

# Namibia Today Sport

## Tune-up fights of grandiose on cards

By Kayele M. Kambombo

**WINDHOEK:** The celebrated Nestor Tobias, boxing promoter and manager-cum-trainer has a boxing bonanza set for the Independence Day celebration next month penciled for the Windhoek Country Club Resort and Casino.

Tobias has promised the boxing crazy Namibians a mouthwatering and a cracker of an event, come March 19, 2011.

There will be 10 bouts in total comprising of professional boxers from the Land of the Brave, as Namibia is affectionately known to its inhabitants.

The competition will be extremely entertaining as professional participants will be drawn from countries such as Argentina, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

The focal attraction of the night will be the main fight that will see the former WBA world lightweight champion Paulus "The Hitman" Moses taking on Miguel Dario Lombardo another pugilist from Argentina. Moses fought and knocked out Sergio Omar Priotti also from Argentina in the fourth round last November in Windhoek at his comeback fight.

Moses/Priotti fight was staged about six months later after Moses relinquished his title to Miguel Acosta from Venezuela.

Moses has a telling record of 27 fights 26 wins with only one loss as



Tobias "Shaya" Nashilongo (trainer), the champions: Martin Haikali, Vikapita 'Beast Master' Merero, The Hitman, Tyson Uushona and Nestor 'Sunshine' Tobias are all ready to rumble (photos by Kayele M. Kambombo)

compared to Lombardo who pride himself on a boxing record of 25 fights 15 wins and nine losses with a draw.

The Moses/Lombardo's non-title international lightweight fight over 12 rounds on the eve of Namibia's 21<sup>st</sup> Independence Day will be a stepping stone for better

things in boxing circles for Moses. This fight will serve as groundwork for the World Boxing Council (WBC) lightweight title eliminator. Moses was recently rated number five on the WBC rankings.

### UNDERCARDS

Nine undercards are set to take

place on the night. The former African lightweight champion Jatoorora "The Sting" Tjingaveta will fight against his compatriot Gottlieb Ndokosho over six rounds. The fast and hard throwing Namibian pugilist Wilberforce "Force" Shihepo takes on a South African national David Kitookwe

in an international super middle-weight bout.

Tobias has shed more light that he is in the process to negotiate a title fight for 12 rounds for Shihepo. "The belt will be proclaimed in due course", says Tobias.

The undefeated and fast as light-

ning Immanuel "The Prince" Naindjala will exchange blows against the Zimbabwean Ronald Tawani in the four rounds international bantamweight category.

In the welterweight class of four rounds Anthony Jaarman with three wins without a loss will fight his fellow countryman, pro debutant Phillemon Kanime.

In another Namibian duel but interesting to watch will be Abraham "Energy" Ndaendapo and Peter "The Butcher" Malakia who will contest in the junior lightweight non-title six rounds while Manfred Haimbanga will meet Costa Nilo Frans in the in the junior catch weight division.

Another attention-grabbing Namibian fight of the night takes Julius Indongo and Samuel Kapapu to tango in the ring for a national lightweight title scheduled for 10 rounds.

Namibia's Martin Haikali, the current African lightweight champion will take on Zimbabwean Misheck Kondwane in the six rounds bout. Kondwane have been gracing the boxing ring for sometimes. He is a hard nut to crack but Martin is a zealous and no-nonsense hard hitting fellow.

The pro-debutant Sakaria Lukas and a yet to be announced opponent will open the night that promise to be a tormenting one.

Tickets go for N\$200 per head. The selling points will be announced in due course.

## Warriors, Zebras in friendly spar

By Kayele M. Kambombo

**WINDHOEK:** The national soccer team the Brave Warriors will play Botswana at Maun on March 16, as part of the two countries 2012 Orange Confederation of African Football (CAF) Africa Nations Cup qualifiers preparations.

The Warriors will use Botswana to gauge their readiness for Burkina Faso spar in Ouagadougou scheduled for March 26 of their Group F fixture. This will be a must win away encounter.

It is going to be a tough hurdle to jump as the Zebras of Botswana has become a force to be reckoned with.

The Zebras have been an unwavering team that plays with cohesion as the players come a long way together.

Many a times they have proved to be hard nuts to crack in their own backyard. The Warriors will be ready



Brave Warriors' coach Brian Isaacs

to inflict a heavy blow on the hosts, come March 16.

