13 June 2025



ROAD TO LITERACY CAMPAIGN 2025

Minister of Basic Education Hon. Siviwe Gwarube, alongside representatives from Oxford University Press South Africa (OUPSA) and AVBOB, recently announced that 1,000 schools and nonprofit organizations (NPOs) will receive essential library trolleys as part of the Road to Literacy campaign.

This initiative aims to provide hope to these 1,000 schools and NPOs through the trolley library program. The beneficiaries of the 2025 Road to Literacy campaign, a collaborative effort between AVBOB and Oxford University Press South Africa (OUPSA), have been officially announced. This nationwide campaign focuses on improving access to books in communities throughout South Africa, specifically targeting schools and NPOs with the trolley library initiative. Included in this expansive list are 47 schools from the Free State, including Sentraal Primary School (P/S) from Bloemfontein.

The project addresses the ongoing challenges of

Low literacy and numeracy levels can be

addressed at the foundation phase by providing young learners with culturally and linguistically relevant materials in all 11 official written languages.

This year's campaign reflects substantial growth from the 180 library trolleys distributed in its inaugural year, 2022. Each 1,000 mobile library includes 500 OUPSA books selected to support literacy and numeracy skills in alignment with the CAPS curriculum. The total number of books distributed this year will exceed 500,000, up from 250,000 in 2024.

Speaking on a panel alongside Carl van der Riet (CEO of AVBOB Group), Karen Simpson (MD of OUPSA), Gugu Ndebele (Executive Director of the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls), the Minister of Basic Education, Siviwe Gwarube remarked:

"This initiative is a powerful example of what can be achieved through partnerships. The campaign addresses a pressing national priority, the development of foundational literacy

and numeracy, while supporting policy frameworks to integrate diversity into school curricula. It does so in a way that honours South Africa's linguistic and cultural richness, ensuring that no child is left behind."

Simpson added that the partnership reflects the organisation's core belief that literacy is a foundation for lifelong learning and opportunity. "Access to books in a learner's mother tongue profoundly impacts their ability to grasp foundational concepts, stay engaged in the classroom, and remain in the education system. We are steadfast on publishing our books in all of South Africa's official written languages, and the AVBOB Road to Literacy campaign enables us to place these resources directly in the hands of the learners who need them most."

The 2025 campaign invests R57 million in mobile, durable trolley libraries valued at R57,000 each, promoting reading and numeracy in underresourced learning environments. The campaign has received 8,661 nominations from educators, caregivers, community leaders, and the public.

The AVBOB Road to Literacy campaign aims to provide access to quality education materials, dignity, and hope for a better future. It focuses on literacy and numeracy as academic skills and building blocks for future learning. The campaign has evolved from a pilot initiative into one of the country's most extensive mobile library programmes since 2022. Educational experts advocate for mother tongue instruction at the early stages of schooling, as it helps children stay in school, perform better academically, and transition successfully to additional languages later in life. The campaign aims to address the gap in access to African-language books, ensuring the joy of reading and the practical foundation of numeracy is not restricted by geography or circumstance.

A list of 47 schools in the Free State will be available on our Facebook page, Free State Sun Newspaper.







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NOTIFICATION: ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION APPLICATION PROCESS.

In accordance with the requirements of Chapter 6 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (Government Notice R982 as amended, promulgated under the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998-NEMA), notice is herewith given of an application/s which will be subjected to a public participation process.

