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THE NATAL WITNESS, THURSDAY, MAY 30, 2002

IFP aggression

SURPRISE, surprise! Once again we are reminded that the true face of the IFP, with its aggressive warlord features, is never far from the surface. Any attempt to resolve an impasse through negotiation and deliberation is clearly misguided and wasted on the leaders of this party of Zulu nationalists. They have shown repeatedly that they are unprepared to, or possibly incapable of, performing in a democratic and civilised fashion.

As the blatant threats of renewed violence are once again hurled at this battered and damaged province, senior politicians are quick to justify their aggression by accusing the ad-hoc committee established to discuss the legislative capital of not considering all the factors. Since the very purpose of establishing this committee was to allow all roleplayers to present all factors for consideration, and since the IFP, in its supreme arrogance and complete lack of respect for the democratic process, opted to refrain from attending even a single meeting of this sub-committee, IFP national spokesman Musa Zondi is way out of line in raising this as an issue. Add to this the blatantly racist statements emanating from Gideon Zulu (MPL), and it becomes clear that the IFP is still determined to rule in an authoritarian, threatening and non-democratic fashion.

PENNY REID
Pietermaritzburg
(by e-mail, shortened)

THE NATAL WITNESS, THURSDAY, MAY 30, 2002

Tony Leon

IT would appear that Tony Leon believes that "attack is the best line of defence". The headline (Witness, May 27) "Tony Leon fights back" was very apt. His gymnastics, however, do not convince that he has answered, or dealt with, the real issue.

If he, as DP/DA leader, did genuinely not know of Jurgen Harsen's substantial funding (over R100 000) of the DA's legal costs in the court case involving Gerald Morkel, then it would be totally out of character with his role as DP/DA leader.

V. A. VOLKER
Pietermaritzburg
(by e-mail)

Thursday May 30 2002 **SOWETAN**

Leadership crisis in ANC — Holomisa

**By Khangale Makhado
and Ido Lekota**

ON the eve of his meeting today with former president Nelson Mandela, United Democratic Movement (UDM) leader Bantu Holomisa has flatly ruled out rejoining the African National Congress (ANC).

But he indicated that he might be prepared to work with President Thabo Mbeki's Government.

Mandela wanted to discuss the possibility of Holomisa rejoining the ANC.

Holomisa said yesterday that one of the reasons the ANC was trying to woo him was because it was short of capable leadership.

He told *Sowetan* yesterday that another reason for the ANC approaching him could be that it realised the UDM's potential to become a serious opposition party after the 2004 election and a serious contender for power later.

He also argued that the ANC could be reacting to growing pressure from grass-roots supporters, who still regard him as a true comrade.

"The grass roots could be asking the leadership that if you could go to bed with the New National Party, why can't you talk to someone with whom you waged the struggle against apartheid," Holomisa said.

The UDM leader said even former president Nelson Mandela had confirmed that there

was a leadership problem in the ANC and the party needed "the expertise and experience of the likes of Holomisa".

"The reality is that since 1994 there has been a brain drain in the ANC leadership, as some of its members joined the business sector," he said.

Holomisa was expelled from the ANC in 1997 after he

revealed that former Transkei leader and then public enterprises minister Stella Sigcau had received a R50 000 bribe from hotel magnate Sol Kerzner.

He then formed the UDM with Mr. Roelf Meyer, a former National Party cabinet minister, in September 1997. Meyer has since left the UDM.

Yesterday Holomisa said rejoining the ANC "was out of question" but he was open to discussions about a possible role in Mbeki's Government, providing his party approved.

ANC spokesman Mr. Smuts Ngonyama said yesterday that whatever discussion Mandela was having with Holomisa was "in the spirit of trying to realign the various political forces for unity of purpose".

He also poured cold water on Holomisa's claims about the ANC needing leadership.

"Let no one create an impression that the ANC is in desperate need of any party or individuals," Ngonyama said, adding that the ANC was not formally on a "hunt for Holomisa".



Thursday May 30 2002 **SOWETAN**

Write to: The Editor, Sowetan,
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Take a stand: rid Western Cape of corrupt leaders

FOR as long as we have had a democratic Government, the Democratic Alliance and its rich white constituency has been vocal about crime and corruption.

This is to be expected from the so-called official opposition in any democratic society.

The DA has been a right-wing political vagabond. It started out as the Democratic Party which, as we know, was a liberal party that was comfortable with the National Party's apartheid policies.

While it was vocal within the tripartite parliament on some issues, they still felt it necessary for blacks to be kept out of sight.

Of late this party became the Democratic Alliance to discard its racist past and relate itself to the reality that there is no Africa without blacks.

To appeal to this majority, the party needed a facelift.

While we were bombarded with the DA's noise about crime and corruption, the media that showed its unqualified support of the DA failed to tell us that this group of liberal capitalists was involved in international crime.

German fugitive businessman Jurgen Harksen is said to have given more than R1 million to the DA with the full knowledge of its leader, the "honourable" Tony Leon.

Whether Leon knew that Harksen was an internationally wanted criminal or not we shall find out.

The Western Cape provincial government under the DA leadership was the most corrupt.

No wonder they once spoke about having a constitution of their own. It was to perpetuate the apartheid legacy of hiding their corrupt governance.

This corruption is now clear to us and it must be clear to all those who do not know that federalism is a cover for

the most despicable and corrupt systems of government, the United States being a typical example.

We need to call for an immediate resignation of the mayor of Cape Town as a matter of urgency. We cannot let our people to be led by hypocrites such as the likes of the DA leadership.

We must take a stand to do away with these criminals.

Even in parliament the DA, especially its leader Leon, must be investigated as to whether they knew about Harksen and his criminal deeds.

If they did, they must be expelled from our Parliament. Our country had enough of corruption under the apartheid government.

Even though we are for reconciliation, we cannot have this at the expense of our people.

KAIZER N MOHAU
SA Communist Party
Johannesburg

Echo

Thursday, May 30, 2002

Death no longer a stranger



Grass Roots

by Harry
Mchunu

DEATH. One's hand spontaneously went to one's head and clutched a lock of hair every time the ominous black hearse passed by.

My grandmother, after attending a funeral, would chew a certain plant and spit it on our heads to ward off the unwelcome spirit. This is the respect we had for funerals and the ritual that accompanied such occasions.

