



# Oza

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### Pirates to reshuffle technical team!

#### Downs assistant earmarked as future Pirates coach

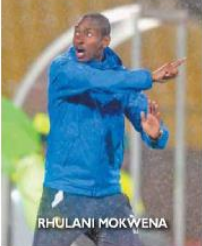
Speculation has been rife surrounding the future of Mamelodi Sundowns' assistant coach, Rhlulani Mokwena, with suggestions that he could well be on his way to Orlando Pirates in the future.

Mokwena is judged to be one of the brightest young coaches at present, and has been a vital part of Sundowns' success in recent years as a member of Pitsso Mosimane's 'Brains Trust'.

The young coach has often been referred to as one for the future, but there does seem to be the chance that that future may lie away from Chloorkop and across Gauteng, with the Buccaneers.

Mokwena didn't travel with Sundowns to Rustenburg for their pre-season camp ahead of the 2017/18 campaign and, while the reason for his absence was stated as being due to having flu, it has only added fuel to the fire regarding the rumours that he could be on the move.

The crew reported last week



RHLULANI MOKWENA

#### Malesela's name resurfaces at Bucs

News reaching the Siya crew is that Dan Malesela's name is once again being whispered in the Orlando Pirates corridors.

The Buccaneers have appointed Serbian tactician, Milutin 'Micho' Sredojevic, as the club's new head coach and, with the Soweto giants expected to reshuffle their technical team, Malesela's name as resurfaced.

Malesela, who led Chippa United to victory over Kaizer Chiefs in the Premier's Cup on the weekend, is wanted as part of Bucs' back room staff, according to Siya sources.

The 52-year-old was strongly linked with a switch from Chippa to the Soweto giants last season, though in the end continued with his role at the Chili Boys. It now seems as though Bucs are assessing the possibility of adding him to Micho's team.

"Don't be surprised if Pirates make a move for Dan Malesela with a view of adding him to Micho's technical team. It's something that has been discussed. The position he

is wanted for is not yet clear," revealed a source close to the club's dealings.

According to the source, it's not clear in what capacity Malesela would come in as, though added that former midfield maestro and assistant coach, Tebogo Moloi, could return to the club.

"Also, Tebogo Moloi's name has been mentioned. There is a possibility that he could return to the club for the assistant coach role at Pirates under Micho. He is no longer an assistant coach at Chippa," added the source.

It is clear that Bucs are looking to bolster their technical bench and, as the Siya crew reported, Mamelodi Sundowns assistant coach Rhlulani Mokwena has also been strongly linked to the club. According to sources, Mokwena has been earmarked as a future Pirates head coach.

It is unclear if Bucs will continue with their pursuit in Malesela or Moloi, should Mokwena agree to leave the Brazilians for the Sea Robbers, unless Bucs decide to make wholesale changes.

available given the domestic and continental demands that will be placed on them this coming season. Wits will also be reticent to strengthen a team that could potentially be a rival for silverware.

It remains to be seen whether the Buccaneers will attempt to bend Wits' arm before the window closes, although at this point it appears that the Clever Boys have no intention of selling the midfielder man.

#### Downs keen to offload Castro...

Mamelodi Sundowns are looking to offload their Colombian striker, Leonardo Castro, before the July/

August transfer window slams shut in a few weeks' time, as the forward is yet to put pen to paper on a new deal.

The 28-year-old's return to South Africa ahead of the new season was delayed due to his wife being pregnant back in his native Colombia, and there have been suggestions that, at present, he is reticent to sign a new deal at the club.

With his current contract set to expire in less than one year and, with the player unlikely to commit to the new long-term deal that has been tabled, the Siya crew has been informed by Siya sources at Chloorkop that Downs want to sell him this window and cash in on the

move, instead of losing him for free at the end of the 2017/18 campaign.

It has been suggested that Castro could be offered as one of the players involved in the deal that will see Oupa Manyisa make the move to Masandawana from Orlando Pirates.

