

The Friday Paper

with **The Continent**

SOUTH AFRICAN JOURNALISM | 3 OCTOBER 2025 | ISSUE 1

**The City of Gold's
new gleam**

Graphic: John McCann



Message from the publisher:

A declaration of force majeure

Earlier today, as our editorial team was putting the final touches on the pilot edition of *The Friday Paper*, someone walked into our layout designer's office and stole his laptop and his phone. He is unharmed. On that laptop were all the layout files for this edition. Without them, we could not complete the production process.

Fortunately, he had previously emailed a near-final version of the newspaper, which is what you are reading now. It is accurate and up to date in all respects, except for:

- The headline on the textbox on page 3 was supposed to change to 'Help us build a new South African newspaper'.
- There is an errant phrase in the weather report on page 4. The titanic battle between winter and spring weather systems is not, in fact, influenced by the tug of the moon.
- Most importantly, from our perspective at least, is that none of the links to where you can sign up to receive the next edition of *The Friday Paper* – probably in early October – are activated. To subscribe – at no cost, and with no passwords – visit <http://thefridaypaper.co.za/>

Thank you for your consideration. Please enjoy the newspaper, and share it with anyone else who might appreciate world class South African journalism.

EDITORIAL

The world is a noisy place. Let's turn the volume down, together.

MILLENNIA ago, humans could communicate only as far as they could shout. Things were quieter then.

But as our technology has evolved – from cave paintings to writing systems to the printing press – we have figured out how to communicate across language barriers and continents and even time itself. This skill is the main reason

why humans are the planet's dominant life form. It gives us the tools to share, to learn, to create – and to warn.

Today, we communicate more than ever before. Exponentially more. We can tap our fingers against a pane of tempered glass and access almost the entirety of human knowledge. At any moment, thousands of different voices are competing for our attention, simultaneously and in every imaginable format. They are competing to entertain us, or inform us, or mislead us.

If you are feeling overwhelmed, you're not the only one.

But giving up is not an option. Switching off is not an option. To make this country work, we need to be active, engaged and informed.

We believe the best way to stay informed is to read a newspaper. A newspaper, produced by seasoned journalists, that carefully curates the news on your behalf. A newspaper that prioritises accuracy over speed, and facts over sensation. A newspaper that recognises that our country, and our world, is about more than just politics and strife – but also beauty, imagination and ingenuity.

Let's make that newspaper together.

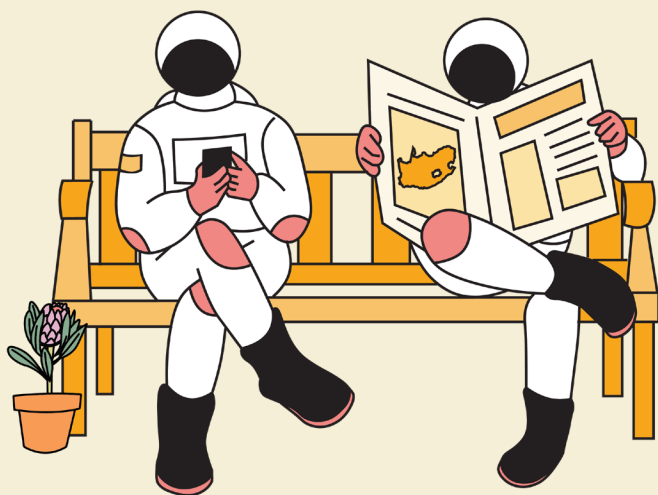
Help us build *The Friday Paper*

This is a pilot edition. An experiment in what a 21st-century South African newspaper should look like. To get the next edition delivered directly to you, for free, please visit TheFridayPaper.co.za.

The Friday Paper is published by All Protocol Observed, a non-profit media company. All Protocol Observed also publishes *The Continent*, Africa's most widely-read newspaper. The pilot edition of *The Friday Paper* was put together by experienced journalists drawn from *The Continent* and *Mail & Guardian* newsrooms.

We live in the same country.

Let's read from the same page.



