

Comings and goings add intrigue for new Premiership season

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 By Johannesburg

WITH the new Absa Premiership season set to start today, most clubs have already put the finishing touches to their squads, though it has been a transfer window devoid of too much drama so far.

The Mamelodi Sundowns capture of Oupa Manyisa from Orlando Pirates and George Lebesse from Kaizer Chiefs shows they still have the power to cherry-pick from the Soweto giants, but neither really is a transfer to fire up the imagination.

Pirates' needs have been greatest in the transfer market as they look to put behind them the horrors of the 2016-17 season, but their additions have been modest.

They have also suffered the acute embarrassment of unveiling Nigeria striker Christian Obizoro when it turned out the deal has not yet been done.

The striker remains in Nigeria with Enyimba, though with two weeks of the window left, it could yet go through.

Amazulu have been among the busier sides in this window, raiding National First Division winners Thanda Royal Zulu for their top talent before the club folded and became Richards Bay FC.

That includes free-scoring Mhlangeni Cele and defender Ayabulela Kongobe.

Teko Modise's move to Cape Town City is one to watch. He will work with former national teammate Benni McCarthy in what is an exciting midfield.

Wits have also added creativity to their midfield, signing up Steven Pienaar, Daylon Claassen and Kobamelo Kodisang.

TimesLIVE brings you a round-up of the major moves so far in the transfer window:

PRETORIA, Ejike Uzoenyi (Bidvest Wits)
OUTS: Ali Abondo (Bloemfontein Celtic), Mark Mayambela (Chippa United), Nathan Paulse, Lebhang Mokoena, Aubrey Funga (all released), Lawrence Lartey (Club Africain, Tunisia), Abel Mabaso (Mamelodi Sundowns, end of loan)

AMAZULU
INS: Somlola Ntsundwana, Sadat Ouro-Akoriko (both free agents), Boalefa Pule, Michael Morton (both SuperSport)



UNITED (loan), Thembela Sikhakhane (Orlando Pirates, loan), Mhlangeni Cele, Ayabulela Kongobe, Siyabonga Mbatsha, Jabulani Ncozibe, Sibusiso Mnguni (Mbombela United)

OUTS: Rogbert Nyanda (Bloemfontein Celtic), Tumelo Letuka, Luyanda Hlongwa (both released), Sage Stephens (Cape Town City)

BAROKA FC
INS: Virgil Vries (Maritzburg United),



ROBIN NGALANDE, Abdi Banda (both free agents), Lucky Nguzana (Ubuntu Cape Town), Talent Chawapiwa (FC Platinum), Lewis Macha (Kaizer Chiefs), Gift Motupa (Orlando Pirates, loan)
OUTS: Mxolisi Kunene (Maritzburg United), Marshall Munetsi (Orlando Pirates, end of loan), Ndivhuwo Ravuhali (Polokwane City), Victor Letsoalo, Jacky Motshewaga (both Bloemfontein Celtic), Maboke Matlakala (Platinum Stars), Helder Petembe,



SIPHAMANDLA Sangweni (both released)

BIDVEST WITS
INS: Kobamelo Kodisang (Platinum Stars), Slavko Damjanovic (FK Sutjeska Niksic, Montenegro), Steven Pienaar (Sunderland, England), Daylon Claassen (1860 Munich, Germany), Bokang Tlhone (Free State Stars), Anthony Gordinho (SuperSport United)

OUTS: Siyabonga Nhlapo (SuperSport United), Dillon Sheppard (retired), Ejike Uzoenyi (Ajax Cape Town), Cuthbert Malajila, Mogakolodi Ngele (both Mamelodi Sundowns, end of loan)

BLOEMFONTEIN CELTIC
INS: Rogbert Nyanda (Amazulu), Ali Abondo (Ajax Cape Town), Jacky Motshewaga, Victor Letsoalo (both Baroka FC), Siphon Jembula (Polokwane City),



NDUMISO Mabena (Platinum Stars), Lucky Baloyi (Kaizer Chiefs), Given Mashikinya (Cape Town City), Mutzanga Sidumo, Mduzuzi Nkosi (both Acornbush United)
OUTS: Dumisani Zuma (Kaizer Chiefs), Musa Nyatama (Orlando Pirates), Sibusiso Mxoyana (released), Fiston Abdul Razak (Mamelodi Sundowns, end of loan), Lyle Lakay (Cape Town City)

CAPE TOWN CITY
INS: Craig Martin (free agent), Tariq Fielies (Milano United), Teko Modise (Mamelodi Sundowns), Ayanda Patosi (Lokeren), Jelitso (Ferroviario de Maputo, Mozambique), Lyle Lakay (Bloemfontein Celtic), Sage Stephens (Amazulu), Nana Akosah-Bempah (Cape Town All Stars, end of loan)

COCK (released)
CHIPPA UNITED
INS: Mooketsi Sekola (Highlands Park, loan), James Okwusa, Mahlati Makudubela, Brighton Mhlongo (all Orlando Pirates), Mlungisi Mbutjane, Pheto Maphanga, Stanley Makgoka, Gerald Modisane (all Cape Town All Stars), Zitha Macheke (Thanda Royal Zulu, end of loan), Mark Mayambela



(AJAX Cape Town), Samuel Julies (Mamelodi Sundowns), Kurt Lentjies (Maritzburg United)

OUTS: Thabiso Mgwaba (Lamontville Golden Arrows), Thamsanqa Sangweni (Orlando Pirates)

