

## THE FRONT PAGE

Making headlines this morning, Angloplat has announced plans to launch SA's biggest rights issue to date to cut its mounting long-term debt; embattled President Jacob Zuma is under fire again - this time for failing to deliver on promises made to poor residents of Siyathemba township, in Mpumalanga; and a criminologist has said that Cezanne Visser, better known as Advocate Barbie, does not need to be removed from society to be punished for her sex crimes.

NEWS REVIEWS

## THE DAY IN SHORT

In the news today: Winnie Madikizela-Mandela yesterday calmed violence between protesting police reservists and police officers at a march by police reservists who claim to always being overlooked for permanent posts. Children set municipal offices alight, destroyed foreign-owned shops and tore down infrastructure as Siyathemba township in Balfour, Mpumalanga, was left burning - again. More than 10 000 firearms were destroyed yesterday as part of the Awulethe Umshini wakho amnesty campaign, which ends on 11 April. Claims of protest over President Zuma's sexual conduct is said to be the reason he abruptly cancelled his planned walkabout in Gugulethu, Cape Town yesterday.

NEWS REVIEWS

## POLITICAL NEWS

### Murders linked to 2010 tenders

A 25-year-old contract killer has accused an influential African National Congress (ANC) leader in Mpumalanga of offering him R100 000 and a cushy government job if he poisoned government officials who were blocking access to tenders linked to the 2010 World Cup. The ANC boss, whose name is known to the Sunday Times, was identified by more than a dozen other sources interviewed during a three-week investigation into the killings of at least a dozen senior politicians in Mpumalanga starting in 1998. The would-be assassin said he had been given the poison and had been ready to do the job, but had pulled out after a disagreement with his "client" over an advance fee.

PROJECT2010.CO.ZA

### Though talk at Northern Cape ANC legotla

Lazy Northern Cape municipal mayors, councillors and school principals will be removed if they do not perform, the African National Congress (ANC) threatened yesterday. Speaking on the outcomes of the party's provincial legotla, ANC Northern Cape secretary Zumani Saul said political office-bearers at municipalities, including municipal managers, "taking the ANC for a ride" would be removed.

STAR

### DA reacts with anger to reports

The Democratic Alliance (DA) has reacted with anger to reports that several KwaZulu-Natal municipalities would be realigned before the upcoming local government elections next year. DA Local Government spokesperson, George Mari, said that the DA will not condone any moves that will enable the African National Congress (ANC) to win wards. Mari has called on KZN Co-operative Governance MEC Nomusa Dube to present all proposals at the local government portfolio committee level.

MERCURY

### Cosatu retaliates for COPE leader attack on Zuma

COPE Deputy President Mhizima Shilowa should be the last person to pass judgement on President Jacob Zuma's love life, the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) said yesterday. The African National Congress (ANC)-aligned trade union federation, of which Shilowa was once general secretary, accused the COPE leader of "sheer hypocrisy", pointing out that it took a court of law to force him to pay maintenance for his two sons. Cosatu was reacting to Shilowa's call for Parliament to pass a vote of no confidence on Zuma following revelations that he fathered a child with the daughter of soccer supremo Irvin Khoza.

THE TIMES; BUSINESS DAY (National)

## SAFETY & SECURITY NEWS

### Crime not linked to poverty

High levels of violent crime were not linked to poverty levels in municipalities across the country, a SA Institute of Race Relations (SAIRR) study has found. In a statement yesterday, the SAIRR said that Eastern Cape municipalities had the highest murder rate, 54 murders per 100 000 people, and a poverty rate of 62%. Limpopo municipalities, however, recorded the lowest murder rate but also had a poverty rate of 62%. The findings form part of a local government study which assessed 80 indicators from each of the 52 metropolitan and district municipalities. The indicators included demographics, education, employment, housing, access to basic services, transport, social security, health and crime.

NEWS24.COM - NEWS 24; BUSINESS DAY (National); CITIZEN (Second Edition)

### Reservist protest turns violent as police open fire

Police opened fire with rubber bullets on protesting reservists in the Johannesburg city centre yesterday. At least two reservists were injured, and scores more were arrested for demonstrating unlawfully. The reservists, some of whom were demonstrating in uniform, resisted arrest and started hurling stones at police at Mary Fitzgerald Square. The on-duty officers then retaliated by opening fire, sending the crowd scattering in all directions. Dozens of protesters overturned dustbins in the streets while fleeing the scene. Around a 100 reservists re-grouped in the park with police maintaining a strong presence.