The Friday Paper

Kumsa Masizana

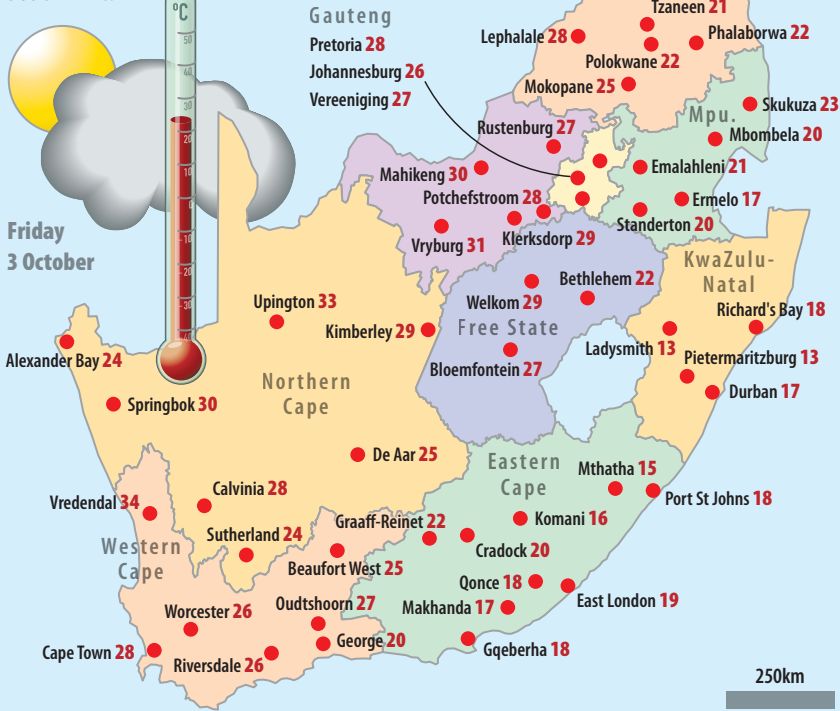
SPRING is associated with renewal and rejuvenation, hope and new beginnings. But above our heads, a titanic battle is being waged between two competing weather systems on a planetary scale, its fortunes dictated by the tilt of the Earth's axis and the tug of the moon. September and October are about transition: despite rising temperatures driven by warm air from the north, winter is fighting back. Different regions can expect entirely different conditions over the next weeks. The

The weather report

winter weather system is being forced south, but it is still brushing along the coastline, causing cooler temperatures and rough seas. In the central provinces, after a long, dry winter, winds are kicking up dust storms so large they can sometimes be seen on satellites. Up north, the heat is settling in and the moisture in the air triggering isolated thunderstorms, which help push the cold weather even further south, cementing spring's inevitable victory. Kumsa Masizana is a meteorologist and broadcaster.

Maximum temperatures

South Africa



ALL THE NEWS YOU NEED TO KNOW



Suicide suspected in Mthethwa death

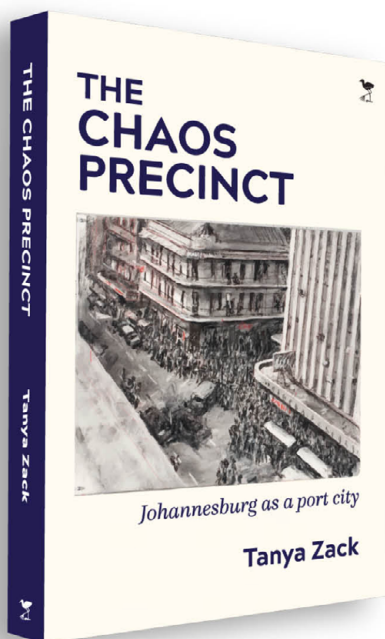
“Initial investigations suggest that this may have been a deliberate act, without third-party intervention,” said French prosecutors looking into the death of Nathi Mthethwa. The former police minister, who was serving as South Africa’s ambassador to France, was found dead after falling from the 22nd floor of the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Paris on Monday. Mthethwa, 58, was a controversial figure. He was implicated in multiple corruption scandals – most recently in testimony before the Madlanga Commission of Inquiry. The commission has not confirmed reports that Mthethwa had been summoned to appear before it.