Applicant:	Harmony Gold Mining Company Limited
Application/s:	 Integrated Environmental Authorisation (EA) and Waste Management License (WML) in accordance with the National Environmental Management Act – NEMA (Act 107 of 1998) as well as the National Environmental Management: Waste Act – NEMWA (Act 59 of 2008; and Water Use Licence (WUL) for various water uses in accordance with the National Water Act – NWA (Act 36 of 1998). Additional listed activities and/or water uses may be identified during the process.
Location:	The proposed TSF will be located on Farm portions Mijannie 66 Portion 0/RE, Goedgedacht 53 Portion 0, Nooitgedacht 50 Portion 0, Jacobsdal 37 Portion 0 and Rheedersdam 31 Portion 0. The relative centre point of the proposed TSF is 27° 56.398'S, 26° 39.868'E.The proposed pipelines traverse the following farm portions: Vlakplaats 125 Portion 3, 4 and 5; Mijannie RE/66 Portion 0; Toronto RE/115 Portion 7 and 0; Rietpan 17 Portion 0; Rietkuil 28 Portion 0; Rheeders Dam 31 Portion 0; Farm 41 Portion 20; Ouders Gift 48 Portion 0; Nooitgedacht 50 Portion 0; Goedgedacht 53 Portion 0; Theronia 71 Portion 1 and 7; Jacobsrust 118 Portion 0; St Helena 42 Portion 2 and 3, Farm 80 Portion 0, Stuirmanship 92 Portion 1, 7 and 0, Saaiplaas 690 Portion 1, 11, 15 and 0; Klippan 14 Portion 1, 2 and 15, Marmageli 20 Portion 0 and 157 Portion 0.
Activity:	 The current planned LOM of the Free State operations exceed the available deposition capacity of these TSFs, and the applicant is therefore proposing to construct the proposed Nooitgedacht TSF to cater for this additional capacity. The TSF will cover an area of approximately 895 ha as shown. In addition, three new pipelines are required to be constructed: Two 10km long slurry lines from Harmony One Plant to the St Helena Booster Pump Station; One 16k long slurry line from Brand A TSF to the St Helena Booster Pump Station; and One 17km slurry line from the St Helena Booster Pump Station to FSN 1 TSF. The pipelines will be flanged steel pipelines of over 0,36m in diameter and installed above-ground on pre-cast concrete plinths and a 3.5m wide access road, adjacent to the pipelines, will be cleared/graded to provide access for constructed at farm Klippan 14 portion 2 which will cover an area of up to 2 ha.
Assessment (EIA) undertaken. You only registered I& an interested and Privacy Notice av	wing the procedures defined in the EIA Regulations for undertaking a Scoping and Environmental Impact process. In accordance with Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations, a public participation process will be are hereby invited to register and comment on the proposed project and application/s. Please note that AP's will be informed of future project information and opportunities for participation. By registering as a ffected party you consent to the collection and processing of your personal information as per the EIMS ailable at www.eims.co.za/public-participation. In order to avoid missing out on opportunities for public ase submit I&AP registrations, or any queries, comments, or concerns with regards to this application, as to EIMS at:
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E-mail: nooitgedacht@eims.co.za

Please include the project reference number 1565 in all correspondence.

Further information will be available at <u>www.eims.co.za/public-participation/</u>. Please note that in the event that you are unable to access the website due to data constraints please contact EIMS for alternative arrangements.



2



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All civil matters in the Gauteng litigants from using the legal system Division of the High Court must first go through mediation before being scheduled for trial, according to a new rule implemented by the South African judiciary. By addressing the substantial backlog in civil courts, this effort seeks to increase access to justice. We'll look at the history, legal ramifications, and possible effects of mandatory mediation on the South African legal system in this piece.

A significant backlog in the South African civil court system has caused protracted delays and higher fees for petitioners. Mediation and other forms of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) have been identified as a viable way to deal with this problem. Through mediation, a third party who is impartial helps parties negotiate and come to a mutually agreeable solution.

There are a number of legal issues raised by the implementation of obligatory mediation in South African civil courts that need serious thought. Here are some important areas to investigate:

Right to Access Courts: Section 34 of into account in the directive. the South African Constitution guarantees the right to access courts. Mandatory mediation could be interpreted as restricting this privilege and possibly preventing

to settle their issues.

Justification for Limitation: Section 36 of the Constitution requires that any restrictions on the ability to access courts be justified. One could argue that the directive's goals of lowering the backlog of cases and enhancing access to justice make it a reasonable restriction.

Judicial Discretion: Restrictions on Judicial Discretion: The directive might make it harder for judges to decide whether a case is appropriate for mediation. This might raise questions about judges' capacity to efficiently handle their dockets.

Case-by-Case Assessment: In order to address this, the directive may permit case-by-case evaluations, which would empower judges to exclude particular cases from mediation in light of their unique circumstances.

