which were poured on Honourable Nalumango by Chishimba Kamwibili, in our Bemba

language we say ‘abatukile insele isha Mumishingo’ (he poured intense insults on her). And for a Bemba when you say ‘insele isha Mumishingo’, they will understand what I am talking about. It’s very surprising that she (Nalumango) can start politicking over that unfortunate situation,” Phiri said. “I was even surprised that Mr Lifuka blamed Freedom Sikazwe in your [newspaper] editions. Honourable Sikazwe was a victim of

Chishimba Kamwibili’s abusive language. I was very surprised, because if you follow what happened, no matter what, we are adults and we should choose words to use. And I if I were Honourable Freedom Sikazwe, I would take Honourable Kamwibili to court to prove his allegations because he was saying that Honourable Sikazwe is a witch. And you know that you can’t say such a thing to a person in public... and you know when Chishimba Kamwibili was talking, honourable Sikazwe was laughing [because] he didn’t know that it’s him Kamwibili was referring to, until when he was told that he was the one that Kamwibili was talking about.” And Phiri said Kamwibili’s apology was a mockery to God. “A sin which you know you are committing deliberately is just like mockery to God. For example I know that the Bible says ‘you shouldn’t kill, you shouldn’t commit adultery, you shouldn’t steal’ but deliberately I go and do those things then I ask for forgiveness, that’s mocking God! But what has surprised me is for Honourable Nalumango to start politicking over that when she has been abused by Kamwibili herself. It’s very unfortunate. Kamwibili should even count himself lucky because if it was me he called a witch, I was going to take him to court. Even if he said ‘let us go and reconcile because we are Catholics let’s go to the Priest’, I wouldn’t agree. I would tell him to prove, because now this is what people are now doing, they will accuse someone falsely and then run to the Church afterwards for forgiveness; it’s not fair,” said Mumbi.

Drop charges against pastors, CTPD officials, CSOs demand

By Mirriam Chabala
A consortium of civil society organisations say last week’s arrest of clergymen and staff of the Centre for Trade Policy and Development (CTPD) in Ndola for convening a meeting about next year’s national budget is a sign of growing tyranny. And the CSOs have argued that it is unacceptable for Ndola Police to try to regulate and prevent them from freely engaging with citizens on critical civic matters. In statement issued by Alliance for Community Action (ACA) executive director Laura Miti on behalf of Action Aid Zambia; Caritas Zambia; Centre for Trade and Policy Development; CiSCA; Council of Churches in Zambia; Gears Zambia and Transparency International Zambia, the CSOs demanded that government enforces laws that prevent the police from harassing citizens for simply enjoying their civic rights. They noted that the increasing tendency by police to confront unarmed civilians in full riot gear is alarming. “We, the undersigned civil society organisations, would like to register

our extreme shock, concern and dismay at the recent police action to prevent citizens from exercising their basic and constitutional human rights to gather and express themselves. Our consternation arises from the occurrences of Friday 19th October, 2018, in Ndola. That day, the Centre for Trade and Policy Development (CTPD) held a training workshop at the Ndola Baptist Church, whose aim was to breakdown the 2019 national budget, the national debt and illicit financial flows, for faith leaders. As the workshop was being conducted, police arrived in full riot gear and demanded that the workshop end before ultimately arresting three CTPD staff and five pastors. The eight organisers and participants to the workshop were charged with unlawful assembly and kept in police cells overnight. The arrested CTPD staff and clergy were only released on police bond when they presented working sureties. Civil society is extremely concerned that government is now trying to prevent CSOs from carrying out their core work,” Miti stated. “It is unfathomable that a routine

workshop, the kind of which civil society runs every day across the country in multiple venues, would result in members of staff and participants to workshops spending a night in police cells. Demanding that CSOs should notify the police every time they conduct a meeting to discuss public documents such as the national budget, the Auditor General’s Report, or indeed issues of critical public interest, such as debt and accountability, is an attempt by government to prevent CSOs from operating. Conducting trainings and discussions is CSOs’ core business. It is unacceptable that citizens would go to work and fail to return home to panicked families at the whim of the police. We are of the view that police action to regulate CSO operations is a sign of a growing tyranny in which government is using the police to prevent civil society and citizens from engaging on critical civic matters. It is further alarming that there is an increasing tendency by police to confront unarmed civilians in full riot gear, even when such workshops are held in a church, as seen in this case.”

The CSOs also challenged Minister of National Guidance and Religious Affairs Reverend Godfridah Sumaili to openly come out and condemn Copperbelt Police Commissioner Charity Katanga’s decision to harass the pastors. “We call on the Ministry of Religious Affairs to pronounce on this practice in which church gatherings are being rendered criminal in a country that considers itself a Christian nation. We, the undersigned organisations, therefore, demand that the Ministry of Home Affairs, and especially the Police High Command, never again harass citizens for simply enjoying their civic rights. More centrally, we demand that the Public Order Act that has been used over and over to prevent citizens from exercising their right to assemble be immediately amended so that arbitrary discretion of police over public gatherings is removed. We also demand that other legislation that would facilitate CSO work and citizens’ right to hold government to account, which legislation has long been awaited like the Freedom of Information Act, be passed,” appealed Miti.

By Zondiwe Mbewe

Political researcher Cephas Mukuka says the PF regime should seek counsel from the first Republican president Dr Kenneth Kaunda as opposed to just parading him during State functions.

And Dr Mukuka has charged young politicians were bent on erasing anything to do with Dr Kaunda that they ended up producing crooks, thieves, plunderers and insensitive leaders in the nation.

In a statement, Tuesday, Dr Mukuka observed that

Don't just parade KK, use him for counsel, Mukuka advises PF

Dr Kaunda was not being utilised by leaders.

"Our Independence president, founder and father of the nation, Dr Kenneth Kaunda, is being underutilised by our leaders. It's exactly 54 years after Independence and

our nation is still crawling on its knees. The 1990-91 multiparty elections saw the coming in of a new regime. Our regime took no time to learn from Kaunda. They equally refused to embrace him, this opened doors of both political and economic

destruction," Dr Mukuka stated.

"Dr Kaunda suffered humiliation from the then overzealous young politicians instead of learning the political walk from him. Sooner than later, all parastatal firms were

gone through privatisation; we never fully understood. Strategically, Kaunda had put in place a fine and powerful economic system. Each economic sector had a corresponding firm, which, of course, was parastatal." And Dr Mukuka, who is

also the Dr Nevers Mumbale MMD spokesperson, charged that young politicians were bent to erase anything to do with Dr Kaunda that they ended up producing crooks, thieves, plunderers and insensitive leaders in the nation.

"Our young politicians were hell-bent to erase anything to do with Kaunda. We ended up producing crooks, thieves, plunderers and heartless and insensitive leaders in our nation. During the UNIP and Kaunda era, the produce of our main export, copper could be seen across Zambia through so many capital projects. This is not to say Dr Kaunda is a saint, not at all. The truth of the matter is that Kaunda and his team had a heart for their nation," he recalled.

Dr Mukuka stated that Zambia today was facing economic decay where national assets were being sold out in crooked ways, adding that leaders were no longer inspiring.

"Our nation, today, is facing serious economic doldrums and no one seems to care. We have a situation of economic decay, where national assets are being sold out in crooked ways. Attention has been moved to political thefts, thuggery, violence, corruption, bribery and other related vices. Our leaders are no longer inspiring. A lot has happened and no proper governance direction has since emerged," he argued.

Dr Mukuka urged the current leadership to seek counsel from Dr Kaunda as opposed to parading him during State functions.

"When you heard Kaunda speak on a press conference, the nation would be glued to the media to hear the outcome of the said conference because it was serious business. We are being led by people with very dangerous political skeletons. It's not enough to just parade Kaunda during State functions minus seeking counsel from him. If a president cannot speak when innocent people are killed, or when fuel is hiked, when will they talk?" wondered Dr Mukuka.

"Serious thefts in government Ministries and departments have gone without a comment from senior government officials, then we are in trouble. I seriously emphasize that Kaunda should be engaged and not paraded during State functions."



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By Stuart Lisulo

The Zambia Revenue Authority says the letter sent to the Ministry of Finance purported to have been written by employees, alleging that the institution has been reporting false tax collections using VAT refunds to prop up its position is misleading and should be ignored.

In a statement issued yesterday, ZRA Corporate Communications Manager Topsy Sikalinda explained that the Authority had refunded a total of K7 billion between January and October, 2018, adding that over 80 per cent of the amount was paid to mining companies.

This was in reaction to a story published by News Diggers! in its Tuesday edition which cited a whistle-blower letter that was received at the Ministry of Finance on October 17, 2018, addressed to Finance Minister Margaret Mwanakatwe, which revealed that the Authority allegedly been diverting money meant for VAT refunds, and reporting the same as revenue collected for the purposes of meeting the institution's monthly targets.

"The Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA) has refunded a total of K7 billion from January, 2018, to October, 2018. Over 80 per cent of the said amount was refunded to the mining sector. This is amidst public misconceptions and allegations that the Authority is overstating its collections by not reporting the figures for the refunds," Sikalinda stated.