EWN.CO.ZA; BUSINESS DAY (National)

### Woman out on bail after drug bust at airport

A Tableview woman arrested at Cape Town International Airport in connection with R1.6 million of tik allegedly found in her luggage was released on R20 000 bail. Princess Ambali, 26 was released on a condition that she report to the police station everyday. She will appear in court again on 7 June.

CAPE ARGUS (City Late)

### Acsa says 'camera out of order' was a lie

The Airports Company of South Africa (Acsa) has denied that its cameras were not working at the time a Botswana businesswoman's handbag was stolen at OR Tambo International Airport. Businesswoman Joyce Makuke claimed at the weekend that when she asked for help to view the footage of the CCTV cameras just after her bag was stolen last Tuesday, she was told that the cameras were not working. Acsa spokesperson Solomon Makgale yesterday said the CCTV control room was available on a 24-hour basis and that after-hours requests would have to be made by phone. He added that as part of Acsa's investigation they will determine what the facts are with regards to this case.

STAR; PRETORIA NEWS

### Winnie calms cops versus cops demo

All it took to calm tension and violence between protesting police reservists and police officers at Beyers Naude Square in central Johannesburg yesterday was the arrival of Winnie Madikizela-Mandela. Police reservists from around the country had gathered to hand a memorandum to Gauteng MEC for Community Safety Khabisi Mosunkutu to air their grievances about working for years without pay, only to be overlooked when permanent positions became available. The protest was meant to be peaceful, but tempers flared. Reservist leader claims that 78 of their members were arrested and taken to holding cells at the Johannesburg Central police station. Through Madikizela-Mandela's intervention, however, the arrested reservists were later released.

STAR; CITIZEN (Second Edition); PRETORIA NEWS

### Minister issues warning on World Cup

Police Minister Nathi Mthethwa, in his address at Durban yesterday, warned that people who threatened to disrupt the 2010 FIFA World Cup would face the full might of the law. "We will not be subjected to such unbecoming behaviour and will not tolerate this nonsense," said Mthethwa. He added that a number of groups and protesters had used the soccer showcase to bargain for their demands.

MERCURY

## Criminals prefer knives

National Police Commissioner Bheki Cele said that knives have overtaken guns as the preferred weapon of criminals since police intensified operations to recover stolen and illegal firearms. Cele and Police Minister Nathi Mthethwa were at Prospecton, Durban yesterday, where more than 10 000 firearms were destroyed. The firearms, which had been recovered from the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal, had been destroyed as part of the Awulethe Umshini wakho amnesty campaign, which ends on 11 April.

MERCURY; STAR; PRETORIA NEWS

## Judge faces further delays

The judge in whose hands Jackie Selebi's fate rests was adamant last week that he wanted no delays in clearing the final hurdle blocking the ex-police chief's corruption trial. But a missed deadline at the Constitutional Court yesterday threatened to frustrate Judge Meyer Joffe yet again. Lawyers representing the Ministry of State Security were due to file an application at the country's highest court to explain why retired spy boss Barry Gilder should not testify in the Selebi trial. It is their final attempt to keep him out of the witness box. By closing time yesterday, the Constitutional Court had not received the application. The ministry will now need to ask for special permission to file blame on logistics and tight deadlines. Judge Joffe had fast-forwarded the deadlines so that Selebi's trial can start in March instead of October.

STAR

## Anti-stalking bill tabled

Anti-stalking legislation, which has been seven years in the making, has made it to Parliament with the tabling of the Protection from Harrassment Bill in the National Assembly yesterday. The bill comes against high rates of domestic violence in the country and a recognition that the current recourse of a victim to a protection order or interdict has been largely ineffective. The bill provides that if an interim or final protection order is issued, a suspended arrest warrant will also be ordered to eliminate delays should the stalking continue.

BUSINESS DAY (National)

## LABOUR & UNION NEWS

### Foreign support for Fawu

The Service Employees International Union (SEIU) of North America has lent its support to striking Food and Allied Workers Union (Fawu) members at Coca-Cola Amalgamated Beverage Industries (ABI). Visiting officials from SEIU called on Coca-Cola to improve workers' conditions and pay. "We stand together with our brothers and sisters of the Fawu in South Africa," SEIU President Andy Stern and SEIU Secretary-Treasurer Anna Berger said yesterday.

BUSINESS REPORT (National)

### Cosatu warns against Eskom hike

The 35% tariff increases requested by Eskom will lead to disconnection and illegal reconnection of electricity around South Africa, the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) in Mpumalanga said yesterday. "The provincial executive committee meeting resolved to negotiate increases beginning from 5% downwards," Cosatu said after a meeting at the weekend.