The R2-billion hospital heist

Three coordinated criminal syndicates have looted R2-billion from Tembisa Hospital, the Special Investigating Unit said in an interim report: “This staggering sum, intended for the provision of healthcare to the most vulnerable, was instead ruthlessly siphoned off through a complex web of fraud and corruption.” The only reason we – or, indeed, the SIU – know about any of this is thanks to a whistleblower: Babita Deokaran, an accountant at the Gauteng department of health. For her courage, she was assassinated in 2021.

As Gaza starves, Israel intercepts aid flotilla

A flotilla of civilian boats carrying humanitarian aid to Gaza was intercepted by Israeli naval vessels on Thursday, while still in international waters. Several boats were boarded by Israeli military forces, who detained their occupants. Among the detainees are Nelson Mandela’s grandson, Mandla Mandela; South African author Zukiswa Wanner; and political activist Greta Thunberg. After more than two years of war, nearly a third of Palestinians are facing famine conditions caused by the Israeli blockade, according to the United Nations. Israel denies these allegations.



'... Meticulously researched, humane and compelling portrait of people and place.'

– Loren B. Landau

'...A rich and thoughtful, and respectful portrait of Johannesburg's global entrepôt. A landmark study of the city.'

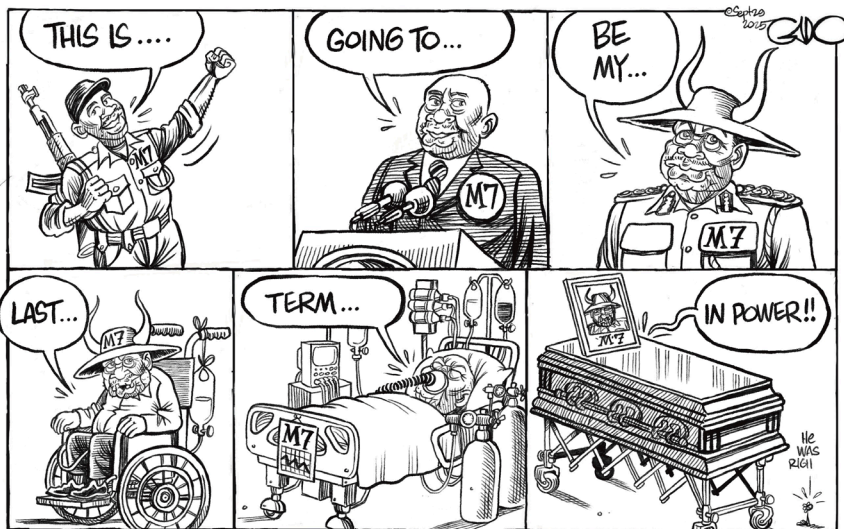
– Jonny Steinberg

'A beautiful, evocative, smart, erudite love letter to Johannesburg from a prodigious and energetic writer. This brilliant book will change the way you look at Johannesburg or any city anywhere in the world.'

– Justice Malala

'...A brilliant, profound, page-turning read... we emerge, somewhat dizzy but illuminated, and with a new perspective on the city, the country, the continent, and the globalized economy as it operates at the level of the street.'

– Mark Gevisser



Uganda's Yoweri 'M7' Museveni has been cleared to run in next year's presidential election. He's been in power since 1986. Cyril Ramaphosa acquired his beloved Ankole cattle from Museveni's ranch – let's hope he didn't pick up any other tendencies while he was there.

Family fights over Mabuza's millions

Former deputy president David "DD" Mabuza died in July, leaving behind a R44.7-million life annuity. A court said this week that the money can't be released until his family can figure out how to divide it. The key point of contention is whether the whole amount should go to Mabuza's widow, or whether special provision should be made for his daughter from another marriage. The daughter, Tamara Mnisi – a first-year university student – is requesting R40,000 per month in living expenses, according to *Mpumalanga News*, saying this is how much she received while her father was alive.

"South Africa, please keep it up"

Jeremy Corbyn, the former Labour Party leader in the UK, was in Cape Town on Wednesday to address a pro-Palestine rally. He singled out South Africa's government for praise, according to *GroundUp*. "Reflecting that South Africa had been through the hell of apartheid and all the horrors that went with that, and yet had the courage to take the case to the ICJ, I thank them for what they've done," Corbyn said. South Africa was the first country in the world to use international law to hold Israel accountable for perpetrating a genocide in Gaza – taking considerable diplomatic risks to do so.