"It is in ZRA's interest to inform the public that almost 90 per cent of the collections are done via electronic

ZRA dismisses 'fraudulent' reporting of revenue, says records are clear

payments, meaning that most collections are done through the bank and the money is sent directly to Bank of Zambia. It is also important for the public to know that all refunds are funded by the Ministry of Finance. ZRA initiates the request for funds from the Ministry of Finance which undergoes a strict scrutiny process by the Ministry of Finance."

Sikalinda added that the ZRA endeavours to continue to execute its mandate with transparency in the reporting of its revenue figures.

"The Authority exists by its core values of transparency to the public who are the stakeholders and will never report fake revenue figures as alleged by some sections of society. Once revenue has been collected, it is remitted to the government for financing of various government day-to-day operations such as health, education, agriculture, among others," stated Sikalinda.

"The Authority is appealing to the public to work with it

in its execution of its mandate in order to enhance revenue collection as emphasized in the Finance Minister's 2019 national budget and other government policy pronouncements."

However, sources within the ZRA had challenged the Authority to disclose its revenue collections for the period April, 2017, to-date, and to reveal what it owes to the mining sector in VAT refunds.

Zambia under African-led dictatorship - Oasis Forum

By Abraham Kalito

The Oasis Forum says Zambia has been re-colonised by the African elite who have gradually imposed a dictatorship and formed an autocracy to subject the citizenry to the same type of rule they experienced more than 54 years ago.

And the Forum says Zambians must now struggle to regain the country's independence and economic freedom, the same arduous task it had more than 54 years ago before it gained the initial Independence from Britain.

In a communique issued to News Diggers! Tuesday, ahead of the Independence Day celebration in Lusaka, Oasis Forum chairperson Eddie Mwitwa said the similarities with the colonial system of government with the current regime are startling, adding that the country now has government of the elite, by the elite, for the elite.

"On 24th October, 1964, Zambia

woke up from the nightmare of colonialism and found itself living the dream of democracy. The nightmare had been a prolonged period of apartheid, in a country run by a privileged white elite where Africans were second-class citizens. By contrast, Independence brought the dream of equality of opportunity, not only to employment, but also to political power. This ideal was to be achieved largely by the principle of equality of access to education and to all the other services made available by the State; a government of the people, by the people, for the people. In a number of ways, we, as a nation, made some positive slides over the years to inculcate a democratic culture in our country and deliver unto ourselves a better Zambia. A land of work and joy, where women and men can stand and sing, freely and proudly," read the statement.

"But gradually, over a period

of 54 years, the dream has slipped away and the nightmare has gradually returned. But not entirely in the same form; instead of a ruling white elite, we now have a ruling African elite. Instead of an imposed colonial dictatorship, we instead have a locally-grown autocracy. Otherwise, the similarities with the colonial system of government are quite startling: a government of the elite, by the elite, for the elite. Some of the essential features of our present nightmare are as follows; 1. Erosion of Equality of Opportunity. In the early days of Independence, people ascended to positions of power and influence mainly on the basis of selection by merit, especially as measured by educational achievement. But nowadays, the elite class is largely self-perpetuating from one generation to the next, with the elite purchase of expensive education, and with the intra-elite selection for employment

and promotion. Elite class membership now supersedes educational level."

"2. Lack of separation of powers can especially be seen between the Executive and Parliament, where the ruling party typically has an overwhelming majority so that Parliament becomes a rubber stamp for Executive decisions, and has virtually abdicated its primary role of holding power to account. Whereas the Mung'omba Constitutional Review Commission and the Technical Committee on the Drafting of the Zambian Constitution established that people wanted a separation of powers by having ministers appointed from outside Parliament, Parliament itself quashed this popular demand as part of its wholesale 'amending' of the Draft Constitution in 2016," Mwitwa narrated.

And Mwitwa added that Zambians now must struggle to regain the country's

independence and economic freedom.

"And wealth, unlike whiteness, has to be constantly maintained. But wealth is not merely a matter of social prestige, it is also necessary for maintaining a system of patrimony, especially a corrupt system of maintaining the political support of big business by giving contracts, favours and concessions. Perhaps even more expensive is the cost of buying votes during election time, involving both the cost of bribing voters and the cost of various forms of election rigging. All of these three aspects of ruling class maintenance involve massive theft from the public purse," stated Mwitwa.

"All the above seven aspects of the nightmare point to different aspects of our long 54-year slippage from Independence and freedom into dependence and dictatorship. By the same token, all of these seven aspects of the nightmare point to different aspects of our slippage from constitutional government and the rule of law into the repression of a police state. We broke free from a colonial white elite, but have instead gradually fallen into the hands of a local ruling elite that has imposed a similar system of oppression and dictatorship. We call upon all citizens, including politicians, members of parliament, the Judiciary, civil servants and the Church to wake up and recognize the nightmare. The momentous task at hand is the struggle to regain our independence."

Mwitwa further stated that Zambia's current debt burden has seriously eroded the economic and political independence and taken away the country's sovereignty, with poverty levels as high as they were back in colonial days.

The communique was signed by Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) president Eddie Mwitwa, Council of Churches General Secretary Fr Emmanuel Chikoya, NGOCC chairperson Sara Longwe and Zambia Council for Catholic Bishops Secretary-General Cleophas Lungu.

Mabumba explains leakages, cancellation of G9 exams to Parley

By Abraham Kalito

General Education Minister David Mabumba says suspending the grade seven, nine and 12 exams was the best option taken by government to pave way for investigations and to safeguard the interest of the pupils.

Earlier on Tuesday, Mabumba announced during a press briefing that government had suspended examinations following a leakage of the grade nine mathematics paper 2 exam which was to be written on 23 October 2018.

However, Speaking when he presented a ministerial statement on the floor of the House in Lusaka, Tuesday, Mabumba said government was investigating the matter and that as such, suspending the exams was the best option.

"Honourable speaker the 2018 grade nine examination papers were received and distributed by the Examinations Council of Zambia as per schedule as in line with the

guidelines. Further, the Ministry of General Education received notification on the evening of 22 October 2018 that the grade nine mathematics paper two examination was posted on online media in particular the Zambian watchdog. Immediately management at the council took the following steps; The council informed the officers at the office of the President, and the permanent secretary administration in the ministry of general education and all other key stakeholders. The Examinations Council arranged to verify the authenticity of the circulated material. The verification process took place at the Examination Council of Zambia offices in the presence of two Zambian police officers," he explained.

"Honourable Speaker there were two option, one of the options was to continue administering the examinations while the verification

is going on. The other one was to postpone this examination. And looking at the two-option honourable speaker, when we looked at it in great depth, it was concluded that the option of postponing and suspending this examination was the best option because like I have said honourable speaker, we don't know the amount of infiltration. Upon comparing the circulated material, with that in the ECZ storage, it was noted that indeed the 2018 mathematics paper 2 for the grade nine exams was leaked and circulated on online media. Mr Speaker arising from the findings of the verification, the following actions have been taken. In line with the Examination Council of Zambia act cap 137 of the laws of Zambia section 22 (1), the director of the Examination Council of Zambia through the Ministry of General Education has nullified the mathematics paper

2 grade nine examination which should have been written today the 23 of October 2018 in the morning at 8 hours. I have further instruction management at the Council to print another paper to be administered at a later date to be advised before the end of the examination session."

Mabumba said he instructed the Examination Council of Zambia to issue a new exam time-table while investigations are being conducted.

"The Council management and the Ministry have been instructed to take remedial measures to mitigate the situation and thoroughly investigate the matter and bring the perpetrators to book. While the measures above are being administered, honourable speaker, I have further suspended the conduct of the examinations until further notice. I decided to suspended these examinations so that we are able to find where this infiltration is," Mabumba said.