BUSINESS DAY (National)

### ABI, union make deal as strike comes to an end

The protracted strike at ABI, the soft drinks division of South African Breweries, ended last night after a settlement was reached with the Food and Allied Workers Union (Fawu). ABI last night welcomed the end to the dispute which had been marred by violence. "We are most pleased that we have reached an agreement with Fawu which ends the strike at ABI," said ABI MD John Ustas. "We will now focus on welcoming those employees who went on strike back to work, ensuring that we fully normalise our operations and developing our future relationship with the union". The deal comes after lengthy negotiations between ABI and Fawu, with the final wage and benefits offer made by ABI before the strike began in December now accepted.

BUSINESS DAY (National)

## NEWS BRIEF

### Illegal trapping takes motorists for a ride

Johannesburg metro police have acknowledges that "young and inexperienced" officers have been illegally speed-trapping on an unauthorised site in Roodepoort. The traffic department has undertaken to reimburse fines already paid by motorists through illegal speed trapping on Gordon Road, Roodepoort. The first unauthorised speed trapping site is between Bergbron Drive and Long Road at a tree at Jonker shoek Street, and the second one between Bergbron Drive and Lange Avenue at the second lamppost from Versamelberg Street.

STAR

## Astronomer faces disciplinary

The disciplinary hearing for the suspended head of the South African Astronomical Observatory, Phil Charles, has been set for Thursday, the National Research Foundation (NRF) said yesterday. The outcome will be keenly awaited by scientists around the world, as Charles is an important figure in SA's attempts to sell itself to the international astronomy community as the ideal host for the Square Kilometre Array, a huge radio telescope.

BUSINESS DAY (National)

## New Catholic Arch Bishop of Cape Town installed

More than 6 000 people, including Premier Helen Zille and Mayor Dan Plato witnessed the installation of the new Catholic Arch Bishop of Cape Town. Stephen Brislin was installed as the Catholic Arch Bishop to the city at the Belville Velodrome on Sunday afternoon.

CAPE ARGUS (City Late)

## Arrest in medical waste case

Police made their first arrest yesterday in the investigation into South Africa's biggest medical waste-dumping scandal, uncovered by the Green Scorpions last year. Free State police arrested Gavin Brasher in Welkom after raid in November unearthed 300t of medical waste - including body parts and used syringes - in shallow pits at his brick factory. The discovery by the Green Scorpions at Brasher's Maximum Bricks works led to further raids at the Welkom showgrounds and at a private game where more illegally dumped medical waste was uncovered.

THE TIMES

## HEALTH NEWS

### Health sector has game plan

South Africa's health sector is "90 percent" ready for the World Cup and working quickly to close the gaps, Deputy Health Minister Molefi Sefularo said yesterday. With just over 100 days before the event begins, the sector has to finalise preparations for responsive health services, as well as a disaster management plans and prompt responses. Other plans include integrating services with the South African Military Health Services at stadiums, training grounds and fan parks.

STAR; CITIZEN (Second Edition); BUSINESS DAY (National)

### SA gears for WC swine flu threat

South African health officials are closely monitoring international swine flu threats as the upcoming flu season - and the 2010 World Cup - approach. About 1.3-million doses of swine flu vaccine have been ordered to deal with the expected outbreak. The Department of Health has installed thermal sensors to detect the virus in passengers and crew as they enter the country's airports. In addition, national and Provincial Outbreak Response Teams will embark on a national swine flu vaccination drive from March, well ahead of the World Cup kick-off. Public health officials from 40 countries recently addressed the global response to the pandemic at the meeting of the International Association of National Public Health Institutes in Johannesburg.

PROJECT2010.CO.ZA; THE TIMES

### KZN on high alert for measles outbreak

KwaZulu-Natal has been placed on high alert for major measles outbreak, with 80 cases of the highly infectious virus reported in the province so far since the beginning of the year. The KZN Health Department has embarked on a province-wide campaign to immunise children. The department cited the upcoming World Cup as another reason to implement an immunisation campaign.

DAILY NEWS (Deadline)

## PROVINCIAL NEWS

### W.Cape govt cuts funding for NGOs

The Western Cape Social Development Department yesterday said fewer non-governmental and non-profit organisations would be getting funding from the province this year. The department has just completed a comprehensive audit of 1 800 state funded organisations to determine which ones were providing the best services to residents. Several hundred additional NGOs have applied for funding, and will be screened by a panel of experts in the weeks ahead. The province spends half a billion rand each year on funding NGOs. Social Development MEC Ivan Meyer said they wanted to give money to those organisations that deserved it the most.

