



GRASKOP'S GOLDEN GLOVES, HIGHLANDS BOXING CLUB TRIUMPHS AT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

By: De-Shark



(From Left) Coach Lance Gibson, Arion Fraser, Dylan Roets and Coach Nicole Fraser

Against all odds, two young boxers from the Highlands Boxing Club in Graskop, Mpumalanga, have returned home as champions, each donning a gold medal from the 2026 South African National Boxing Championships held in Cape Town from July 8 to 11.

Arion Fraser (Welterweight) and Dylan Roets (Light Middleweight) proved that grit and determination can outweigh even the toughest obstacles. Representing the Highlands Club, both athletes clinched gold in their respective divisions, earning the coveted title of South African Youth Champion.

For Coach Lance Gibson, this double victory is about more than just medals. "We're incredibly proud. This is more than 2 gold

medals. It's proof that dedication, community and belief can take kids from Graskop all the way to the top of the podium in South Africa," he said. "Funding was our biggest hurdle. Getting to nationals isn't cheap travel, accommodation and kit. We also had to balance school, work and training with limited resources. But the community rallied and the boys showed up every single day. That's what carried us through."

Although the club has previously sent teams to the SA Championships, this is the first time Highlands Boxing Club has brought home two national titles in one tournament. "It's a massive milestone for us," said Coach Lance, expressing thanks to the Graskop community, families at home and abroad and everyone who supported the journey.

Coach Nicole Fraser, trailblazer as a female coach, described the emotional moment the team arrived back in Graskop. "Watching our two boys return home as South African champions has been one of the proudest moments of my life. These medals are about so much more than winning, they represent hope, hard work and what can be achieved when a community believes in its young people."

Fraser highlighted the ongoing struggle for funding. "As a community club that relies entirely on donations, every tournament is a challenge. Before the national championships, we had only a few days to raise enough money after expected funding from the department fell through. Seeing our community come together to help these boys made the victory even more special."

She also spoke of her own journey: "Being a female coach in boxing has also brought its own challenges, but seeing our athletes succeed reminds me that hard work, passion and commitment matter more than anything else."

For Arion Fraser, the win was hard fought. "The competition this year was tough. I would like to say that we all really appreciate the help and support that everyone gave us along the way," he said, already looking ahead to represent the nation at the Region 5 Youth Games in Maputo.

Dylan Roets agreed, "It was amazing, all of the best boxers from all over the country were in attendance.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 03

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POEM

The Broken Heart of a Young Girl

By: Boikano C Dibakoane

While others are defined by
love and peace
I'm defined by pain and war

Would I ever be able to rise
again?
Or will I forever live in this
darkness?

Sometimes I even wonder
how the sun can rise every
morning
How it shines bright in our
eyes every day

The feeling of not being
chosen
The feeling of loneliness
Will this pain ever end? Is
this how things are going to
be
throughout all my years of
living?

Pain doesn't have to define
us
But should be a once-off
lesson

The pain of a young girl

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Joke of the week

I don't even trust English anymore.
How can we drink a drink but we
can't food a food.

Give her her pen is correct but, give
him him pen is not correct.



Verse of the Week

Psalm 42:11

11 Why, my soul, are you
downcast?
Why so disturbed
within me?
Put your hope in God,
for I will yet praise
him,
my Savior and my
God.

Colour me



Andile Mavuso 10 July



Anele Theledi 1 July



Karabo Shabangu 14 July



Percy Kubeka 13 July



Skhulile Mabuza 8 July

Engineer, Entrepreneur and Mrs South Africa Hopeful

By: De-Shark



Dineo Ntsoane

At 36, Dineo Ntsoane is a woman of many talents and even more determination. Based in Secunda, in the heart of Mpumalanga, Dineo’s daily work as a civil engineer supports SASOL’s vital plant operations. Her love for problem-solving and innovation shines through as she navigates complex engineering challenges with passion and precision.

But her ambitions reach beyond engineering. As CEO of Glow Luxury Kids Salon, Dineo leads a brand dedicated to creating a premium, uplifting salon experience for children a testament to her entrepreneurial drive and her commitment to building spaces where young clients feel special and cared for.

