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Executive Mayor Bahula supports R579 accident victims

“The well-being and safety of our residents remain a top priority, and we stand in solidarity with all those affected by this unfortunate incident.”

MONSTERLUS

The Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM) Cllr Minah Bahula, has on Monday 10 March 2025 visited the victims of the bus accident that occurred on the R579 Road near Moratiwa Crossing Mall in Monsterlus.

The tragic bus accident, involving a Great North Transport (GNT) bus has left scores of commuters injured when the bus lost control and overturned. The bus was carrying 80 passengers.

Emergency response teams were immediately dispatched to the scene, ensuring that the injured were transported to nearby healthcare facilities, including St Rita's Hospital in Glen Cowie, Jane Furse Hospital and Matlala Hospital in

Tsimanyana.

The district municipality commends the swift response of all emergency personnel who are providing the much-needed care to the victims.

The executive mayor visited St Rita's and Jane Furse Hospitals to personally check on the injured and extend well wishes for their speedy recovery.

“The well-being and safety of our residents remain a top priority, and we stand in solidarity with all those affected by this unfortunate incident. Our thoughts and prayers are with the injured passengers and their families during this difficult time,” said Bahula.

She assured the injured and their families at St Rita's and Jane Furse that the municipality stands with them in this difficult moment. **CONTINUES ON P3**



SDM Executive Mayor, Cllr Minah Bahula (Wearing brown dress), during her visit to the R579 bus accident victims.

Hlogotlou man nabbed for violent robbery

HLOGOTLOU

The Limpopo Provincial Investigation Unit, in collaboration with Groblersdal Public Order Policing, have arrested a 34-year-old male suspect in connection with a violent robbery that took place at Hlogotlou in January 2024.

According to the police report, the arrest follows an intensive investigation into the incident, where a couple was ambushed and robbed of a substantial amount of cash on Friday 7 March 2025, at approximately 22:30.

"Members of the Limpopo Provincial Investigation Unit received intelligence regarding the whereabouts of one of the long-sought suspects involved in the robbery. Acting swiftly, law enforcement officers operationalized the information, leading to the suspect's arrest in Hlogotlou on Saturday 8 March 2025, at around 23:45. The suspect was found in possession of an unlicensed firearm and nine live rounds of ammunition,"

said Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Thakeng, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson.

Thakeng added that according to reports, in January 2024, a couple was traveling from Groblersdal Town after withdrawing a significant sum of money following a prior arrangement with a banking institution.

"As they approached a speed hump in Sephaku Village, two masked suspects emerged, fired multiple shots, and wounded the male victim in the hip and right leg. His fiancée was left unharmed. The suspects demanded the money, which the victim handed over before they fled the scene on foot. The local police responded swiftly, recovering three spent cartridges and two live rounds of ammunition. The wounded victim was transported to the hospital for medical treatment," informed Thakeng.

He indicated that following this breakthrough, the police intensified efforts to track down the remaining suspects involved

in the incident.

"The arrested suspect is scheduled to appear before the Nebo Magistrate's Court soon, facing charges of conspiracy to commit robbery, robbery with a firearm, attempted murder and possession of an unlicensed firearm and ammunition," Thakeng said.

He said the police urge anyone with additional information regarding the whereabouts of the remaining suspects to come forward.

"They can call Crime Stop at 08600 10111 or visit their nearest police station or use MySAPSApp," concluded Thakeng.

Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, welcomed the arrest and commended the collaboration between law enforcement and the community in tackling crime. She further expressed confidence that the investigating team will soon bring all those involved to justice.



Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, welcomed the arrest and commended the collaboration between law enforcement and the community.

EMLM and SDM conduct joint draft annual community consultation



MMOTOANENG

Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality (EMLM), jointly with Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM), have engaged with the communities of EMLM Ward 18 at Mmotoaneng Sports Ground, sharing their draft annual reports for 2023/2024 financial year, set to promote transparency and community participation in local governance.