EWN.CO.ZA

### eThekwini Municipal officials mum

eThekwini Municipal officials remain mum over Shawn Mpisane's Umlazi housing project, which has been slammed for the poor quality of the work done. The National Home Builders' Registration Council also expressed concern over the City's handling of the project. Questions have been raised on how the project and how Mpisane's company, Zikhulise Cleaning Maintenance and Transport, was awarded the contract, even though it was not registered with the NHBRC.

DAILY NEWS (Deadline)

### Crystal Serenity docked in Table Bay harbour

The Crystal Serenity docked in Table Bay harbour last night. It has a full passenger list of 1 070 and a crew of 655. The trip cruise started in Los Angeles and ends in London on 8 May. The ship will stay over for one day and passengers will get to see the iconic Table Mountain.

*BURGER (Kaap Stedelik)*

### Emadlangeni loses a million to fraud

The Emadlangeni Local Municipality in Utrecht allegedly lost about R1 million to a fraudulent official recently. The Democratic Alliance (DA) said that the matter has been taken up with Municipal Manager, Velaphi Kubheka, but action has yet to be taken against the official. DA Constituency MP Alf Lees said that although R2 million was spent on consultants to clean up the Emadlangeni finances and systems, fraud remains a problem in the municipality. KwaZulu-Natal Local Government and Traditional Affairs spokesperson, Vernon Mchunu, said that the department takes any allegations of misuse of public funds seriously and that appropriate action will be taken.

*WITNESS*

### Task teams to work on strategic projects

Task teams established during the two-day Strategic City Summit held in October last year are to soon start working on a set of key strategic projects for Pietermaritzburg/Msunduzi. It was decided in the summit, organised by the Msunduzi Innovation Development Institute (Midi), a partnership between the municipality, business and the university, that task teams implement the resolutions made at the summit. The task teams have already started meeting.

*WITNESS*

### Service grounds to a halt at Umhlabuyalingana

Service will come to a standstill at the Umhlabuyalingana Municipality for the next five months as the administrator-run council attempts to level out its "awfully chaotic" financial state, which includes paying R4.3 million in current liabilities for just the January to March 2010 period. Administrator, Bamba Ndwandwe, described the financial situation as a "cocktail of irregular, unauthorised, fruitless and wasteful expenditure in a single jug". A damning financial report last year showed that municipal management had misappropriated conditional grants of about R7.6 million.

*MERCURY*

### Water Affairs blames money shortage

The Water Affairs Department has cited a shortage of money for the 19-year delay in cleaning up a highly contaminated toxic mercury dump near Hammarsdale, outside Durban. The department was responding to a report in The Mercury about 10 poisonous sludge lagoons in the Hammarsdale industrial area. The clean-up will cost an estimated R30 million. Department spokesperson Pat Reddy refuted claims that there had been any contamination of the ground or surface water in the surrounding areas.

*MERCURY*

### Cwele returns to work

Sheryl Cwele, the Hibiscus Coast Municipality's Director of Health and Community Services, returned to her desk yesterday after being released on R100 000 bail, but her time back at the office could be short-lived if the council's executive committee decides to suspend her. Hibiscus Municipal spokesperson, Simon Soboyisa, said that Municipal Manager S'bu Mkhize would present a report on Cwele to the executive committee meeting next Tuesday, after which a decision would be made whether or not to suspend her, pending the outcome of her trial. Cwele, wife of State Security Siyabonga Cwele, is facing charges of drug dealing.

*MERCURY*

### Save Vetch's Association threatens legal action

The Save Vetch's Association has threatened legal action to stop all construction on the proposed Durban Point smallcraft harbour unless the developers can prove a legal right to develop land below the high-water mark. In a letter to the Durban Point Development Company last week, the association's attorney called on company representative Neels Brink to provide clarity on the legal basis it had relied on to develop a major sea wall stretching from the base of Vetch's Pier to the base of the new North Pier. Although the company had been given environmental authorisation for the project, this permission did not appear to cover any land below the high-water mark, which was considered coastal public property and therefore subject to parliamentary approval before development started.

*MERCURY*

### Children spearhead protest

Children set municipal offices alight, destroyed foreign-owned shops and tore down infrastructure as Siyathemba township in Balfour, Mpumalanga, was left burning - again. But community leaders were quick to denounce criminal elements who they say hijacked a community protest yesterday to go on a robbing and looting spree. After a massive police effort, involving nearly 50 heavily armed policemen, 16 people were arrested and charged with public violence. Residents led by the Dipaleseng Residents committee (DRC) were protesting against the perceived lack of community investment in township by the Burnstone Gold Mine.

