

Mmametlhake Police investigate a fatal pit bull attack

The Police in Mmamethlake outside Siyabuswa are investigating an incident whereby a man 58-year-old man lost his life after being allegedly mauled by his employer's pit bull dog at Marapyane Village on Friday 18 October 2024. Colonel Donald Mdhluli Mpumalanga Provincial Police Spokesperson, said according to the information at the police disposal, before the unfortunate incident, the victim resided at his employer's yard and worked as a caretaker of the pit bulls. "It is reported that the pit bull dogs were often locked up and only released between 01:00am and 04:30am to conduct some patrols in the premises. It is alleged that the victim went for an outing on Thursday 17 October 2024 and probably, as he returned to his accommodation in the early hours of Friday, 18 October 2024, he was somehow attacked by the dog at that time which resulted to his untimely death," explained Mdhluli. He added that following the incident, the victim was discovered by a security guard lying motionless on the ground, with multiple

injuries as well as a pit bull dog which is suspected to be the one that mauled the man found next to him. "The employer was notified about the incident and reported the matter to the authorities. Upon arrival at the scene, they found the victim motionless, lying on the ground with some visible injuries on his body. He was unfortunately certified dead at the scene by the medical personnel," Mdhluli said. He said the latest reports indicate that the dog in question has already been put down by the SPCA in the morning of Saturday, 19 October 2024. Acting Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Mpumalanga, Major General (Dr) Zeph Mkhwanazi, has voiced his heartfelt condolences to the family of the deceased. The General further highlighted that the Police will investigate the circumstances surrounding this tragic incident and currently an inquest case is probed. "We call for calm





during this time and let us allow the investigation team to probe this incident thoroughly without being disturbed or distracted," said Mkhwanazi.



The pit bull dog that has allegedly mauled the 58-year-old victim at Manapyane Village outside Siyabuswa.



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DA Limpopo demands answers over municipalities' financial woes

The Democratic Alliance (DA) in Limpopo said they have written to MEC of Treasury in the province, Kgabo Mahoai, calling for action to be taken against municipalities for poor creditor and debtor management and an investigation into municipalities that are failing to comply with Section 71 of the Municipal Financial Management Act (MFMA). The party said it is deeply concerning that the Treasury's creditor age analysis shows that municipalities are not paying suppliers within the 30 days period as instructed by Treasury Instruction Note 34 and MFMA circular note 49. Jacques Smalle, DA Spokesperson for Provincial Treasury in Limpopo, said the party is concerned that only 16% or R316 million is due to creditors under 0 to 30 days, while 75% or R1.454 billion is debt over 90 days. "Municipality's non compliance and failure to pay creditors timeously negatively impacts the viability of small and medium enterprises, increases municipality's financial distress, limits economic development and growth and causes job losses," he said.

Smalle indicated that municipalities in the province struggle to collect money from debtors and this offers a negative outlook on the viability of the municipalities. "The debtors' book for municipalities in the province indicates that R14, 6 billion or 91% of the amount is over 90 days and therefore unlikely to be collectable. Mopani District is the largest contributor accounting for 33% or R4, 946 billion, with Sekhukhune District being the lowest accounting for 10% or R1, 504

billion," explained Smalle. He added that poor or non- compliance with reporting requirements by municipalities seems to be an ongoing challenge that the Provincial Treasury must address. According to Smalle, the section 71 consolidated report submitted to the Limpopo Legislature in June 2024 indicates that 3 municipalities, Vhembe, Mogalakwena and Thabazimbi, did not submit their debtor's strings for the period, while 5 municipalities, Molemole, Vhembe, Mogalakwena, Thabazimbi, and Waterberg, did not submit their household debtors for the period and another five municipalities, Greater Giyani, Ephraim Mogale, Fetakgomo-Tubatse, Thabazimbi and Waterberg, did not report amounts owed to creditor. Smalle emphasized that the party will demand proper management of creditors and debtors by municipalities which he said is crucial for financial health. "The DA is committed to ensuring accurate financial reporting that promotes transparency and good financial management," he said.