The initiative, in compliance with the Municipal Financial Management Act (MFMA), provided a comprehensive report on the municipality's performance in Service Delivery and Budget Implementation (SDBIP) for the financial year.

The local municipality said similar public hearings will be held to allow for public participation, promoting accountability to the local



community regarding municipal decisions and project implementations throughout the year, as well as the expenditure of funds.

The outreach was attended by EMLM MMC responsible for Budget and Treasury Councillor Ndumiso Ndlovu who was accompanied by Councillor Carpos Ngobeni MMC responsible for Infrastructure and Water Services, EMLM Speaker

Councillor Junior Thethe, EMLM Chief Whip Councillor Elias Nduli, SDM Chief Whip Councillor Aaron Machipa, EMLM MMC for Infrastructure Councillor Rhodes Msiza, EMLM MMC for Economic Development Councillor Sibongile Nkosi, EMLM Mpac Chairperson Councillor Samaria Mashilo, EMLM Municipal Manager Mme Regina Makgatha, ward councillors, and ward committee members.

Philadelphia Psychiatric patient killed in a brutal attack

DENNILTON

The police in Limpopo are investigating a shocking case of murder and attempted murder that occurred in the early hours of Saturday 8 March 2025, at approximately 02h00, inside the psychiatric ward of Philadelphia Hospital in Dennilton.

Brigadier Hlulani Mashaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, said police officers, who were on patrol at the time, swiftly responded to a report of an assault at the hospital.

"Upon arrival, they discovered a gruesome crime scene inside a locked room where a male suspect was found on top of a lifeless male body, covered in blood, and allegedly biting the deceased's genitals. The 33-year-old deceased sustained a gunshot wound on the head, along with multiple injuries, including missing teeth," he said.

Mashaba said the 45-year-old suspect also suffered gunshot wounds on both legs, allegedly inflicted by a security officer who was attempting to diffuse the situation.

"He was immediately placed

under police guard and receiving medical treatment at a local hospital. Additionally, a security guard sustained a gunshot wound on the thigh, reportedly caused by a ricochet bullet fired by his colleague during the incident. Several spent cartridges were recovered at the scene. The suspect has been formally arrested for murder," explained Mashaba.

Mashaba said police investigations are ongoing, and further details will be provided in due course.

Limpopo Provincial Police Commissioner, Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, has strongly condemned the incident, stating: "This is a deeply disturbing and gruesome incident that has left the community in shock. The safety of both patients and healthcare workers remains a priority, and we will ensure that a thorough investigation is conducted to uncover the circumstances that led to this tragic incident. We commend the police officers for their swift response."



The police in Limpopo have confirmed that they are investigating cases of murder and attempted murder following a deadly incident that occurred at the psychiatric ward in Philadelphia Hospital.

Operations Vala Umgodi apprehend illegal sand miners



The police multi-disciplinary operations have apprehended illegal sand miners in Dennilton and Thohoyandou policing areas.

DENNILTON

Following a significant Operation Vala Umgodi, conducted on Saturday 8 March 2025 at Dennilton in Sekhukhune District and Thohoyandou in Vhembe District, yielded positive results after five suspects were arrested.

Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, said it is reported that the police members were on disruptive operations when they spotted a group of people loading sand in a white Hino truck at Ten Morgan Village in Dennilton policing precinct.

"The police allegedly approached them and they failed to produce a valid mining permit. Four suspects, aged between 38 and 48, were immediately arrested for illegal mining of sand. Their truck and three shovels were seized," he said.

Meanwhile, in Vhembe District, members of Operation Vala Umgodi in the area arrested one suspect aged 55 for illegal mining of sand at Damani Village in Thohoyandou Policing precinct.

"According to information, the members were on an intelligence driven operation. Upon receiving information, they accurately made a follow-up. A group of suspects were seen busy loading sand in a truck. The police allegedly approached them, and one suspect, who was the driver, was arrested while the other suspect fled the scene on foot," explained Ledwaba.

He said the arrested suspects will appear before their local magistrate's courts soon and police investigations are ongoing.

The Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, has welcomed the arrests.



