FULLT:ME where fans meetImage: State of the state

In a major update for boxing fans across the continent, Oriental Quarries Boxing Promotions has announced a change in the date for the much-anticipated World Boxing Council (WBC) and International ...





MINES UNITED APPOINTS COUNCIL OF ELDERS AHEAD OF DEBUT SUPER LEAGUE CAMPAIGN



NANYANGWE INSPIRED BY U-17 SUCCESS AS COPPER QUEENS BEGIN FRIENDLIES PREP



LATE JUSTIN SHONGA TOPS ZAMBIA'S COSAFA SCORING CHARTS WITH SIX GOALS





FULLT:MEZAMBIA

NANYANGWE INSPIRED BY U-17 SUCCESS AS
COPPER QUEENS BEGIN FRIENDLIES PREPZAMBIA'S
RENAISSAI

By Joseph Tembo



Copper Queens midfielder Natasha Nanyangwe says the recent success of Zambia's U-17 women's national team has reignited the senior team's drive as they begin preparations for upcoming international friendlies against South Africa and Botswana.

Speaking during a training session on Monday, Nanyangwe expressed satisfaction with the team's progress in camp, praising her teammates for their dedication and hard work.

"Training is going on well. Everyone is pushing and putting in a lot of effort," she said.

Nanyangwe highlighted the impact of the U-17 team's back-to-back COSAFA titles, saying it has become a source of motivation for the senior

"Our younger sisters have now won COSAFA in a row, and that's pushing us to work harder and also make our country proud."

The midfielder also opened up about her battle with injury, which kept her sidelined for an extended period. At one point, Nanyangwe revealed, she almost gave up on football entirely.

"The injury made me lose a lot of hope, and I even thought of quitting. But after recovering and coming back to the team, it feels good. I thank God for that, it wouldn't have been possible without Him," she said.

With the Women's Africa Cup of Nations (WAFCON) qualifiers

determined to make the most of her return.

"I'm one step closer to the WAFCON, and I'm really grateful."

She credited her comeback to the unwavering support of those who stood by her during her lowest moments.

"What kept me going was the motivation I got from people around me, people who didn't leave my side during the injury. They made me push extra hard."

The Copper Queens are expected to use the friendlies to fine-tune their squad ahead of the upcoming continental qualifiers, with Nanyangwe aiming to play a key role

FOOTBALL **RENAISSANCE:** FROM QUALIFYING TO COMPETING -MWEETWA CALLS FOR **STRATEGIC SHIFT**

By Lucky Chama



Zambia is undergoing a football resurgence, and one of the country's former football icons, Nchimunya Mweetwa, believes it's time to move from merely qualifying for tournaments to becoming serious contenders.

Once a mainstay in Africa's top football competitions, Zambia has a proud history marked by consistent qualifications and major milestones —including the U20 squad's appearances at the FIFA World Cup in 2007 and 2017, and of course, the historic Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) triumph in 2012. However, the years that followed were marked by missed qualifications and a decline in form.

the knockout stages, the last eight, and eventually the semi-finals. Our past success proves we have the talent, it's the mindset and structure that need to evolve."

According to Mweetwa, a sustained transformation in Zambian football will require more than just good players. He champions what he calls the triple 'S' formula:

in the team's resurgence.

ZAMBIA'S KINGS KANGWA FLYING THE FLAG **HIGH WITH TRIPLE NOMINATION IN ISRAEL**

By Joseph Tembo



Zambian midfield maestro Kings The awards ceremony is set for May Kangwa continues to raise the country's flag high on the international stage after а sensational season in Israel with Hapoel Be'er Sheva, earning him three major nominations in the Israeli Premier League end-ofseason awards.

The 24-year-old, who has become one of the most trusted names in the Be'er Sheva midfield, has been shortlisted for Player of the Season, Foreign Player of the Season and Best XI of the Season (2024–2025).

26, 2025, and regardless of the final outcome, Kangwa says being recognized at this level is already a proud achievement.

"I'm humbled to be nominated. This season has been special, and I give credit to my teammates, coaches, and everyone supporting me," Kangwa told the media.