Pretoria boy at Putin propaganda party

On 12 September in St Petersburg, Russia inaugurated the “international league of anti-globalists” – a network of far-right organisations from around the world. Representing South Africa on this inauspicious stage was Francois van der Merwe. He is the director of the Bittereinders, a right-wing organisation dedicated to the “prosperity and survival of the Boere-Afrikaner

nation in all its forms”. Its logo is in the colours of the old apartheid flag. Also present were prominent Kremlin propagandists – including a political theorist sometimes referred to as “Putin’s brain” – and a member of Germany’s far-right AfD party. “People mustn’t be that afraid, it’s just a group of people coming together in a good cause,” Van der Merwe told *The Friday Paper*.

Malema’s bad day in court

Economic Freedom Fighters leader Julius Malema has been found guilty of recklessly endangering lives by firing a gun at an EFF rally in 2018. The judgment was delivered in the East London Municipal Court this week. It described Malema as an “entertaining” but ultimately ineffective witness in his own defence – like when he said he was unable to count gunshots “because he had graduated in woodwork”. Sentencing proceedings begin



Photo: Lulama Zenzile/Die Burger/Gallo Images

in January where Malema could be jailed for 15 years. Malema will appeal the verdict, and has described the case – brought by lobby group Afriforum – as racist and biased.

South Africa makes Emmy history

We’re not usually in the business of seeking external validation – but it’s nice when it comes. This week, South African productions received a record-breaking five nominations at the International Emmy Awards. This is the most ever achieved by an African country in a single year, according to

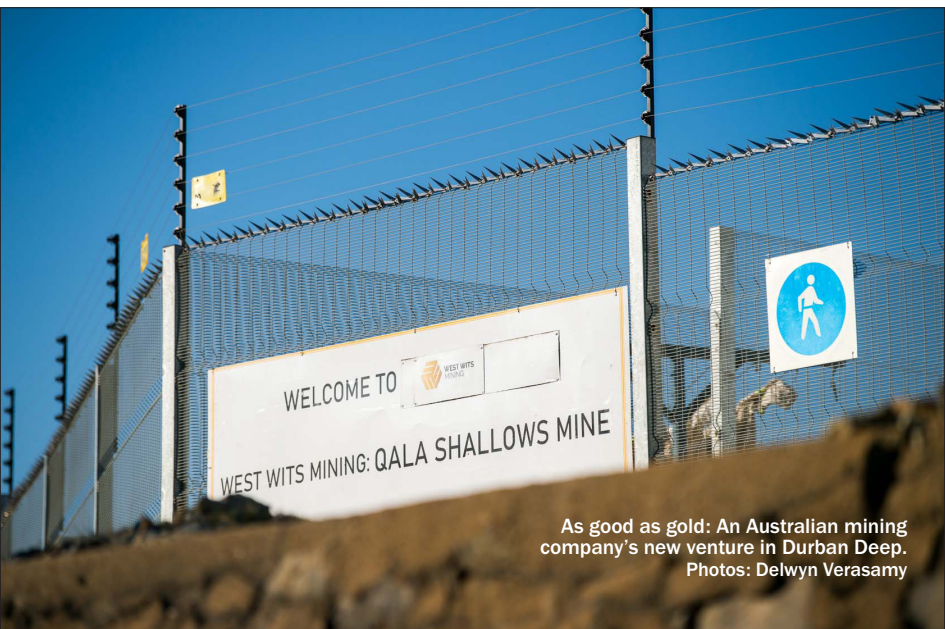
the Connect Everything Collective. The recognised entries included true crime drama *Catch Me a Killer*; Cape Town-based crime comedy *Koek*; the documentary *School Ties*; children’s show *Play Room Live*; and *Chasing the Sun 2*, which followed the Springboks as they won the 2023 Rugby World Cup.

REPORT



eGoli gets a new mine

Hundreds of metres beneath the surface, a global gold rush is playing out in Johannesburg's abandoned shafts and contaminated soil.



As good as gold: An Australian mining company's new venture in Durban Deep.
Photos: Delwyn Verasamy



New prospects: The rising gold price has meant a revival for South Africa's gold industry.