The NGT bus after losing control and overturned on the R579 Road near Motatiwa in Monsterlus.

CONTINUED FROM P1

Expressing deep relief that no lives were lost, the executive mayor acknowledged the trauma and distress caused by the accident, emphasizing that even minor injuries can have a lasting impact on individuals and families.

She commended the swift response of emergency personnel and healthcare workers, whose dedication ensured that all injured passengers were quickly transported to medical facilities for treatment.

"The well-being of our people remains our priority. We understand the fear and uncertainty that accidents bring, and we will continue working closely with relevant stakeholders to ensure our roads are safer for all," said Cllr Bahula.

The district municipality urged all road users to exercise caution and adhere to road safety measures to prevent such incidents in the future.

The Democratic Alliance (DA) in Limpopo stated that they demand the Limpopo Department of Transport subject all GNT buses for immediate roadworthy tests, with any failing buses being summarily impounded.

"We will also insist that progress or lack thereof on GNT's turnaround plan be tabled and deliberated upon at the Portfolio Committee on Economic Development, Tourism, and Environmental Affairs," said Jacques Smalle, DA Provincial Spokesperson for Local Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET).

"We are shocked to learn of

yet another GNT bus accident, this time at Moratiwa near Monsterlus in Sekhukhune, where the lives of 80 workers and students were jeopardized when the bus overturned," added Smalle.

He indicated that while GNT spokesperson Leo Gama was quoted in the media spinning that "the bus left the depot in good condition on the morning of the accident," pictures from the scene tell a completely different story, showing worn-out tires with no tread.

"This is outright criminal negligence, as the Democratic Alliance, we have been at the forefront of calling for urgent action. Yet, all we encounter is spin and denial from Limpopo's ANC-led administration and executive, while hundreds of thousands of commuters remain at risk," he said.



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Mokonyane jailed for 15 years over unsilenced firearm and ammunition



The Nebo Regional Court has sentenced Matarapane Samuel Mokonyane to an effective 15 years imprisonment for possession of an unlicensed firearm and ammunition.

NEBO

The Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, has welcomed the successful conviction and sentencing of Matarapane Samuel Mokonyane (53), who was found guilty of possession of an unlicensed firearm and ammunition.

The conviction emanates from an incident that took place on 23 July 2021, at approximately 16:10, on the R579 Road between Motetema and Groblersdal.

Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, said the police were acting on a tip-off regarding alleged planned armed robbery, swiftly intercepted a white Ford Ranger carrying two occupants.

"Upon searching the vehicle and its occupants, officers found an unlicensed firearm with ammunition in the possession of the passenger, identified as Matarapane Samuel Mokonyane. He was immediately arrested and taken into custody. He later appeared in court, where he was granted bail," he said.

Ledwaba added that on Wednesday 5 March 2025, Mokonyane appeared before the Nebo Regional Court where he was convicted and charged for possession of an unlicensed firearm and possession of unlicensed ammunition.

"The court sentenced Mokonyane to 15 years of direct imprisonment. Additionally, he was declared unfit to possess a firearm," Ledwaba said.

Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, Limpopo Provincial Police Commissioner, commended the dedication and commitment of the Provincial Organised Crime Unit in ensuring that justice was served.

"This conviction sends a strong message that law enforcement remains steadfast in removing illegal firearms from our communities," said Lieutenant General Hadebe.



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Acting Mayor of SDM, Cllr Alfred Matlala, addressing the attendees during the 4th Limpopo Provincial World Consumer Rights day was commemorated at Peter Nchabeleng Community Hall in Schoonoord.

World Consumer Rights Day commemorated in Schoonoord

SCHOONOORD - The 4th Limpopo Provincial World Consumer Rights day was commemorated at Peter Nchabeleng Community Hall in Schoonoord, Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality (MLM) on Thursday 6 March 2025.

The event was organised by the Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LDET), as part of a worldwide celebration devoted to emphasizing the value of consumer rights.

The day serves as a reminder to customers of their rights and to

raise awareness on how food can be harmful or even cause death to young children who are still in school.