Drug trafficking accused court officials want matter referred to High Court

By Zondiwe Mbewe
Defence lawyers representing seven court officials and two businessmen charged with trafficking in narcotic drugs have asked the Lusaka Magistrates’ Court to refer the matter to the High Court to determine the constitutionality of the proceedings. And the lawyers have applied for a Constitutional bail in the High Court, saying the move was necessitated by the conduct of state authorities when they rearrested the accused persons, detained them at unknown place and held them incommunicado without the knowledge of their lawyers. This is the matter in which businessmen Eric Chipango, Emmanuel Chimba and court officials Emmanuel Chirwa, Bearvan Mengo, Mathews

Mukanda, Victor Nzaila, Florence Mushoka, O’Brian Muyunda and Didie Kangwa, a senior clerk of court, are facing four counts of trafficking in narcotic drugs and two counts of theft by servant. Last week, the Director of Public Prosecutions entered a nolle prosequi in a case in which the court officials and two businessmen were facing three counts of drug trafficking in relation to the disappearance of 24 kilogram of cocaine, which drugs are subject of criminal proceedings before another court. However, upon their release, the accused persons were again re-arrested. When the matter came up for plea before a Siavonga based magistrate Victoria Chitulangoma sitting in

Lusaka, Tuesday, the State made an application to amend the indictment from count one to four, proposing that the term ‘psychotropic substances’ in the particulars of the offence was amended to read ‘narcotic drugs’. The application was granted after the defence lawyers comprising; Keith Mweemba, Jonas Zimba, Nicholas Chanda, Zevyanji Sinkala, S Mbewe, P Muya, I M Kunda and Makondo Simubali said they had no objection. But before plea could be taken, Mweemba raised some preliminary issues as regards the irregularity of the proceedings. He observed that when the matter was before a Kafue based magistrate kawama Mwamfuli, the State entered a nolle prosequi at the time

when they were supposed to reexamine their first witness. He observed that procedurally whenever there was an application by another party, the other party should be given an opportunity to respond. Mweemba argued that in this case, the State entered a nolle and the court discharged the accused persons without the defence lawyers being given an opportunity to be heard. Mweemba said the State disregarded article 18, clause 2 paragraph A of the Constitution which stated that an ‘accused was innocent until proven guilty’ and treated the accused like criminals. “Immediately the accused were discharged, hardly had the court exited that door, than the State authorities swung into full action effecting a purported rearrest on the

accused persons, causing one accused person to collapse. They were taken to unknown place of detention without the knowledge of their lawyers and were held incommunicado. The state ought to have known that the accused have legal representatives,” he said. And Mweemba said the defence had filed an application for Constitutional bail in the High Court last week, which was necessitated by the conduct of state authorities. “This application is to invite this court to refer this matter to the High court, for the High court to determine the constitutionality of these proceedings. The High court will be invited to answer the questions on; the total consideration of the record before honourable

Kawama Mwamfuli, are these proceedings in compliance with article 18 of the Constitution? Going by the conduct of state authorities as can be established from the record, are the previous and these proceedings in compliance with articles 13, 15, 17, 22 of the Constitution?” he asked. He further questioned whether the entry of a nolle prosequi in the previous matter by an advocate from NPA was authorised by the DPP and whether it was Constitutional. “This court has power to inquire as to whether the entry of the nolle prosequi is done in good faith and is Constitutional. From the records, this nolle prosequi was entered by Ms Grescillia Mulenga. Where did the DPP authorise the advocate here in writing? Especially that the reason for adjourning the matter that afternoon, the State had asked the court to go for lunch and come and reexamine the witness after lunch but only to be shocked with a nolle,” he said. Mweemba said another reason why they were questioning the irregularity of the proceedings was that there was no warn and caution statement entered from the accused after their rearrest, which was mandatory. Another defence lawyer Jonas Zimba argued that article 18 of the Constitution had been breached. He prayed that the matter would be referred to the High Court to determine whether in breach of article 18, the accused would receive a fair hearing. And defence lawyer Nicholas Chanda said since the accused were not warned and cautioned, they were wrongly in court hence they should be set at liberty. The State advocates however could not respond saying they needed more time to engage Law Enforcement Agencies to allow them effectively respond to all issues raised. The matter was adjourned to November 12, 2018.

Changala questions Lungu’s business with corruption convict Olmert of Israel

By Mirriam Chabala
Civil rights activist Brian Changala says it’s a mockery to the people of Zambia for President Edgar Lungu to invite former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert who is a corruption convict, and flaunt him around to citizens when the country is bleeding from systematic corruption. And Changala says, just like Olmert, President Lungu will be the first Zambian President to serve a prison sentence for corruption. Olmert is an Israeli politician and lawyer who served as the 12th Prime Minister of Israel from 2006 to 2009 and before that as a cabinet minister from 1988 to 1992 and from 2003 to 2006. Between his first and second stints as a cabinet member, he served as mayor of Jerusalem from 1993 to 2003. After serving as PM he was sentenced to serve a prison term over convictions for accepting bribes and for obstruction of justice during his terms as mayor of Jerusalem and as trade minister. On Saturday, State House released pictures of President Lungu on a morning routine road run with Olmert and a horde of auxiliary staff. Commenting on the development, Changala said Zambians deserved to know what business the former Israeli Prime Minister was doing in the country with President Lungu, especially in light of the questionable transactions that Zambia is conducting with the Middle

Eastern Country. “First and foremost, it’s very strange that the President of the Republic of Zambia does not find any shame or restraint in the way he conducts state affairs. The visiting former Israeli Prime Minister is a convict of corruption. And at the moment, the elephant in this room in this country is corruption. Corruption which is from head to toe. From State House to a cleaner in government and quasi government institutions, and yet the President has this courage, the audacity to bring in the country a convict of corruption from Israel as his guest. Even to launder him by appearing with him publicly without any regret, remorse or indeed shame, and bringing the name of the country into ridicule,” Changala said. “President Edgar Lungu owes this country a full explanation, it’s not business as usual. Why is it that it has become his style of governance to associate and mingle with people of questionable character and background. This is not a private issue, He is the President of the Republic of Zambia and we need to know because there is a saying ‘show me your friends and I will tell you who you are’. President Edgar Chagwa Lungu’s association with questionable characters is a source of worry. And he is presiding over a corrupt government, he could be the most corrupt in the history of this country by any standard.

And he doesn’t seem to restrain himself or indeed show any commitment to fight the scourge of corruption, instead, it is corruption that is uniting him with the corruption convict.” Changala wondered when President Lungu became friends with Olmert. “One of the answers that the President must give the people of Zambia is; are they friends? If they are friends, when did they become friends? Because President Lungu has a historical background which does not make him an international figure before he became President. he is not a Vernon Mwaanga, who started politics and mixing with the George Bush’s of this world at a tender age of 19, no! Bwana Edgar Lungu has coined friendships with people using the Presidency. So because he is using the Presidency, he owes the people of Zambia answers over what type of friends he has created during

this period that he has been privileged to run and govern this country? What is the former Israeli Prime Minister doing in this country? That is very very cardinal, and we are having a situation where Africa Confidential is talking about shoddy deals in Israel. Is the former Prime Minister an agent of such deals? Did he just fly in from Israel to come and jog with the President of the Republic of Zambia or there is anything more behind the scenes? We need answers,” said Changala. “If Lungu is not careful, he will end up in jail just like the man visiting him at State House. Olmert was the first Prime Minister of Israel to actually serve a prison sentence and President Lungu will end up the same way, he will be first former President of Zambia to actually enter prison. That is why it’s very important that we know who is confusing our President, because he’s in a confused state. Is the former Israeli

Prime Minister one of those who have messed up our President and the Presidency? These are legitimate questions that demand to be answered. Why is our President always in wrong company, why? Please help me to get answers from Bwana Edgar Chagwa Lungu. I think we are getting fed up with this king of behaviour. We need a President who inspires the nation. We need a President who will conduct business in the most transparent and credible manner. We need a President who moves in a league of eminent, prominent and distinguished citizens of the world.” The 73-year-old Olmert was convicted in March 2014 for taking bribes and was released from prison in July 2017 after serving 16 months behind bars. Describing his fall as “painful and strange,” Olmert became the first former Israeli prime minister to enter prison and acknowledged that he had “made mistakes.”

imposed on convicted persons,” said Kampyongo. “The Ministry of Home Affairs, staff of the Zambia Correctional Service and inmates of the correctional facilities throughout the country are indeed grateful to His Excellency the President, for exercising his prerogative of mercy at the time when the correctional facilities are extremely congested. The details of the breakdown will be given when the gazette has been signed at government printers.”

Lungu frees 300 inmates as Zambia turns 54

By Mirriam Chabala
President Edagr Lungu has pardoned 300 inmates countrywide on the occasion of the 54th Independence Day celebrations. Minister of Home Affairs Stephen Kampyongo disclosed this at a media briefing in Lusaka, explaining that seven of the 300 pardoned inmates were old-aged people. “To commemorate the 54th independence anniversary, the President of the Republic of Zambia

and Commander-IN-Chief of the Armed Forces, His Excellency Mr Edgar Chagwa Lungu has today the Eve of the 24th of October, 2018, exercised his prerogative of mercy on 300 inmates based in various correctional facilities throughout the Republic of Zambia. Seven are old aged inmates out of the 300. This is in accordance with Article 97 of the Constitution of Zambia, which provides for the Presidential pardon and substitution of severe punishment

imposed on convicted persons,” said Kampyongo. “The Ministry of Home Affairs, staff of the Zambia Correctional Service and inmates of the correctional facilities throughout the country are indeed grateful to His Excellency the President, for exercising his prerogative of mercy at the time when the correctional facilities are extremely congested. The details of the breakdown will be given when the gazette has been signed at government printers.”



Deception, quality and ‘uubomba Mwibala’

‘I need five more pockets boss?’ ba Sonjela interrupted his boss as he was about to drive out of the building premises.

‘Hahaha! All those, for what? What happened, you mean five pockets?’ Mr. Njobvu answered as he pushed his hand out of the car and dropped a K50 note onto his bricklayers open palms.

‘I know a good tailor near Chilenje Market, he will stitch your pockets back’, Mr. Njobvu added thinking his employee was just making an excuse to get some little extra money.