The bereaved family spent a week or two keeping vigil and showing respect to the dead. Relatives from afar came to the house to offer condolences and give support. Noise was not allowed. People went about their duties in a composed manner.

This picture of respect

flashed before my eyes last weekend when I was back home in Umlazi.

For the past five weekends we have attended at least one funeral. Our mothers have, every evening, gone to vigils at a bereaved family. The most unsettling aspect of these is that the deceased are now always the youth, people who are supposed to be burying their mothers.

Whereas the death of someone used to get people talking, it no longer generates the same kind of excitement these days. Children from the bereaved family roam the streets as if nothing has happened in their homes.

We have got used to death.

The ritual that is the funeral has also changed. Whereas in the past church leaders would lead the services and dictate the order of the service, today there is what is called a "programme" that mourners follow.

Some programmes include a master of ceremonies, above the reverend, who controls the programme.

After the service, mourners board buses, paid for by the bereaved family, to the cemetery. In Umlazi, Seventeen Cemetery has run out of burial space, so we have to go outside our township to bury the dead.

On a Saturday between 1 and 2 pm, one can see endless buses led by a hearse streaming out of Umlazi going to cemeteries.

In Umlazi, and I am told everywhere else in our province, death is no longer around the corner, it is no longer a stranger.

Death has become a visitor who has forced his way into our house.

Like lambs to the slaughter, we wait anxiously to see who the next victim will be.

In the meantime, we keep attending funerals.

Echo

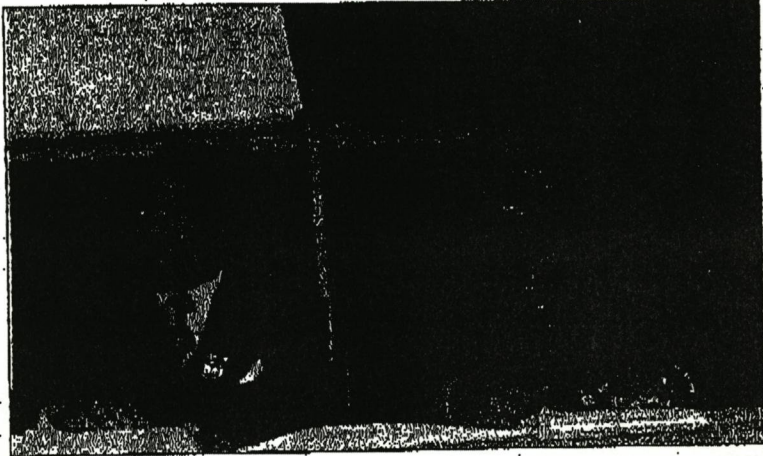
Thursday, May 30, 2002

Desperate Ubovana Primary School gets visit by Education MEC

by Gabi Khumalo

KWAZULU-NATAL Education MEC Gabriel Ndabandaba visited Ubovana Primary School in Bulwer on Monday to see how the department can help the school.

Ndabandaba, along with Traditional and Local Government Affairs MEC Nyanga Ngubane, visited the school after Ngubane told Ndabandaba



Traditional and Local Government Affairs MEC Nyanga Ngubane (left) with KZN Education MEC Gabriel Ndabandaba (right) during their visit to Ubovana Primary School to see what can be done to help the school.

about the school.

The school's plight was brought to the attention of Ngubane by residents at a meeting held at the school last August at which people asked him if it was possible to raise funds to extend the school buildings.

The school, which was built 12 years ago, has three classrooms to hold 151 pupils.

Principal Fikile Dlamini told

Ndabandaba that the school needs more classrooms to add more grades, thus preventing pupils from walking long distances to other schools.

"The roof is leaking and is not secure enough to weather strong winds," said Dlamini.

Ndabandaba said: "I will make sure that this school and the community benefit from the campaign of developing schools," said Ndabandaba.

been made by IFP national spokesman Musa Zondi if Pietermaritzburg is favoured over Ulundi as the provincial capital. The capital vote is to be taken tomorrow in Ulundi and NATHI OFIFANT went to find out what ordinary people feel about the threats.

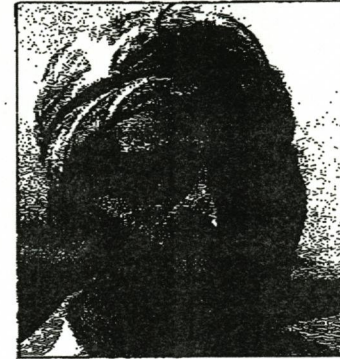
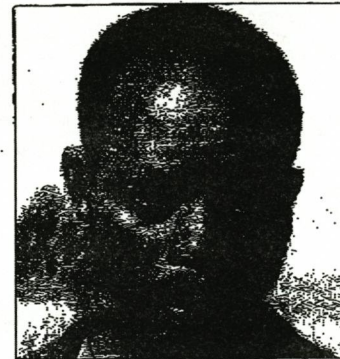
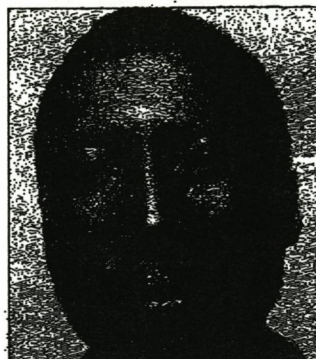
RAYMOND Sibiya (49) from KwaMpande dismissed the threat of violence by the IFP as cheap politicking. He feels the capital issue is not something that has the slightest chance of throwing the province back into violence.

For Sibiya it does not matter which city is chosen as the capital "as long as whichever place is chosen serves the needs of the people of this province".

Sibiya lashed out at Zondi's statement, saying it is irresponsible for the IFP to threaten violence if it loses the capital battle to Pietermaritzburg.

"If Pietermaritzburg is chosen as the capital, it does not necessarily mean that people from Ulundi and Mahlabathini will not benefit from the provincial government in terms of infrastructural development as well as other basic needs."

Samson Mavundla (42) from Msunduzi said he grew up knowing Pietermaritzburg as the capital and does not understand what the furor is all about. He castigated the IFP for making threats of violence if Pietermaritzburg is chosen over Ulundi.