*STAR; THE TIMES; PRETORIA NEWS; CITIZEN (Second Edition)*

### EDUCATION NEWS

#### Nursing college will reopen

Classes at the Western Cape Nursing College will resume on 15 February. The college was closed late last month after a handful of students went on the rampage, demanding to meet with management to discuss their grievances. The group has been demanding, among other things, a review of their in-service working hours. The provincial Health Department's Faiza Steyn said students would be dismissed immediately should they repeat their actions. "It is set to reopen on 15 February. Obviously there are criteria for students to abide by the rules of the college," said Steyn. Steyn added the students would have to sign a document of compliance when they returned for classes next Monday.

*EWN.CO.ZA*

#### Durban pupils await matric results

A number of Durban pupils who wrote their matric exams last year are still waiting for their results from the Education Department. While some have had all their results held back, others have complained that they had not received their results for certain subjects. KwaZulu-Natal Exams Head Barney Mthembu said that only pupils who were suspected of having cheated had not received their results.

*MERCURY*

#### UCT staff to meet with Price over wages

Academic staff with the University of Cape Town (UCT) will meet vice-chancellor Max Price today to discuss a dispute over pay increases. Members of the UCT academic union had gone to the Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration (CCMA) after they were offered pay increases five percent less than their demands. Negotiations have been going on for months without any agreement.

*CAPE TIMES*

### GOVERNMENT BRIEF

#### Parliament backs Icasa

The Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Communications believes clause five of the proposed interconnection agreement, tabled by mobile operators Vodacom, MTN and Cell C with the Independent Communications Authority of SA (Icasa), is wrong in terms of the law. "At best, it represents an attempt by operators to pre-determine interconnection rates for a prolonged period, which is both unreasonable and legally indefensible," says committee Chairperson Ismail Vadi (ANC). He says the practical effect of the proposed agreement will be to tie Icasa's hands and prevent it from discharging its lawful responsibilities.

*ITWEB.CO.ZA*

#### Price-fixing is 'immoral'

South Africa's Sports Minister Makhenkesi Stofile on Friday called on airlines not to exploit World Cup 2010 visitors amid a probe into possible airfare price-fixing. "I enjoin all airlines not to milk the people of South Africa and indeed the people of the world simply because they are keen to be part of the World Cup. It is not right. It is morally incorrect," he told journalists. Stofile was reacting to an investigation by South Africa's Competition Commission into airlines suspected of colluding on prices and pricing strategies for domestic routes during the World Cup, which starts 11 June. The probe targets British Airways and its franchisee Comair, South African Airways and its partners SA Airlink and SA Express, as well as discount carriers 1Time and Mango, according to a statement from the commission.

*IAFRICA.COM*

#### SA facilitators in Harare for Zanu-PF, MDC talks

President Jacob Zuma's team of envoys arrived in Harare yesterday for further talks with the unity government's main protagonists, President Robert Mugabe's Zanu-PF and Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai's Movement for Democratic Change (MDC). The fledgling unity government has been beset by tensions, and Zimbabwe's constitution making process has stalled.

*THE TIMES*

## Ndebele to report magistrate

Transport Minister Sibusiso Ndebele said yesterday he would be referring to the Magistrates Commission the reported finding of Gauteng Chief Magistrate Daniel Thulare - that a person can drive without a licence if he can prove his learners expired after several attempts to be tested.

*BUSINESS DAY (National)*

## Questions about Zuma's ability to lead after 2012

President Jacob Zuma faces mounting pressure from senior African National Congress (ANC) members about his sustainability to serve a second term as ANC leader. The Times reported that several ANC heavyweights called for Zuma to step down as the party's leader when his term ended in 2012. Zuma apologised to the ANC, the tripartite alliance and the nation for having a child out of wedlock with soccer boss Irvin Khoza's daughter, Sonono. ANC members feared there was no assurance Zuma would not be involved in another scandal and some believed he would be doing the party and the country a huge favour if he stepped down in 2012. ANC members feared there was no assurance Zuma would not be involved in another scandal and some believed he would be doing the party and the country a huge favour if he stepped down in 2012.

*EWN.CO.ZA*

## Councillors should watch their step - Zuma

The African National Congress's (ANC's) President Jacob Zuma yesterday told his party councillors and other office bearers would be made to answer to the people. Zuma is leading his party's celebrations ahead of Thursday's 20th anniversary of Nelson Mandela's release from prison. He and other senior ANC leaders have begun door to door campaigns and rallies in the Western Cape, the only province not governed by their party. Zuma told supporters government would put stricter measures in place to force corrupt officials out of office. "If people grow long fingers; they're actually messing up the name of the ANC. In the end the people don't say that individual is corrupt; they say the ANC is corrupt. We have to defend ourselves by being stricter to ourselves," said Zuma.

