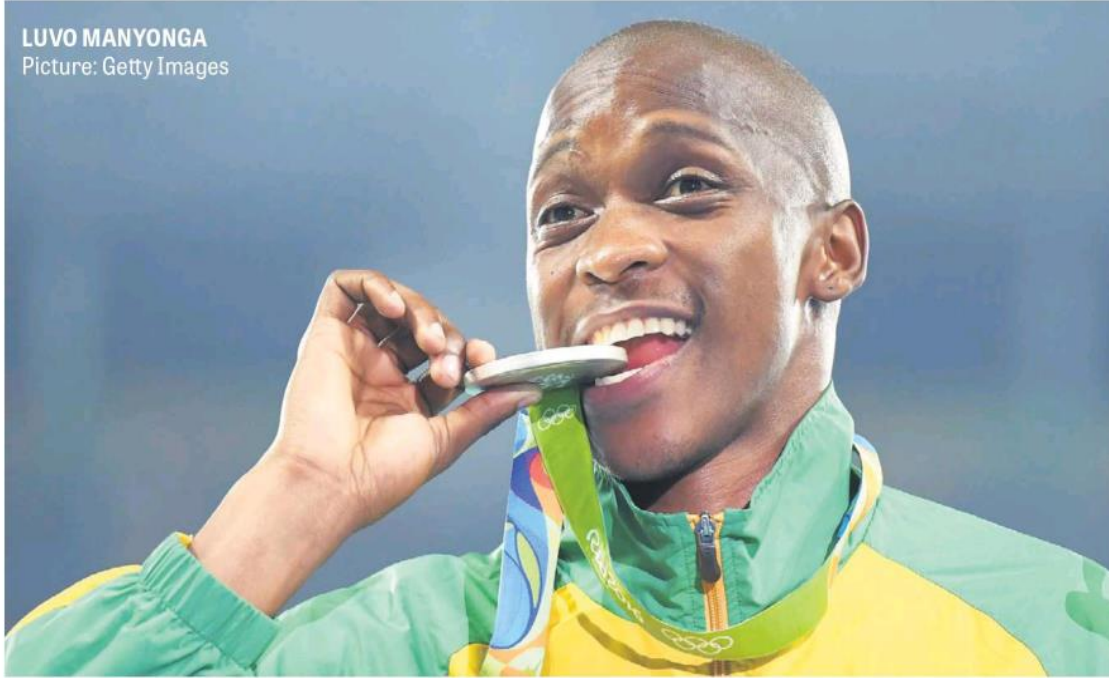




LUVU MANYONGA
Picture: Getty Images



Remote training for Manyonga

CORNELIUS: COACH TO GUIDE STAR FROM PRETORIA BASE

Wesley Botton

Though he has moved base two years after making a move which revitalised his career, world long jump champion Luvo Manyonga will retain some familiarity in his new environment by retaining his coach.

It was revealed this week that Manyonga would move from Pretoria to Port Elizabeth, but coach Neil Cornelius confirmed he would continue to guide the star.

"We need to finalise the logistics but I'm still his coach. Nothing has changed," Cornelius said.

Manyonga had already settled in Port Elizabeth, and had started

preparing for the 2018 campaign using Cornelius' training programme.

They hoped to have a long-distance system in place within the next few days, with Cornelius remaining in Pretoria.

"Hopefully we will have the logistics finalised by Monday, but our plans haven't changed," Cornelius said.

"We're preparing for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Luvo's training will continue as usual."

The University of Pretoria (Tuks) confirmed this week that Manyonga had cut ties with the institution, opting for a move to the Windy City in order to be closer to his family.

A former world junior champi-

on, Manyonga was suspended for 18 months after testing positive for the banned stimulant methamphetamine in April 2012.

He subsequently spent four years on the sidelines battling recreational drug addiction before Tuks and the SA Sport Confederation and Olympic Committee (Sascoc) removed him from Mbekweni township in the Western Cape and placed him under supervision in the capital city in late 2015.

After bursting back into form last season, taking second place at the Rio Olympics, he went unbeaten in a 2017 campaign which included an African record leap of 8.65m and a gold medal at the World Championships.