Raymond Sibiya, Thembisile Mkhize, Samson Mavundla and Nompumelelo Sithole give their views on the turn the capital debate has taken.

'No one wants violence'

"The IFP claims to be speaking on behalf of the Zulu people but let me tell you that as a Zulu myself I'm not prepared to go to war just to please some people who want to achieve their political ends," said Mavundla.

The only solution to this matter, according to Mavundla, is for all parties concerned to sit down and negotiate without resorting to violent conflict.

Said Busi Matiwane (32) from Sobantu: "It is an absolute savage act by the IFP to consider violence as a means of solving matters."

"No one wants violence at this stage. And for them to purport to be speaking on behalf of the Zulus smacks of racialism."

"Are they implying that Ulundi is only for the Zulu people?"

Supporting Pietermaritzburg for the capital, Matiwane said Ulundi lacks what it takes to be a capital as it does not have the adequate infra-

structure.

"Why was it not developed when it was the seat of the former KwaZulu bantustan?" she asked.

Mase Ndlela (21) from KwaMpumuza said the only solution to this issue is to leave Pietermaritzburg and Ulundi aside and name Durban as the province's capital.

"This tug of war will go on forever. The only solution is to select a neutral city and Durban is ideal."

"The place has a world-class infrastructure and is a prime tourism attraction," said Ndlela.

Nompumelelo Sithole (42) from Msunduzi said: "The threats by the IFP to resort to violence if Ulundi is defeated is unacceptable and irresponsible."

She denounced the party for claiming to be speaking on behalf of the Zulus, saying: "They (IFP) cannot

claim to be speaking on my behalf as they have done nothing for me."

On how she thinks this issue can be resolved, Sithole said: "This can be resolved through negotiations between the IFP and the ANC."

Musawenkosi Kumene from Imbali said the issue of the capital should not be subjected to emotions.

"All the people of this province want is good governance and for the government to provide them with the necessary services."

"Pietermaritzburg is my choice because of its infrastructural advantages over Ulundi."

Thembisile Mkhize (48) from Willowfontain said violence is not the solution to the problem.

"Our recent past has proved that violence does not solve problems."

"The only solution to this is to sit down and negotiate."

THE MERCURY
Thursday, May 30, 2002

Sad day for the new democracy, says Bester

■ FROM PAGE 1

It is understood there is pressure from some quarters in the party for decisive action to be taken against Morkel.

It is this lack of action that is believed to have been a contributing factor in Bester's decision to resign.

Bester said in his prepared statement yesterday that "politics in the Western Cape is now being conducted in a manner that I am no longer willing to participate in".

"It is a sad day for our new democracy that people who have given their best efforts to improve the lives of our communities are being hunted and maligned.

"Obviously persons who broke the law must be dealt with in the appropriate manner after due process," Bester said.

In a reference to ongoing violence aimed at DA officials in the townships, he said he hoped that a time would come when "this sea-

son of madness will be over and every South African, irrespective of race or background, will be welcome to build our country".

"South Africa should belong to all its people, irrespective of which political party they support," he said.

He dismissed evidence given by Harksen that he, Bester, had been privy to discussions about Harksen funding Morkel's legal fees as being "completely devoid of truth as will be shown in due course".

"My only hope is that when the commission is ready to do so, it will bring out an independent and unbiased report."

Bester said that Leon had tried to dissuade him from resigning. He would remain a member of the DA but would not be active in politics.

Last night the DA's political enemies celebrated Bester's resignation as deputy leader of the party in the Western Cape, describing the move as a "vote of no confidence" in the party, reports Jeremy Michaels.

DA's Hennie Bester quits as donation scandal grows

Western Cape deputy leader 'disgusted' by behaviour of provincial leader Morkel

CAPE TOWN — The Democratic Alliance (DA), wracked by claims that it received donations from an alleged criminal with whom its leaders fraternised on a regular basis, was dealt another blow yesterday when its deputy leader in the Western Cape, Hennie Bester, resigned in an apparent bid to distance himself from the growing scandal.

Party insiders said Bester resigned as the DA's deputy provincial leader and from the provincial legislature because of his growing disgust with the alleged behaviour of provincial leader Gerald Morkel, who has become embroiled in the party-funding scandal unfolding before the Desai commission of inquiry.

Bester is understood to be equally dismayed about Morkel's failure to step down as provincial leader and Cape Town mayor.

German fugitive from justice Jurgen Harksen has alleged that Morkel asked for and received more than R100 000 for personal use, as well as other money for the party. He claims he donated about R1m to the DA.

Party sources said other members of the provincial caucus shared Bester's "gatvol" sentiments and his resignation may be followed by more. They said Bester felt he could no longer work under Morkel, although he remained a member of the party. He was also fed up with the mud-slinging nature of provincial politics.

At a news conference to announce his resignation after 11 years in public office, Bester expressed his full support and faith in the integrity of DA leader Tony Leon, but remained pointedly silent about saying the same about Morkel.

Questioned about the effect of the Desai evidence on his decision, he said it had contributed. "It fits into a bigger pattern. That whole saga ... is part of a larger picture, of an opposition that has been hunted at every opportunity."

It is understood that Bester took his decision on Tuesday, before the evidence yesterday of Absa regional manager Erik Marais, a DA member. Marais told the commission he processed a cash donation of DM99 000 for the party at the request of Morkel.

Bester was aware of this evidence

before announcing his resignation, from evidence at an internal DA inquiry.

Marais said that DA provincial secretary Werner Schwella gave him the Deutschmarks for payment into the party's account. Over a period of time he changed the money, using his own passport, at Absa branches and offices of Reënies Travel and during a holiday in Amsterdam.

He said he specifically asked who the donation came from, but Schwella said he did not know.

The DA has maintained it knew about donations of R269 000 from unknown sources but was unable to trace the rest of the money.

New National Party executive director Renier Schoeman claimed Bester resigned because he realised the DA was a "quickly sinking ship".

He called on Leon to follow suit, saying his "disastrous handling of this affair and his unwillingness to accept responsibility for his own and the DA's actions leaves him no other honourable course of action".

Western Cape African National Congress leader Ebrahim Rasool said

Absa regional manager Erik Marais testifies at the Desai commission of inquiry yesterday that he handled DM99 000 in donations for the Democratic Alliance.