*EWN.CO.ZA*

## Calls to blacklist arms giant

President Jacob Zuma should ensure that arms giant BAE was blacklisted from all future government contracts in South Africa, arms deal activist Terry Crawford-Browne said in a letter to the president yesterday. Crawford-Browne also called for the summary cancellation of BAE's Hawk and Saab Gripen contracts with South Africa, and the appointment of a commission of inquiry. Zuma should make the announcement in his State of the Nation address on Thursday, Crawford-Browne said.

*STAR*

## Did Zuma cancel walkabout over fear of protest?

A planned walkabout by President Jacob Zuma in Gugulethu, Cape Town, was abruptly cancelled yesterday - but the African National Congress (ANC) denied the reason was because of threatened protests linked to Zuma's sexual conduct. Zuma spent most of yesterday in an ANC national working committee (NWC) meeting at Parliament, where lengthy discussions took place with the provincial task team in charge of rebuilding the party's shattered machinery in the Western Cape. The Star claims that a well-placed source told them that Zuma's walkabout would be met by protesters organised by the Democratic Alliance (DA), Congress of the People (COPE) and Genderlinks and was therefore promptly cancelled. The ANC denies this, but conflicting reasons were given for the decision.

*STAR; THE TIMES; PRETORIA NEWS;*

## BUSINESS BRIEF

In Business news today, the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) of North America has lent its support to striking Fawu members at ABI. Visiting officials from SEIU called on Coca-Cola to improve workers' conditions and pay. The protracted strike at ABI, however, ended last night after a settlement was reached with Fawu. ABI last night welcomed the end to the dispute which had been marred by violence. Direct specialist retailer Verimark's share price has crept up past the 50c mark in the past three months, the biggest leap since the group's attempt to delist in May. The media more often gets stories wrong than right, says award winning UK journalist Nick Davies. The main reasons are commercialisation through corporate ownership and a growing reliance on public relations spokespersons who put their own spin on events.

*NEWS REVIEWS*

## Media tempers could flare

Fears of filing rage breaking out at 2010 World Cup media facilities after cricket writers complained about facilities at some stadiums during the recent test series have been allayed by the organisers. About 15 000 media representatives are expected to attend the World Cup. With billions of people expected to watch the first Africa-hosted World Cup on television, and almost \$3 billion in broadcast rights at stake, South Africa's communications infrastructure will be under enormous pressure to distribute reports on the games as well as the antics of the players, WAGS (wives and girlfriends) and fans. Cricket writers, frustrated by poor connections at the Newlands stadium during the recent cricket test series, expressed concern that if their experiences were anything to go by, there might be flared tempers in the press boxes. "If they can't cope with the cricket matches, those overseas journalists are going to freak," said one writer, who spoke anonymously.

*CITIZEN (Second Edition)*

## Not enough checking of facts, forum told

The media more often gets stories wrong than right, says award winning UK journalist Nick Davies. The main reasons are commercialisation through corporate ownership and a growing reliance on public relations spokespersons who put their own spin on events. Davies told a media forum at the University of the Witwatersrand on the state of journalism yesterday that a study he commissioned in 2 000 news reports in UK papers - The Times, the Daily Telegraph, the Guardian, the Independent and the Daily Mail - found that only 12% had sufficient fact checking. This was not surprising, considering that journalists were producing three times as much copy in newspapers as those writing in 1985, according to the same study.

*BUSINESS DAY (National)*

## Internet providers 'set to consolidate'

Falling consumer broadband prices will spur consolidation in the internet services industry, according to a report published yesterday, as tighter margins lead to small providers being swallowed up by larger rivals. The report by consultancy BMI-Techknowledge (BMI-T) said industry turnover grew at a compound annual growth rate of 27% between 2007 and last year to a total of R16.6 billion. That would slow to 11% in the next five years, as increased competition among internet providers put pressure on prices. Total revenue was expected to hit R28 billion in 2014.

*BUSINESS DAY (National), Companies & Markets; BUSINESS DAY (National)*

## Maize rises as prices gain in the US

Maize in South Africa rose as prices gained in the US, which competes for export markets in Africa. White maize for March delivery rose R16, or 1.36%, to close at R1 220 a ton on the South African Futures Exchange. Yellow maize for July delivery rose R15, or 1.2%, to R1 284 a ton. Wheat for March delivery increase R26, or 1.2%, to R2 150 a ton.