‘No boss, this is not enough. I meant pockets of cement for the lintels. Stock ran out yesterday so we need to buy five more’. Ba Sonjela the Bricklayer rectified.

As Mr. Njobvu finally drove out leavening behind the money he was supposed to buy his wife a wig, he wondered to himself how people around him have managed to build houses if building is as expensive as he was beginning to realize. Ever since he started building last year, money never stays in his wallet. There is always something which is finished needing to be bought at the building site whenever he went there.

Being a very orderly and experienced professional, Mr. Njobvu is a kind of man whose knowledge about many things is simply astonishing. Although he is an accountant, his building knowledge is enviable even to building experts no wonder he had decided to build and supervise the building of his Safari lodge in Samfya.

Aside all the respect and accolades he has been receiving over his new building project, Mr. Njobvu is not oblivious to the facts on the ground. His building project is doing badly, it has overshot the budget and the works are behind schedule. He has been working hard, bought all that needed to be bought according to the Bill of Quantities but still things are not adding up.

His first concern is that although only two blocks are complete, the buildings on the drawing looks more beautiful than the built ones. His second worry is how two identical

blocks cost so different to build. On the first one he spent K52, 541. 00 yet on another identical block he has spent K73, 112. 30. The difference in cost was K20, 572. 30! If it had not been for his diligence with numbers, he would have not even noticed the difference.

He had done everything right but where was the problem of quality and cost coming from? It was a tough mystery to understand until one Sunday morning when Mr. Njobvu went to the building site without announcing.

On that particular day, the building site was strangely quiet, nobody he knew including ba Sonjela and his caretaker nephew was around. Instead there were four strangers plastering the walls. When he inquired about the whereabouts of ba Sonjela and the caretaker, one man responded and informed that they were out finalizing some works on one of their other projects in Kafue.

It was at that moment that Mr. Njobvu understood why the works were of poor quality. In his absence, ba Sonjela who is an excellent and qualified bricklayer was subcontracting the building work to some amateur bricklayers from Chibolya compound whom he was paying cheaply so that he pockets the bigger sum he was receiving for labour. It was only when ba Sonjela knew that his boss was visiting the building site when he was doing the work himself.

Frustrated, Mr. Njobvu decided leave but saw something in the garden. There was a large pumpkin in the garden outside which his wife had planted and he decided to pick it before it was gone. As he lifted the pumpkin he noticed that the ground nearby looked disturbed so he decided to dig and see what was beneath. To his shock he found twenty pockets of cement buried beneath the soil. It was part of the cement he had bought but was told had finished. The workers he so trusted were either stealing from him or it was the other crew they had brought on site which was stealing.

The rest is history yet Mr. Njobvu now understands that just knowing how to build and having enough money is not a guarantee to an

effectively building project.

One cardinal principle Mr Njobvu now understands is that for one to produce a quality building within a reasonable budget, he/she has to ensure that the building project is properly supervised and monitored. There should be proper accounting of material and this should be done regularly. Material and building tools get stolen a lot by workers and helpers or those just passing through. It is also important to ensure that people accessing the building site is tightly restricted. Restricting access is also cardinal for preventing accidents apart from pilferage.

Summary of items to note before the project kicks off and during the building process concerning building work:

1. Provide a secure Storage room for materials, tools, equipment and plant.
2. Create a list of all materials bought and indicate who picks and indicated when used or returned.
3. Quality control is important and for it to be adhered to, there must be a person on the project who will supervise continuously so that quality is uniform and consistent. Project supervision is not a luxury, it is cardinal if the project is to come out as planned.
4. It is cheaper to buy materials in bulk because transport cost is reduced. Buy quality material from the same source so that quality is uniformly maintained.
5. Don’t be too trusting, be a bit unpredictable at times so that you are not taken for granted and schemed up for deception.
6. Take good care of your workers. They need to eat so if you are not paying them well, they definitely will steal from you.

As much as possible, everyone needs to report to someone. It is not good to do things in isolation. Even if you trust your workers, let them be supervised. You too need to be supervised by someone.

Building is great investment, do it right. Wherever we want to go; our feet shall take us there.

Complaints about the way our country is being government have continued to pour in from almost all sectors of society. Lawyers, doctors, teachers, farmers, pastors, traditional leaders, students; everyone is complaining, not to mention the civil society and political groups. From the look of things, Zambia is under a very dark cloud, save for a privileged few who have the means of flying over it.

Many things that are going on in Zambia don't just make sense at all. This is the only country in the world where a financial crisis is 'solved' by accelerated borrowing and spending, buying the most sophisticated VVIP planes for a President who is only running away from his own shadow. Meanwhile, as the economy plunges to the bedrock of the sea, citizens are ordered to pray for its recovery. As if that is not enough stupidity, when a few faithful pastors heed the call and convene a church meeting to pray for the economy, police break down the doors to arrest

News

Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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Don't hate Lungu, make him your stepping stone

them for "unlawful assembly".

It's really depressing to think about how we got here. To make matters worse, there is no assuring voice from those charged with the responsibility of governing the people. Close to four years in office, no press conference from the Head of State to respond to the citizens' concerns. The only time Zambians hear from their President is when he is about to fly above the dark cloud in search of personal prosperity.

Because of such bad governance practices, millions of Zambians have come to hate President Edgar Lungu. They are blaming him for all their life

struggles, including the misfortunes which have nothing to do with national leadership. Indeed, citizens have every reason to be angry with their Head of State when things are not moving well for them, but we urge people not to hate Mr Edgar Lungu as an individual but the process that made him Head of State. The people of Zambia should hate the game, not the player.

Like we quoted in our editorial comment of February this year, "the danger to Zambia is not Edgar Lungu, but a citizenry capable of entrusting him with the Presidency. It is far easier to undo the follies of a Lungu Presidency than to restore the necessary

common sense and good judgment to a depraved electorate willing to have such a man for their Head of State. Our national problem is much deeper and far more serious than Mr Lungu who is a mere symptom of what ails Zambia."

That is why, as a newspaper, we don't have a problem with Edgar as a person. In fact, we have come to learn that he is a very sociable and generous individual; which is perhaps what has added to our national problems because his generosity has caused him to give away the entire Presidency. Anyway, our point is that Edgar as an individual is serving the purpose for which

he was created. We are not a religious publication, but we believe that God creates every situation for very specific reasons, some of which serve as lessons for the victims.

Dear readers, we are living in a world that we created for ourselves. At this stage, it doesn't matter whether President Lungu and the PF rigged the last elections in order to form government. What really matters is that he is here now and he has brought us lessons. For every bad governance decision that comes out of Cabinet meetings or the police command, citizens must embrace that as a lesson for the future.

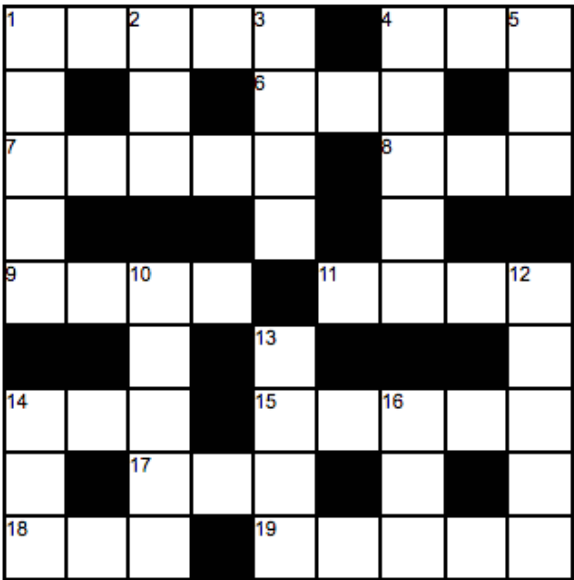
In our view, no

citizen must wish President Lungu dead, regardless of how disastrous his leadership has been, we must instead wish him good health and consider him a shining example of what bad choices can do to a nation.

It is now an open secret that even those in the Patriotic Front have come to the realization that Mr Lungu has been a bad President. Therefore, if all of us as a country, including those who voted for him, agree that we have a bad leader in State House, we must then turn him into a stepping-stone for better leadership.

They say when life presents to you a lemon, you have the choice to stop crying and make lemonade out of the misfortune. Let's embrace Mr Lungu as a lemon presented to our nation by the daredevils who voted for an experiment. Now is the time to start making lemonade out of him. Citizens must start now scrutinizing the available leadership alternatives, so that by 2021, every Zambian would have made a better and informed choice.