Fed-up community demands action on dilapidated R25 Road

With over a decade waiting for government to upgrade the R25 Road, residents of Dennilton in Moutse say they still have to navigate this dangerous road, despite making numerous passionate pleas with the relevant authorities to address the poor standard of the road. The busy R25 Road links Mpumalanga, Limpopo and Gauteng Provinces and is described as an economic heartbeat of these provinces as trucks and the general public use it daily. The road is described by residents as one of the worst in the country with potholes and cracks that plaque commuters and motorists on daily basis. The community says they are more concerned of a spiking number of fatal accidents that are taking place in the area allegedly caused by the poor standard of the road. In a recent accident, a passenger lost his life and others were badly injured after a taxi they were travelling in lost control and rolled near Dennilton. In April 2024, former MEC for Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, Nkakareng Rakgoale, accompanied by Roads Agency Limpopo officials, paid homage in Dennilton to monitor the conditions of the R25 Road. During the visit, Rakgoale boldly made a commitment that the R25 Road will be given attention and will be upgraded to required standards. However, nothing has happened since their last visit in the area. Seun Mogotji, Bolsheviks Party of South Africa leader, said, "She [Rakgoale] said what she needed to say to sound relevant and politically correct. It is concerning because Mpumalanga

> Province fixed their part of R25, it becomes a nightmare once you start entering the Limpopo part of the road. Gaping potholes are everywhere and they will get worse when heavy rains start pouring. The culverts are still blocked which will result in water covering the road surface making it even harder to spot the potholes in time to avoid them". We hope the new MEC won't be like the former MEC and make empty promises, we don't want to lose more lives on that road and we call on the Limpopo Government to prioritise fixing the R25," he said. At the time of going to press, RAL Spokesperson, Danny Legodi, could not respond to the enquiries sent by the publication when requesting a comment.





DA seeks answers on ailing state of freshwater management in Limpopo

The Democratic Alliance (DA) caucus in the Limpopo Legislature said they will submit a motion with notice at the next sitting to debate the concerning state of freshwater resources in the province. According to the party, in response to a question by the DA in Parliament, the Minister of Water and Sanitation, Pemmy Majodina, stated that between 2019 and 19 September 2024, 28 Wastewater Treatment Works (WWTW) in Limpopo were issued with directives specific to raw sewage spillage into freshwater resources. Lindy Wilson, DA Provincial Spokesperson for Cooperative Governance Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA), said the WWTW in Sekhukhune and Vhembe District municipalities are the biggest culprits. "Most of these critical systems are managed by Sekhukhune, Mopani, Mogalakwena and Vhembe," she said. Three years ago, the DA has filed a complaint with the Environmental Management Inspectorate (Green Scorpions) against the Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM). The charges were laid for contravening Section 107 of the National Environmental Management Act and Section 24 of the Constitution for failing to fix the sewage spillage into the Flag Boshielo Dam. The Act clearly stipulates that people have a right to a healthy and clean environment, but this is sadly not the case for the Leeuwfontein Community outside Marble Hall. The discovery was made during the party's oversight inspection at the Mokganyaka water plant where the DA confirmed that the plant is in a poor state of repair. Working pumps are too small and one pump has been broken for years and as a result, the reticulation of water is inefficient. However, the sewage from Leeuwfontein could not even reach the plant and runs past the water works in ditches. These ditches meet up with the Olifants River that runs into the Flag Boshielo Dam where the sewage flows into the dam, causing environmental damage to plant and aquatic life. The party described the situation as a health hazard with cattle and goats drinking from the ditches and children were seen playing close by. The stench is unbearable and can be smelt as far as two kilometres away. According to Wilson, the provincial Risk Ratio for treatment plants regressed significantly from 74.9% in 2013 to 84.7% in 2021. She stated that between October 2022 and November 2023, government reportedly laid 10 charges against four Limpopo municipalities for dysfunctional sewage systems and all these cases are still under investigation. "The DA has further laid three charges recently against Maruleng, Tzaneen, Modimolle-Mookgopong municipalities for sewage spills in violation of the National Water Act 36 of 1998," Wilson said. She said lack of political and will and consequence management to stem the faecal tide into fresh water sources will further exacerbate the struggle to provide drinking water to communities, a constitutional obligation for which the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC) has already found the Limpopo government wanting.