From Lusaka to the Israeli top flight, Kangwa's journey has been a testament to hard work, talent, and resilience. This season, he featured

in all 33 league matches, starting every single game and clocking a remarkable 2,830 minutes on the pitch, averaging 86 minutes per match. His consistency and fitness made him an irreplaceable part of the squad.

He was also named in the Team of the Week 13 times, a clear reflection of his week-in, week-out excellence.

Now valued at €2.3 million, Kangwa's star continues to rise, and this recognition could be a springboard to even bigger moves in Europe. But beyond personal milestones, his achievements resonate deeply with Zambians, proving once again that local talent can shine on the global stage.

Kangwa joins a growing list of Chipolopolo stars making headlines abroad, and his success serves as a source of national pride and inspiration for the next generation of Zambian footballers.

As the date for the awards ceremony approaches, the entire nation will be cheering him on. Whether or not he walks away with the trophies, Kings Kangwa has already made Zambia proud.

Now, Mweetwa says, the tide is turning.

"We've gone from struggling to qualify to now making it a regular feature. That's a sign of progress," said Mweetwa, a former Chipolopolo striker known for his sharp instincts in front of goal. "But qualifying alone is not enough. It's time we start thinking about competing, and winning, at the highest level."

Mweetwa credits the current technical leadership at the Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) for laying a strong foundation. Youth teams are qualifying for continental events, and the senior national team is once again a force to be reckoned with on the African stage.

"We now need to focus on reaching

Strategy – "We need a long-term plan for success, not just tournament-by-tournament ambitions."

Structure – "There must be a proper foundation at grassroots and club level to support growth."

Systems – "Efficient processes that ensure continuity, accountability, and development."

Mweetwa also believes club football must rise to the occasion.

"We can't just rely on the national teams. Our clubs must begin to compete seriously in CAF competitions. That means better management, support systems, and investment."

As Zambia sets its sights on future AFCONs and potential World Cup participation, Mweetwa insists that hard work, discipline, and vision will be key.

"We've shown Africa what we're capable of before. With the right mindset, there's no reason we can't do it again, and do it even better."



LATE JUSTIN SHONGA TOPS ZAMBIA'S COSAFA Scoring Charts with Six goals

By Lucky Chama



As the anticipation builds for the 2025 Hollywoodbets COSAFA Cup set to take place from June 4–15 in Mangaung, South Africa, one Zambian name stands tall among the region's elite strikers: Justin Shonga.

The late forward was known for his clinical finishing and powerful presence up front, and he's officially recognized as Zambia's all-time leading goal scorer in the COSAFA Cup, with a tally of six goals.

Shonga surpassed legendary striker Collins Mbesuma during the 2021 tournament, where he netted three

By Lucky Chama

FROM CLUB PRESIDENT

times despite Zambia's early exit.

These goals added to his previous three from the 2017 campaign, where he helped guide Zambia to the final against Zimbabwe. Though the title eluded them, Shonga's impact was unmistakable.

stage, Shonga was a beacon of hope and consistency for Chipolopolo stepping up when it matters most. His combination of composure, pace, and sharp instincts in front of goal made him a fan favorite and a crucial

KANSANSHI DYNAMOS CELEBRATE STELLAR

2024/25 SEASON WITH HEARTFELT MESSAGE

in Zambia's attacking weapon arsenal.

His achievement places him in elite company alongside other COSAFA greats such as Deon Hotto Mhango (Namibia), Gabadinho (Malawi), Peter Ndlovu and (Zimbabwe), who have also left A proven performer on the regional indelible marks in the regional championship.

during COSAFA tournaments, often The draws for the 2025 COSAFA Cup will be conducted this morning. The draw will be live on COSAFA's Facebook page at 11:00.





ZESCO United Football Club held its 2024/25 Season Players' Awards Gala on Sunday evening, shining a spotlight on the outstanding performers from its senior men's team, the ZESCO Ndola Girls FC, and ZESCO Malaiti Rangers FC.