Crossword puzzle 215



"People have only as much liberty as they have the intelligence to want and the courage to take."
- Emma Goldman

- Across**
1. Octet number
4. Cloth fragment
6. Time gone by
7. Jockey
8. Make a hole
9. Pandemonium
11. Well behaved
14. Lighted
15. Planetary path
17. Self image
18. Pub
19. Wild cat
- Down**
1. Blunder
2. Part of TGIF
3. Small pie
4. Wild West show
5. Comedian's booking
10. Exterior
12. Frighten off
13. Winter footwear
14. Laboratory
16. Not average, but not huge

Solutions to puzzle 214



Reader's feedback

ND OPINION: Get it right, Zambia has not refunded Britain the 'stolen' US \$4.7 million

Editor,

"News Diggers! is my paper, Prime TV is my national broadcaster!" - Kesaf Chilufya

"This makes more sense than the blind report they gave us. Apart from just throwing this PF government out of power in 2021, we will also hold every culprit accountable for their fraudulent acts and that will be independence for all Zambian, freedom from modern slavery." - McElvis Sims

"Diggers! Thumbs up, my paper, your paper, our paper..." - Chomi

"I doubt if any reasonable person believed the 'paying back' story. Things were and are still not adding up i.e. why was Minister Kabanshi and other officials fired over money, which was in fact sitting in the bank account??" - Janet Mundando

"Edgar Lungu's PF party regime is not capable of running the political and financial affairs of Zambia. The widespread corruption, abuse of human rights and other criminal acts by Lungu and his lawless PF officials make the need to impeach Lungu an urgent matter. It's not necessary to wait for the next elections to kick Lungu out of State House." - Chivunda Samusungwa

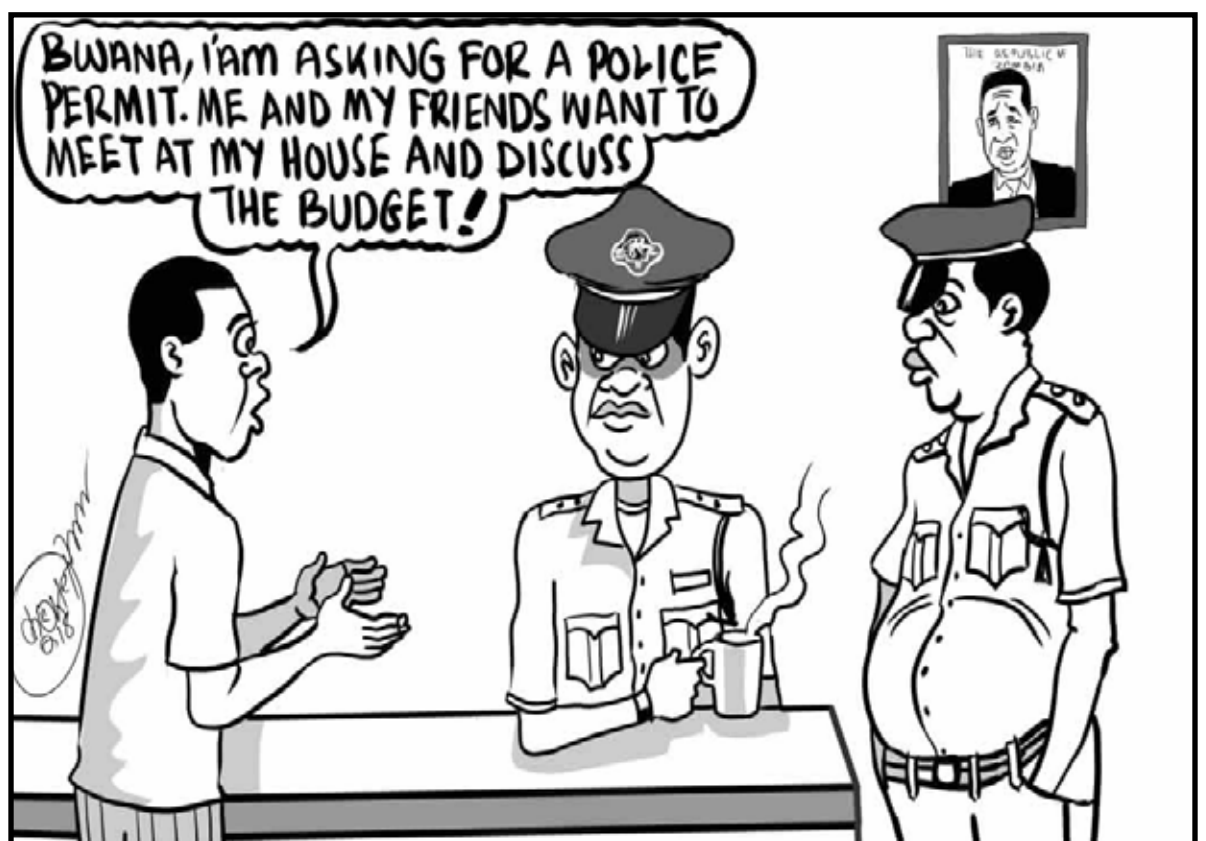
"This is so depressing, those involved in the plunder don't seem to show remorse or offer

humane explanation to the citizenry. The scandals are overflowing." - Martin Mpukani

EDITOR'S NOTE:

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Note that we block Facebook users who use abusive language.



CCPC's claim that decision to merge ZNBC with Star Times in public interest

Editor,

"Public interest? How come I wasn't involved?" - Trywell Katibu

"Don't include us. You didn't even consult the public and then you're saying in the public interest. Which public are you referring to?" - Mutengo L Emmy

"On my own, as part of the public, it is not in my interest that ZNBC should be merge." - Maluza Munkombwe

"Think again, KBF. Of what you are defending, this is not a convention centre for party election in Kabwe, it's about the over 15 million Zambians who are not interested in selling ZNBC." - Mofi Kaseketi

"Even during conversion in Kabwe when you elected by raise of hands and waking up a judge at night, you said was on public interest. Now, on ZNBC when it goes sour, ati it's not me." - Andy Hanny

"Please help me to understand the legalities surrounding this merger between a public broadcaster and a private foreign company without the approval of Parliament." - John Mufichani

HH's on arrest of Ndola pastors being proof of PF's dictatorship

Dear Editor,

"There's no longer like it, Zambia is living in a dictatorship." - Nawa Njekwa

"How do these guys manage to sleep at night? You walk into a church and effect arrests on church leaders. What is happening to mother Zambia?" - Kapampa Musukwa

"The PF keeping making these useless blunders. If people want to talk, let them talk. Now, they are in

the headlines when no one would have even bothered about them." - Kaumba Mulanda

"Their fellow clergy are suspiciously quiet. That's why I don't trust these hypocrites!" - Marcus Adriano Houston

"And people were 'praying' on 18th and then arrest people in a church with pastors. And you say those that didn't attend the 18th 'prayers' are anti-Christ? God help us." - Sunny Mitchell

Chinese President Xi Jinping has opened a new bridge between Hong Kong and the Chinese mainland - the longest sea crossing in the world.

The 34-mile (55km) bridge has been under construction for the past nine years, costs about £15bn and includes two artificial islands.

Some 6.7km of the crossing runs through a tunnel underneath the sea to allow traffic through the busy shipping lane above.

Mr Xi did not make a speech, simply declaring the bridge open at a ceremony in Zhuhai, on the Chinese side. Other top officials including Liu He, Mr Xi's economic adviser, were present.

The Chinese president entered the ceremony side by side with Carrie Lam, the chief executive of Hong Kong.

Some commentators have seen the multibillion-pound bridge as a means for Beijing to bring Hong Kong under even tighter control.

The bridge has economic as well as political goals. Beijing wants to create a Bay Area cluster, linking Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Zhuhai and Macau into

China opens world's longest sea crossing

a supercluster of 11 cities with a population of 68 million - an innovation hub to compete with America's bay area, Silicon Valley.

China also has plans for other megaclusters centred on Beijing and Shanghai, each with a population of more than 100 million.

Before he opened the bridge, Mr Xi toured hi-tech businesses in Zhuhai - a highly symbolic move. Zhuhai was one of the first

special economic zones created as part China's economic reform and opening up 40 years ago this year, set up as the mainland,

communist counterpart to the capitalist Portuguese colony of Macau directly opposite.

In the late 1990s, Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping made a famous southern tour to the region, to reaffirm China's commitment to opening up. It supercharged China's economic rise to the present day.

Mr Xi is making a similar visit at an uncertain time for China's prospects, though. The country has been surprised by a trade war with the US, and GDP figures released last week missed targets and showed weaker than expected growth.

Top officials appeared unnerved by the data, releasing coordinated public statements.

SKYNEWS



Madagascar pre-trial detainees face 'life-threatening conditions'

At least 52 people died in Madagascar's prisons last year while awaiting trial due to "appalling prison conditions", according to Amnesty International.

In a report published on Tuesday, the global rights group also said that thousands of people who have not been found guilty of any crime were subject to "life-threatening prison conditions", including severe overcrowding and poor hygiene as well as lack of food and medical care.

The main causes of death was respiratory problems and cardiovascular diseases, Amnesty said, citing prison authorities.

The report was based on visits to nine prisons where more than 11,000 people had been placed in pre-trial detention, the group said.

"Many of those being

held for extended periods without trial were accused of petty, nonviolent crimes," said Deprose Muchena, Amnesty International's regional director for southern Africa.

"The poorest, including women and children, with the least recourse to legal help, are those who suffer

the most," she added.