Dineo’s impressive career is matched only by her devotion to her family. Married to Raynold Mthembu for seven years and the proud mother of two daughters, she is inspired daily by her loved ones to lead with heart and purpose. Despite her busy schedule, Dineo makes time to read and knit cherished hobbies that help her recharge and nurture her creativity.

Now, as she steps onto the stage as a Mrs South Africa entrant, Dineo’s journey takes on new meaning. For her, true leadership begins with purpose, service and the courage to grow. While she takes pride in her achievements as an engineer and entrepreneur, Dineo sees Mrs South Africa as a platform for personal growth, upskilling and leveraging an empowering network. Through this

journey, she hopes to inspire meaningful change and lead by example.

Dineo wants her daughters and all women to know that dreams do not have an expiry date. She believes women can pursue excellence in their careers, build successful businesses, serve their communities and still embrace femininity, compassion and authenticity.

“By participating in Mrs South Africa, I aim to show my children that perseverance, resilience and faith open the doors to incredible opportunities,” she explained.

Through her business and her platform, Dineo is passionate about empowering women, supporting families and building children’s confidence. She has seen firsthand the impact that safe, uplifting spaces can have on young people and their families.

Ultimately, Dineo Ntsoane entered Mrs South Africa because she believes every woman can influence others through her story.

“This journey is my chance to strengthen my voice, develop as a leader and use my experiences to encourage others to overcome obstacles and pursue their dreams.” With authenticity, integrity and excellence as her guiding lights, Dineo is committed to leaving a legacy that reminds women and girls everywhere that, with faith, determination and hard work, they can become everything they were created to be.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION OF 2026/27 FINANCIAL YEAR SERVICE DELIVERY & BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (SDBIP) AND PERFORMANCE AGREEMENTS OF THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER & MANAGERS DIRECTLY ACCOUNTABLE TO THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER.



In terms of Section 53(1) (c) (ii) (iii) and subsection 3 (a)(b) of Local Government Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA) No 56 of 2003 which stipulates that, the Mayor of a municipality must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the Municipality’s Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP), is approved by the Mayor within 28 days after the approval of the Budget and that Performance Agreements of the Municipal Manager & Managers directly accountable to the Municipal Manager are concluded no later than 31 July 2026.

Thaba Chweu Local Municipality hereby notifies the public that the Mayor, Cllr. Friddah Nkadimeng has approved the SDBIP for 2026/27 Financial Year. Further to make public the signed Performance Agreements of the Municipal Manager & Managers directly accountable to the Municipal Manager for 2026/27 financial year as required in section 75(1) (d) Local Government Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA) No 56 of 2003 read with section 21A (1) of Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, No 32 of 2000.

Copies of the 2026/27 SDBIP and the Performance Agreements of the Municipal Manager & Managers directly accountable to the Municipal Manager will be posted on the Municipal Website www.tclm.gov.za and will be available at the below listed offices:

- Mashishing Municipal offices
- Mashishing Thusong Centre
- Lydenburg Municipal offices
- Graskop Municipal offices
- Sabie Municipal offices
- Northern Areas Municipal offices

Any Inquiries relating to the 2026/27 SDBIP can be made at the Office of the Municipal Manager. Contact person: Ms. Vukile Dladla at 013 325 7310 or via email at Vukile.Dladla@tclm.gov.za.

Mr. R.S Makwakwa
Municipal Manager

Notice No: 01/ 2026/27

GRASKOP'S GOLDEN GLOVES, HIGHLANDS BOXING CLUB TRIUMPHS AT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

FROM PAGE 01



(Back left to right) Arion Fraser, Lance Gibson, Dylan Roets. Front Middle , Nicole Fraser

I would like to thank all the supporters for helping us through it from the start. Without them, it wouldn’t have been possible. We are hoping to be selected to compete in the Region 5 Games happening in Mozambique this December.”

Both coaches encouraged the rest of the team to keep dreaming big. “If Arion and Dylan can do it, so can you. Keep showing up, keep working and keep believing. The gym is open; the opportunity is real. Your time is coming,” said Coach Lance.