At the heart of the ceremony was senior men's team midfielder Abraham Siankobo, who was named Player of the Year for his exceptional performances throughout the season. His teammate Dennis Nya received dual honours, being recognised as both the Most Consistent Player and the Fans' Player of the Year. Leonard Mulenga was celebrated for

Namonje taking top honours as Player of the Year. Fan favourite Avell Chitundu claimed the Fans' Player of the Year title, while Mable Bwalya and Dorothy Yambayamba were named Most Consistent and Disciplined Most Player, respectively.

Striker Penelope Mulubwa delivered a standout season, earning the Golden Boot after scoring an astonishing 35 goals. Mary Mbewe was honoured as the Young Player of the Year for her promising contributions to the squad.

Meanwhile, ZESCO Malaiti



As the curtain falls on an impressive 2024/25 football season, Kansanshi Dynamos FC has issued a resounding message of gratitude and optimism. The club's President, Douglas Nyirenda, delivered a passionate "Vote of Thanks" to sponsors, supporters, media, and the broader Kansanshi family for their unwavering support throughout the season.

In a statement released by the club, hailed Nyirenda the team's performance, which saw Kansanshi Dynamos finish second in the league with 66 points — a result that secures their promotion to the prestigious 2025/26 MTN Super League.

"This achievement belongs not only to the players, technical team, support staff, and management, but

most importantly, to you, our supporters and sponsors," Nyirenda wrote.

The president extended special thanks to Kansanshi Mining PLC and Rock Tech Conveyor Solutions for their vital sponsorship and belief in the club's long-term vision. Their investment, he noted, played a crucial role in the development of young talent and the club's upward trajectory.

Nyirenda also reserved heartfelt appreciation for the club's dedicated fans: "Thank you for standing by us, game after game, home and away. Your energy, chants, and belief lifted the team every step of the way."

Local media outlets were also

recognized for their essential role in amplifying the club's story and supporting its growth, while the people of Solwezi and the wider North-Western Province were commended for their pride and support.

With a sense of accomplishment and renewed purpose, Nyirenda called on the entire Kansanshi Dynamos family to celebrate the milestone and begin preparing for the challenges ahead: "We are back in the Super League — Together We Rise!"

The club's return to Zambia's top flight league signals a new era for Kansanshi Dynamos, one that promises exciting football, continued development, and strong community representation.

his exemplary conduct on and off the pitch with the Most Disciplined Player award.

Promising young talent David Simukonda was acknowledged as the Young Player of the Year, signalling a bright future ahead. The Golden Boot was jointly awarded to Freddy Micheal, Abraham Siankobo, and George Ngoma, each scoring six goals over the campaign.

awards also recognised The excellence within ZESCO Ndola Girls FC, with goalkeeper Annie

Rangers FC players were also recognised for their achievements. Lewis Soko was named Player of the Year, while Franklin Chikumbi and Dry Phiri earned accolades for Most Consistent and Most Disciplined Player, respectively. Paul Tembo was celebrated as the Young Player of the Year, and Chiko Banda secured the Golden Boot as the team's top scorer.

The evening underscored ZESCO United's commitment to fostering excellence, discipline, and youth development across all its teams.