Effectiveness of Mediation-*Complex Disputes*:

Multiple-party disputes, complicated legal difficulties, or high-stakes claims may not be amenable to mediation. The appropriateness of mediation for Implications for the Constitution: various case types should be taken

Conclusion:

In an effort to improve access to justice and decrease the backlog of cases, mandatory mediation was introduced in South African civil courts. Although there may be advantages to this strategy, it is imperative to carefully weigh the legal ramifications and make sure the directive is carried out in a way that supports efficiency, justice, and fairness for all parties. To ascertain the initiative's efficacy and pinpoint areas for development, it will be crucial to conduct ongoing assessment and monitoring.

Other Considerations:

Accreditation and Training: The effectiveness of mandated mediation depends on the mediators' accreditation and training.

Confidentiality and Privilege: Concerns about confidentiality and privilege in mediation procedures should be clarified by the directive. Enforcement of Mediation Agreements: It is important to specify the repercussions of noncompliance as well as the enforceability of mediation agreements.

The writer is the Executive Director of Justice Equality Foundation.



Implications for Cases Unsuitable for Mediation: The effectiveness of the directive may be compromised if cases unsuitable for mediation are handled inefficiently or with delay.



13 June 2025

Slig Records Foundation: A New Chapter of Building a Legacy of Social Good



Sliq Records Foundation Launches with Purpose - Led by CEO Pule Chauke(Sliq Magagula).

What began as a simple community walk in 2023 has become more structured and impactful. The recent Charity Fun Walk, held in Virginia on May 3rd, 2025, marked the official launch of the Sliq Records Foundation-a formal vehicle for social impact founded by Pule Chauke(Sliq Magagula), CEO of Sliq Records.

The Foundation is the natural progression of Magagula's longstanding commitment to giving back. Sliq Records has quietly supported various grassroots initiatives in step in building a sustainable model sports, education, music for ongoing community support. years. The launch of the Foundation Shounyane, Moroma Khoarai,

signals a new era—one that will see these efforts scale with intent and focus.

"I come from the same streets and situations many of these kids live through," says Magagula. "If you're in a position to do something, you should. This Foundation is about doing exactly that — consistently and with structure."

This year's walk raised a certain amount, which will be used to purchase school shoes, sanitary pads, and food parcels for underprivileged children across the Free State. More than a feel-good moment, the event was a strategic development, and food relief for six The organising team — Adam

Puleng Ramohlokoana, Sello Molai, and Tshidiso Malete --- worked with precision to ensure a smooth rollout of the event, while rallying partners and local businesses to contribute meaningfully.

The walk was made possible by the support of multiple sponsors, including:

Sliq Records, The Lounge, MphoTshepi Traders, Bahlakoana Laundry & Maintenance, Meloding Funeral Services, Woman In Me, Nyapotse Inc, Nazo Fuel, Dr 911 Lifestyle Bikers, Renergen, Tailor Made Trading, Coco Fino, Virginia Hot Spot, General Boboski Group, Run FS, and 057 Café.

adds. "This is just the beginning."

The Sliq Records Foundation will be formally launched on June 28, 2025, and will continue to expand its footprint. It will focus on structured community development in the arts, education, sport, and essential relief.

For media enquiries, partnerships, or to support future Foundation work, contact: info@sliqrecordsfoundation.org +27 61 988 1060 www.sligrecordsfoundation.org Issued by: **Sliq Records Foundation Building communities.** Creating change.

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JOSEPH MOHLATSANE

"We're not chasing headlines or handshakes. We're building something that lasts," Magagula



CUT condemns all acts of GVB following brutal murder of student

Technology, Free State (CUT) has learned with dismay about the passing of 19-year-old student Ms. Bunono Alulutho Buba, who was brutally murdered in Colesberg, Northern Cape, on 5 June 2025. Ms Buba was studying for a Bachelor of Education (SPFET) ECO Management degree.

The South African Police Service has registered a murder case for investigation after the discovery of the body of a 19-year-old female student in the veld between Bongweni and Khayelitsha in Kuyasa.

The Central University of Preliminary reports indicate that on 05 June 2025 at approximately 02:25, police members received a report of persons who were allegedly being attacked at a drinking establishment in Khayelitsha in Kuyasa in Colesberg. Upon arrival at the said place, the SAPS members found nobody and proceeded to the Manne Dipico Hospital to check if any persons were receiving medical treatment. While at the hospital, a Volkswagen Golf stopped, and a male person reported that his girlfriend was lying in the veld area between Bongweni and Khayelitsha.