*BUSINESS DAY (National)*

## BANKING BRIEF

In Banking news this morning, comments from Reserve Bank Deputy-Governor Xolile Guma, implying that South Africa's rate cutting cycle may soon be reversed, took economists by surprise yesterday; and Standard Bank's Group Chief Economist, Goolam Ballim, said in his address to a large group of guests from the KwaZulu-Natal business community at an event in Durban recently, that South Africa's export sector will lead the economic recovery in 2010, buoyed by trade with India, China and other developing markets. Looking at business, First National Bank (FNB) executives convened a fiery meeting yesterday morning following leaks on messaging system; and companies need to improve their oversight of risk management in the wake of the financial crisis, accounting analysts warned yesterday.

*NEWS REVIEWS*

## Rand and dollar report

The rand continued to track euro-dollar play in the afternoon session yesterday amid very little action as markets looked to take a breather. At 15:42, the rand was bid at R7.767 to the dollar from R7.746. It was bid at R10.619 to the euro from R10.584 and was at R12.103 against the sterling from R12.095. The euro was bid at \$1 366 from \$1 364.

*BUSINESS DAY (National), Companies & Markets*

## SA deficit 'close to the wind'

South Africa was financially "sailing closer to the wind" as it was set to run its first major deficit since 2006, Control Risks, one of the world's biggest global risk consultancies, announced yesterday. Anne Fruehauf, an African analyst, added that the country's financing requirements of its capital spending programme stood to increase debt financings pressure to levels not witnessed since the late 1990s. Control Risks provides information, advice and practical support to most of the Fortune Global 500 companies.

*BUSINESS REPORT (Star)*

## Comments by Guma spark fears of rate hike

Comments from Reserve Bank Deputy-Governor Xolile Guma, implying that South Africa's rate cutting cycle may soon be reversed, took economists by surprise. According to reports from Sydney at the weekend, Guma said in an interview that local policy-makers were considering whether or not to maintain stimulus measures introduced to help the economy out of the recent recession. He is attending the 50th anniversary celebrations of the Reserve Bank of Australia. While central banks in many countries were forced to flood their financial markets with cash to keep them from stalling, this was not the case in South Africa. The key intervention in the local economy was to cut the bank's repo rate from 12% to 7%.

*BUSINESS REPORT (Star)*

## SA export sector to lead economic recovery

Standard Bank's Group Chief Economist, Goolam Ballim, said in his address to a large group of guests from the KwaZulu-Natal business community at an event in Durban recently, that South Africa's export sector will lead the economic recovery in 2010, buoyed by trade with India, China and other developing markets, however domestic household income and expenditure will remain subdued this year. He said one of the main reasons is that South African trade is now strongly linked to India and China. Ballim added that households will not have such a strong year, because several consumers lost their jobs last year.

*WITNESS*

## Provisional tax may be tougher

The payment of provisional tax could be tougher now that the South African Revenue Services (SARS) had changed the rules, BJM Private Clients said yesterday. Provisional taxpayers must make their second provisional tax payment of the tax year by the end of the month. "They have to apply new rules rather than depend on the old system whereby they could estimate their exposure based on previous assessment," said BJM Private Clients.

*BUSINESS DAY (National)*

## Banks work on listing this year

Investment banks were preparing Life Healthcare, one of South Africa's biggest private hospital operators, for a public listing, people familiar with the matter said yesterday. Credit Suisse and Morgan Stanley - as well as Nedbank - were working on a listing, they said. The step towards an initial public offering comes as private investors prepare to sell or list a string of medical and health care firms. Life Healthcare was not available for comment. Brimstone, Credit Suisse and Morgan Stanley declined to comment.

*BUSINESS REPORT (Star) ; CITIZEN, Citi Business*

## Absa may be drawn into SSF probe

The R1 billion lawsuit against Nedbank arising from single stock future (SSF) transactions that went awry in 2008 may also place Absa Capital's SSF activities under scrutiny. On Friday, Nedbank warned shareholders on the Stock Exchange News Service (Sens) that it was facing "lengthy legal proceedings" after three businessmen - Dave Mostert, Mervyn Key and Ivor Stratford - suffered serious financial losses trading SSFs in property group Acc-Ross (now renamed Pinnacle Point). Brian Kennedy, head of Nedbank Capital, dismissed the claim as being "vague and opportunistic." However, some analysts believe the businessmen are pursuing the claim not because it may be successful, but because it will force Nedbank to disclose further details around trading activities leading up to the collapse of SSF positions which sank broker Cortex Securities.