Coach Nicole echoed the sentiment, “Success doesn’t happen overnight. It comes from showing up every day,

working hard, staying disciplined and never giving up. Your time will come if you keep believing in yourself and trust the process.”

With their eyes set on the next qualifiers, development tournaments and the upcoming Region 5 and SANABO Cadet and Junior National Championships, Highlands Boxing Club is determined to keep building a legacy one champion at a time.

“These victories belong to all of us,” said Coach Nicole. “Highlands Boxing Club is growing stronger every year and we believe the best is still to come.”

Young Entrepreneurs Sow Success in Community Enterprise Fund Learnership

By: Khanyisile Khumalo

Learners enrolled in the Community Enterprise Fund Learnership have reported a major milestone: they have sold out their entire harvest of cabbages, peri-peri chilli and okra.

The programme, which combines agricultural training with business skills, aims to teach unemployed youth how to plant, manage and market their own

produce.

Programme facilitator Mrs Nkosingiphile Nkosi emphasised the initiative’s broader vision: “The goal is not only to grow food but to grow entrepreneurs.”

Learners described the transformative effect of the programme. Happiness, 29, said “I never imagined myself as a farmer.

I didn’t think I would ever wear a uniform and feed my community.” She shared her pride at her first sale: “When the first customer paid me R10 for a cabbage I had grown myself, I felt like a real businesswoman.”

the programme’s impact. Gogo Bathabiye Mashego noted, “The vegetables are fresher and cheaper than supermarket stock and I’m proud of the children for feeding the community.”

Mrs Nkosi explained that learners receive

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Prado, 26, explained how the learnership had changed his understanding of farming. “I didn’t know farming involved so much maths before joining the programme. Now, we calculate profit margins, not just plant pods.” Kgomotso, 25, was surprised by the community’s positive response: “I didn’t believe people would return for more.” She added, “A local spaza shop owner now calls me every Friday asking me to bring chilli.” Community members have also praised

a monthly stipend and share in the profits from each market day after costs are covered. She stated, “The group has already begun preparing seedlings for their second planting cycle and plans to double production.” The Community Enterprise Fund Learnership is funded through South Africa’s SETA system, providing free skills training to tackle youth unemployment and grow the next generation of agri-entrepreneurs.

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Mandela Day: A Time For Change That Starts Within

By: De-Shark

When will you ever learn that a hateful heart destroys the hater and not the hated? Why do you continue to burn in the fire of confusion that you created? How can a cracked mirror distort your smile while your beauty comes from within? Who convinced you that your life is over while your heart still beats again and again? What more can you ask for if your mind is the source of all your wishes?

Every year on 18 July the world pauses for Mandela Day. We are told to give 67 minutes of service. But Nelson Mandela’s legacy asks for more than minutes. It asks for a shift in how we see ourselves and how we treat each other.

This year, the question is not what we can do for one day, but what we are willing to change for a lifetime.

Mandela Day confronts us with uncomfortable questions. We live in a constant cycle of comparison. Competition steals our peace and leaves us with self-doubt, jealousy, envy, hatred, anger and emptiness. We scroll, we compare, we shrink. In doing so we



Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela fondly known as Madiba

forget the most basic truth: your life is a story and the role of a main character will always be yours exclusively.

In every story, the hero faces adversity. The hero is not fearless. The hero chooses hope, faith and the unshakable assurance that they will overcome any obstacle that stands in their way. That hero lives in all of us. That hero is like your shadow, it will accompany you throughout the journey of your entire existence.

Try to remember who you are, where you come from, the people that held your hand through the worst moments of your life, the sicknesses that you overcame in the past, the opportunities that improved your life, the failures that later became your victories. Gratitude is not soft. It is radical. To remember those who lifted us and to remember the times we lifted others, is to reject the narrative that we are powerless. It is to reject the cracked mirror that tries to distort our smile.

Mandela taught us that service is not charity. It is responsibility. “It seems impossible until it’s done”. Those six words are both a challenge and a promise.

This Mandela Day, the call is simple: get-up-and-go. Find one thing that creates a progressive difference in your community. Mentor one learner. Clean one street. Feed one family. Create one opportunity for someone else.