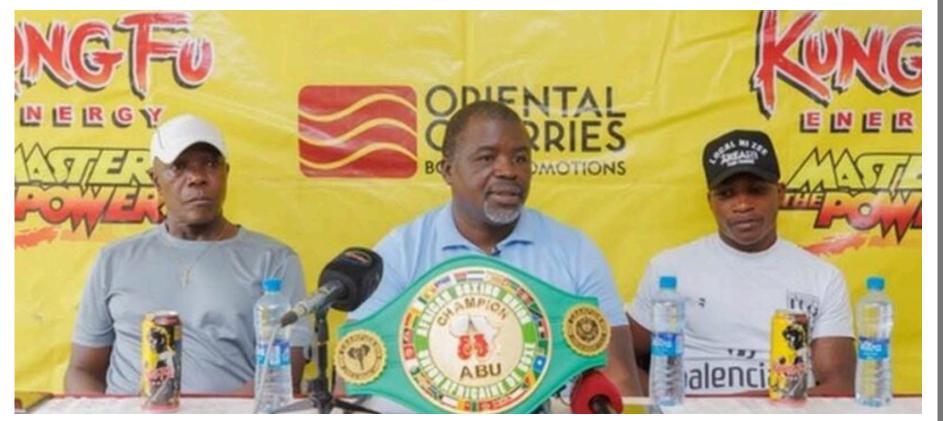


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fulltimezambia.com

HISTORIC BOUT DAVID WBC **MWALE'S RESCHEDULED TO JUNE 21**

By Lucky Chama



In a major update for boxing fans Tuesday evening. across the continent, Oriental Quarries Boxing Promotions has announced a change in the date for Malunga expressed regret over the the much-anticipated World Boxing change and extended sincere Council (WBC) and International apologies to fans, stakeholders, and Championship fight Zambia's David "Sniper" Mwale and caused. Ghana's Michael Decardi Nelson.

24th May 2025, the bout will now conference on Friday, 23rd May take place on *Saturday, 21st June 2025," Malunga stated. "We deeply 2025*. The decision to reschedule regret the change and sincerely was confirmed through an official press release issued by Oriental Quarries Boxing Promotions on

Promoter and manager Christopher between partners for any inconvenience

"The full details surrounding the Originally scheduled for Saturday, change will be shared at a press apologize."

> David Mwale, popularly known as "Sniper," is one of Zambia's top

boxing prospects, and his clash with challenger Michael Ghanaian Decardi Nelson has been generating significant regional interest. The fight marks a pivotal moment in Mwale's career as he vies for international recognition in the highly competitive WBC circuit.

Fans are now looking ahead to the June showdown, with anticipation building even further as both fighters continue their preparations. More information on the rescheduled event, including venue confirmation and undercard details, is expected to be unveiled at Friday's press conference.





Newly promoted MTN Super League side Mines United FC has taken a bold and strategic step as it prepares for its historic debut in Zambia's toptier football league. Club Chairman Mathew Mohan has announced the formation of a "Council of Elders," a panel of seasoned football personalities expected to guide the team both on and off the pitch.

The council comprises some of Zambia's most respected former players and coaches, whose combined experience is expected to play a crucial role in shaping the club's

Zambia to the 2008 Africa Cup of Nations and brings decades of toplevel coaching experience.

Also named to the council are celebrated former Chipolopolo striker Kenneth Malitoli and his brother, Mordon Malitoli-both of whom enjoyed distinguished careers for club and country. Rounding out the council is Frederick Kashimoto, another figure respected for his contributions to Zambian football.

The creation of the council is seen as a statement of intent by the club, which earned its first-ever promotion to the Super League this year. The initiative reflects a blend of tradition and ambition, as the club seeks to establish itself among Zambia's football elite.



future

"Mines United FC has officially appointed the Council of Elders to encourage and bring glory to Mines United," Mohan stated. "We believe that history and our present status will propel Mines United FC to the status that we seek to achieve."

Leading the council is veteran coach Danny Kabwe, who will serve as Chairman. He is joined by former national team coach Patrick Phiri as Vice Chairman. Phiri notably guided

Mines United's rise has already captivated fans, and the formation of the Council of Elders adds another layer of intrigue and promise to their journey. With a foundation steeped in experience and national pride, the club now sets its sights on making a lasting impact in the top flight.



Where fans meet.

STATUE, PEP'S TEARS & A MISSED SITTER - DE NKOTA STRIKES LATE TO HAND BRUYNE'S EMOTIONAL FAREWELL PIRATES WIN AT SUPERSPORT

BBC



de Bruyne received an Kevin emotional farewell at Etihad Stadium for the final time on Tuesday night and the moment even brought manager Pep Guardiola to tears, who called it a "sad day".

The 33-year-old will go down as a Manchester City legend and proclaimed he will "always be here" after the announcement that a statue will be built, external in his honour outside the stadium.

Captain De Bruyne is set to depart this summer and started his last home game in City's 3-1 victory over Bournemouth, but the Premier League great bowed out in a somewhat abject manner.

He had the chance to go out in style but missed a first-half sitter and was then sacrificed in the second half after Mateo Kovacic's sending off - a sad ending for such an illustrious career.