Leeuwfontein prolonged water shortage sparks outrage

Residents of Leeuwfontein Township in Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality (EPMLM) Ward 8, say they are frustrated with their prolonged unresolved water woes they have been raising with Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM) for over five years. Residents say they have been facing a serous water struggle since 2018 and are currently relying on the nearest wells and streams to share drinking water with domestic and wild animals. A community leader, Kgobise Seltamorago, who is also Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) Chairperson in EPMLM Ward 8, said they written countless letters to the district municipality seeking their intervention to resolve the long-overdue water scarcity in the township. "Nothing has ever happened ever since. We even visited the municipality offices in Groblersdal to draw attention of authorities but we are still in vain waiting for our water issues to be resolved," he said. Setlamorage said Leeuwfontein has water infrastructure and he attributed their water scarcity issues to illegal connections that interrupts water supply and ailing infrastructure that has not been maintained by the municipality for many years. "We have a 1.5 mega litres capacity water plant in Leeuwfontein which can be able to supply the whole area and neighbouring villages with drinkable water. However, the water bulk pipeline is interrupted by the illegal connections because the same villages are also struggling with water. The infrastructure is also old and could not cope with the supply properly. The municipality is failing to solve these issues, it is their responsibility to do so and make sure that the water reaches the communities that are intended to receive them," he said. According to Setlamorago, Leeuwfontein residents, leading by the EFF in the township, will convene a series of community meetings and establish a task team that will be dealing directly with SDM to try and find solutions to their water shortages problems. "One cannot do anything without water. Is high time the district municipality listen to our pleas and resolve these problems. We can't carry on sharing drinking water with animals because the same water could be contaminated and expose residents to diseases," he said. Lemson Moropjane, SDM Spokesperson, said as part of water provision intervention in Leeuwfontein,

the municipality has drilled a borehole, equipped it and also install package plant. "At the moment we are awaiting for Eskom to electrify borehole. We have also appointed a consultant to refurbish Moganyaka package plant which also supplies Leeuwfontein, the team of officials are currently onsite. It is also worth noting that the same consultant has concluded feasibility study for entire Flag Scheme Boshielo which Leeuwfontein is part of it," he said.





MEC Lerule-Ramakhana confident in Limpopo Province's matric exam preparedness

MEC for Education in Limpopo, Mavhungu Lerule-Ramakhanya, has made a clarion call to the communities to switch off their loud music and to cancel gatherings that will be of disturbance to the learners. The MEC said when briefing the media and stakeholders on matric examination readiness before the start of the National Senior Certificate (NSC) exams that commenced on Monday 21 October 2024. "It will be the start of the final hurdle for our matric learners who have shown so much potential and zeal for success. We have afforded them maximum support since the beginning of the year to ensure that they perform better when they sit for examinations," said Lerule-Ramakhanya. The province has admitted 124 630 fulltime and repeat part-time enrolled for Grade 12 NSC. 94 214 are full-time candidates, both in public and private schools, who will

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be writing in the 1 287 examination centres. Limpopo also has 375 centres to accommodate the 30 416 repeat part-time learners, however, the number has decreased as compared to last year where the province had 94 424 candidates. In addition, MEC Lerule-Ramakhanya said it is also imperative to talk to parents and guardians to give learners more time to study and to rest during this period. "House chores and other responsibilities must be minimal from 21 October until the end of exams next month. It was an exciting journey for the class of 2024 and they have shown potential to take the province to greater heights," she said. The MEC indicated that in the process of finalizing the logistics for administering the exams, they did not encounter challenges. "All our storage hubs in the province were properly prepared and are thus in good condition. In order to ensure security and credible administration of the final NSC examinations we have established a Joint Operational Committee (JOC), with all relevant stakeholders responsible for the security of our exams. We will also rely on the media and members of the community to be our eyes and ears during the exams period," she said. Lerule-Ramakhyana informed that her department has signing of the Matric Pledge with over a thousand learners when all the other learners were signing in their respective schools. "The credibility of the process will be dependent on investment done by both department and learners. As I conclude, let me appreciate the senior management team led by the Acting HoD for the sterling work done and the curriculum team for the enrichment classes that have seen impactful outcomes in the past 2 years," she said. The MEC said she believes that the 80% and above pass mark committed by the class of 2024 to the premier is attainable. "The 2024 trial examination results of 79% is a testimony to the commitment already made. Last year this time, the province was at 74% and the final NSC results was 79.54%. This year, we are at 79%, a clear indication that come 16 January 2025, the Province's performance will be at 85%," explained Lerule-Ramakhanya. Furthermore, the MEC said the department has dedicated a team from the head office and the districts that will be monitoring examinations on a daily basis. "I will also use the first day to monitor the start of exams at one of our highly enrolled schools in the province with over 1 300 learners. We are a province on the rise, with determination and commitment, nothing is impossible," concluded Lerule-Ramakhanya. The NSC examinations results are expected to be released on 14 January 2025.