Kabir Jugram in Johannesburg

IF WEALTH is measured in gold, then South Africa is the richest country in history. Forty percent of all the gold that has ever been mined was dug up from the soil of Johannesburg and the Witwatersrand Basin that surrounds it. Forty percent. This nation could have been as rich as Norway – had its vast natural fortune not been squandered on establishing, and then maintaining, a white supremacist state.

South Africa's gilded age is long behind it, however. Most of the easy gold has been extracted, leaving behind thousands of kilometres of abandoned shafts, contaminated soil, and toxic mine water. Today the industry employs fewer than 100,000 people – down

from half a million in its heyday – and South Africa has slipped out of the top 10 of global producers.

Last year, economists were writing off the prospects for the country's gold industry. But then the price of gold began rising. And rising. And rising. On Monday, another record high: in the United States, traders paid over \$3,800 (R64,000) for a single troy ounce (31.1g) of gold.

That's a 45% increase on last year. \$5,000 per ounce is a matter of when, not if, say some analysts.

Blame Donald Trump. The American president, famously, loves gold. He has plastered the Oval Office with gold trim and gilded objects. But that's not what is driving the price of the metal.

Instead, it is Trump's erratic economic policies – along with a general sense that the world order is collapsing around us – which are forcing investors to seek a “safe haven” for their money. And ever since Croesus minted the first gold coin in the Kingdom of Lydia (in modern-day Türkiye) in 550 BC, gold has been the safest haven of all.

As gold increases in value, so does the incentive to fight over it – causing further global instability, which pushes the price even higher. In Sudan, for example, illicit gold mining is one of the economic drivers of the civil war. In Mali, militants are battling with the junta-led government over key gold-producing towns, while that same government is nationalising gold production to shore up its own finances.

The record price is also changing the economic calculus for mining companies, who are searching for new deposits – or looking to re-open mines that had previously been abandoned. And there are more abandoned gold mines in and around Johannesburg than anywhere else in the world.

Gold in them hills

The origin story of the first commercial mining on the Highveld goes back to July 1886, when an English prospector called George Harrison was credited with finding traces of the precious metal on a farm called Langlaagte. He

later sold his rights for a pittance and became embroiled in various legal difficulties, including “as a witness in an unsavoury court case involving a native woman”. Harrison's eventual fate is uncertain. “Some say Harrison left for Barberton, but was killed by lions,” says the City of Joburg on its website.

Harrison's find sparked a gold rush, and a settlement developed to support



Ever since Croesus minted the first gold coin in the Kingdom of Lydia in 550 BC, gold has been the safest haven of all

the new industry: Johannesburg, eGoli, the City of Gold. The city has little other reason for being. It is the largest city in the world without its own natural water source – no rivers, lakes or oceans – and the land that surrounds it is not particularly fertile.

But there is still gold. More of it remains buried under the sprawling metropolis than has ever been dug up – but this is difficult and expensive to extract, and likely to cause further environmental degradation.



A shaft of hope: Qala Shallows has promised to create 1,000 new jobs. Photos: Delwyn Verasamy

Enter West Wits Mining, a small Australian mining company. It announced last month that it is opening a new underground gold mine in Durban Deep, to the west of Johannesburg. The site is called Qala Shallows, because the shaft in question is just 850 metres deep. This, for the Witwatersrand, is “shallow” (the shaft at nearby Mponeng Mine is the world’s deepest, extending nearly four kilometres below ground).

West Wits has promised to create 1,000 new jobs, and is forecasting that the new mine will generate \$2.7-billion in revenue over the next 17 years. On its website, the company projects an annual output of around 70,000 ounces of gold for more than a decade, and nearly 1-million ounces over the mine’s lifespan.

For the government, the Qala Shallows development signals revival for

an industry thought to be in terminal decline – and is cause for considerable optimism. “This investment signals renewed confidence in the potential of new gold projects and reaffirms South Africa as a mining investment country of choice,” said Minister in the Presidency Khumbudzo Ntshavheni.

Following the reef

Drive west, towards the sunset, along Main Reef Road, and the city disappears quickly. The road is named for the reef, or “rand” in Afrikaans – the seam that carried the gold, for which the South African currency is named. Tightly packed matchbox homes and battered office parks give way to bare soil. Dusty mountains loom ahead.