De Bruyne said in his post-match speech: "I wanted to play with creativity, I wanted to play with passion. I wanted to enjoy football and I hope everyone enjoyed it.

"Everybody has pushed me so hard inside and outside the club to be the best version of myself and these guys in front of me have made me better than I was before.

"It's an honour to play with these guys. I've made so many friends for life."

The decade-long association has produced unprecedented success for City, while the player has etched himself into the club's history books by taking home an incredible 16 winners' medals during that period.

their midfield maestro.

Guardiola said: "Everybody saw how much the people from Manchester City are connected with him and his family and how much love [they havel.

"Titles are nice and everything that he has achieved, but when you leave after 10 years with this much respect and gratitude, there is nothing else better than that.

"I am part of that, the club will take the decision, but it is a sad day and he will be missed, there is no doubt about that."

Guardiola added: "When Kevin arrived here, I am pretty sure he was not a Man City fan, I don't know who he supports, but I am pretty sure he is a fan now and will be forever.

SuperSport



Orlando Pirates bounced back to winning ways in the Betway Premiership when they claimed a 1-0 victory over SuperSport United at the new Peter Mokaba Stadium on Tuesday night.

As a result, Bucs reduced Mamelodi Sundowns' lead to 14 points in the standings, but the latter have already been crowned champions.

Interim coach Mandla Ncikazii's side will take on AmaZulu FC on 24 May, before wrapping up their campaign with a clash against Magesi FC on 28 May.

minutes into the match.

Dladla was then called into action in the 19th minute and the Bucs shotstopper denied Lebohang Maboe. Pirates did threaten in the 27th minute, but keeper Thakasani Mbanjwa came out to block Tshegofatso Mabasa's attempt and the score was 0-0 at halftime.

Mohau Nkota became a constant threat to the SuperSport backline after the restart as he made runs in behind the hosts' defence.

The 20-year-old was denied by

Once the full-time whistle was blown, nothing was going to spoil his grand send-off as City players, staff and supporters paid tribute to

"That is because of the connection between all the people and him."

NKETIAH SCORES TWICE AS **PALACE BEAT WOLVES**

BBC



Eddie Nketiah scored twice and FA Cup hero Eberechi Eze was also on target as Crystal Palace continued their celebrations from winning their first major trophy at the weekend by beating Wolverhampton Wanderers.

The Eagles stunned Manchester City at Wembley on Saturday to win the FA Cup and that moment was celebrated by the fans in the build up to this fixture, with not even falling behind when Emmanuel Agbadou headed in spoiling the party mood.

And Palace turned the game on its head thanks to two Nketiah goals in five first-half minutes.

former Arsenal forward The equalised with a neat driven finish from Romain Esse's cutback, before the turning in Ismaila Sarr's cross. Ben Chilwell got Palace's third in the second half when his free-kick took a wicked deflection off Agbadou's head.

Jorgen Strand Larsen, who provided the assist for Agbadou's opener, pulled it back to 3-2 with a header but Eze came off the bench to follow up his FA Cup winner with Palace's fourth to wrap up the three points.

The win means Palace have surpassed 50 points this season, the first time they have done that since the 1991-92 campaign, when they amassed 57 points.

Matsatsantsa, on the other hand, remained 14th in the standings level on points with Cape Town City, who are in the relegation playoff spot.

Interim coach Andre Arendse's side will take on Richards Bay on 24 May in a must-win encounter.

Matsatsantsa were eager to seriously test Siyabonga Dladla, who was making his Betway Premiership debut, in the Bucs goal-posts and the 24-year-old goalkeeper produced a save to deny Lyle Lakay just three

Mbanjwa from close range after being sent through on goal by Mabasa in the 58th minute.

However, the deadlock was finally broken in the 72nd minute when Karim Kimvuidi set up Nkota, who beat Mbanjwa at the near post to hand Pirates the lead.

SuperSport were unlucky not to equalise in the 89th minute when Nyiko Mobbie hit the upright and Pirates held to secure a 1-0 win on the night.



Where fans meet.