Irvin Khoza confirmed recently that the Bucs captain was on his



way to join the Brazilians and, while he has been pictured in Sundowns training gear, the Brazilians are yet to officially announce the deal.

Castro's name is one of many that could potentially be involved in the Manyisa deal, with others such as Sivuyiso Zwane, Asawela Mbekele, Mario Booyesen, Cuthbert Malajila, Mqokolozi Ngele, Mzikayise Mashaba and Fiston Abdul Razak also being linked.

The Colombian had an impressive first season in South Africa, as he scored 14 goals in all competitions. However, injury plagued his second campaign and he managed just one goal in 17 games domestically.

to listen to offers for their captain. Nsabiyumva is under contract at Cosmos after the defender penned a new two-year deal with Jomo Sono's side at the end of last season. However, Cosmos has decided that the club won't stand in the player's way if there is a PSL team interested in his services and Ajax are considering signing the player to strengthen their defence.

The Urban Warriors' first choice central defender, Rivaldo Coetzee, recently went AWOL for three weeks and, while he has since returned to pre-season, he has made his intentions clear. He wants to leave or sign a new and improved deal at Ajax.

It seems that the Cape side are assessing their options, should Coetzee leave, and it seems as though Nsabiyumva and Ajax are considering the two clubs agree on a transfer fee.

It was taking longer than I expected. I had an option to go to Chippa (United) and train with them. But I didn't, as I had already decided to be with AmaZulu. The head coach (Joey) Antipas was impressed, but I'm not really sure what happened," said Nyamende.

In issue 990 of Soccer Laduma, it was reported that the young fullback was disappointed at Chiefs after the club allegedly signed him and later cancelled the contract.

The 24-year-old left back says he is now focused on furthering his career elsewhere after the Chiefs dismissal.

"It [the issue with Chiefs] ended like that [contract cancelled]. I have decided to make peace with it and let go," he concluded.

#### MXOYANA IN CLUB SEARCH AFTER CELTIC EXIT

Former Orlando Pirates defender, Sibusiso Mxoyana, is in search of a new club following his exit from Bloemfontein Celtic.

The left back turned out for Celtic in the 2016/17 season, having joined the Mangang outfit last year. He made 21 starts for the side in their Absa Premiership campaign last season.

The 28-year-old player parted ways with Sivelele at the end of last season, after his contract expired at the end of June. Although Celtic were keen to see the player extend his spell, he opted to leave instead, in search of greener pastures elsewhere.

Mxoyana was subsequently linked with a move to AmaZulu and spent some time on trial with the KwaZulu-Natal based side during their pre-season training, under the watchful eye of Coach Joey Antipas and his technical team.

He has, however, left the club and it seems as though he will not be allowed to Antipas' roster.

"Sibusiso Mxoyana has been training with AmaZulu. But he has since stopped training with the team, as it seems that he won't be signed," said the source.

Mxoyana represented South Africa at U20 and U23 levels earlier in his career.

#### AJAX TO DECIDE ON COSMOS DEFENDER

Ajax Cape Town transfer target, Frederic Nsabiyumva, has

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#### Some of the top SL tweets of the past week:

- @RussellMarral Bonucco and Biglia's deposits have been paid - they are now eligible to play for Milan.
- @YeeWeCrann So Neymar will now make his PS9 debut against South Africa's Leolo Pina when they face Gaborone next week... Labo Moriba with an absolutely WORLDLY of a header for his first goal of the season... Beauty. Great assist too.
- @KeeganKruiger I think Liverpool are going to have a lot of lending off to do if they are to keep Coutinho at the club this week. #TransferTalk
- @ZolaDada Sweet move by Siphelele Khunzulu to join Mamelodi. He hasn't played regular football for 18-months & he needs game time to regain his confidence.
- @koppilinho Watch how @@B@'s 'Yellow Wolf' celebrates @Aubameyang scoring in the German Super Cup. Wait for the announcement of his name! #Scorebutupto
- @MasebeQina Kgel Jonavel has resigned
- from his position as the head coach of Orlando Pirates
- from his position as the head coach of Orlando Pirates
- from his position as the head coach of Orlando Pirates

