

Namibia Today Sport

Quadruple header for 20th Independence Celebration

Photos by Levi Upula



Izinyoka



The Unstoppable

The Lion

The Rock

Beast Master

By Kayele M. Kambombo

WINDHOEK - Four sensational Namibian pugilists will take to the ring with opponents

from South Africa and Zimbabwe for three WBO Africa categories and one National title on the eve of Namibia's 20th Independence Celebration.

If you love boxing, the Windhoek Country Club Resorts and Casino is the place to be on March 20.

The night of rematches will

be held under the promotion of Nestor "Sunshine" Tobias Boxing and Fitness Academy, sanctioned by the Namibia Professional Boxing and Wrestling

control Board.

The quadruple fights will first showcase a vacant Junior Lightweight national title between Abraham Ndaendapo

and Gottlieb Ndokosho over 10 rounds.

The current Bantamweight WBO Africa champion Paulus 'The Rock' Ambunda will make his first title defence against Sithembele Kibiti of South Africa.

"I'm well prepared for my first title defence. I'm The Rock and Kibiti will know my name better after the fight. Tell him that this belt will remain with me until I move to the next weight category", The Rock told *Namibia Today Sport*.

After a long wait for a title fight, the 'Beast Master' Vikapita Meroro now has a chance to prove himself for a vacant Light Heavyweight 12 rounds WBO Africa title in opposition to a Kenyan-born Douglas Otieni.

"I do not know my opponent but I will knock him out. First I'll take hold of the title, than tell you all about my boxing dreams", swanks Meroro.

The tough as a tic double holder of WBA and WBO Africa titles, Bethuel "The Unstoppable" Uushona is to take on Tommy "The Lion" Hango for his first WBO Africa title defence in the Welterweight category.

Says the challenger, alias the Lion: "I am ready for the fight and don't want to talk too much but you'll see what will happen in the ring".

The champion, cognomen the Unstoppable says he is ready for the fight. He advocates his fans to come in big numbers "to see who is the real me".

Sacky "Izinyoka" Shikukutu says he is physically fit and psychologically prepared for any fight that comes his way. "I want to tell the people that this is not a comeback for me, I have been around training very seriously. I wanted to take rematch but the guy is frightened to face me." He calls on his fans and his sponsor Nampower to come and support him.

Pirates, Civics in elimination clash

By Kayele M. Kambombo

WINDHOEK - Another premiership big gun stands to be eliminated in the last 16 teams of the Leo/NFA Cup scheduled for the weekend of April 9 and 10.

Defending champions Orlando Pirates will be at odds with Civics in the second week of next month. The venue is yet to be determined.

At the media briefing this week Barry Rukoro, NFA CEO has announced that "the venues for the last 16 matches will be in Windhoek, Walvis Bay and Otjiwarongo, while Tsumeb will also be a possibility".

There is a predicament with re-

gard to the Windhoek stadiums at the moment. The incident that cropped up at the Leo NFA Cup Round of last-32 match between African Stars and Tigers at the Sport Klub Windhoek (SKW) Stadium on Saturday, March 6, 2010, has created all the tumult.

The hullabaloo started when one of the football hooligans threw an empty tin towards the referee after a player of African Stars was red carded. A gunshot from a pistol was fired in the air and the match was disrupted for a while. Thanks to Humphries Security Guards Division that settled the dust.

Rukoro assured the football loving fraternity that the NFA has received the reports from the Security firm entrusted with the provision of security at the game as well as the report from the Match Commissioner.

The NFA will scrutinize the reports as soon as possible and due investigation will be undertaken to determine the right course of action, where necessary.

Leo cannot make use of the Sam Nujoma Stadium due to MTC advertisement banners placed around the stadium. The adverts can only be concealed by a non-opposing sponsor.

Rukoro promised that a solu-

tion regarding the venues of matches will be sought and communicated to the media in due course.

There are eight premiership teams that have advanced to the Round of 16. Three first division and five second division teams have also progressed to the group of the last 16 matches.

Rukoro also proclaimed that there was a goal galore in the first leg of the group of 32 teams as 84 goals were scored with 75 yellow cards issued and 9 expulsions. R Shilongo of Eleven Arrows has

netted six goals and is currently the highest scorer.

Leo/NFA Cup last 16 Draw

Civics vs Orlando Pirates
Black Africa vs United Stars
Unam Ogongo vs. Ramblers
Eleven Warriors vs Try Again
African Lions vs SKW
Chief Santos vs. Mighty Gunners
African Stars vs Young Rangers
Eleven Arrows vs Spoilers
Venue still to be determined
9, 10, 11 April 2010

Namibia take on Seychelles in CHAN

By Kayele M. Kambombo

WINDHOEK - The Brave Warriors manned by a three dozen tested local players have landed in Seychelles on Tuesday to take part in the second edition of CHAN.