Such "unjustified, excessive and prolonged pre-trial detention" violates international and domestic law, and amounts to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, Amnesty said.

Madagascar's Ministry of Justice, in a September letter to Amnesty, said it was aware of the problem.

The ministry blamed "population growth and an increase in crime rates" for severe overcrowding and said it has "stepped up its efforts" with new laws and policies to improve conditions.

Under Madagascar's national laws, adults can be held for up to five years and six months without

trial and children up to 33 months.

Amnesty said Madagascar's prisons hold more people who have not been tried than those found guilty. As of October 2017, 55 percent of the total prison population were pre-trial detainees, the report said.

One man said he has been in pre-trial custody for three and a half years because he was accused of stealing a cow.

Describing conditions at a prison in Maintirano, west Madagascar, he told Amnesty: "Forty-two of us sleep in the same room but there is no room to sleep, I sleep on the floor. A lot of people get sick. Some cough, some shiver, some get very cold.

"And people fight about food because there isn't enough... I really want a trial because I really suffer here."

Women and children were disproportionately affected by some of the prison conditions, the report said.

AL JAZEERA

South Africa shocked by live rape trial of Timothy Omotoso

A televised rape trial in South Africa has prompted a furious public backlash after a witness - who says she was raped by her pastor from the age of 14 - was subjected to a lengthy and, at times, aggressively intimate cross-examination by the lawyer representing a 60-year-old Nigerian televangelist, Timothy Omotoso, who denies the allegation.

Warning: This piece contains graphic content which may upset some readers.

Over the weekend, Mr Omotoso's church, in the coastal city of Port Elizabeth, was forced to

shut its door after angry crowds besieged the building, while a Sunday newspaper reported that the woman who gave evidence against him - Cheryl Zondi, now a 22-year-old student - had received death threats ahead of the trial.

The trial - the first prominent rape case to be broadcast live in a country where more than 100 rapes are reported to the police each day - has attracted huge interest, and raised difficult questions about victims' rights, impartiality and whether justice is best served by having television cameras in courtrooms.

Anti-apartheid icon Nelson Mandela's granddaughter, Ndileka Mandela - who said in 2017 that she had been raped by a former boyfriend - is one of many South African women who have voiced support for Ms Zondi, linking her experience to the global #MeToo movement.

Ms Mandela argued that the student's treatment during three days in the witness box helped explain why so many rape victims stay silent in a nation with notoriously high levels of sexual violence.

BBC



A NATO soldier was killed and two others wounded in an attack that was the latest in a series of such incidents in which Afghan forces have turned their weapons on international troops with whom they are working. AFP

Ghana university closed after 'jamboree' riots

Ghana's Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (Knust) has been shut down and students ordered to leave the institution following violent protests on Monday. The trouble started at Knust, which is in the country's second city Kumasi, last Friday night after 11 students were arrested by police after taking part in their usual end-of-week party, known as a jamboree, which the university authorities recently banned. The students mounted roadblocks, vandalised property and boycotted lectures on Monday, accusing the university's security and management

of brutality. A joint task force of police and military personnel has now taken over the university campus to maintain calm. Students have been given up to 12.00 GMT on Tuesday to vacate the campus. Only foreign students have been exempted from the decision - the authorities say they will be given security protection in their hostels. Ashanti Regional Minister Simon Osei Mensah, who announced the decision, maintains the shutdown is necessary in view of the extent of the damages.

Erdogan calls for suspects to be tried in Turkey

Turkey's president has urged Saudi Arabia to reveal who ordered the "savage murder" of dissident journalist Jamal Khashoggi at the kingdom's consulate in Istanbul, and said the 18 Saudis suspected of carrying it out should be tried in Turkish courts. Addressing lawmakers of his ruling party in Parliament Tuesday, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan says all those responsible for the killing must be punished regardless of rank — from the person who ordered his death to those who carried out the killing. He asked: "where is the body of Jamal Khashoggi?" For the first time, Erdogan also confirmed that a body double of Khashoggi was used as a decoy after he was killed. Erdogan's speech came as skepticism intensified about Saudi Arabia's account that he died accidentally in its consulate in Istanbul. Turkey's president says Saudi officials started planning to murder Saudi writer Jamal Khashoggi days before his death in Saudi Arabia's Istanbul consulate. President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said Tuesday that the Saudi officials began plotting against Khashoggi in late September, days ahead of his disappearance after he entered the consulate on Oct. 2. Erdogan's comments contradicted Saudi accounts that Khashoggi died accidentally in a "fistfight" in the consulate. Saudi Arabia says organizers will be signing

deals worth \$50 billion at the start of a major economic forum in Riyadh. The Future Investment Initiative forum, which began on Tuesday, is the brainchild of Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. It's aimed at drawing more foreign investment into the kingdom and to help create desperately needed jobs for its youthful population. The deals will be in manufacturing, transportation and other fields. Prince Mohammed was not immediately at the forum when it started. The forum last year proved to be a glitzy affair that

drew more international business attention to the kingdom. This year's event meanwhile has seen business leaders drop out over Khashoggi's Oct. 2 slaying. A high-profile economic forum in Saudi Arabia has begun in Riyadh, the kingdom's first major event on the world stage since the killing of writer Jamal Khashoggi at the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul earlier this month. The Future Investment Initiative forum, which began on Tuesday, is the brainchild of Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. It's aimed at drawing more foreign investment into the kingdom and to help create desperately needed jobs for its youthful population. Prince Mohammed was not immediately at the forum when it started. The forum last year proved to be a glitzy affair that drew more international business attention to the kingdom. This year's event meanwhile has seen many top business leaders and officials drop out over Khashoggi's Oct. 2 slaying. YAHOO



Palaeontologist Jonah Choiniere says a student noticed a 'few (fossilised) bones coming out' of a massive rock on a remote farm in central South Africa. 'It turned out to be a hip of a species we've never seen before'. MSN

New TB drug hailed as game changer

Doctors in Belarus are reported to have cured more than 80% of sufferers from a deadly drug-resistant strain of tuberculosis using a new drug, bedaquiline, alongside other antibiotics. Belarus has the highest rates of multidrug-resistant TB. Tuberculosis is the ninth leading cause of death worldwide. It killed at least 1.7 million people last year, making it by far the world's deadliest infectious disease.

It is spread from person to person through the air when an infected person coughs, sneezes or spits. In 2016, 2.5 million people fell ill with TB in the African, accounting for a quarter of new TB cases worldwide, according to the World Health Organization (WHO). Seven countries account for 64% of the new TB cases in 2016, with India leading the count, followed by Indonesia, China, Philippines, Pakistan, Nigeria, and South Africa, WHO

says. The AFP news agency reports that the Belarus trial cure rate of 80% was largely replicated in bedaquiline trials in other countries in eastern Europe, Africa and south-east Asia, according to documents it had seen. Dr Paula Fujiwara - from the International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease - spoke to the BBC's Newsday programme about the new drug that is being hailed as a "game changer" BBC

Titanic II resumes construction after financial holdup, plans to finally set sail in 2022

After its maiden voyage, the Titanic II will embark on other global routes. The replica is being built in China rather than the original shipyard in Belfast, Northern Ireland, .

“The ship will follow the original journey, carrying passengers from Southampton to New York,” Blue Line chairman Clive Palmer told MSN, “but she will also circumnavigate the globe, inspiring and enchanting people while attracting unrivaled attention, intrigue and mystery in every port she visits.” *USATODAY*



Britney Spears is out here trolling Justin Timberlake on Instagram and I'm living

Britney Spears either completely forgot who sings the song "Love Stoned," or her shade-throwing skills are next-level cutthroat. The icon, who really should just change her name to Godney at this point, hit up Instagram to post a video of herself doing backflips (NEVER CHANGE, BRITNEY), and uh, you might notice that she used a song by her ex-boyfriend, Justin Timberlake. As InStyle notes, this song was written several years after Britney and Justin's split, and is about a girl who's "freaky, and she knows it." So, why is Britney using it to soundtrack her Instagram considering Justin has been nothing but highly salty about her since their split? Unclear!!!! But I like to think she's trolling her ex an entire a decade later because TBH that is a move fit for a legend of her calibre. *MSN*

Taylor Swift Donates \$15,500 to Fan Whose Mom Is in a Coma

Taylor Swift filled in the "Blank Space" of a GoFundMe donation page over the weekend. On Oct. 1, Sadie Bartell posted a long message on Twitter requesting help from her followers. "Hey guys. I'm really nervous to post this. Please help if you can and pray for my family. I'm sorry I never said anything sooner and that I'm suddenly asking for help. I love you guys so much," she wrote. Bartell linked to a GoFundMe page to raise money for her mom, Lauriann, who has been in a coma for three years. According to her note on Twitter, "[Lauriann] had an ulcer that bled out that led to lack of oxygen to the brain which resulted in brain damage. We take care of her at home full time." Later on in her note, Bartell wrote about Swift and thanked the singer for "keeping me afloat through it all." Somehow, the "Delicate" singer must have seen her fan's love, because she then donated \$15,500 to the cause. She signed the donation "Love, Taylor, Meredith and Olivia Swift." Meredith and Olivia are the name of her Instagram-famous cats.