Upon arrival at the scene, the police discovered the body of a female victim with stab wounds to her neck and abdomen. The police then detained the boyfriend after he was identified with the belongings of the deceased.

"It is indeed regrettable that the scourges of Gender-Based Violence and Femicide are sporadically stifling humanity and the existence of our beloved sisters, mothers of our land. This endemic is leaving society, the family, and friends broken and traumatised, given that the loss of one too many remains a loss to the nation. We call upon our

students and staff to put the family of the deceased student in our prayers during these trying times. We also urge our students, staff, and communities in Colesberg to put faith in law enforcement and cooperate in affording Ms Buba and her family much-needed justice," said CUT Dean of Students, Dr Bernard Sebake.

The police urge any person with information that may assist in the investigation to contact the investigating officer, Constable Gorra, at 074 378 8229, the SAPS Crime Stop number 08600 10111 or via the MYSAPS App.

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Lejweleputswa Education District Hosts Admission Advocacy Initiative

By Dikeledi Ntsollane

The Lejweleputswa Education District conducted a learner admission advocacy program at Lekgarietse Secondary School on June 11, focusing on the theme "Securing Every Child's Right to Education 2026: Admissions Made Easy." The event was attended by district director Mrs. Phaello Zonke, Mr. T. Motholo from the provincial office, various stakeholders involved in the 2026 admissions process, and members of the Thabong community.

The initiative's purpose was to equip all provincial education departments and governing bodies of public schools with the necessary regulatory provisions for managing learner admissions. These regulations are uniformly applicable across all provincial education departments and public schools, with provincial directives taking precedence in cases of conflict with existing rules. Each school's admission policy, as established by its governing body, must align with these regulations to maintain standardized practices nationwide.

In her welcoming address, Mrs. Zonke underscored the importance of parental involvement in the admissions process, citing Section 51 of the South African Schools Act 84 of 1996, stipulating that parents must apply for their child's registration with the provincial education department. "Pre-admission refers to the processes before a learner

MISS SOUTH AFRICAH

is formally admitted to a school. Parents play a crucial role when preparing for their child's admission," Mrs. Zonke stated.

The admission application for learners to public schools must be submitted to the education department in the manner specified by the head of the department. Mrs. Zonke emphasized that while parents are responsible for fostering a home environment conducive to learning, schools must provide a structured curriculum and ensure the safety and well-being of learners. Schools are mandated to create an inclusive and supportive environment, free from violence and discrimination, in line with the rights outlined in the South African Schools Act and the Constitution.

Mr. T. Motholo from the provincial office presented an overview of the learner admission regulations, which serve as a comprehensive framework for managing admissions across all provincial departments. These regulations promote fair, non-discriminatory, consistent admission practices, upholding learners' constitutional rights.

Following the presentations, members of the Thabong community engaged in discussions regarding the challenges they face concerning admissions and the vital role stakeholders play in addressing these issues.

Department of Roads Launches Transport Hand Signs





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By Dan Xangaza

The Department of Community Safety, Roads, and Transport has officially launched the Transport Hand Signs initiative aimed at improving accessibility for people who are deaf or individuals with disabilities, ensuring they are catered for within the transport sector. The launch event saw participation from various organizations, including SANTACO's disability desk, the Mangaung Deaf Association, Social Development, SAPS, Mangaung Metro Municipality, PTC, and the Traffic Department, alongside MEC of Community Safety, Roads and Transport, Jabu Mbalula.

In her opening remarks, Bongi Tsoleli, the MMC for Public Safety and Transport in Mangaung Metro Municipality, emphasized the campaign's importance. "This initiative is a significant milestone in our journey to make public transport services more inclusive and accessible to all, particularly for persons with disabilities. For too long, these individuals have

faced barriers in accessing public transport," Tsoleli stated.

The Transport Hand Signs Campaign aims to facilitate communication between persons with disabilities and transport operators, fostering a more inclusive environment. Tsoleli assured the community of their commitment to addressing the needs and concerns of individuals with disabilities, emphasizing the importance of their feedback in shaping transport services. MEC Jabu Mbalula highlighted the initiative's broader implications: "I am deeply honoured to be here with you today to mark this special moment, which is the official start of the Transport Hand Signs initiative. Today, we are doing more than launching a campaign.