Picture: TREVOR SAMSON

Bester's resignation was a vindication of the Desai commission and a vote of no confidence in Morkel and former DA finance MEC Leon Markovitz, who has also been accused by Harksen of criminal actions. Bester said he had become disillusioned with Western Cape politics and was no longer willing to participate in it.

"It is a sad day for a new democracy that people who have given their best efforts to improve the lives of our communities are being hunted and maligned."

"Normal political life in this province has become impossible. People do not debate issues anymore. It is all just a continual mud-slinging, and this is not in the interests of the people."

Bester, a former community safety MEC, said that he struggled for 18 months to work for the safety of people but over the past six months, since the DA's exclusion from the provincial government, everything that he had built up had been maligned and destroyed.

This was not the generosity and

patriotism he wanted to see in SA.

"On the Desai commission ... I gave lengthy testimony on the various issues put to me. The attempt by a subsequent witness to drag me into his web is completely devoid of truth, as will be shown in due course. My only hope is that, when the commission is ready to do so, it will bring out an independent and unbiased report. Obviously persons who broke the law must be dealt with in the appropriate manner after due process."

DA leader Tony Leon regretted Bester's retirement from active politics, saying he had "enormous ability and youthful patriotism and great decency". DA deputy chairwoman Helen Zille was elected the new provincial caucus leader.

Morkel said he had no intention of resigning, despite Bester's comment that he was "guardian of his own conscience and the master of his own fate".

BUSINESS DAY, Thursday, May 30 2002

Monster of ethnicity rears its head

NOT too long ago, Amos Maphumulo caused a national stir after writing an editorial in which he blamed Indians and whites for stoking violence in KwaZulu-Natal.

Then editor of a Zulu newspaper Ilanga, he accused Indians in an editorial titled: "The nation suffers due to non-indigenous people", of being behind the suffering of black people. He went on to express the hope that one day a black woman would give birth to an Idi Amin — without elaborating any further.

Many people would know Maphumulo's sentiments were courting trouble for the acutely strained yet contained race relations in KwaZulu-Natal between Africans and Indians.

His longing for another Idi Amin was shocking, as this man, with a distinct history of being a bad ruler (1971-1979), was referred to as the Butcher of Uganda in certain circles. Before he was overthrown, he had inflicted enormous misery on ordinary Ugandans and was responsible for the deportation of thousands of people of Asian descent.



Pule Molebeledi

It was within this context that a number of South Africans protested when an editor of a newspaper with a healthy circulation of 133 761, wrote an editorial tantamount to calling for the ex-

pulsion of Indians from SA.

Maphumulo paid the price for airing what he termed in his defence was data which ordinary people in KwaZulu-Natal were openly speaking about. He was demoted.

Now, another prominent individual, playwright and musician Mbongeni Ngema, has recorded a CD which is also not flattering about the Indian community.

His song *Amandiya* has been castigated across the spectrum for expressing anti-Indian sentiments.

Ngema, refusing to apologise for the song, has borrowed from Maphumulo's defence. He says he is merely conveying what ordinary people in shebeens and taxis are openly talking about. He claims all he was trying to do was to spark debate about what has turned out to be a thorny issue.

The SA Human Rights Commission is investigating this matter.

The Zulu-Indian tension debate is not the only one manifesting itself in modern day SA as a relic of what the architects of apartheid wanted to achieve. The tensions are just one aspect of the many problems facing this race-conscious country.

While SA can boast of a miracle many nations can only dream of by experiencing relative harmony among its diverse inhabitants after decades of strife, it has not done much to consolidate that spirit.

There have merely been platitudes about SA's richness in diversity. In so doing, it has opened the concept of reconciliation and co-existence among locals to attack.

Take for example, the recent ministorm on the airwaves when people debated the myth or emergence of a "Xhosa nostra" after Charles Nqakula and his wife Nosiviwe were appointed to President Thabo Mbeki's cabinet.

It was not for the first time people had voiced displeasure about the unfortunate perception that many key appointments in the public service favoured one tribe.

While this may not necessarily apply in cabinet and in other government appointments, some officials may have helped to cultivate the seed of ethnic favouritism by wittingly or unwittingly helping their own to gain easy access into

the public service — to the dismay of others who feel marginalised.

It could be argued that the Xhosa nostra allegation about the Nqakulas' appointments was not necessarily aimed at them. It was, rather, a symbolic emotional outpouring and frustration about acts of nepotism and tribal cronyism taking place in the public service.

It is thus crucial that government takes urgent measures to dispel such perceptions. Representativity rather than quotas should be one of the guiding principle when making appointments — especially in places where a number of ethnic groups reside.

It would not help if leaders adopted an ostrich mentality, hoping this ethnicity issue would vanish on its own. It is also perhaps a blight that they continue to overlook this evil monster, a legacy of the past.

Ethnic suspicions and tensions exist. They are a symptom of unemployment and underdevelopment. Failure to come up with a comprehensive approach to tackle this threatens to undermine all gains made since the epic 1994 elections.

Tribalism is an enemy of democracy. Every effort should be taken to eradicate it before it reduces this beautiful country to a cesspit.

■ *Molebeledi is Political Editor.*

INKATHA FREEDOM PARTY

The issue of the "Capital" of KwaZulu-Natal

For years the issue of the "capital" of the Province has been debated. No law authorises the Province to establish a "capital": only a provincial constitution could do so. The national Constitution only authorises our legislature to decide where it "ordinarily" sits. In effect, the great controversy is about where the legislature should sit most, but not all of the time. But this decision has vast symbolic, political and developmental implications to be considered by all the people of KwaZulu-Natal.

After long deliberations and extensive public consultations, the commission appointed by former Premier Mdlalose and headed by Mr R. Cadman decided that the present status quo should be maintained until a referendum is held. The present status quo consists of both Ulundi and Pietermaritzburg being administrative and ministerial centres, while the seat of the legislature alternates between the two cities on each term.

The ANC tabled a motion in our legislature to make Pietermaritzburg the seat of the legislature and move the entire provincial administration there. However, the only issue on the table would be that of the location of the seat of the legislature. The issue of the capital has been a political football for too long and should be settled in a provincial constitution where it would no longer be at the mercy of shifting parliamentary majorities and would be entrenched.