FREE STATE STARS
INS: Mumuni Abubakar (Black Leopards), Sello Japhtha (Orlando Pirates), Olivier Kwizera (APR, Rwanda), Badra



ALI Sangare (A S Tanda, Ivory Coast), Sibusiso Hlubi (Mithatha Bucks), Bathusi Aubaas, Mpho Mathekgane (both Baya Msuthu)
OUTS: Mooketsi Sekola (Chippa United, via Highlands Park), Davies Nkausu, Thabang Matuka, Mbuyiselo Thethani, Nyiko Tshabangu, Nhlakanipho Ntuli, Angelo Kerspuy (all released), Bokang Tlhone (Bidvest Wits), Theia Ngobeni



(Mamelodi Sundowns, end of loan)
KAIZER CHIEFS
INS: Dumisani Zuma (Bloemfontein Celtic), Bongolethu Jajiya (Cape Town City), Philani Zulu (Maritzburg United), Teenage Hadebe (Chicken Inn, Zimbabwe), Bruce Bvuma, Wiseman Meyiwa, Nkosiniphihle Ngcobo, Khotso Malope (all promoted from development)

OUTS: George Lebesse (Mamelodi Sundowns), Siyanda Xulu (Maritzburg United), Enocent Mkhabela (Platinum Stars), Lucky Baloyi (Bloemfontein



Celtic), Lewis Macha (Baroka FC), Siphelile Mthembu, Camaldine Abram, Edward Manqele (all released)

LAMONTVILLE GOLDEN ARROWS
INS: Mzwandile Buthelezi (Acornbush United), Zolani Nkombela (Mbombela United), Thabiso Mgwaba (Chippa United)

OUTS: Ricardo Goss (Real Kings), Lee Langevelit, Chiekepo Msowoya, Kagiso Dikgacoi (all released), Kwanele Hlongwane (Royal Eagles, loan)



INS: George Lebesse (Kaizer Chiefs), Oupa Manyisa (Orlando Pirates), Razak Brimah (Córdoba, Spain), Abel Mabaso (Ajax Cape Town, end of loan), Bongani Ntuli (Platinum Stars, end of loan), Cuthbert Malajila, Mogakolodi Ngele (both Bidvest Wits, end of loan), Mario Booysen (SuperSport United, end of loan), Thela Ngobeni (Free State Stars, end of loan)

OUTS: Wayne Sandilands (Orlando Pi-

rates), Teko Modise (Cape Town City), Samuel Julies (Chippa United)



ISIKUNENE (Baroka FC), Mtsiele Matima (Ubuntu Cape Town), Jettron Barr (Stellenbosch FC), Liam Youlley (free agent), Richard Ofori (Wa All Stars, Ghana)

OUTS: Virgil Vries (Baroka FC), Bryce Moon, Tumelo Mogapi, Happy Mashau, Lindokuhle Mhlabuzi, Tshepoletso Motjati (all released), Mphakamiseni Nene



(Royal Eagles), Philani Zulu (Kaizer Chiefs), Kurt Lentjies (Chippa United)

ORLANDO PIRATES
INS: Marshall Munetsi (Baroka FC, end of loan), Musa Nyatama (Bloemfontein Celtic), Wayne Sandilands (Mamelodi Sundowns), Thamsanqa Sangweni (Chippa United)

OUTS: Oupa Manyisa (Mamelodi Sundowns), James Okwusa (Chippa United), Dove Wome (SuperSport United, end of loan), Jacky Motshewaga (Bloemfontein Celtic), Mahlati Makudubela (Chippa United), Thembela Sikhakhane (Amazulu, loan), Brighton Mhlongo (Chippa United), Gift Motupa (Baroka FC), Maselealo Seanege, Sello Japhtha, Roger Majaja, Lindokuhle Mtshali, Donald Makondolela (all released), Siyanda Ngubo (free agent)

PLATINUM STARS
INS: Brian Mwitla (Buffalo FC, Zambia), Lehlogonolo Masalela (AE Larissa, Greece), Maboke Matlakala (Baroka FC),



Rise And Shine

THOBANI Kunene (Real Kings, end of loan), Sibusiso Mthethwa (University of Pretoria)

OUTS: Ndumiso Mabena (Bloemfontein Celtic), Kobamelo Kodisang (Bidvest Wits), Tintswalo Tshabalala, Henrico Botes, Solomon Mathe (all released), Isaac Nhlapo (Ajax Cape Town), Bongani Ntuli (Mamelodi Sundowns, end of loan)

POLOKWANE CITY
INS: Wiseman Maluleke (Jomo Cosmos), Ndivhuwo Ravuhali (Baroka FC), Donald Ngoma (Young Africans, Tanzania), Bongile Boo (Milano United)



OUTS: Siphon Jembula (Bloemfontein Celtic), Tiou Segolela (released), Essau Kanyenda (retired)

SUPERSPORT UNITED
INS: Prince Dube (Highlanders, Zimbabwe), Siyabonga Nhlapo (Bidvest Wits), Dove Wome (Orlando Pirates, end of loan), Thato Mokeke (Cape Town City, end of loan)



OUTS: Boalefa Pule, Michael Morton (both Amazulu, loan), David Mathebula (released), Dumisani Msibi (Witbank Spurs), Michael Boxall (Minnesota United, USA), Anthony Gordinho (Bidvest Wits), Mario Booysen (Mamelodi Sundowns, end of loan) — DDC