Graced by the presence of Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM) Acting Executive Mayor, Cllr Alfred Matlala who is MMC for Planning and Economic Development in SDM, the LEDET and Sekhukhune Municipality District Environmental Health Practitioners.

During the event, Acting Executive Mayor Matlala emphasised the need for consumers to know, understand

and practice their rights when purchasing goods and ensure that every shop is complying with the laws and regulations of the Consumer Protection Act.

Matlala highlighted that World Consumer Rights Day honours various fundamental rights which include among others the right to safety, the right to information, the freedom to make one's own decisions, and the right to be heard while decisions are being made.

He said these tenets remain the cornerstone of international consumer protection today.

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Suspected robber burned to death, two others suffer severe burn injuries

GA-SELEPE - A business robbery suspect has been burned to death in Ga-Selepe Village within the Mecklenburg policing precinct while two accomplices were transported to the local hospital with severe burn injuries for medical treatment on Tuesday, 11 March.

The trio, aged between 30 and 40, suffered a fierce mob justice related attack. Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police spokesperson, said preliminary investigations revealed that at about 09:10

that day, a shopkeeper was at his business when a man pretending to be a customer pulled out a firearm and demanded money from him.

The man allegedly forced the shopkeeper to his bedroom while other two suspects held the landlord hostage at knife point and also assaulted her.

Ledwaba informed that the shopkeeper was robbed of an undisclosed amount of money in the process.

"The robbers allegedly fired two warning shots on their way out. The community members seemingly mobilised and responded quickly, gave chase and three suspects were caught and brought back to their getaway vehicle. They were set alight inside the vehicle. Police in Mecklenburg were notified about the community members who apprehended the alleged suspects and assaulted them at a local tuck shop in Ga-Selepe Village

next to Selepe Clinic. On their arrival, they found three suspects inside the burning vehicle. Two suspects managed to come out of the vehicle with severe burn injuries," explained Ledwaba.

Emergency Medical Services personnel were summoned to the scene and they declared one suspect dead on arrival. The other two were taken to hospital for medical attention.

"Police are investigating a case of murder, attempted murder and malicious damage to property.

Members of the community are warned against taking the law into their own hands by attacking people suspected of being involved in criminal

activities as that cannot be tolerated," stated Ledwaba.

The Provincial Commissioner of South African Police Service (SAPS) in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, has strongly condemned the murder and gruesome attack.

General Hadebe has ordered the police to utilise the available resources to track and trace suspects involved in the attack to face the full might of the law.

Anyone with information that can assist in providing information about the suspects involved in the mob justice attack is requested to contact Constable Khali Khoza on 071 389 6754, the crime stop number 08600 10111, the nearest police station or use the MySAPSA app.



Bakgaga Ba Kopa strengthen ties with Ipopeng Cultural Group



DIKGALAOPENG

Kgoshi Boleu Il Rammupudu, together with the Bakgaga Ba Kopa Traditional Council members, have on Thursday 6 March 2025 paid a courtesy visit to Ipapeng Cultural Group centre in Dikgalaopeng Village outside Tafelkop.

The purpose of the royalty visit was to monitor some of Ipapeng projects with the aim of assisting the group to secure a suitable operational site.

Ipapeng Cultural Group has been making waves in the cultural music scenes and their efforts have been recognized when they receive the prestigious SATMA Award recently.

Currently, Ipapeng cultural group centre is busy with three community upliftment projects running simultaneously.

The projects include ASSITEJ SA with 20 employees catering both the youth and adults between 35 and 60 years of age. The other running project is Charisma Music foundation catering 18 employees who are strictly youth. The centre also absorbed 60 young people for Youth Life project who are stationed at Dikgalaopeng and Mpheleng Village in Dennilton.

Ipapeng Chairperson, Nthwaleng Tlaka, commended Rammupudu and his council for the courtesy visit, stating that the homage gives hope to the centre on its quest to fight poverty and high unemployment rate.