A decision on the seat of the legislature should not be rushed. We need the breathing time to consider serenely this sensitive and potentially explosive issue. The IFP believes that it is right for KwaZulu-Natal and the long-term interest of its citizens, that Ulundi be its legislative and administrative capital.

The decision must reflect a long-term vision of governance. Establishing the legislative seat in one place while maintaining the administrative hub in another in respect of all or only some provincial departments, could be inefficient and problematic. The decision must derive from a coherent plan which improves on good governance for our people, and respects our people's history and sentiments. We are duty bound to place governance emphasis on those areas which were by-passed by development.

Ulundi was the last capital of the Zulu Kingdom and its destruction under the conquering British army symbolises the subjugation of the Zulu people. Moving the capital out of Ulundi would be perceived by many as a second burning of Ulundi. In the Battle of Ulundi a large number of "native" Zulu soldiers were employed by the British and mainly drawn from the Pietermaritzburg area. This fact carries heavy symbolic significance to this day and makes the issue highly emotional.

Ulundi was built where only bushes existed. Within a quarter of a century it became a city which provided the only hub of development for its region, supplying job opportunities and services to people who had none. If Ulundi were to cease to be the capital

it would soon be transformed into a ghost city which would stand for eternity as a monument to the failure of liberation.

The debate on the capital cannot be separated from the need to develop Ulundi and maintain its economic viability, even if it were no longer the capital. On many occasions, the IFP has put forward proposals for a comprehensive plan for the economic development of Ulundi which found little interest from its ANC colleagues.

Declaring a place to be a capital does not necessarily bring large-scale development. Nonetheless, there is significant development which comes with it. It would be unconscionable to move this benefit into an affluent area such as Pietermaritzburg and away from the poorest of the poor. It would also counter the ends of redistributive justice because in Pietermaritzburg the developmental benefits of the capital would be captured by segments of the population who are already affluent and not previously historically disadvantaged. It would also confirm that the spatial inequalities of apartheid are maintained and that areas bypassed by the colonialist-driven development continue to be marginalised in the new South Africa.

It would send a terrible message to our people north of the Thukela. If Pietermaritzburg were to be forced on them as the provincial capital. Their sense of alienation would deepen and so would their anger and despair.

Logistical reasons favour Ulundi, as Pietermaritzburg has insufficient accommodation for Members of Parliament and an inadequate legislative building. Ulundi has better infrastructures to accommodate the legislature, its members, its staff and its infrastructure, including overnight accommodation, and it has homes for members of Cabinet. It has a Palace built for the King in accordance with his wishes.

Throughout the world, capitals are not necessarily placed in the bigger cities and their location reflects developmental considerations. In the Eastern Cape, Bisho was preferred over Port Elizabeth. East London and other bigger cities. The capitals of Mpumalanga, the North West Province, the Northern Cape and other provinces have not been placed in the largest or most developed cities but rather in places where the developmental value of their location could be highlighted. Abroad, cities like Brasilia in Brazil and Canberra in Australia, have been erected as capitals while, in the United States it is almost common practice that the capital be located in a smaller and often remote city. In Africa, Lilongwe was built in the middle of the country and away from Dar-es-

The people of KwaZulu-Natal must discuss these truths can be made in a constitution. The recommendations of posterity must see that this issue has been dealt with the



and make inputs in a process where the final decision the Cadman Commission should not be over-ruled. Our dignity it requires

Beeld, Donderdag 30 Mei 2002

● Kaapse smeerpolitiek eis DA-onderleier 'Net 'n moddergooiery'

Philda Essop en Jan-Jan Joubert

Kapstad. – "Mnr. (Gerald) Mockel is die bewaer van sy eie gewete en die bewaer van sy eie lot. Hy moet sy eie besluite neem."

Dit was gister van die woorde waartussen mnr. Hennie Bester, leier van die DA in die Wes-Kaapse parlement en provinsiale onderleier van die party, op 11 jaar in die politiek sy uitrede aangekondig het.

"n Moet Bester het gesê 'n normale politieke lewe in die Wes-Kaap het byna onmoontlik geword.

Sy bedanking tree einde Junie in werking.

Bester se uitdaging kom te midde van

groeïende aansuijtings dat die DA in 'n korrupsie vasgevang is sover dit Mockel, burgemeester van Kaapstad en DA-leier in die Wes-Kaap, betref.

Aan die een kant wil beide partylede hulle nie met hant vervoenselwig nie weens die getuienis voor die Desai-kommissie en aan die ander kant is hy nie aan enigiets skuldig bevind nie en wantren die DA die kommissie.

"n Senior DA-bron het gesê: "Ons het al die jare sonder hoop op politieke mag geveg teen dit wat nou beweer word. Aan die ander kant is die stellings voor die kommissie blote bewerings wat nie nou deur kruisondervraging getoets kan word nie."

"Ons kan nie boesdoeners beskou as sommiige ander partye doen nie en ons kan

nie 'n persoon skuldig bevind op grond van ongehoorde bewerings nie."

Op 'n dag dat 'n senior Absa-personeelid (berig op bl. 2) in omvattende besonderhede voor die Desai-kommissie getuig het oor Mockel se beweerde betrokkenheid by die buitewerking van geld aan die DA, het sommiige ander DA-bronne openlik gesê dit is onhoudbaar dat Mockel nie terugstaan nie.

Bester het sy bedanking tydens 'n emosionele byeenkoms in die DA-koninksaal van die provinsiale parlement aangekondig. Hy was rooi in die gesig, maar beheers.

Mrs. Antoinette Versfeld, DA-LP, het tranas weggegee en Me. Helen Zille, Bester se opvolger, se gesig was oubewoeglik.



Mnr. Hennie Bester kondig sy bedanking as Wes-Kaapse onderleier van die DA aan.

steek.

Bester het gesê hy het tot die politiek toegetree omdat hy 'n verskil in die lewe van ander wou maak.

"Gebeure in die Wes-Kaapse politiek oor

die afgelope 12 maande het dit feitlik onmoontlik gemaak om die doel na te streef. Ons debatteer nie meer oor politieke aangeleenthede nie. Dit is net 'n moddergooiery wat nie in die belang is van ons mense nie.

"Alles wat ek opgebou het, is afgebreek. Ons kan vinger wys van hier tot in Tianboekoe, maar dit is nie vandag gepas nie," het hy gesê.