EFF Sekhukhune takes on Electricity Minister to stop load-reduction

The Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) Chairperson in Sekhukhune Region, Ali Maloba, has

written an open letter to Minister of Electricity, Kgosientsho Ramokgopa, seeking him to come down and explain unnecessary power outages caused by load-reduction currently taking place in various villages of Sekhukhune. Load reduction is implemented by Eskom as a measure to prevent overloading of the electricity network and is usually done in areas where there is a high risk of network overloading due to electricity theft, such as illegal connections and meter tampering. However, Maloba said they are worried that rural communities of Sekhukhune continue to be subjected to unnecessary load-reduction for the past 200 days for no apparent valid reason. "We wrote to the Minister Ramokgopa because as the community of Sekhukhune, we have nothing to do with what load-reduction is preventing. Load-shedding is currently suspended but nothing has changed, instead, our living conditions have moved from bad to worse. Ramokgopa's department is just playing with English words here, there is no difference from load-shedding to load-reduction because both involve power cuts," Maloba said. According to Maloba, the ongoing load-reduction literally means that Sekhukhune is on permanent stage two load-shedding, having to endure living without electricity for four hours per day, which is 16 hours without power supply in a week. Maloba said it is concerning because there are urban areas which are known for not paying for electricity but they are not affected by the ongoing load-reduction system. "It is evident that those urban areas are buying electricity from illegal vendors and nothing is said about them and they are not on load-reduction. For them is business as usual. We don't have squatter camps in Sekhukhune. We believe that illegal vendors are caused by Eskom not having proper internal controls and most are in urban areas. Perhaps Eskom is using Sekhukhune as a scapegoat to recover the energy that is lost in the urban areas," he said. Maloba indicated that the party will be eagerly waiting for the minister to respond to their letters and threatened that they will be taking harsh actions if the office of Ramokgopa fails to address their concerns. "Maybe is about time we shut-down all Eskom offices in Sekhukhune starting from Burgersfort, Marble Hall, Jane Furse, Groblersdal, Siyabuswa and Dennilton until someone attend to our concerns," he said. The EFF has included stopping load-shedding as part of its 2024 election manifesto, emphasizing the need for stateled industrialization and protection of infant industries to create jobs and stimulate economic growth. According to Eskom, load-reduction is used as a last resort to prevent transformers from failing or exploding, which can leave an area without power for up to six months. The power utility said the process involves temporarily switching off power to specific areas to reduce the load on the network. It said load-reduction is necessary because it prevents equipment failure, whereby, overloading can cause transformers to fail or explode, leading to prolonged power outages. Eskom says the system is also implemented to protect human life from electrical fires that can occur when equipment is overloaded, posing a risk to people's lives. Load-reduction play part in reducing financial losses from replacing damaged equipment that can be costly wherein, load reduction helps minimize these losses. The power utility says load-reduction is implemented with the identification of high-risk areas which Eskom identifies areas prone to electricity theft and overloading. Eskom usually notifies customers in affected areas through SMS and Customer Connect newsletters. The power utility says by implementing load-reduction, they aim to ensure a stable and reliable electricity supply while also protecting its assets and customers.















