ESWATINI OBSERVER

WEEKLY DIGEST

OCTOBER 30 – NOVEMBER 6, 2026 | THE WEEK IN FOCUS

A curated selection of reporting and commentary across News, Business, Features & Opinion, Entertainment and Sports. Follow each article link for the full story.

News

Matsapha unveils green vision with launch of Silent Eco Park

November 6 • Kwanele Sibiya

Matsapha opens a green public space for recreation and conservation, with future phases planned for cycling, a running track and expanded wetland protection.

https://www.eswatiniobserver.com/matsapha-unveils-green-vision-with-launch-of-silent-eco-park/



Article image: Silent Eco Park.

King's funding drive takes centre stage at CHOGM

November 6 • Nokuzola Thwala

Prime Minister Russell Mmiso Dlamini advances the King's OACPS resource-mobilisation initiative and holds bilateral talks with Rwanda and Ghana's presidents.

https://www.eswatiniobserver.com/kings-funding-drive-takes-centre-stage-at-chogm/



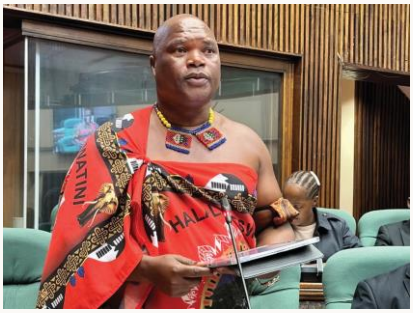
Courtesy image published with the article.

Govt receives 143 salary review appeals

November 5 • Eswatini Observer

Government reports 143 appeals following the public-service salary review. E160 million is provisionally allocated for successful cases, with an independent assessment under consideration.

https://www.eswatiniobserver.com/govt-receives-143-salary-review-appeals/



Public Service Minister Mabulala Maseko.

Business

FNB customer base surges 9.9%, invests E5.4m

November 4 • Nokuzola Thwala

FNB Eswatini reports 9.9% active-customer growth and more than E5.4 million in community investment and sponsorships for the 2025/2026 financial year.

https://www.eswatiniobserver.com/fnb-customer-base-surges-9-9-invests-e5-4m/



FNB CEO Thokozani Dlamini. Courtesy image.

Digital company registrations plunge 70%

November 3 • Musa Simelane

Online registrations decline 70.3% in the second quarter of 2026/27. The commerce ministry cites network disruptions and continued reliance on manual administrative processes.

https://www.eswatiniobserver.com/digital-company-registrations-plunge-70/



Commerce Minister Manqoba Khumalo.

City youth business project delivers 22 jobs

October 29 • Musa Simelane

Closest Available • outside edition dates

Mbabane's youth grass-cutting initiative creates 22 additional jobs, growing its workforce to 34 through a council partnership with the Youth Enterprise Revolving Fund.

https://www.eswatiniobserver.com/city-youth-business-project-delivers-22-jobs/



Image published with the original report.

Features & Opinion

Dominic again? EFA must be joking!

November 3 • Mphikeleli Msibi • Opinion

Msibi questions Dominic Kunene's reinstatement as Sihlangu coach, arguing that local football needs fresh thinking, stronger technical planning and accountable leadership.

https://www.eswatiniobserver.com/dominic-again-efa-must-be-joking/



Image published with the opinion column.

Taiwan and the world creating climate solutions together

November 2 • Eswatini Observer • Opinion

This opinion piece outlines Taiwan's emissions-reduction programmes, carbon pricing and adaptation measures, while advocating meaningful participation in international climate governance.

https://www.eswatiniobserver.com/taiwan-and-the-world-creating-climate-solutions-together/



Taiwan Environment Minister Peng Chi-ming.

A symptom of failed leadership

November 1 • Mbongeni Mbingo • Opinion

Mbingo examines the renewed ENPF board appointment dispute, calling for transparent decisions, meaningful consultation and clearer accountability from the minister and Cabinet.

https://www.eswatiniobserver.com/a-symptom-of-failed-leadership/



Image published with the opinion column.

Entertainment

Comedy & Jazz in the Wild unveils regional line-up

November 4 • Lusito Gule

Gogo Eswatini and Slwane unveil local and regional performers for the inaugural November 28 outdoor event at Stush in the Bush, Kalanga.

https://www.eswatiniobserver.com/comedy-jazz-in-the-wild-unveils-regional-line-up/



Gogo Eswatini and Slwane at the launch.

Simunye fest suffers E1.5m loss

November 4 • Khetsiwe Khumalo

Organisers report losses exceeding E1.5 million after opening-day disruption. Vuvulane Town Board says outstanding safety requirements prompted its intervention before the festival proceeded.

https://www.eswatiniobserver.com/simunye-fest-suffers-e1-5m-loss/



Festival organiser Msutfu Masilela.

'Good luck, sisi' – ENCAC CEO confronts reporter

November 6 • Eswatini Observer

Stanley Dlamini disputes coverage of his Facebook address, saying artists' welfare was addressed. The report also carries ESNAJ's concerns about alleged journalist intimidation.

https://www.eswatiniobserver.com/good-luck-sisi-encac-ceo-confronts-reporter/



ENCAC CEO Stanley Dlamini.

Sports

No team has beaten me twice – Qhogi

November 5 • Sabelo Gwebu

Nsingizini Hotspurs coach Mandla Qhogi strikes a confident tone ahead of the Charity Cup semi-final against Moneni Pirates, while ruling out recalling national Under-23 players.

https://www.eswatiniobserver.com/no-team-has-beaten-me-twice-qhogi/



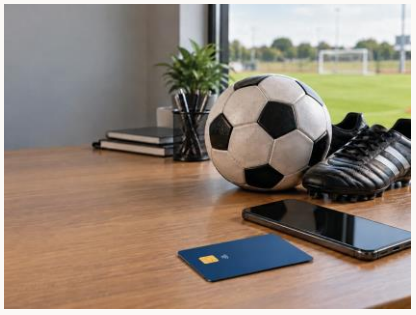
Image published with the original report.

No to paying players under trees – Ally

November 4 • Sabelo Gwebu

Mbabane Black Eagles boss Ally Kgomongwe backs bank-based salary payments and professional treatment of footballers, rejecting salary reductions simply because a team loses matches.

https://www.eswatiniobserver.com/no-to-paying-players-under-trees-ally/



AI-generated conceptual illustration, as labelled by the source.

Eswatini to host Region 5 Marathon in 2028

November 3 • Sabelo Gwebu

AUSC Region 5 chief Stanley Mutoya says the marathon will move to Eswatini in 2028 after South Africa completes its hosting period in 2027.

https://www.eswatiniobserver.com/eswatini-to-host-region-5-marathon-in-2028/



Image published with the original report.

Editor’s Note

This edition brings together stories about public-service concerns, international partnerships and greener urban spaces, alongside developments in banking, enterprise and the creative sector. Our opinion selection considers institutional accountability, football leadership and climate cooperation.

In sport, attention turns to the Charity Cup, players’ welfare and Eswatini’s planned hosting of a regional marathon. Together, these stories offer a snapshot of the issues shaping public conversation as November begins.

Selection note: Articles are dated October 30–November 6, 2026, except the October 29 Business item marked **Closest Available**. Two in-range articles were found in the Business listing reviewed; the nearest earlier item completes that section. Opinion summaries represent the respective writers’ views. All images are sourced from the linked articles; one source image is explicitly labelled as an AI-generated conceptual illustration.

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