"We are requesting assistance with containers or any form of shelter, we are

struggling to accommodate all of the beneficiaries and it delays the progress of the programmes at hand. Our aim is to make sure that all of our youth and women are learning and participate in the projects which will create a source of income and knowledge at the same time," she said.

Tlaka further applauded Rammupudu's support in Ipapeng projects since 2017 and his commitment to continue developing and creating sustainable programmes for his respective communities.

Rammupudu said the local traditional leadership is proud of how Ipapeng uplifts communities.

"We are truly proud of Ipapeng Cultural Group for their efforts to be the change in the community having to uplift a lot for our youth and women. Community projects are vehicles for development and job creation and we are always encouraging our residents to come forward with ideas or programs that are inline with the community benefits," he said.

Rammupudu encouraged the community to work together with the traditional council, adding that the collaboration will play an important role in addressing social challenges faced by the communities.

"We hope someone out there will hear our call for assistance and donate a container to Ipapeng to continue developing our community," concluded Rammupudu.

NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Ref: LP30/5/1/1/2/15952PR

Notice:

Notice is hereby given in terms of Regulation 41(2) (c) (i), section K of the regulations published in the Government Notice No: 984 under Chapter 6 of the National Environmental Management Act 109 of 1998 & in terms of Minerals and Petroleum Development Act 28 of 2002 (MPRDA) the intention by **RIVONI CLEANING SERVICES CC** to Apply for a **Prospecting Right** and related Infrastructural activities for **Chrome Ore and Copper ore**, on **Portion 188 of the farm De LAGERSDRIFT 178 JS**. Rivoni Cleaning Services CC (PTY) LTD has appointed **SHANATSI GEOSCIENCE AFRICA (PTY) LTD** to undertake the EIA process for the proposed project.

Project Description:

The proposed development entails the Prospecting Right and related Infrastructural activities for **Chrome Ore and Copper ore**, on Portion 188 of the farm De Lagersdrift 178 JS within Elias Motswaledi Municipality, Sekhukhune District in the Limpopo Province.

EAP:

SHANATSI GEOSCIENCE AFRICA (PTY) LTD has been appointed as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed project. Comments on the proposed project can be submitted in writing to Shanatsi Geoscience Africa (Pty) Ltd via email, fax, or post. In this regard, please contact

Oscar Miyambu at:

P.O. BOX 21
POLOKWANE
0700

**SHANATSI
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Tel: 072 506 4659
Fax: 086 602 5442
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Comments should be submitted within 30 days.

A Background Information Document (BID) providing further details on the project will be available on request from Shanatsi Geoscience Africa (Pty) Ltd.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

CALLING FOR INSPECTION OF THE 2nd SUPPLEMENTARY VALUATION ROLL FOR 2024-2025

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 49(1) (a) of the Local Government Municipal Property Rates Act, 2004 (Act No. 6 of 2004), hereinafter referred to as the "Act", that the 2nd Supplementary Valuation Roll for the financial year 2024/2025 in terms of Section 78 of the Act is open for public inspection on Municipal Website (www.lepelle-nkumpi.gov.za) and below satellite office during office hours for a period of 34 days starting from the 24th February 2025 until the 11th April 2025.

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An invitation is hereby made in terms of Section 50 (1) of the Act that any owner of property (indicated below) or other person who so desires should lodge an objection on the official prescribed application form with the Municipal Manager in respect of any matter reflected in, or omitted from the 2nd Supplementary Valuation Roll 2024/2025 within the abovementioned period.

Attention is specifically drawn to the fact that an objection must be in relation to a specific individual property and not against the valuation as such, objection will not be considered if not furnished on the prescribed form on or before the closing date.