This is a campaign and a movement to enhance visibility, access, and dignity in our transportation system. Hand signs will empower deaf commuters to communicate their needs, ensuring they can travel safely and independently," remarked MEC Mbalula

The truth behind the glamour and generosity "

Mamello Wendi Chabeli(23) from Welkom Thabong held a small campaign for 10 girls from Seabo Primary School last Friday at Gerformeerde Kerk in Thabong, helping with their needs.

This has been one of her activities since 2023. Last year, on June 2nd, she also donated clothes for children, and again, on December 25th, she made sure a few families got to enjoy Christmas with their loved ones by helping out those in need.

She isn't just about generosity but also by glamour, she will be representing Free State in the finals this coming September on the 27th for the accolade of "Miss Heritage 2025", She was 2nd runner-up of FACE OF SHE in 2022,2023 Miss Goldfields Supermodel 2nd runner-up,2023 Mr & Miss Face of Matjhabeng runner-up, and lastly Miss Charity 2023.

13 June 2025

SARGF illegal online gambling awareness to BFN Primary Schools





By Dan Xangaza

The South African Responsible Gambling Foundation visited schools across the Free State as part of its Taking Risks Wisely initiative, which aims to tackle the rise of online gambling among underage young people.

Although gambling is illegal for persons under the age of 18 in South Africa, many young people still find ways to engage in underage gambling, especially online. The Taking Risks Wisely initiative educates school-age learners and vulnerable groups about the dangers of illegal gambling and its consequences.SARGF Executive Director Sibongile Simelane-Quntana said that many learners are first introduced to gambling through informal activities Zwepe. In this gambling game, a coin is spun, and the players bet on the coin on heads or tails, dice, cards and betting money on games such as Ludo.

"There are various factors that contribute to underage gambling, which differ depending on the community," said Simelane-Qutana."Peer pressure access to illegal gambling, exposure to gambling culture and the normalisation of risky behaviour all play a role in drawing young people into gambling activities."

She emphasised that the goal of Taking Risks Wisely is to ensure that learners understand the legal restrictions on gambling for minors. The risks and consequences associated with gambling at a young age. The support and treatment options available for those affected by gambling addiction.

In addition to this initiative, SARGF's minor intervention programme provides counselling services for minors affected by gambling with parental or legal guardian consent." The programme focuses on offering free support to young people who may have been directly impacted by illegal underage gambling or the harmful effects of problem parade and in classes," said Seoheng. gambling within their homes," said

Simelane-Qutana.

FREE STATE SUN NEWS

Advocacy, Communication and Prevention Manager Lebogang Seoheng said," Gambling in South Africa under 18 is illegal. However, this does not completely shield young people and children of school-going age from the adverse impact of disordered or irresponsible gambling. The taking risk Wisely was the school programme initiated by the foundation which focuses on school-going age learners classified as vurnable groups outlined at the national gambling act 2004. The Taking Risks Wisely advocates to ensure that learners know that engaging in gambling or betting activities is illegal under 18. Furthermore, the programme also aims to encourage learners to become peer ambassadors to their fellow learners who make wise choices, engage in illicit activities, and take risks wisely. Learners are also provided and given tools to combat challenges relating to addiction and others that are interrelated with other forms of underage illegal risky activities such as alcohol abuse, drug abuse and sexual abuse. So what the programme does is a game just to make the learners aware of the potential harmful effects of illegal under age gambling. We work closely together with provincial gambling board and in this case in the Free State we work with the Free State Gambling Liquor and Tourism Authority who is the reguletary authority in the Free State Province on matters of gambling. We also being work incollabration through the additional ground funding the holihood fundation who's provided us with extra funding to enable us to scale our programme not only just in the Free State but also nationally to give this information to learners, so particulaly in Free State. We engage with 10

schools. We engage with learners at the

FH KAMOGELO'S KIDNAPPING ARRESTED POLICE SERGEA

The disappearance of 19-year-old Kamogelo Baukudi cast a shadow over the community. On Thursday, June 5, 2025, Kamogelo was kidnapped, leaving family and friends desperate for answers. As the days passed, hope began to wane, but the police were steadfast in their commitment to uncovering the truth.