Botswana Football Association has initiated the friendly.

"With limited resources that we have, it is not always easy to get

opponents for friendly games and once we got the invite by Botswana and given their strength in African football these days, we gladly accepted the invitation", said NFA Secretary General Bary Rukoro.

"We have so far played one friendly match against Malawi this year and friendly games can help Coach Brian Isaacs to work out his systems and combinations before the big match against Burkina Faso", Rukoro added.

The technical team will be dealt a blow though as none of the foreign-based players will be released by the clubs since the date of the match does not fall on an official FIFA International match day.

Nevertheless, Isaacs has instilled attacking mentality in his players and will most definitely rise to the occasion, provided that they forwards will unleash ferocious shots to convert goals.

The Brave Warriors under Isaacs have lost 2-1 to Malawi on February 9 in Windhoek and will have to improve on their performance on that rainy night at the Sam Nujoma Stadium, if they are to cause an upset in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

The Burkinabe are top of the group after their 3-1 won over Gambia last October with Gambia in second also with a 3-1 win over Namibia who are last.

In May 2011, Namibia will host Burkina Faso before hosting The Gambia for the return leg in September 2011 (*Additional reporting from the NFA Secretariat*).

## Tobias to donate 10% to Bertolini

By Kayele M. Kambombo

**WINDHOEK** – Philanthropist Nestor "Sunshine" Tobias, renowned Namibian boxing promoter, manager and trainer vowed to donate 10% of the proceeds from the Independence Boxing Bonanza on March 19 to the nine year old Algino Bertolini.

Bertolini was diagnosed with an atypical liver illness that re-

quires his parents to fork out N\$1.2 million for a liver transplant in Germany or N\$700 000 in South Africa.

Tobias said that it is his boxing academy's social responsibility thus he calls on Namibians from all walks of life to come in big numbers at the Independence Boxing Bonanza so that "we can enable Bertolini to live a life that he always dreaming about", says Tobias.

"God's willing, Bertolini, after a successful liver implant, he might become a physician or a generous donor that will help us all or our children in the future

"Because of inadequate space", said Tobias, "we will organize two tables of ten people at the ring side that will go for N\$10 000 each".

"The gloves of the main fight between Paulus "The Hitman" Moses and Minguel Dario Lombardo will be auctioned and the proceeds will go to this boy (Bertolini).

"Let us all join hands to save the life of this boy. I am certain that together we can do it, either through prayers and financial donation".

## Namibia's pugilist in search of top titles

By Kayele M. Kambombo

**WINDHOEK** – The sky is the limit for Namibia's boxer as they are on their way to reach the zenith in the bloodiest sport called boxing.

Nestor Tobias has told *Namibia Today Sport* upon request that at least no less than five promising Namibian boxers will become world champions this year. "This is not an easy task. It needs hard work, courage and determination to come on top", cautions Tobias.

According to Tobias, the two times champion Bethuel "Tyson" Uushona vies for the Commonwealth title in the United Kingdom. The fight is set for March 26.

The WBO Africa light heavyweight champion Vikapita "Beast Master" Merero will also contest for the WBC Intercontinental in his category against a certain Isack Chilemba, a Malawian-born based in Johannesburg. This fight is also penciled for March 26 in Johannesburg.

Later this year, Abmerk "Anaconda" Shidjuu is to challenge the current Commonwealth champion Chris Edwards of the United Kingdom. According to Tobias, the D-day is still to be announced.

Paulus "The Hitman" Moses will fight for the World Boxing Council (WBC) lightweight title eliminator. Moses was recently rated number five on the WBC rankings.

Wilberforce "Force" Shihepo is the next in line for title bout as Tobias is 24/7 busy on a round table negotiation to find a good title fight for 12 rounds.

## Referees wanted in Khomas

The Khomas Under-17 league is in search of individuals who wish to officiate in the youth league.

The league administrators have thus called upon all interested persons in the Khomas Region.

All those who have the passion as referees can approach the Youth Development through Football (YDF) office on Monday (February 28).

Interested candidates will be taken through referees coaching clinic on Tuesday and Wednesday under the guidance of Namibia Football Association Referees Coordinator Absalom Goseb.

For further information, you can contact league administrator Fortune at: 0812881135 or office at 265691.