*FIN24.CO.ZA - FINWEEK*

## Frail SA recovery causes concern

A timid recovery in business confidence is worrying the SA Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Sacci), which says that the recession has led to a reserved and cagey environment. Sacci's BCI - a composite weighted index of 13 sub-indices, dipped 2.3 index points to 81.2 in January 2010 from the month before. Compared to January 2009, the index is 1.2 index points lower. "The tentative recovery of business confidence in South Africa is cause for concern, especially among the peer group of emerging market economies," said Sacci after the release of its business confidence index (BCI) for January 2010. Sacci said a restoration in confidence is key to economic growth.

*FIN24.CO.ZA - FINWEEK ; BUSINESS REPORT (Star)*

## Nedbank probed as Pinnacle minorities cry foul

The Securities Regulation Panel (SRP) will hold a hearing on allegations that Nedbank Group in 2006-2008 acquired a majority stake in AccRoss Holdings, now known as Pinnacle Point Group, without disclosing to other shareholders that it was a buyer. The Financial Services Board (FSB) also confirmed yesterday that it was investigating possible share price manipulation in AccRoss and Pinnacle. The SRP investigation suggests that Nedbank may have contravened JSE takeover regulations and it may be exposed to legal action that could result in it paying claimants more than R1 billion.

*BUSINESS DAY (National)*

## SPORTING HIGHLIGHTS

Dale Steyn's remarkable bowling performance on the third day of the first Test against India provided further proof that South Africa possess, in Steyn, the best bowler in cricket today. Steyn ended with figures of 7/51 as India was dismissed for 233 in their first innings, chasing the Proteas' 558/6 declared. His performance, together with Hashim Amla's 253 not out, has placed the Proteas in a very strong position heading into today's fourth day, requiring a further eight wickets in India's follow-on innings to take a 1-0 lead in the two-Test series. That SA find themselves in this position against the No 1 team in the world, away from home and with so much time left in the match is an achievement in itself following the turmoil that preceded the tour. But the Proteas have shown themselves to be true professionals and, therefore, find themselves on the verge of a great win.

*News Review*

## Burger fit for Super 14 opener

Schalk Burger has been declared fit for the Stormers' Super 14 opener against the Lions in Johannesburg on Saturday. The captain left the field after 14 minutes of the Stormers warm-up match against Boland last Saturday with a shoulder injury, prompting fears he would not be fit for the opener. Coach Allister Coetzee, however, described the ailment as a slight muscle injury, which will not keep Burger out of the match.

*CITIZEN (Second Edition), Sport*

## GLRU's complaint to be heard tomorrow

The Golden Lions Rugby Union's (GLRU's) complaint against the KwaZulu-Natal Rugby Union and players Willem Alberts and Louis Ludik will be heard tomorrow, the South African Rugby Union said yesterday. The Lions argue that the Sharks did not obtain the necessary clearance certificates before contracting the players, and insist they remain under contract to them.

*THE TIMES*

## Brilliant Steyn destroys India

Dale Steyn recorded career-best figures of 7/51 as South Africa dismissed India for 233 in their first innings on the third day of the first Test in Nagpur yesterday. India were then forced to follow on and finished the day on 66/2, still 259 runs behind South Africa's first innings total of 558/6 declared.

*STAR, Sport*

## Tricky encounter awaits for SuperSport

Premier Soccer League (PSL) title-holders and current log leaders SuperSport United face a tricky encounter when they travel to Athlone Stadium to face Santos tonight. Fourth-placed Santos consider themselves dark horses for the title and insist tonight's clash is crucial for their own aspirations, with Chief Operations Officer, Edries Burton, saying yesterday the team would keep fighting "until the fat lady sings, whenever that may be".

*BUSINESS DAY (National), Sports Day*

## INDICATORS

Rand - Dollar \$	7.6950	(+0.0008)
Rand - Sterling £	12.0173	(+0.0159)
Rand - Euro €	10.5198	(+0.0050)
JSE Allshare	26041.9	(+248.90)
Gold	1064.0	(+6.00)
Platinum	1477.0	(+2.00)
Brent Crude Oil	70.3	(+0.74)

The figures quoted are from the close of business yesterday, along with any movement, either up or down, from the previous day.

## WEATHER

Bloemfontein	18	(30)
Cape Town	20	(24)
Durban	23	(32)
East London	22	(34)
Johannesburg	16	(25)
Kimberley	19	(32)
Mafikeng	18	(29)
Nelspruit	21	(29)
Pietermaritzburg	20	(36)
Polokwane	19	(28)
Port Elizabeth	21	(32)
Pretoria	19	(27)