The Qala Shallows site is ringed by an electric fence. A group of security guards hover around its main entrance.



On the right road: A new mine means job opportunities but not for the zama zamas

Outside, a cluster of men sporting earrings and boeps huddle around a dirty Polo Vivo. “The mine is a very good thing. Before this, I was just sitting at home doing nothing,” Vee told *The Friday Paper*. He came from Limpopo to apply for a job at Qala. He does not want to give his full name in case it jeopardises his chances of getting a job. “Mining is not a joke, brah. But I do it because I have to.”

As vehicles stream towards the mine, crammed with young men looking for work, other men are walking in the opposite direction. With rags over their heads to combat the blistering sun, they disappear into the veld. These are zama zamas, or informal miners. Several hundred of them work the abandoned mine shafts around Durban Deep, spending days at a time underground.

“If they [West Wits] want to take my

work, I will force my way. We all will!” says John. That is not his real name. He has been living in the area, sleeping underground, for two years. He claims to be protected by local gangs, who pay the police to turn a blind eye.

Informal mining is precarious, dangerous work. But it generates real money: some estimates suggest that gold to the value of R800-million is smuggled out of the country through these illicit networks every year. That’s 10% of South Africa’s entire gold production. They too will benefit from the gold price spike – and operate with tight connections to both law enforcement and ruling elites.

The resumption of formal mining may threaten this arrangement, with unpredictable consequences.

The stakes are high. The gold price, for now, is higher.

The photo essay



Quiet harmonies

South Africa's migrant labour system forced men to leave their homes to work in mines. On weekends, the men would gather in hostels to compete in all-night singing contests. In this context, music and dance were a form of resistance – a way to hold on to cultural identity and pride. Out of this grew Isicathamiya, one of the nation's most beloved musical genres. It is named for the Zulu word "cathama", which means to walk or tread softly. The harmonies are subdued and the dance moves carefully synchronised. This year's National Isicathamiya Competition was held at The Playhouse in Durban on 20 September.

Rajesh Jantilal was there, with his camera, for *The Friday Paper*.





COMMENT

Troubling allegations swirl around DStv's new owner

Vincent Bolloré, a controversial French billionaire with ties to right-wing politics, has been accused of promoting Islamophobia and Israeli propaganda.

Simon Allison

FORGET superyachts and private planes: media empires are the new plaything for the world's richest men. Jeff Bezos has *The Washington Post*. Larry Ellison is about to conclude a series of deals that will give him control of CNN, Warner Brothers, Paramount and a piece of TikTok. South Africa's very own Elon Musk bought the social media platform formerly known as Twitter.

Vincent Bolloré may not be quite as rich as those three, but his \$9.5-billion fortune still makes him the 11th-richest person in France, according to *Forbes*. And over the last few years, Bolloré has been quietly building his own media empire, which includes Canal+ – the largest private broadcaster in the francophone world – and various French newspapers and TV stations.

In France, Bolloré's outlets have been accused of bringing far-right views into the mainstream – and promoting Islamophobia and Israeli propaganda. Harvard University's media watchdog Nieman Reports has described his network as the "Fox News of France".

Bolloré's extreme views are suddenly very relevant to South African audiences, given his recent acquisition of MultiChoice. Canal+ spent R34-billion to acquire a controlling stake in the company which owns DStv, ShowMax and SuperSport.

In unveiling a new leadership team last week, Canal+ Africa's CEO David Mignot boasted of "an exceptional track record across the continent". He did not reference accusations made by Reporters Without Borders that Canal+ amends its programming at the behest of authoritarian African presidents – including, in December 2023, suspending three channels critical of Guinean junta leader Mamady Doumbouya.

Bolloré himself is on trial for corruption: French prosecutors think he bribed the president of Togo to secure a port deal. Bolloré maintains his innocence. He needs to prove himself to his new audiences in South Africa, too.

Simon Allison is *The Continent's* co-founder and international editor. He is on the executive board of the International Press Institute.

Q&A

Making sense of Malema's millions

In a new book, two leading investigative journalists set out to document Julius Malema's wealth. Spoiler alert: the EFF leader has been doing some very dodgy business. *The Friday Paper* spoke to co-author Micah Reddy.

So how rich is Julius Malema?