## Siya on your cell and the web

Some of the Siya stories you may have missed that appeared on the Soccer Laduma website and the Soccer Laduma mobi site:

- 08 AUGUST 2017 CHIEFS & SUNDOWNS IN TALKS FOR LEBESE? Indicators are that Kaizer Chiefs and Mamelodi Sundowns have opened lines for George Lebesa, with a move to Chloorkop on the cards.
- 07 AUGUST 2017 SUPERSPORT ANNOUNCE PLAYER OF THE SEASON SuperSport United announced Morgan Gould As their Player Of The Season for the 2016/17 season.
- SUPERSPORT SIGN WITS KEEPER SuperSport United signed Borel Wits goalkeeper, Thakusan Mamba.
- WITS LAND GORDINHO'S SIGNATURE Wits completed the signing of Anthony Gordinho from SuperSport United.
- AJAX ADD MIDFIELDER TO THE SQUAD Ajax Cape Town added Innocent Ntombonkand to their roster for the 2017/18 season.
- 06 AUGUST 2017 CHIEFS & LEBESE EXPECTED TO MEET ON MONDAY Kaizer Chiefs were expected to meet with George Lebesa to discuss his future on Monday, August 07.
- 06 AUGUST 2017 WILLIAMS DISCHARGED AFTER HEALTH SCARE Former Bafana Bafana striker, Mark Williams, was discharged from hospital following a health scare.
- LEBESKA REQUESTS CHIEFS EXIT? Kaizer Chiefs winger, George Lebesa, is believed to have requested to leave Amakhosi.
- 04 AUGUST 2017 DOWNS COACH LINKED WITH PIRATES SWITCH Mamelodi Sundowns' assistant coach, Rhlulani Mokwena, is being linked with a move to Orlando Pirates.
- MCHO'S FIRST SIGNING FOR BUCS IMMINENT? Orlando Pirates have been linked to Ugandan centre back, Munsiri Andino.
- CHIEFS SAY NO TO ANOTHER TRIALIST Kaizer Chiefs Italia, Daniel Lubo, stopped training with Steve Komoto's side.
- ARROW'S CONFIRM SIGNING OF SUNDOWNS ATTACKER Golden Arrows confirmed the signing of Kudakwashe Marotho for another season.
- 03 AUGUST 2017 ARGENTINE SET FOR TWO-YEAR CHIEFS DEAL? Argentinian striker, Jonathan Priggio, is thought to have signed a two-year deal in principle with Kaizer Chiefs.
- BREAKING: MANYISA JOINS SUNDOWNS FROM PIRATES Orlando Pirates confirmed that Oupa 'Acoj' Manyisa is joining Mamelodi Sundowns.
- BREAKING: ORLANDO PIRATES NAME NEW HEAD COACH Orlando Pirates announced Milutin 'Micho' Sredojevic as the new head coach.
- BUCS COMPLETE GOALKEEPER SIGNING Orlando Pirates completed the signing of goalkeeper, Xolani Mgobhoza.
- MARITZBURG LAND XULU AFTER CHIEFS EXIT Maritzburg United completed the signing of Siphelele Khunzulu.
- 02 AUGUST 2017 SUNDOWNS TO MAKE DECISION ON NASCENITO AND CASTRO Mamelodi Sundowns are set to make a decision regarding their five foreign players as they look to free up space for their new signing, Brimir Raazak.
- BREAKING: PIRATES COACH RESIGNS Kgel Jonavel resigned as the head coach of Orlando Pirates.
- SUNDOWNS TO SEND GOALKEEPER OUT ON LOAN? Mamelodi Sundowns could send Thabo Ntomboni out on loan for the new season.
- 01 AUGUST 2017 OFFICIAL: SUNDOWNS ANNOUNCE THEIR FIRST NEW SIGNING Mamelodi Sundowns confirmed the signing of Ghanaian international goalkeeper, Razak Binnah.

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