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Local paramedics honoured on EMS Day

MEC for Health in the province, Dieketseng Mashego, has committed her full support to Sekhukhune Emergency Medical Services (EMS) employees so that they can continue saving lives. The MEC said during the EMS Commemoration Day event held at Moses Mabotha Hall in Ga-Nkwana Village, Sekhukhune on Thursday 17 October. The day dedicated to honoring the extraordinary work of paramedics and emergency medical teams who stand at the forefront of health crises in the communities. The event highlighted the critical role of EMS in Sekhukhune communities and celebrated the dedication of the emergency personnel. Mashego said the

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National EMS Day serves as a vital reminder of the indispensable role that emergency medical services play in achieving universal health coverage in South Africa. "It is a moment for us to express our heartfelt gratitude to the EMTs and paramedics who provide life-saving care day in and day out across our district and province. This occasion also offers our EMS personnel an invaluable opportunity to engage with the public. Through demonstrations, training sessions on CPR, and education about how to activate EMS services, we aim to empower our communities with knowledge that can save lives. We encourage everyone to absorb this information and apply it when needed," she said. Mashego indicated that the celebration was in line with the department's 'Operation Bophelo Pele' initiative, which they have through it, committed to raising awareness about the services they offer within the Department of Health. "We must remind ourselves that our EMS professionals often operate under dire circumstances, facing risks that can deter even the bravest from responding to emergency calls. It is imperative that we unite as a government and community to safeguard our EMS workers. No one should have to fear for their safety while performing their duty to save lives. It is unacceptable that members of our community witness the assault, hijacking, and abuse of our EMS personnel and remain silent," she said. The MEC indicated that her department will forge a partnership with councillors and community leaders to foster a safer environment for EMS workforce. "This includes partnering with law enforcement, implementing tracking devices in our vehicles, and creating a



support network that ensures every EMS call is met with the necessary protection and respect," she said. According to Mashego, the department's focus remain on evolving and innovating to ensure that EMS has the support they need to respond effectively when the community calls for help. "Let us honour the bravery and dedication of our EMS personnel. They are the heartbeat of our health response system, and today, we celebrate their unwavering commitment to our communities," concluded Mashego.



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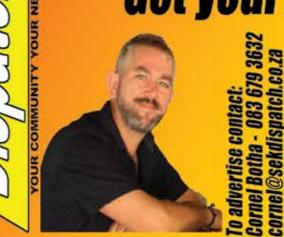












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First annual indaba to boost tourism in Sekhukhune

The Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM), partnered with all its local municipalities and other key stakeholders, will organise first annual tourism indaba. The indaba aims to expose and highlight the widest variety of Sekhukhune's best tourism products and services. The Sekhukhune Tourism Indaba will afford all participants with an opportunity to acquaint themselves with exciting and rooted talent as well as tourism attraction in the district. The platform also creates one of its largest marketing events and opportunities for its Small Medium and Macro Enterprise (SMMEs). According to latest survey, tourism and travel contribute close to 10% to South African economy and create over 10% of total employment. The sector creates quality jobs, strengthens local economy with vast opportunities to improve local infrastructure and conserve the natural environment and cultural assets and traditions, and to ultimately reduce poverty and inequality. According to 2024 Reviewed, the Local Economic Development (LED) Strategy of Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM), tourism development is being identified with an objective that seeks to enhance the development of the tourism industry through the value addition and promotion of local resources and activities. The National Department of Tourism further point pinned, among others, three key pillars that guide tourism strategy in the Republic of South Africa are, enhance the South African tourism destination by improving infrastructure at tourism attractions, developing skills, offer support and instilling a culture of service excellence, and ensuring the quality and value of offerings. Enforce marketing, promotion, and advertising of district tourism development and also the Department of Tourism is addressing barriers to seamless travel and connectivity to develop South Africa's tourism asset base. Recent findings suggests that the Fish River Canyon in the Northern Cape, the Kruger National Park and Sun City tourist became areas

Ex-Ben Viljoen learner reaching for the sky



Msanyane Masole Botha, who was part of the class of 2019, studied at Rhodes Univer sity and received his B.Com in Commerce in 2022, as well as his Post Graduate Diploma in Accounting in 2023. He wrote the ITC exams (SAICA) in January and subsequently passed on his first try.