The match will take place tomorrow at Mahe Island, Seychelles.

Namibia's Brave Warriors coach Tom Saintfiet has settled with 18 players after the invited 50 young home-based and experienced players attended trials for the 2010 African Nations Championship (CHAN) Qualifier Match against Seychelles.

The team will return on Monday to Windhoek, Namibia.

The Namibian squad consist of the following players: Virgil Vries (Eleven Arrows), Attiel Mbaha (Orlando Pirates), George

Hummel (Eleven Arrows), Ralph Ellinger (SKW), Nelson Geingob (Civics), Gottlieb Nakuta (Blue Waters), Steven Goagab (Orlando Pirates), Richard Gariseb (Orlando Pirates), Ninja Karongee (African Stars), Eslin Kamuhanga (Civics), Edward Asino (Eleven Arrows), Rudi Louw (African Stars), Tangeni Shipahu (Tigers), Teofelus Kambungu (Swakopmund), Eusebio Fredericks (Ramblers), Ronald Ketjijere (African Stars), Jerome Louis (Black Africa), Heinrich Isaacs (Civics FC).

The technical staff consists of Petrus Victor (head of delegation), Tom Saintfiet (head coach), Brian Issacs (assistant coach), Ronnie Kanalelo (assistant coach), Lutz Pfannestiel (goalkeepers coach) and Gerson Kandjii (team doctor).

CHAN 2011 Qualifiers get underway

This weekend will see teams vying to take part in the second edition of the African Nations Championship (CHAN) to take place in Sudan play one another in the eliminatory rounds. Fifteen other nations will join the host during the finals of the competition.

The competition has witnessed some changes compared to the inaugural edition which held in 2009 in Ivory Coast. CAF the governing body of the sport decided to move to 16 the number of teams taking part in the final phase instead of the initial 8 during the maiden edition. New zones were also carved out for the qualifiers.

North Zone (2 to qualify): Four teams will be vying for the two available spots from the zone. Just one round will be enough to determine who goes through. Algeria will face Libya while Tunisia plays Morocco in the other clash. The two winners will be known on the last weekend of March.

West Zone A (2 to qualify): Four teams will be playing for the two available spots from the group after Mauritania pulled out from the preliminary rounds. Sierra Leone will play Senegal and Guinea face Mali. Only the winners to be known on the last weekend of the month with go through.

West Zone B (3 to qualify): Six teams will play for the three tick-

ets from the zone. Togo vs Ivory Coast, Burkina Faso - Ghana and Niger - Nigeria will be the fixtures.

Central Zone (3 to qualify): Here there are teams playing for the three spots after Equatorial Guinea pulled out. So the winners of the Congo - Cameroon and Gabon - DR Congo encounters qualify directly. Since the zone will need to produce three representatives, the losers will play-off to see who wins the last ticket from the zone.

Centre East Zone (3 to qualify including host Sudan): Eight teams were at the start of the qualifiers from this zone. Somalia edged out Djibouti (1-0) in the preliminary round and four fixtures have been programmed beginning this weekend: Burundi - Uganda, Eritrea - Rwanda, Ethiopia - Kenya and Somalia - Tanzania will be the main fixtures. A second round will be played in this zone where only the four winners will face off for the two remaining tickets.

South Zone (3 to qualify): It is the zone with the greatest number of teams (11) in total. Zambia was

Programme weekend of the 11, 12 and 13th of March

Algeria - Libya
Tunisia - Morocco
Guinea - Mali
Senegal - Sierra Leone
Togo - Ivory Coast
Burkina Faso - Ghana
Niger - Nigeria
Congo - Cameroon
Gabon - DR Congo
Burundi - Uganda
Botswana - South Africa
Seychelles - Namibia
Madagascar - Angola
Swaziland - Zimbabwe
Malawi - Mozambique

Youth Leagues Kick-off today

The Namibia Football Association (NFA) annual Under-17 boy's regional leagues kick-offs this weekend in various regions

The Khomas U/17 League has produced top players competing in the Namibia Premier League such as Eslin Kamuhanga, Ikwatrua Tjozongoro, Shaun Kamatuka, Andre Fug, Sydney Urikhob and Sam Ipinge, amongst others.

The towns that are expected to host these league games this weekend: are Windhoek, Rundu, Katima Mulilo, Mariental, Gobabis, Okakarara, Otjiwarongo, Leonardville, Oshakati and Ohangwena.

In the Khomas region, matches will be played at the Sam Nujoma Stadium.