When it’s all said and done, you will be

remembered for how many lives you have touched and the opportunities you have created for others. That is the true measure of a life, not titles, not followers, not possessions.

Surround yourself with people who see greatness in you and become that person for someone else. Because this world will always be a better place when we all work together towards a common goal.

67 minutes is the entry point, not the finish line. Mandela Day should be the day we stop outsourcing our healing to the world and start doing the inner work. The day we trade hate for humanity, fear for faith and despair for discipline.

So, this July, don’t just do something. Become someone. Become the hero of your own story. Become the reason someone else believes things can get better.

That is how we honour Madiba. Not with speeches, but with changed lives.

Maths mentor turns struggle into success for Simile learners

By: De-Shark



Mazibila during one of his productive sessions with his students

The quiet afternoons at Simile Community Library, in Sabie, are defined by exercise books and pencils filled on the table where Pitso Mazibila sits.

The 32-year-old maths enthusiast from the same community of Simile, has made it his mission to make numbers less scary and a lot more fun for the local children.

Mazibila’s passion for maths didn’t come easily.

“Growing up, I struggled with maths

myself, but with the help of a patient tutor, I discovered a love for problem-solving and a sense of accomplishment that came with understanding tricky concepts,” he says.

That experience changed his path and inspired him to become a tutor, so he could help others unlock their potential.

Today he runs free homework and maths support sessions for learners in the community, creating what he calls a “no-judgment zone.”

CONTINUED ON PAGE 06

Local mine reveals water and lights projects for Thaba Chweu Local Municipality

By: News Desk



The political and administrative leadership of TCLM (Thaba Chweu Local Municipality) was briefed on the social investment track record and on the next phase of community development projects set for Lydenburg/Mashishing by Valterra Mine.

TCLM said the engagement covered both the close-out of the previous SLP (Social and Labour Plan) and the progress toward approval of a new one.

Valterra Mine reportedly presented an update on the implementation of its previous Social and Labour Plan 3, of which the key project under SLP 3 was the rehabilitation of Viljoen Street in Lydenburg, an intervention the mine

said contributed directly to improving the municipality’s road infrastructure and easing traffic and safety concerns for residents and businesses.

“The municipality welcomes the continued partnership with Valterra Mine and remains committed to working with all stakeholders to improve infrastructure and enhance service delivery for the benefit of local communities,” said TCLM.

The proposed SLP 4 will reportedly focus on key community development projects, including the installation of high-mast lights and the implementation of water augmentation projects aimed at addressing the ongoing water supply challenges in Lydenburg/Mashishing.

Nafasi Water Technologies and IDC Launch Groundbreaking Waste-to-Fertiliser Project in eMalahleni

By: Fortu

In a significant leap towards sustainable industry and environmental stewardship, Nafasi Water Technologies, in partnership with the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), has unveiled the first module of a pioneering waste sludge processing facility at the Highveld Industrial Park on the 08th of July 2026. This innovative venture marks a defining moment in South Africa’s circular water economy, transforming by-products from mine-impacted water treatment into valuable fertiliser inputs.

The facility, a product of strategic collaboration and local innovation, stands out for its ability to convert environmental liabilities into productive manufacturing opportunities. By processing waste sludge from water treatment plants, the facility produces chemical compounds that can be used in fertiliser manufacturing, reducing landfill waste and creating a new domestic source of industrial chemicals.

Suzie Nkambule, CEO of Nafasi Water Technologies, highlighted the importance of the project for the Mpumalanga region: “The Mpumalanga region needs investment in alternative industries that respond



From left to right: Rian Coetzee (Divisional Executive, Industry and Project Development), Ashton Drummond (Nafasi Technologies Managing Director), Suzie Nkambule (CEO of Nafasi Water Technologies), Acting Mayor Sizwe Buthelezi and Donald Mabusela (Director, Strategic Partnerships and Customer Care)

to the challenges of the energy transition and the long-term effects of coal mining on water resources. The engineering innovation at the heart of Nafasi Technologies approaches this holistically strengthening catchment resilience while building a new industrial venture. The IDC’s development-finance approach enabled the incubation and

deployment of these technologies in markets where early-stage industrial innovation carries significant technical and commercial risk.”