19-year-old Bartell attended Swift's 1989 tour concert in Nashville and also described the toll her mom's health has taken on her. "I'm happy to help take care of her and I'm happy to provide for my family but I am nineteen and everything is really hard right now. I feel like I've reached by breaking point." After Swift made the very generous contribution, Bartell posted about it on Facebook

and what the donation meant to her. "Everyone who knows me knows that Taylor Swift is my whole entire life. She has been there for me more than anyone. I really, truly, would not be who I am without her," she wrote. "She shows up every time I need her. She always has and she always will. I wish that I could express how much it means to me that ANYONE has helped my family over the years, let

alone Taylor. She is the light at the end of the tunnel and is truly the best thing that has ever happened to me." This is hardly the first of Swift helping Swifties. In early October, the American Music Award record breaker met an 8-year-old fan named Jacob Hill. Jacob is autistic, and she donated \$10,000 to help get Jacob a service dog. Swift, Jacob and the new dog Reid all

met at her Reputation show in Houston. Jacob and his family got backstage passes and front-row seats. "Taylor Swift was so kind. She said Reid was a big puffball and so cute. She was especially awesome with Jacob," Jacob's mom Allison Hill wrote on Facebook. "She didn't see my son's disability she just saw him. She got down on her knees and looked him right in the eyes and said hello and that she was thankful HE

came to her show even though she knew it was loud and there was so much going on." In July, the "Love Story" artist provided free tickets to police officers, fire fighters and other residents of Weymouth, Mass. after police officer Sgt. Michael Chesna died in the line of duty just days before her show. Taylor Swift continues to make fans' "Wildest Dreams" come true. *SKYNEWS*

Lady Gaga has lashed out at Donald Trump and accused the US government of living in an "alternate universe" over reported plans to change how gender is defined. Mr Trump's administration is said to have drawn up proposals that would see a person's gender defined by the sex listed on their birth certificate, "unless rebutted by reliable genetic evidence". The controversial move could have profound consequences for transgender and non-binary people. It would mean they would be unable to change their gender in legal terms later

Lady Gaga: Trump 'driven by ignorance' on gender policy

in life. The proposals would also remove Barack Obama-era protections for transgender people under US civil rights laws in health care, schools and the military. Gaga suggested Mr Trump was being "driven by ignorance" over the reported policy. She tweeted: "The government may be living in an alternate universe, but we as a society &

culture know who we are and know our truth and must stick together and raise our voices so we can educate them about gender identities. "While today you might feel unheard or unseen, know that this is not the reality of humanity. This is another display of leadership being driven by ignorance." She added the hashtags Gaga has challenged gender

roles publicly through her appearances in the media and music, including her hit single Born This Way. She has previously spoken of being bisexual and addressed a national equality march in Washington in support of the LGBT movement. An unreleased memo from the US department for health and human service, containing details of the proposed gender law

changes, was first reported by The New York Times. It states: "The sex listed on a person's birth certificate, as originally issued, shall constitute definitive proof of a person's sex unless rebutted by reliable genetic evidence." On Monday, Mr Trump said he was "protecting everybody" when he was asked about campaign promises to the LGBT community. *SKYNEWS*

The History of Sean "Diddy" Combs and Cassie's Roller-Coaster Relationship

Diddy and Cassie have been on the outs before, but this time it could very well stick. The power couple weathered some serious ups and downs in their decade together, always eventually reuniting after spending a bit of time apart. So it's hard to say whether this breakup, which reportedly occurred a few months ago, is for the long haul. The latest picture of him on her Instagram is from May 11, a shot of them all dressed up for the Met Gala a week prior.

"Diddy won't ever let Cassie get away. He loves her so much," a source told E! News back in the summer of 2016 after Sean "Diddy" Combs and Casandra "Cassie" Ventura got back together in time for her 30th birthday party.

"HAPPY BIRTHDAY BABY! @cassie I LOVE YOU ALWAYS. GOD BLESS YOU," he wrote on Instagram alongside a video slide show of some of the actress and singer's loveliest pics.

Regarding their recent split, a source told People this month that "the decision was amicable and they remain friends."

In response to rumors that Diddy was already dating again, model Jocelyn Chew having been spotlighted as the possible new woman in

his life, People heard that he was single. Cassie—who appeared on Empire last season and is said to be focusing on her

music and acting right now—added a little fuel to the post-split fire when she posted a grab saying "F--K THESE HOES" on

Instagram Story Sunday night—but really, that could have been about any number of things.

The duo first met in 2006, after Diddy heard Cassie's single "Me & U," which she had originally put out on MySpace, in a club and asked producer Ryan Leslie, who was working with her at the time, to produce her debut album for his Bad Boy Records.

Cassie dropped in August 2006 and debuted at No. 4 on the Billboard 200. When critics panned her promotional performances on TRL and BET's 106 & Park, Diddy threw his support behind the 19-year-old, calling her appearances "all right."

"You could hear the nervousness in her voice," the veteran rapper and producer told MTV News. "And to be honest, I kind of smiled at it, because it made me really appreciate what I really love about her: She's a regular person. And we, as artists, we sometimes get nervous. *EONLINE*



WWE wrestler Roman Reigns has announced he is giving up his Universal Champion title because he has leukaemia.

The 33-year-old star revealed on Monday that he was first diagnosed with the disease in 2008 at age 22.

Reigns, real name Leati Joseph Anoa'i, said the leukaemia had returned, meaning he can no longer

WWE's Roman Reigns gives up title due to leukaemia

"be that fighting champion". He apologised to the crowd in Providence, Rhode Island, for not being the champion his character

aimed to be. He said: "That's all lies and it's a lie because the reality is my name is Joe and I've been living with leukaemia for 11

years and unfortunately it's back." "Because the leukaemia is back, I can't fulfil my role. "I can't be that fighting

champion and I'm going to have to relinquish the universal championship. "I'm not going to lie, I'll take every prayer you can

send my way but I'm not looking for sympathy, I'm not looking for you to feel bad for me because I have faith," he continued.

Reigns, a former professional American football player who has appeared in the last four main events at WrestleMania, reassured fans that Monday would not be his final time in a WWE ring. *SKYNEWS*



Trey Smith, Willow Smith, Jaden Smith, Jada Pinkett Smith and Will Smith pose for a photo at the 26th Annual EMA Awards at Warner Bros. Studio on Saturday, Oct. 22, 2016, in Burbank, Calif. (Photo: Richard Shotwell, Invision/AP)



Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex and Meghan, Duchess of Sussex arrive to meet President of Fiji Jioji Konrote on the first day of their tour to Fiji on October 23, 2018 in Suva, Fiji. (Photo by Andrew Parsons - Pool/Getty Images)

Mayweather rematch closer as Manny Pacquiao signs to face 'top PBC fighters'

A potential blockbuster rematch between Manny Pacquiao and Floyd Mayweather moved a step closer as the Filipino icon confirmed he has signed with Al Haymon's Premier Boxing Champions (PBC).

Eight-weight world champion Pacquiao said he would close out his storied career by facing "top PBC fighters" in announcing late Monday the tie-up with influential Mayweather adviser Haymon's

organisation. "My team will work closely with Al Haymon for the remainder of my career to deliver the most anticipated fights with the top PBC fighters," Pacquiao said in a statement.

"Those are the fights the fans want to see and the ones I want to have to close out my career," he added. Pacquiao said last week that he was "90 percent" sure a bout with former four-division world champion

Adrien Broner would happen in January, possibly in Las Vegas. "Pacquiao's first defense of the World Boxing Association welterweight world title will kick off the new partnership," Haymon's PBC said in a statement without giving further details.