Hy het volgehou die besluit is nie geneem weens die getuienis oor die DA wat voor die Desai-kommissie van ondersoek gelewer is nie.

Volgens hom sal hy voortgaan om sy volle samewerking aan die kommissie te gee.

"Die poging deur 'n sekere getuie om my in sy web te trek is van alle waarheid ont-

bloot en dit sal binnekort bewys word. My enigste hoop is dat wanneer die kommissie sy finale verslag uitreik, dit oorspronklik en onpartydig sal wees," het hy gesê.

Mnr. Tony Leon, DA-leier wat hoog deur Bester aangespreek is, het gesê hy was baie hartseer om van die besluit te hoor.

Hy het gesê Bester is 'n toegewyde Suid-Afrikaner en sy bedanking is 'n refleksie op die riak van politiek, veral in die Wes-Kaap.

Die DA se provinsiale koulus het in 'n verklaring gesê hy stem saam met Bester dat die Wes-Kaapse politiek in 'n rioolsloot beland het, maar dat hy sal voortgaan om 'n politieke alternatief tot die ANC te vorm.

Bester het gesê hy het geen duidelike planne oor sy toekoms nie.

Beeld, Donderdag 30 Mei 2002

X Uitspraak in Winniese saak voorbehou X

Krediet-, petrolkaartskuld aan bank meer as R103 000

Fantie van der Westhuizen

Uitspraak is gister in die hooggeregshof in Johannesburg deur regter E.L. Goldstein voorbehou in die regstryd tussen Firstrand Bank (FRB) en mev. Nomzamo Winnifred Mandela oor haar krediet- en petrolkaartskuld van meer as R103 000.

Mandela, oftewel me. Nomzamo Winnifred Madikizela-Mandela soos sy tans bekendstaan, het vroeër 'n aansoek om summierse vonnis wat FRB teen haar ingestel het asook gister se aansoek om eksekusie teen haar pleit teengestaan.

Sy kap terug met bewerings dat dié bank haar R1 miljoen skuld.

Haar luukse Mercedes-Benz S320-motor, asook dié herehuis in Soweto waar sy en oudpres. Nelson Mandela voor hulle egskedding gewoon het, is al voorheen met bekragtiging van hofbevele op beslag gelê.

FRB was ook die eisers in die saak om op haar motor beslag te lê, terwyl Absa die elser was wat haar om wanbetaling van haar verband aangespreek het.

Maar dis nie net haar skuldelsers wat agter haar bloed aan is nie. Sy moet aanstaande week voor die parlementêre etiek-komitee getuig oor skenkings van meer as R55 000 per maand om haar lewensstyl te handhaaf wat sy glo nie verklaar het nie. Lydens hofstukke wat voor Goldstein dien, skuld Mandela 'n dienende lid van die parlement sedert Januarie 2000 dié geld plus rente aan die bank.

Vyf rekenings wat sy by FRB be-

dryf het is intussen deur die bank gevries hangende die uitslag van die saak.

Sy is op borgtog van R5 000 vrygelaat weens beweerde bedrog waarby meer as R930 000 betrokke is asook 'n diefstalaanklag van R10 000. Sy sal in Julie in die handelshof in Pretoria op dié aanklagte verskyn.

Soos haar prokureur, mnr. Solani Gudluza, in Februarie gedreig het, sal Mandela nie die dagvaardings wat op haar neerreën gelate aanvaar nie.

Hy het gesê haar rekenings word om "101 redes gevries, sy is aangeemoedig om al vyf te gebruik en het R1 miljoen in een van dié rekenings gestort.

"Ons dagvaar hulle (die bank) nou om dié geld terug te kry," het hy gesê.

Adv. Löther Wepener, SC, vir FRB, het geargumenteer dat Mandela se pleit ekserpeerbaar is, dat sy geen verweer teen haar skuld-oorsaak het nie, net uitstel vra om die saak verder te vertraag en dat haar teeneis geen meriete het nie. Hofstukke om haar teeneis teen die bank te bewys, of die betrokke bedrag wat na bewering aan haar

verskuldig sou wees, is nie in hofstukke vervat wat voor dié hof dien nie en is dus nietig.

Mandela het in haar pleitstukke aangevoer dat haar "hewige sosiale en werkprogram dit nie toelaat dat sy haar volle aandag aan die saak kan skenk nie."

Die uitspraak van Goldstein word in regsringe as van deurslaggewende belang beskou omrede daar verwag word dat hy dié beginsels van die saak sal aanspreek wat soortgelyke sake later kan beïnvloed.



Me. Winnie Madikizela-Mandela

Beeld, Donderdag 30 Mei 2002

✕ ● ANC wil eers WVK-verslag bekyk voordat hy finaal besluit

Kwytskelding: staat sê later

Tyrone Seale

Die regering sal waarskynlik eers aan die einde van die jaar finaal besluit oor 'n kwytskeldingsbeleid vir gevangenes wat amnestie geweier is deur die Waarheid-en-Versoeningskommissie (WVK) óf nie om amnestie aansoek gedoen het nie.

Intussen sal pres. Thabo Mbeki

voortgaan met sy oorweging van kwytskeldingsaansoeke wat aan hom gerig word ingevolge die grondwetlike prerogatief wat hy het om gevangenes vry te laat.

'n Senior regeringsbron het gister aan *Beeld* gesê verwagtings dat 'n nuwe kwytskeldingsmeganisme "in die volgende weke of onmiddellik ná die vrystelling (in Junie of vroeg Julie) van die WVK se finale verslag in werking sal-tree", is onrealisties.

Die bron het gesê Mbeki is sedert sy dae as adjunkpresident in gesprekke met belangegroepe soos generaals van die ou weermag om te kyk na vraagstukke om versoening en die hantering van amnestie en kwytskelding.

Dr. Penuell Maduna, minister van justisie en staatkundige ontwikkeling, en adj. pres. Jacob Zuma het sedertdien dié raadplegings verder gevoer.

Dit is in dié konteks dat oudgeneraals onlangs voorstelle oor kwytskelding aan Maduna en die presidensie voorgelê het.