The IDC’s investment demonstrates its commitment to fostering high-impact, innovation-driven ventures that support localisation, industrial growth and environmental solutions.

Rian Coetzee, Divisional Executive for Industry Planning and Development at the IDC, stated:

“This is precisely the kind of investment the IDC is mandated to support, a locally developed technology platform with the potential to build new manufacturing capacity, localise imported inputs, strengthen water resilience and create a scalable model for industrial renewal in mining regions. Our role as funder and equity partner is to help de-risk innovation that can unlock new productive sectors and deliver measurable developmental impact.”

Over time, Nafasi aims to maximise the value extracted from waste by-products through further technology development, including the potential deployment of ion exchange processes to recover useful chemicals directly from mine-impacted water. This creates a pathway for continuous innovation, further industrial investment and the development of a South African circular water-technology capability with relevance beyond Mpumalanga.

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Maths mentor turns struggle into success for Simile learners

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 05

“My approach is all about creating a supportive, no-judgment zone where students feel comfortable asking questions and exploring maths at their own pace,” Mazibila explains.

He says he loves breaking down complex problems into manageable chunks and celebrating those special 'aha!' moments with his students.

His tutoring style is centred around making maths accessible and fun by using real-life examples and visual aids to illustrate abstract concepts and encourage students to explore different problem-solving strategies.

“By focusing on understanding over memorisation, I help students build a strong foundation and develop a growth mindset. I also love incorporating games, puzzles and interactive activities to keep lessons engaging and enjoyable,” he says.

The results show. Mazibila recalled one of his proudest moments whereby he helped a Grade 10 student overcome a phobia of maths and achieve a 20% jump in her test scores. The student reportedly struggled with anxiety around maths for years, often getting stuck on basic concepts, but step-by-step they worked through it.

“With consistent practice and support, she started to see improvements. We celebrated every small win and her confidence grew with each success. Now, she’s tackling complex problems with ease and even looks forward to maths class, that’s what keeps me motivated as a tutor,” said Mazibila.

He says his goal is to create a maths-positive culture, by building confidence and skills, while improving grades and opening doors to future opportunities for the learners.

“Many of my students have gone on to pursue STEM subjects or careers, citing their maths tutoring as a turning point. Who knows? Maybe we’ll inspire the next generation of engineers or data scientists in South Africa,” he says.

When he’s not breaking down algebra, Mazibila has a penchant for exploring Sabie waterfalls and trails with friends and family. He sees his role as part of a bigger picture for South Africa’s youth. “I love being part of students’ journeys as they grow, learn and smash their maths goals. Whether it’s helping a struggling student catch up or pushing a top performer to excel, it’s all about empowering them to achieve their dreams,” Mazibila concludes.

Siyadlala and Lafamilia Shine at First Trellidor Mzansi Super Cup in Mbombela

By: Fortu

The inaugural Trellidor Mzansi Super Cup, held from July 10 to 11, 2026 at Lowveld High School in Mbombela, delivered thrilling youth football action as 16 teams competed for glory in the U13 and U15 boys’ categories. This event marked the third provincial youth football tournament supported by Trellidor as part of their growing partnership with the Siyabonga Bhele Nomvetho Foundation, reaffirming a commitment to grassroots development.

In the U13 boys’ semi-finals, Marite Young Sundowns FC, Chillies Sports Academy, Siyadlala Football Academy and Lafamilia Football battled fiercely for a spot in the finals. Ultimately, Marite Young Sundowns FC and Siyadlala Football Academy advanced to the championship match.

In the U15 bracket, Chillies Sports Academy, Ekasi Development Academy, Siyadlala Football Academy and Lafamilia Football reached the semi-finals, with Chillies Sports Academy and Lafamilia Football emerging as finalists.