We don't have a full picture because we don't have complete access to his bank statements or company accounts. We do have detailed snapshots of certain times of his life. If we go back to 2012, the South African Revenue Service found that Malema had an undeclared income of R13-million. He had only declared R1-million. More recently, we see millions of rands sloshing through accounts linked to him and his associates. And we put his property assets at around R20-million.

Without giving away too many spoilers, where does his money come from?

For the most part, Malema's money comes from politically connected businesspeople. There are multiple reasons for paying him. They may think they are donating to the EFF when they are paying into these front companies. Sometimes they are paying for specific favours. Sometimes they are paying hush money – to stop Malema and the EFF from criticising a project or a deal.

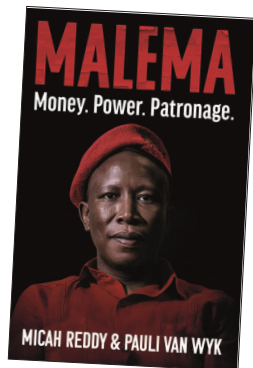
As his political career has stalled, has the money slowed down too?

The last election was a bruising defeat, and his party is much diminished. Because his financial dealings are totally enabled by his political activities, one would assume that it's getting harder for him. He has implied as much. At the EFF's last People's Assembly, he criticised businesspeople for turning away from the party.

What's the most surprising thing you learnt about Malema while writing this book?

It's the sheer scale of his many schemes, and how varied and extensive they were. He had all his fingers in so many different pies. When you see it all laid out in one book, it's staggering.

Malema: Money. Power. Patronage by Micah Reddy and Pauli van Wyk is published by Tafelberg



SPORT



Striking it rich: Dewald Brevis was bought for R16.5 million at the SA20 auction. Photo: William West/AFP

How to captain a multimillionaire

The Pretoria Capitals' highest-paid player will be making 80 times more than most of his teammates. That makes for complex locker-room dynamics.

Niren Tolsi

DEWALD BREVIS is used to breaking records. The middle-order batting berserker holds the highest individual T20 total by any Proteas player (125 not out against Australia last month), as well as the highest domestic score in the short format of the game.

Earlier this month, Brevis broke another record – this one off the pitch. At the player auction for the SA20 – an officially licensed local offshoot of the Indian Premier League (IPL) – a R16.5-million price tag was stapled to his spanking new Pretoria Capitals kit. That's the most ever paid for a player by a South



No takers: Temba Bavuma went unsold at the SA20 player auction. Photo: Dibyangshu Sargar/AFP

African franchise and will secure the batsman's services for the duration of the one-month tournament, which begins in late December.

The 22-year-old Brevis will be earning more than 80 times the income of most of his teammates, who are on a base salary of R200,000. His massive paycheck is supplemented by lucrative endorsements from Red Bull, Oakley, Volvo, and Adidas, as well as contracts with other T20 leagues around the world.

Top South African players selected by Indian franchises for the IPL have

banked even more: Sunrisers Hyderabad paid R49.3-million for wicket-keeper-batsman Heinrich Klaasen and fast-bowler Kagiso Rabada went to the Gujarat Titans for R23-million.

Also available at the SA20 player auction was Proteas skipper Temba Bavuma. Despite captaining the national side to the World Test Championship trophy earlier this year, no team bid for his services. He was not selected last year either. His primary income is the central contract he receives from Cricket South Africa, worth an estimated R4.5-million a year.

At the national level, the disparity in income between superstar players and their captain can complicate team dynamics.

Speaking to me earlier this year, Bavuma said: “For a guy like myself who’s never had that – who has never had his value being propped up because of T20 cricket – you know, when you have to deal with certain guys, it can be challenging ... You kind of have to convince the individual or individuals before they give you that trust, before they back you [as captain].”

Bavuma was speaking generally and did not pick out any players specifically.

“It feels like that money has a role to play ... if I’m earning \$30-million or whatever it is, it’s kind of like, ‘I’m a bigger fish in the pond.’”

Speaking to the press after making the record bid for Brevis, Pretoria Capitals coach Sourav Ganguly downplayed these concerns. “I hope he does well. I never relate performance to money.”