A 42-year-old police sergeant was arrested in connection with Kamogelo's abduction. The sergeant, whose identity remains protected by court order, briefly appeared in the Bloemfontein Magistrate's Court before being remanded in custody. The case has been postponed until June 13, 2025, for bail information and further investigation, as the authorities work diligently to piece together the details surrounding this heinous crime.

Lieutenant General Baile Motswenyane, the Provincial Commissioner of Police in the Free State, reassured the public of the South African Police Service's (SAPS) unwavering dedication to solving the case. "We will leave no stone unturned," he stated, emphasising the importance of accountability within the force. The

police vehicle linked to the kidnapping raised serious questions about misconduct, prompting a thorough investigation into the officer's actions. As the investigation unfolded, the SAPS appealed to the community for assistance. They urged anyone with information about Kamogelo's whereabouts to come forward. Public cooperation became crucial, and the police provided contact details for officers who could be reached directly and avenues for anonymous tips.

Amid uncertainty, the community rallied together, holding vigils and spreading awareness of Kamogelo's case. With each passing day, the hope for her safe return remained alive, fueled by the police's determination and the unwavering support of friends and family.

As the investigation continued, the police emphasized their commitment to transparency and accountability. While the sergeant awaited his next court appearance, the community held its breath, hoping for a breakthrough leading to Kamogelo's safe return. In a time of crisis, the bonds of the beloved Kamogelo would soon come community grew stronger, united in their home. quest for justice and the hope that their



MISSING TEEN • MISSING MISSING TEEN • MISSING TEEN • MISSING TEEN •

The 2025 Comrades Marathon, held on Sunday, showcased the incredible spirit of endurance as approximately 22,000 runners tackled one of the world's toughest ultramarathons. Spanning 90 kilometres from Pietermaritzburg to Durban, the race saw seasoned athletes and first-time participants push their limits, united by the exhilarating rush of crossing the finish line.

Amidst the sweat, cramps, and fatigue, Tete Dijana and Gerda Steyn emerged as the champions, but every finisher shared the triumph of completing the gruelling course. "What a day of drama," remarked Welkom runner Nkhetheni Masupa, capturing the relentless competition against the clock that defined the marathon.

Among the highlights was local legend Louis Massyn, who made history as the first athlete to complete 50 Comrades Marathons. The Welkom Runners were also well represented, with 56 participants taking the course. Notable finishes included Potso Khomo, Abe Nkomo, and Nkhetheni Masupa, all of whom secured silver medals. Despite the challenges faced by many, including cramping and fatigue, the camaraderie and determination displayed by all runners turned this year's Comrades into a remarkable celebration of endurance and spirit.



RFC- Brandfort to Bloemfontein **Marathon Run-60km**

The Royal Family Cathedral (RFC) in 9 Levy Street, Bloemfontein, was founded by Dr Masekwane Masekwane. It recently hosted the 60 km Marathon Run via R30 and N1 from Brandfort to Bloemfontein. This local event was organised as a tribute to those who trained for the Comrades Marathon but faced financial barriers. It aimed to support runners who couldn't afford the costs of the iconic 90km race from Pietermaritzburg to Durban. Participants ran a challenging 60km route from Brandfort to Bloemfontein, symbolically representing their commitment to the Comrades runners. The organizers sought to bolster community spirit and show solidarity with those competing in the prestigious event, encouraging them to "keep the spirit alive."

In addition to promoting physical fitness, the marathon aimed to raise awareness about to make its mark in the marathon scene, critical social issues, including crime and paving the way for future successes.

violence in the Free State. The event served as a call to action for men to engage in positive activities, helping to combat stress and prevent harmful behaviours.

Runners utilized this marathon to gauge their pace and performance, with several participants showing promise for the upcoming ultramarathon. The top finishers demonstrated the potential to bring home silver medals in future races, highlighting the need for more intensive training. Christmas Qhali, the race winner, is a young lawyer at Legal Aid.

The organizers are committed to identifying and nurturing local talent, with plans to support selected runners as they prepare for the 2026 Comrades Marathon. With determination and community backing, the Royal Family Cathedral in Free State aims