He is currently doing his articles at one of the so-called big four auditing firms, KPMG's Johannesburg office, and also forms part of the financial engineering group within the firm. This group comprises individuals who have strong quantitative reasoning, problemsolving and soft skills, as well as knowledge of the financial markets.

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of interest and being often visited by tourist coming into South Africa. Given these vast value chains, several critical elements essential for tourism growth have been highlighted which include, mega conservation, marketing strategies, accessibility, corridors, Information Communications Technology (ICT), destination development, destination management, and skills development and transformation (Limpopo Tourism Strategy, 2018). That makes Limpopo to have a strong and clear comparative advantage which are linked to six tourism clusters that are used as a building block for tourism development in Limpopo. They include the Family & Recreation cluster, Business & Events cluster, Sport & Wildlife cluster, Cultural & Heritage cluster, Safari and Hunting cluster, and the Special Interest cluster. According to the district municipality, Sekhukhune can do more to develop the district as an international tourist destination by emphasising the broader biodiversity, cultural diversity, scenic beauty, and range of tourism products, and making it easier for tourists to

travel through the provision of good tourism routes and road connectivity. The areas of interest identified to be visited include Flag Boshielo and De Hoop Dams, Schuinsdraai Nature Reserve, Mantrombi, Potlake Nature Reserve and the Maleoskop Resort and Conservancy. Other areas that have been discovered and celebrated entail the Kamoka Open Africa Route, Ndlovu Youth Centre, Setsong Africa Tea estate and many other heritage centres like Mampuru II statue, Tjate Heritage site, Fort Weber, Manche Masemola, Tisane, Echo cave, Shoe cave, Mapoch heritage and others. The municipality said the tourism indaba is in line with the National Development Plan (NDP), which is a "blueprint" for the development of the country and aims to eliminate poverty and reduce inequality by 2030 (NDP, 2030). Among others, the strategic framework for the NDP is based on the following development priorities which are, to promote an inclusive and labour-absorbing economy, increase capital spending, specifically on infrastructure development, transition

into a low-carbon economy and to create an inclusive and integrated rural economy. It also aligns with the Limpopo Provincial Growth and Development Strategy (LPGDS), which offers a vision for development that reflects development priorities in terms of social needs and competitive economic growth potential for the province. In addition, LPGDS guides and coordinates the allocation of national, provincial, and local resources, as well as private sector investment to achieve sustainable development outcomes. Furthermore, the indaba forms part of the Limpopo Tourism Strategy, which emphasises on the concept of tourism clusters and the importance of economic development for the province. The focus of the cluster is to raise international competitiveness in the province and to combine public and private contributions which will yield to a great impact. The tourism strategy intends to promote private and public partnerships, attract more tourists than isolated tourism products and to increase the number of tourists coming to the province.





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Ratanang FC celebrate historic promotion