The gaudy late-stage capitalist pagentry of the IPL and its various international offshoots suggests otherwise, however. Big-hitting batsmen go for staggering sums to feed a format that demands endless fours and sixes. In an echo of colonial resource extraction, IPL franchises mine other countries for the rich vein of talent they produce: South African fast-bowlers are thoroughbreds to be stockpiled and the flair of Caribbean batsmen can light up any IPL franchise.

Underperforming players, meanwhile, are ruthlessly discarded in favour of the “next big thing”.

All this money rarely trickles down into the other formats of the game, or to the domestic tournaments and support networks that are essential to developing talent. Brevis is a case in point: after being discarded after a difficult initial stint with the Mumbai Indians in 2022, he returned home to hone his craft in South Africa’s domestic leagues.

This was the “best thing that could have happened to Brevis”, said

In an echo of colonial resource extraction, IPL franchises mine other countries for the rich vein of talent they produce

fast-bowling legend Allan Donald – ignoring the fact that the clubs and communities that forged him don’t get similar paydays.

This, then, is the dirty end point of a grassroots-development supply chain that exists to service the highest bidders from among India’s cricketing elite – not to mention the ethnonationalist political interests of parties like India’s Bharatiya Janata Party, which controls the Board of Control for Cricket in India, which controls the IPL.

Brevis gets his record payday – but at what cost to his teams and the fabric of the game itself?

Niren Tolsi is a journalist and the author of *Writing Around the Wicket: Race, Class and History in South African Cricket*.

LIVE MUSIC REVIEW



Definitely not over the Hill

Lauryn Hill at Kyalami Racetrack

★★★★☆

Words and photo: Oupa Nkosi

WHEN the warm-up acts are Zoë Modiga, Mandisi Dyantyi and Lira, you know someone special must be coming next. Sure enough, as the sun set on a warm September evening, one of the greatest rappers in history walked onto the stage. Lauryn Hill wore a striking, Basotho-inspired look designed by Johannesburg's own Thebe Magugu (later, fellow Fugee Wyclef Jean would join her on stage in a suit by the same designer).

The atmosphere was electric. It has been 27 years since *The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill* – number one on Apple Music's list of the 100 best albums in history – but Hill didn't miss a beat. Neither did the spellbound crowd, who sang along to favourites like *To Zion* and *Lost One*, revelling in the nostalgia of these iconic tunes they grew up listening to.

As she performed, Hill was flanked by dancers on either side. Their moves were reminiscent of Fela Kuti's dancers, another touch that gave this American icon's gig a uniquely African flavour.

OBITUARY

Sebatatso Mosamo (1986-2025)

Athandiwe Saba

SOUTH AFRICA has lost one of its most powerful witnesses. And we, her friends, have lost a piece of our hearts.

Sebatatso “Sebs” Mosamo’s camera told the story of a nation in motion. For 15 years, she was there at the heart of the moments that defined our democracy. From the dust and grief of Marikana, to the solemn halls of commissions of inquiry, to the roaring crowds of state visits, protests, and presidential announcements, Sebs captured history as it unfolded.

She stood in the midst of Fees Must Fall, where young people demanded their future. She documented elections that shaped our country’s path, the fear and resilience of the Covid-19 pandemic, and the quiet, enduring struggle against poverty and violence. Her images did not just report events, they bore witness. They made the pain visible. They made the joy unforgettable.

And yet, beyond the headlines and breaking news, her proudest work was at home. Her daughter was her heart’s

masterpiece, the centre of her joy. She was there for every recital, every school play, every dress-up day, with the same dedication she brought to her work. Her family, her mother, brothers, and aunts, were her anchor and her song.

Her passing leaves a silence that feels unbearable, but her work, her love, and her courage will keep speak-



Bearing witness: “Sebs” was there to document the aftermath of the Marikana massacre. Photo: Sebatatso Mosamo

ing. South Africa will remember Sebs not just for the history she documented, but for the humanity she poured into every frame and everyone she met and loved.

Rest gently, Sebs. You gave this country the gift of sight and we will never look at ourselves the same way again.

The Big Picture



Herd mentality: Free-roaming cattle in Bulungula, Eastern Cape, often wander down from nearby villages or grazing lands to rest on the warm sand, or cool off near the water.

Photo: Barry Christianson/*The Friday Paper*.

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publisher of The Friday Paper

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