Hoewel dié samesprekings onlangs opnuut in die kollig geplaas is deur Mbeki se kwytskelding van 33 Oos-Kaapse gevangenes wat bande met die ANC en PAC het en dié ontwikkeling 'n openbare debat aan die gang gesit het, is geen haas aan regeringskant om 'n nuwe beleid op te

stel sonder sorgvuldige raadpleging nie.

Die bron het gesê Zuma en Maduna "bou intussen aan konsensus", maar die regering sal eers omtrent kan reageer ná die bekendmaking van die WVK-verslag en ná die opstel van voorwaardes en kriteria wat algemeen aanvaarbaar sal wees. Dié proses kan nog ses of sewe maande duur.

"Die regering moet deeglik aan-

dag skenk aan al die brandpunte. Die laaste ding wat ons wil hê, is om mense terug op straat te sit voordat na al die moontlikhede en benaderings gekyk het."

Mnr. Kgalema Motlanthe, sekretaris-generaal van die ANC, het gister aan *Beeld* gesê hoewel oudgeneraals in gesprek was met Zuma en Maduna, is die kwytskeldingsvraagstuk nie op die ANC se agenda nie.

Hy het gesê dit is algemeen be-

kend dat die WVK-proses "krake oopgelos het waardeur hele kategorieë van mense geval het", maar die ANC wil eers die finale verslag bestudeer voordat hy sy beleid maak.

Die ANC het as party geen kontak gehad met oudgeneraals nie, maar die party respekteer die reg van alle belangegroepe om vertoe te rig en in gesprek te tree met die regering oor landsake.

■ tseale@beeld.com

Beeld, Donderdag 30 Mei 2002

Absa-hoë het DM99 000 só vir DA omgesit in rand

Philda Essop en Barnie Louw

Kaapstad. - 'n Topamptenaar van Absa wat 'n vertrouensverhouding met mnr. Gerald Morkel, unistad-burgemeester, gehad het, het oor 'n tydperk van 'n paar maande DM99 000 in kontant wat die DA aan hom oorhandig het, met sy persoonlike paspoort omgeruil vir rande.

Een van dié omruilings het in Amsterdam, Nederland, plaasgevind. Die laaste van dié geld, R90 000, is in April vanjaar aan die Skerpioene oorhandig.

Só het mnr. Erik Marais, Absa se streckbestuurder: groep korporatiewe en openbare aangeleenthede, gister voor die Desal-kommissie van ondersoek getuig.

Marais, lid van die DA, het getuig hy is steeds in diens van die bank, maar is tydelik uit sy pos geskors.

Dié skorsing het gekom nadat Marais betrek is in 'n verklaring aan die Skerpioene oor die beweerde skenking.

Absa het terselfdertyd begin met 'n interne ondersoek na die saak.

Die Skerpioene het sowat 'n week voor Marais se skorsing begin met 'n voorlopige ondersoek na moontlike geldwassery, oortredings van valutabeheermaatreëls, korrupsie en bedrog.

Dié ondersoek het gekom ná berig-

te dat Morkel middel verlede jaar 'n DA-amptenaar opdrag gegee het om 'n koevert met DM99 000 daarin by die kantoor van mnr. Leon Markovitz, voormalige Wes-Kaapse LUR vir finansies, af te haal.

Morkel ontken dat dié geld van Harksen gekom het, maar weier om die identiteit van die skenker bekend te maak.

Marais het gister gesê Morkel het in middel Julie of Augustus verlede jaar met hom in verbinding getree. "Ek het Morkel taamlik goed geken omdat ek voorheen as deel van my werk met politici op al die drie regeringsvlakke te doen gehad het.

"Morkel het aan my gesê hy het 'n skenking ontvang. Die opdrag was dat ek voor Desember verlede jaar die geld in die bankrekening van die DA moes inbetaal.

"Ek het die geld in veilige bewaring by my huis gehou.

"Ek het my paspoort gebruik om die geld by die bank en by Rennies Travel-takke om te ruil.

"Ek het ook van die geld in Amsterdam omgeruil toe ek verlede jaar daar was," het hy gesê.

Ná die skeuring van die DA was niemand van die party met hom in verbinding nie.

Die laaste R90 000 wat hy nog moes omruil, asook inbetalingstrokies, is in April vanjaar aan die Skerpioene oorhandig.

THE MERCURY
Thursday, May 30, 2002

Top consultants to leave project

MERCURY REPORTER

THE top two directors of the consultancy company contracted to restructure the troubled KwaZulu-Natal education department have been moved.

Mchunu Mashinini and Associates confirmed yesterday Prof Mandla Mchunu, who was mostly involved in stakeholder management and quality control, and Mr Glen Mashinini were no longer part of department operations.

According to sources, Mchunu is in a neighbouring country as he had been contracted to oversee the elections there.

Mashinini is believed to be concentrating on the lucrative Premier Soccer League contract the consultants were awarded recently.

The company, however, dispelled rumours it was pulling out as consultants for the department or that its top people had been redeployed because of differences with Premier Lionel Mtshali.

When the rumours first surfaced, the premier's office and Education Minister, Prof Gabriel Ndabandaba, refused to comment.

They, instead, referred queries to the company.

The company was hired in November last year for a period of one year to turn around the ailing department.

Company spokesman Mr Musa Zondi said: "Due to additional work, we have reached an arrangement to give a KPMG partner, who has been involved in the project since its inception, a greater role."

"Our company is an emerging SMME and growth can only be achieved by spreading our limited senior personnel strategically."



MANDLA
MCHUNU

ARTY DIVIDED OVER RESPONSE TO MORKEL ALLEGATIONS

DA faces split as top man quits

TONY WEAVER
 Cape Town

THE Democratic Alliance's Western Cape deputy leader, Mr Hennie Bester, resigned yesterday amid signs of a split in the party over what to do about the storm of allegations surrounding its Western Cape leader, Mr Gerald Morkel.

Bester's resignation from active duties came hours after senior bank official Erik Marais told the Desai Commission he had contributed DM99 000 into funds at Morkel's behest.

Morkel said yesterday he would not respond to the evidence until he had studied the transcripts.

A joint deputy national chair and former education MEC

Helen Zille has replaced Bester as leader of the opposition in the provincial legislature.

Bester told a packed press conference yesterday afternoon: "I wouldn't say that the body of the Desai evidence is the decisive thing (in his resignation); it fits into a bigger pattern, and it's that pattern that has made me decide."