The reigning Ephraim Mogale Local Football Association (EPMLM) champions, Ratanang FC, has on Saturday 19 October 2024, held a ceremony event to celebrate their milestone after they were crowned winners of the 2023/2024 EPMLM Local Football Association (LFA) League. The main purpose of the event was to celebrate their promotion to the Hollywoodbets SAFA Sekhukhune Regional Football League. Elton Ready Mix, Mentum Civil & Construction and CK & Associates, sponsored the event with prizes. During the celebrations, Ratanang players were handed-over of the big trophy, gold medals and they received individual awards, which included player of the season, goalkeeper of the season, top goal scorer of the season, most improved player of the season and most disciplined player of the season. Throughout the league campaign, the Tsimanyane based side won the league with an impressive 72 points. They played 30 matches, winning 23, drew 6 and lost only one. Speaking to the publication, Ratanang FC Head Coach, Bobby "Coach Bull" Manasoe, said: "It was a good season for us, the boys gave their best throughout the campaign, the consistency was unmatched. I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of the team, we are hoping for more victories going forward." However, Manasoe said the victory was not an easy road for the club especially because they were competing without any sponsors. "We like to thank Elton Ready Mix, Mentum Civil & Construction and CK & Associates for making sure that the boys has the trophies and medals and," he said. Ratanang Media and Marketing Director, Jeffrey Walker, said they are hopeful to secure sponsors who will assist the team with a soccer kit as they will be going to take part in the Hollywoodbets SAFA Sekhukhune Regional Football League. Mentum Civil & Constructions CEO, Sam Marule, said they supported the celebration event with prizes because they believe that Ratanang FC deserved to raise the championship trophy, hence they decided to come together with other sponsors and give them a championship celebration support with trophies and medals. "I have been involved in community projects for some time as a sponsor. I know how important it is to keep my promise to those in need because my promise and commitment to them is taken as a solution to their challenge. I know of some companies or individuals who make pledges or promises that they don not plan to honour. Unfortunately this kill the dreams of those trying to make a difference in their respective communities," he said. Marule has called on other local companies to support community upliftment initiatives in order to make a difference in lives of young people in the villages. "We can all play a role in developing and supporting community projects aimed at empowering our youth and women, which will bring a positive change to our environment," concluded Marule. During the event, Bonolo "Stuta" Rakolote was crowned Player of the Season, Khomotso "Chipezeze" Mashilo was awarded Goalkeeper of the Season prize, Kamogelo "Hloks" Matlala became Most Improved Player, Tshegofatso "Ace" Phahlane became Top Goal Scorer of the Season and Boikano Junior Phahlane was Most Disciplined Player of the Season.



TUPS and Mantombazana team up to promote schools' sports

Sekhukhune invented sporting code, TUPS Sports Federation, has announced that they have sealed an agreement with Mantombazana Foundation to activate the Mantombazana Schools Tournament in 2025. The programme will benefit over 30 primary and secondary schools from different villages of Limpopo Province with an intention to introduce TUPS sporting code to pupils. Mantombazana Foundation is a Non-Profit Organisation (NPO) established with a mission to empower young people, seeking to combat teenage pregnancy and promote awareness against substance abuse among communities. Some of the schools that will be part of the programme are Moreko from Nebo Village, Molautsi from Bloodriver Village, Khaiso from Seshego-Zone 2, George Sonto based in Giyani, Malebogo at Blouberg, Mohlapetse from Mmotong Ga-Mabotja, Mmakgabo from Moletjie-Mošate, Tlakale School at Mandela Village in Ga-Masshashane, Renaissance School based in Musina, Dr M.E Makgato School in Seshego Zone 4 as well as Dr A.M.S Makunyane School in Seshego Zone 8. Other schools to join the tournament will include Kgati Ya Mošate from Mogalakwena Mošate Ga-Madiba Village, Kgabo from Moletjie Chebeng Village, Makgofe School located at Makgofe Village, Ipopeng School from Ga-Matlala and Ditlalemeso School from Mankweng Unit C. Tups sporting code inventor, Puleng Mmotla, said Tups Sports Federation has welcomed the partnership with both hands. "The federation, as Limpopo home-grown sporting code, is proud to be embraced and welcomed officially by Mantombazana Foundation as one of the sporting codes that will be featured in the Mantombazana Foundation programmes. We are looking forward to sharing various platforms including activations at various schools and introducing our sporting code to the school communities across Limpopo though Mantombazana Foundation as a most dependable and reliable vehicle for development," he said. Manombazana Foundation Managing Director, Binky Sefake, said they have partnered with TUPS with an objective to collaborate with all stakeholders in fighting against substance abuse and motivating learners by organizing the school tournament. "Mantombazana Foundation is one of the organisation in our province fighting against teenage pregnancy and substance abuse in schools. Our main objective is to collaborate with all stakeholders in this fight. We have partnered with lots of companies and stakeholders like TUPS and we are going to start working

together in what we call Mantombazana Annual School Tournament 2025," he said.

From left to right: Nkholo Malatji (Mantombazana CEO), Binkie Sefake (Mantombazana Managing Director) and Lucas Manthata (BAIC Group Representative), during the unveiling of the agreement between TUPS Sports Federation and Mantombazana Foundation.