The form for the lodging of an objection is obtainable, on Municipal Website (www.lepelle-nkumpi.gov.za). The completed and signed forms may be hand delivered or posted to the addresses indicated above for the attention of The Municipal Manager. 2nd Supplementary Valuation Roll 2024/2025 affects the following properties i.e.:-

1. Incorrectly omitted from the valuation roll;
2. Included in a municipality after the last general valuation;
3. Subdivided or consolidated after the last general valuation;
4. Of which the market value has substantially increased or decreased for any reason after last valuation roll;
5. Substantially incorrectly valued during the last general valuation;
6. That must be revalued for any other exceptional reasons;
7. Of which the category has changed
8. The value of which was incorrectly recorded in the valuation roll as a result of a clerical or typing error

For enquiries contact Mr. Pleasure Setsiba or Ms. Penelope Gafane: Department of Town Planning and Local Economic Development) at 015 633 4500 during office hours.

Mr. LD Maphoru
Delegated Municipal Manager

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Limpopo Health Department condemns Philadelphia Hospital vandalism

DENNILTON

The Limpopo Department of Health has with strongest possible terms condemned the actions of an unhappy group of community members in Dennilton, who, earlier on Thursday 6 March 2025, engaged in alleged acts of vandalism at Philadelphia Hospital. The group, reportedly mobilized by a local Non-Government Organization (NGO), was initially involved in a Letsema Cleaning Campaign at the hospital, aimed at improving the facility's environment through community participation.

"However, this community-driven initiative took an unfortunate turn when certain individuals, under the mistaken belief that they would be compensated, demanded payment for the work they had done," said Neil Shikwambana, Limpopo Department of Health Spokesperson.

Shikwambana explained that the Department of Health was under the impression that the Letsema Campaign was a voluntary initiative, as the NGO involved had communicated the event as a goodwill effort to assist in cleaning and debushing the hospital, a community facility.

"To the department's shock and surprise, after the completion of the campaign, the leaders of the NGO submitted an invoice to the department, seeking payment for the cleaning services. When the department explained that the campaign was understood to be a voluntary effort and therefore no payment could be made, the group became disruptive

and began trashing the hospital premises. They used branches and dry weeds materials that had been removed during the cleaning and debushing process to deface hospital property," Shikwambana said.

He said the Limpopo Department of Health is deeply concerned by this senseless act of vandalism, which not only disrupts the operations of the hospital but also undermines the spirit of collaboration and community involvement in public health initiatives.

"We would like to emphasize that the department does not condone any form of violence or destruction of property, especially in healthcare settings, which must remain safe and welcoming for both patients and staff. We remain committed to working with the community, local organizations, and stakeholders to maintain a positive relationship and to ensure that future initiatives are properly communicated, transparent, and in line with the Department's expectations," he said. Shikwambana furthered said the department call for calm and responsible behaviour from all parties involved and urge the community to resolve the matter through dialogue rather than through unlawful actions.

"The department is investigating the situation and will take appropriate steps to address any further disruptions. We also urge the public to respect healthcare facilities and the work being done to improve their surroundings for the benefit of all," he said.



The Limpopo Department of Health say they are concerned about acts of vandalism committed by unhappy NGO members who were demanding compensation after participating in the Letsema Cleaning Campaign.

Sports

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INSIDE

Hlogotlou man nabbed for violent robbery

Tshakuma FC start LFA opener with thrilling win



Tshakuma FC from Moganyaka stunt their opponents with victory in their debut EPMLM LFA opening game



MOGANYAKA

Moganyaka based Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality (EPMLM) Local Football Association (LFA) outfit, Tshakuma FC, have triumph in their opening league match defeating the fearful Ditlou FC 4-3 on Sunday 9 March.

The highly contested match was played at Mighty Blues Sports

Grounds with Ntsiri "Sbhamu Dubula" Masemola scoring a hat-trick while Pogba Malesoene scoring the fourth goal to seal victory for the winning side.

Tshakuma Head Coach, Mokgitla Richard Monama, said they are impressed with the early victory which was achieved against one of the best teams within the league. "We have played a good football in this game. Our problem

was at the back in the defence. We were not fit for the game because we haven't had a proper practice mid-week. But our boys tried a lot to manage this game and I'm proud of them," he said.

Monama said his boys are convincing and as the one in the helm of the team assures their supporters that they will be lifting the lift trophy at the end of the season.



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