

Namibia Today Sport

Triple WBO Africa title bouts on cards

By Kayele M. Kambombo

WINDHOEK – The Nestor ‘Sunshine’ Tobias Boxing and Fitness Academy will stage the three WBO Africa titles fights at the Windhoek Country Club Resort and Casino on April 30.

Telecom Namibia sponsored the triple international boxing bonanza at the tune of N\$120 000 through Tobias’ boxing academy that will host the mouthwatering event.

Handing over the sponsorship was Oiva Angula, Senior Manager: Corporate Communications and Public Relations at Telecom Namibia, who said the sponsorship underscores the corporate continued commitment to the sport of boxing in Namibia.

“For strategic as well as developmental reasons, this is a happy feat”, quips Angula.

The academy has signed three boxers in the names of Ali Nuumbembe, Paulus Ambunda

and Martin Haikali, who are part of the cream of Namibia’s boxing talents, to defend their WBO Africa titles in their respective weight categories.

Pledges Angula: “We are extremely delighted to be associated with these pugilists and will do what we can to make them a brand and a force to reckon with in Namibia.

He further noted that the corporate’s aim will be to transform these fighters as brands for Namibia on the African continent and subsequently on the global stage.

Angula opines that boxing promoters, managers and trainers in Namibia have done a marvelous job over the years to produce world-class boxers, adding that Telecom Namibia will continue to put its money and give their unflinching support on the development of



Back row: The fighters: Martin Haikali, The Silent Assassin, The Rock, The Stink and The Prince. Front Row (l-r): Amanda Hauwanga, Telecom Namibia Marketing General Manager, Oiva Angula, Senior Manager: Corporate Communications and Public Relations at Telecom Namibia and Nestor “Sunshine” Tobias, Promoter-cum-manager and trainer.

boxing for both amateur and professional levels.

According to Angula, Telecom Namibia is “cur-

rently busy reviewing its modus operandi in sponsoring boxing, with a view of improving its effectiveness, compre-

hensiveness and inclusiveness while maintaining its status as a staunch sponsor of boxing on amateur and professional lev-

els”. This is indeed a flourishing commitment by Telecom Namibia. Hopefully other business corporate will follow suit.

Tobias to meet Don King in Florida

By Kayele M. Kambombo

WINDHOEK – In an attempt to turnover a new page, Nestor Tobias is always planning while others are sleeping, and snoring in the comfort zones of their bedrooms.

Tobias, a world recognized boxing promoter-cum-manager and trainer has landed in the United States of America to talk about the actual date and venue for the second title defence of Paulus “Hitman” Moses, the current WBA lightweight champion against the mandatory challenger Miguel Acosta from Venezuela.



Nestor Tobias

Tobias has touched down the tarmac in Miami, Florida yesterday. It will be a marathon ne-



Don King

gotiation that has started yesterday till Saturday, Tobias told *Namibia Today Sport*

from his hotel upon request.

The son of the soil will be back at Hosea Kutako International Airport in Windhoek on Monday afternoon. He has promised to call a media briefing on Wednesday, God’s willing.

His detractors who love to hate him are always left in bewilderment as they do not understand his modus operandi, thus accusing him of being ‘manipulative’ with regard to funding of his boxing and fitness academy.

Before Tobias’ departure to the US, he attended the triple WBO Africa titles defence and

sponsorship handover media conference held at Telecom Namibia boardroom on Wednesday morning.

Tobias thanked Telecom Namibia for demonstrating its commitment to the development of Namibia, boxing in particular and singled out the corporate’s managing director Frans Ndoroma for his visionary leadership.

“We humbly call upon other corporate citizens to invest in sport and education as the two goes hand in glove”, says Tobias.

Tobias described the vision of his boxing academy that is to develop, give hope to unemployed and previously disadvantaged youth to realize their

potentials and dreams of becoming world champions like Paulus ‘Hitman’ Moses, Frank Fredericks and others.

He however cautioned that it is only through dedication and achievement in sport that those who excel eventually become champions and are able to generate income to enable them to support their families and communities where they live.

Tobias called upon all boxing fans and the public in general to come in their big numbers to support the boxers. The tickets will be available at the Boxing Control Board and the Windhoek Country Club Resorts and casino at the cost of N\$100 per herad.

South Africans queue overnight for World Cup tickets

Thousands of South African fans queued overnight at supermarkets and shopping malls on Thursday for a chance to buy 500,000 unsold World Cup tickets.

Fifa agreed on Wednesday to drop a ruling that sales could only be made online or through a ballot procedure.

There is still availability for all fixtures, including the final at Soccer City in Johannesburg on 11 July.

A 64-year-old man died from an apparent seizure as he waited in a queue in central Cape Town.

The tragedy in Cape Town came after fans from all over the country had queued from Wednesday afternoon as South Africans rushed to get World Cup tickets.

BBC Africa correspondent Andrew Harding says there were exuberant scenes in Sandton, north of Johannesburg, where people camped out on the street

through the night.

“The last time I waited in a line like this was when I voted

for Mandela,” said one man in Soweto who did not want to give his name because he

was skipping work to stand in line.

BBC Sport’s News Correspondent Gordon Farquhar said that there has been a problem with the main server to Fifa’s ticketing database, resulting in long waiting times for queuing fans.

Many South Africans had complained the original process, by which tickets were sold through Fifa’s website or in a complicated ballot at a local bank branch, excluded people without web access, credit cards or the disposable income to pay for their tickets months in advance.

“We are excited about these new initiatives, which make the process much easier for everyone,” commented World Cup 2010 boss Danny Jordaan.

“We have always said that it is important that we make this World Cup more accessible to the people and with over the counter sales, we believe this measure is consistent with the needs of the fans.”

Ticket prices are also well above normal for top-level football in South Africa.

A special category for local residents sells at 145 rand (£13) but costs escalate drastically in higher categories for better seats and after the first-round group phase with prices for premier seats at the final coming in at 6582 rand (£581).

Demand in South Africa had initially been sluggish but the most recent phase saw 85% of the 240,000 tickets sold between February and the beginning of April go to locals.

Fifa has since revealed that 2.2m tickets have been sold for the tournament, which kicks off on 11 June.



The mayor of Walvis Bay, Uilika Nambahu (second from left) with the Walvis Bay branch manager of FNB Namibia Japie Hoon and colleagues Elizabeth De Brito and Hannelie van Wyk. Photo: www.namibiasport.com.na