"The new alliance will have team Pacquiao and Haymon work together to navigate the remainder of his illustrious career," it added. The deal could pave the way for a Pacquiao-Mayweather rematch of the 2015 megafight which generated a record 4.6 million pay-per-view buys earning \$600 million and ended with the American winning on points. Unbeaten Mayweather, who hasn't fought since knocking out mixed martial artist Conor McGregor last year, said in September he would come out of retirement to face Pacquiao later this year. The American, 41, has since hinted at taking a warm-up fight first, talking on social media of a "huge boxing

event" in Tokyo and then last week said he would be willing to accept a challenge to fight against McGregor's MMA conqueror Khabib Nurmagomedov. The deal with Haymon represents a new chapter for the 39-year-old Pacquiao, who has been promoted for the majority of his 20-year professional career by Bob Arum's Top Rank organisation. "I wish him the best of luck, a tremendous warrior, and whatever he's doing in the future, he deserves," Arum said of Pacquiao on Fighthub TV in Las Vegas at the weekend. Pacquiao pumped new life into his storied career in July when he delivered his first knockout in nine years against Lucas Matthisse of Argentina. Ahead of the fight against big-punching Matthisse, Pacquiao said he considered himself the "underdog", but he rolled back the years to register a 60th win and take the Argentine's WBA welterweight belt. *AFP*



One newspaper headline described Thierry Henry as "cursed" in the wake of his managerial bow with Monaco, and the France great will be desperate to put that behind him in Wednesday's Champions League encounter with Club Brugge. Henry's long-awaited first game as a coach in his own right ended in a 2-1 defeat at Strasbourg on Saturday, with Monaco's night marred by goalkeeping errors, a sending-off and injuries. The headline in question appeared in the following day's edition of sports daily L'Equipe, and that game certainly made it clear to the 41-year-old that he has a massive job on his hands. Monaco, the club where Henry began his playing career before going on to star for Arsenal, are in a critical condition, having lost their last five games and gone 11 matches without a win. They are enduring their worst start to a season in 65 years and their longest run without a league win for a decade. Monaco may often be mocked for their paltry attendances, but they have

Thierry Henry hoping for a break in Champions League bow with Monaco

a passionate fan base who will be worried for their team, less than 18 months after they won the Ligue 1 title in style. "I was aware that it would be hard to put something in place after just two days of work," said Henry at the weekend, having had limited time on the training ground since taking over. Better will be required, however, if Monaco are to register their first points in Champions League Group A when they go to Belgium. For Henry, it is an early return to the country after he ended a two-year stint as assistant to Belgium boss Roberto Martinez in order to strike out on his own. Defeats against Atletico Madrid and Borussia Dortmund mean Monaco remain pointless in Europe, and Wednesday's match against the Belgian champions offers both sides a last chance to keep

their hopes alive in the group. More realistically, these teams are now fighting it

out for third place and a berth in the Europa League knockout rounds. They meet again at the Stade

Louis II on November 6. "We need to take the positives. The team is starting from zero," insisted

Belgian midfielder Youri Tielemans, but there were not a lot of positives from Henry's debut. *AFP*



Raja goalkeeper Anas Zniti has gone 461 minutes in the African equivalent of the UEFA Europa League without conceding a goal. *AFP*

By Alex Chilumbwe

Unless there is a change in the programme and my training schedule, there will not be another fight for me prior to the rematch against Kenya's Fatuma Zarika, says Former World Boxing Council (WBC) Bantamweight champion Catherine Phiri. Phiri who has entered the Super Bantamweight category said she had not broken camp since the tournament that was held in Solwezi earlier this year, and the 13th October Non-Title one that took place at government complex in Lusaka. She said this in an interview with Goal Diggers! "I need to train harder and sharpen on the areas that could have been my weakness the time I fought Zarika in Kenya. I'm physically and mentally prepared already but there is always something one can improve on and do better," Phiri said. Asked if fans should expect another knockout during the rematch, Phiri advised that what happened with South Africa's Asandiwa Nxokwana should not be shifted to the on-coming rematch adding that boxers were different.

Zarika is a good boxer, but I'd love to give her a knockout – Catherine

"Of course I would love to give her a knockout but people expect the same thing that happened to the South African boxer to happen to Zarika. Zarika is a good boxer and I know better than to underrate her. Let us just say I will give it my very best and if I manage to knock her out, well and good," said Phiri. The rematch according to Phiri's manager Christopher Malunga was granted after realizing technical issues that surrounded the fight. Malunga was therefore prompted to write to the Boxing Council and request for it. The date for the rematch will only be announced when the two camps sign the contract. Zarika won her Super Bantamweight champion title in December 2017 after defeating Phiri at the Carnivore in Nairobi.



By Alex Chilumbwe

Chipolopolo left winger Lubambo Musonda has noted that fans have the capability to either build or destroy a player through comments made either in person or posted on social media. The 23 year old striker that plays for an Armenian club Gandzasar Kapan

I'll give Zambia my best, says Musonda as he bemoans social media abuse

hoped soccer fans could be consistent with their support even in times the national team failed to deliver up to their expectations. His statement came after the backlash he received on social media that indicated that he had a lot of chances to score during the Guinea Bissau encounter that he did not utilize until Chipolopolo

lost 2-1 in Bissau. "I saw comments on the FAZ page and even on my facebook page and man, I was being torn apart by angry fans that believe I missed a lot of chances during that game. Of course I did miss one or two chances but can one ever think of the assists I made or how well I have played in other games? I do not think so. It sounds petty but really mean comments affect our morale or confidence like any other person would be affected," Musonda said. The former Power Dynamos striker further re-affirmed his commitment to giving his best in the next qualifier game against Namibia in November. "If I'm still going to be part of the squad, I will give it my very best. I know every other squad member will do the same because we need to win the two remaining games as a way of qualifying for next year's AFCON. I will see beyond the mean social media comments and do what I love that is playing football. We are a big name and I believe it is every player's duty in the squad to make it bigger," said Musonda. Zambia is in group K and has four points while Guinea Bissau tops the group with seven points. Top two teams will qualify for AFCON next year.

Shepolopolo coach bemoans Misozi Zulu's absence

By Alex Chilumbwe

Zambia Womens National Team coach Bruce Mwape has bemoaned the absence of inspirational skipper Misozi Zulu in the squad but says that he has set his mind of possible replacements. Zulu's absence in the squad is due to an injury that she sustained during the COSAFA Castle Cup in South Africa and was still recovering. In an interview with Goal Diggers! Mwape admitted that the entire squad could not pretend that it did not feel Zulu's absence and took comfort in other players that would assume her role in the squad. "We have already looked for a replacement, we just have to assess the players that we have called. The players and us on the technical bench obviously feel her absence but we need to let her recover fully," Mwape said. Mwape also described the group that Shepolopolo was put in as fair. "Looking at the opponents in our group, I think I can say it is a fair draw, although

we are playing the defending champions. We are ready for any team. Even if we were put in the other group it would have meant the same thing because we would have had to meet each and every team if we have to go up to the final stage or reach the final," noted Mwape. Zambia has been placed in Group B alongside defending champions Nigeria, South Africa and Kenya. The tournament takes place from November 17 to December 1 and the top three teams will qualify for the 2019 FIFA World Cup in France.

Buffaloes, Nkwazi volleyball teams eye 2nd place

By Alex Chilumbwe

High Flying Nkwazi and Green Buffaloes volleyball clubs will on Thursday be looking to officially claim the second place finish in the Midlands volleyball league with Green Eagles already confirmed champions. Buffaloes has 26 points while Nkwazi has 23 points but with a game in hand that would see them go three points above Buffaloes if they win all their games. The outcome favouring Nkwazi is however unlikely as their starting six players are in police training camp

and the probability of them being excused is low. Buffaloes on the other hand has all its starting six and are determined to beat a struggling police side. Buffaloes assistant Coach Active Muchindu said it would be a shame if his side failed to beat Nkwazi on Thursday. "Nkwazi is struggling as of now and I would be very ashamed if my boys failed to beat them. We have not lost any player and they are all in good form. This will be the second encounter without their key players and I must mention that they still play well. They are taller and stronger on the ball but they lack endurance. We will take them from that angle," said Muchindu. Meanwhile, Nkwazi skipper Gift Mwense advised his teammates to be confident and not bemoan the absent players that are in police recruitment camp.

"We are still a good team and we can beat Buffaloes. A few guys just lack confidence otherwise they are good. This is also a reminder to coaches that there should not be too much dependency on specific players. Every player needs to feel involved and trusted," said Mwense. Green Eagles won the league title a month before its conclusion with 34 points and still has two games to play.



Australia's Quade Cooper (C), who has 70 Test and 119 Super Rugby caps, will join the Rebels in mid-November for the start of their 2019 pre-season campaign. AFP

Paco Alcacer (R) has scored 7 goals in just 109 minutes for Bundesliga leaders Borussia Dortmund. He is set to add to his 11 goals for club and country so far this season against Atletico Madrid in the Champions League. AFP

MUWOWO FACES CHAUKE FOR WBC

By Alex Chilumbwe | Promotions manager | revealed that flyweight (ABU) champion, Alfred
Oriental Quarries Boxing | Christopher Malunga has | African Boxing Union | Ibrahim Muhammed |



Arsenal stars celebrate a goal against Leicester City at the Emirates stadium on Monday

Muwowo has been given a chance to fight a South African boxer Jackson Chauke for the World Boxing Council (WBC) international belt. The championship bout will take place in South Africa on 7th of December 2018 at Carnival City Hotel, Sandton Johannesburg. In a statement availed to the media yesterday, Malunga indicated that Real Steel was the promoter of the championship and further said that both camps had agreed to the conditions of the championship bout. "This is a golden chance for Alfred to represent Zambia at WBC level. We are going to make sure that he is well prepared for this important championship bout," Malunga said. He further re-affirmed the stable's commitment to giving equal opportunities to its boxers on accounts of staying committed and disciplined. "OQBP will make sure that all the boxers are given equal opportunities to excel in their careers provided they remain committed and disciplined," said Malunga. The last time Alfred fought was during a non-title tournament in Lusaka on 13th October against Tanzania's Haji Juma. Juma was knocked down in 2 minutes, 30 seconds of the second round.