He said that "Mr Morkel is the

by Marais for some days now.

Bester said: "Mr Erik Marais also gave evidence to our internal commission in the DA. It's not unrelated. That situation is a contributing factor (to his resignation)."

The Mercury was unable to establish last night when Marais had given his evidence to the DA.

DA national leader Tony Leon said he had heard the news of

Bester's resignation "with deep regret". It was a tragedy "that someone of his enormous ability and youthful patriotism and great decency should feel it necessary to withdraw from public life at this time".

"His decision is perhaps a reflection on how politics is practised, particularly in the Western Cape," Leon said.

The Mercury understands that

there are potentially serious divisions within the DA over how to handle the embarrassing revelations around Morkel.

So far the damage control exercise has been directed at attacking newspapers exposing Morkel's relationship with German fugitive Jürgen Harksen, and then attacking the Desai Commission as a tool of the ANC.

■ To PAGE 2

NOW READ

**A NEW POLICY OF
 OPENNESS: PAGE 11**

guardian of his own conscience and the master of his own fate - he must make his own decisions."

It emerged yesterday that the DA had known about the way in which the DM99 000 had been handled

THE MERCURY
Thursday, May 30, 2002

King to celebrate reign

GREG DARDAGAN

KING Goodwill Zwelithini is celebrating the 30th anniversary of his monarchy this year with one of the highlights being a dinner at the International Convention Centre in Durban on July 26.

"This 30-year anniversary tribute is a national call by the Zulu people to celebrate the reign of the longest ruling king in Zulu history," said Thembi Myeni of Myeni & Associates – the organisers of the event.

"For the past 30 years the king has become a symbol of peace, justice, prosperity and stability among the Zulu people and he has played a major role keeping the Zulu nation intact and preserving its values."

The dinner is being sponsored by several private and parastatal companies which have had a long association with the king.



ZULU MONARCH: King Goodwill Zwelithini

"The guests will be entertained by the South African National Youth Choir. A video presentation

on the highlights of the King's reign will be screened and a special commemorative brochure will be unveiled.

"The event also coincides with the king's 54th birthday and we will also be marking this occasion in a special way!" said Myeni.

A substantial part of the sponsorship money raised for the event will be donated to the king's foundation, which was formed to raise funds for a number of charities throughout Zululand.

"I wish to celebrate with my people, but most of all I want to pray with the nation for the blessings and the love that God has given me in the 30 years of my reign," said King Zwelithini.

"This is a time for celebrating as a country. We have won many battles and have succeeded with many achievements, but for me this is a time for giving and praying."

THE MERCURY
Thursday, May 30, 2002

Asmal reveals new education plan

CHRISTELLE TERREBLANCHE
PARLIAMENTARY BUREAU

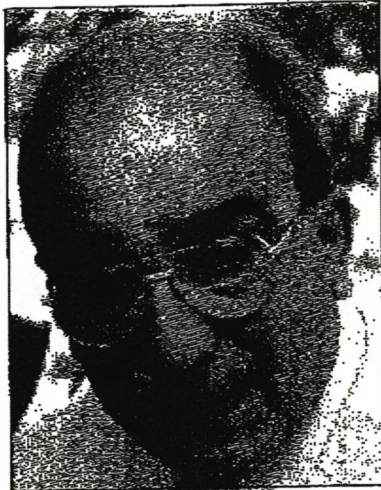
EDUCATION Minister Kader Asmal has given a glimpse of his new Higher Education Plan which he said would leave none of the 36 technikons and universities in the country untouched.

Speaking after cabinet approved proposals for the total transformation of the higher education system, he promised to consult all in the field over the next three months on the radical changes.

Asmal however withheld details until the formal launch of the plan this morning.

He said the emphasis of the changes should not be on the controversial proposals for mergers between institutions, but on "the whole face of future higher education" to be announced today.

The proposals, by a national working group on higher education transformation, have already unleashed a storm as they were perceived to put historically black universities and technikons unfairly on the chopping block, while leav-



KADER ASMAL
'Withheld details'

ing former white establishments intact.

Asmal could not be drawn on whether all the proposals of the working group were adopted, but said his plan had "profound" implications for the future of education in the country.

Cabinet spokesman Joel Netshitenze however said the plan

differed "somewhat" from the proposals of the working group.

"There should be huge excitement about this (plan)," Asmal said.

"Once the full details are released you will see a radical recasting of higher education."

Among the glimpses Asmal gave of his plan were the following:

□ The minister would play a greater role than before in higher education because the transformation would entail a complex process over four to five years. For this purpose, a special unit would be set up;

□ There would be an emphasis on access to higher education for groups largely excluded until now - for example the disabled, mature students and those with prior informal learning qualifications;

□ Quality of teaching in higher education would be boosted through special incentives - like financial assistance to young lecturers to provide training;

□ Attention would be given to low academic salaries;

□ South Africa's human resources

requirements in the science, administrative and IT fields would be boosted to 60% of all qualifications through a greater allocation of money for developing science in schools and preference in awarding study bursaries to science and maths teachers;

□ About 25% of technikon courses could be turned into degree courses.

Last month a number of leaders in the higher education establishment said they were preparing for a massive fall-out with Asmal, who they said did not adequately consult them.

Yesterday Asmal said most of the statements made then turned out to be spurious.

Netshitenze said the cabinet also briefly discussed the recent violent protests by students in Johannesburg and Polokwane.

"It was emphasised that the rule of law should be affirmed by all concerned, and that any individuals responsible for destruction of property, vandalism and other acts of illegality should face the legal consequences," he said.

THE MERCURY
Thursday, May 30, 2002

Just change Maritzburg's name to Ulundi

FEELINGS are running high on the question of the provincial capital.

Threats and intimidation are part of the battle scene.

The solution is a simple one.

Change the name of Maritzburg to Ulundi and the IFP has its way with the capital being Ulundi.

At the same time we meet demands by the post apartheid lobbies to get rid of the tainted name Pietermaritzburg and non-Zulu speakers will be saved from the tongue twister Umgungundlovu.

After all we have two

Middelburgs and Heidelberg, so why not two Ulundis? Two Ulundis should cause no confusion: Ulundi-Midlands and Ulundi near Melmoth, should be an adequate distinction.

DIRK A PETERSON

Cowles Hill