The U13 final saw Siyadlala Football Academy claim the top spot, with Marite Young Sundowns FC as runners-up and Lafamilia Football taking third place. In the U15 division, Lafamilia Football lifted the trophy, followed by Chillies Sports Academy in second and Ekasi Football Academy in third.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 08



Coach Nkosinathi Bhembe



Coach Nhlanhla



Coach Makushe



Lafamilia Football Under 15 Winners



Players during the match



Coach Wandile with his team (Chillies) during half time



Siyadlala and Lafamilia Shine at First Trellidor Mzansi Super Cup in Mbombela

By: Fortu

FROM PAGE 07



Siyadlala Football Academy Under 13 Winners



Trellidor Mzansi Super Cup Champions U/13 Boys

Position 1 - Siyadlala Football Academy - Trophy + Gold Medals + Full training Kit
Position 2 - Marite Young Sundown FC- Silver Medals + Full training Kit
Position 3 - Lafamilia Football - Bronze Medals + Full Training Kit

Trellidor Mzansi Super Cup Champions U/15 Boys

Position 1 - Lafamilia Football - Trophy + Gold Medals + Full training Kit
Position 2 - Chillies Sports Academy - Silver Medals + Full training Kit
Position 3 - Ekasi Football Academy - Bronze Medals + Full Training Kit

Special Gold Medalist from Scouts to youngest players of the tournament

- 1. Supemandla- Chillies Sports Academy
- 2. Kaylen Masilela- Lafamilia Football
- 3. Andile - Marite Young Sundowns FC
- 4. Gift & Izibele - Siyidlala Football Academy
- 5. Lethu Lomncane - Langa Development Academy

Individual Awards in the Overall Trellidor Mzansi Super Cup Tournament for boys U/13

- 1. Player of the Tournament - Blessing Malumane (Siyadlala Football Academy)
- 2. Best Goal Scorer - Blessing Malumane (Siyadlala Football Academy)
- 3. Goalkeeper of the Tournament - Khulekani Khumalo (Siyadlala Football Academy)

Individual Awards in the Overall Trellidor Mzansi Super Cup Tournament for boys U/15

- 1. Player of the Tournament - Nala Mabuza (Lafamilia Football)
- 2. Best Goal Scorer - Sizwelethu Msimango (Ekasi Football Academy)
- 3. Goalkeeper of the Tournament - Mancoba Hlatswayo - Lafamilia Football

Nkosinathi Bhembe, coach of the U15 champions Lafamilia Football, expressed his pride and gratitude: “We are very happy our under 15 team didn’t have a jersey. My biggest prize was the jersey; the rest is a bonus for them. What I can say is we shouldn’t think highly of ourselves. Let’s move forward and prepare for the league. I wish this tournament could come back again. Honestly speaking, out of all the tournaments we’ve attended, this was the most organised one. We hope they

do it again so that others can also experience this.”

Wandile, coach of Chillies Sports Academy, shared his thoughts after a hard-fought final: “I’m a bit disappointed, but the team played; they did all they could. When they went for penalties, I told them that at this point it’s anyone’s game.”

Football legend Siyabonga Nomvethé attended the tournament, highlighting the importance of such events: “The tournament is a good motivation for the children because it keeps them busy, especially on weekends and safe from negative influences like drugs. I am a product of youth tournaments and these kids have the chance to develop and shape their futures.”

Coach Moses Makhushé of Chillies Sports Academy encouraged players to seize the moment: “For many, this is their first high-level tournament. They should use it to gain valuable experience.”

Parents also witnessed the positive impact of involvement. Bongiwé Mabunda Mahlangu, mother of Chillies

Sports Academy player Lwanda Mabunda, shared, “Supporting my son has improved his performance. The coach instils discipline and respect, focusing on both sports and academics.” She called on parents to support their children and for sponsors to assist smaller teams with donations.

Teams travelled from across Mpumalanga, with eight teams in each age category, including Lafamilia Football, Clementine Sports Academy, Langa Development Academy, Siyadlala Football Academy, Marite Young Sundowns FC, Chillies Sports Academy, Graskop Sports Academy and Ekasi Football Academy.

While sponsors expressed disappointment over low parental turnout, they anticipate greater engagement next year.

With the success of its first edition, the Trellidor Mzansi Super Cup has set a new benchmark for youth football tournaments in the region, providing young talent with the platform they need to shine and grow on and off the field.