

Berea Vision 2020 champions

Joy FC docked off points

By Tlhabeli Lehloka

After a grueling week of various sporting activities at Roma during the 4th Vision 2020 games Berea emerged heroes after hauling five gold medals and trophies win the games.

Berea managed to conquer gold medals in boys and girls volleyball, netball, 5 a side and boys and girls football.

In girls football they walloped Maseru and as for the boys they taught Qacha's Nek a lesson by whipping them 4-0.

Before handing out the medals Minister of Gender and Youth, Sports and Recreation, Mrs 'Mathabiso Lepono said the purpose of the games is to enhance competitive sport among youth which will help them avoid dangers such as the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

She said that the games will unearth raw talent among the youth that will help the country in the long run, and also appealed to the organizers to do all in their power to dissuade age cheating as it is rife among the African countries.

"I would be happy to see some of this youngsters representing Lesotho in 2012 Olympics to be held in London," said Mrs Lepono.

Minister Lepono encouraged the youth to pursue education as it is their only key to successful life as well as urged them to avoid engaging in activities that



Berea players and coaches hoisting high the trophies they won in Vision 2020 games.

could lead them to dangers such as premature deaths and HIV/AIDS.

Lesotho Sport and Recreation Commission representative, Mr Fako Hakane

said that the ministry of education has a role to play in making sure that the talent is not left idling after such a brilliant job by the ministry of gender.

He said that programs are in place to make sure that talent is taken care of and this year discipline has been paramount and he commended the parents for allowing their children to spend a week away from them while participating in different sports.

Mr Hakane said that children should be introduced to sport at a younger age so that to encourage them to participate meaningfully at a later stage since sport had been most people's vehicle to wealth and popularity.

Meanwhile Minister of Gender and Youth, Sports and Recreation, Mrs 'Mathabiso Lepono said that her ministry is on a mission to scout for talent and fight HIV/AIDS, as well as to elevate sport in Lesotho to a higher level.

"We can not fight HIV/



Minister 'Mathabiso Lepono during a press conference at the Ministry of Gender, Youth, Sports and Recreation before the games resume

AIDS and succeed without sport as it builds healthy minds, bodies and discipline," said Mrs Lepono.

She said that the aim of her ministry is to have competent teams in all sporting codes as districts have for a very long time been selecting their best athletes to participate in the finals.

Mrs Minister Lepono said that her ministry has spend M2,280,000 for administration, buying of sporting merchandise and transport, accommodation, meals and medication for the athletes and the technical teams during the opening ceremony.

She said that the games are only developmental and her ministry is hoping to produce future stars out of the current crop of athletes, as the participants are 17 years and below.

She highlighted the success Lesotho accomplished at the SCASA games as a testimony that they are producing competent athletes.

Minister Lepono pointed out that the government of Lesotho is on the verge of building sports grounds at three districts next year which are Qacha's Nek, Mokhotlong and Leribe while Mafeteng sports grounds is on the verge of completion.

She concluded by highlighting that the government is proposing building a sports college at Roma for upgrading sport in the country as sport has become a most lucrative employment in the world, so Basotho needs proper modern facilities that can help them enhance their performances.

By Tlhabeli Lehloka

With the Buddie Premier League season at its mid-year break, it has been a grueling first half of the season where other teams are riding the crest of the wave while Joy Football Club will rue the mistakes their administration made.

Joy concluded the first half at position three, which was encouraging as their bigger brothers are feeling the pinch of not collecting maximum points.

Following the hearing held on Thursday 18, 2008 at the Bambatha Ts'ita Sports Arena in relation to improper registration of Mr Rethabile Rasethunt's'a by Joy FC.

The Premier League Management Committee (PLMC) found Joy FC guilty of material misrepresentation on its application for renewal of membership for the 2008/2009 season by informing the League that Mr Rethabile Rasethunt's'a had been promoted from the development ranks of Joy FC whilst in fact Mr Rasethunt's'a is a player registered to Mphatlalatsane Football Club and has never been cleared by Mphatlalatsane to register or transfer to Joy FC.

Therefore the PLMC imposed a sentences such as that Mr Rasethunt's'a registration with Joy FC is nullified with immediate effect, which means he retains his initial registration with Mphatlalatsane FC.

Furthermore six points deduction, with three points suspended for one year penalty is imposed on Joy FC with immediate effect.

In an Interview with Lesotho Today PLMC secretary, Mr Tlholo Letete it came out that Joy FC has been given until January 14 2009 to appeal if the are not satisfied with the decision of the league but maintained that it might be a waste of money and time for the Joy FC as they have seriously breached the rules that govern the PLMC and Federation of International Football Associations (FIFA) as well as bringing Lesotho Football Association into disrepute.

Keen anticipation for athletics coach for 2009

By Tlhabeli Lehloka

The past year has not been a smooth sailing one for athletics in Lesotho even though there has been a few positives such as that of Lesotho runners once again dominating the Soweto Marathon and Mokhotlong athletes winning the High Altitude Marathon held at that dis-

trict annually.

Nevertheless Lesotho's athletes fared badly during the Beijing Olympic Games, a situation that raised a lot of uproar among Basotho and eventually the athletes were banned from participating in any upcoming events, even though the issue was resolved amicably by both parties.

However in an interview with Lesotho Today, Athletics Developmental Coach Mr Chaplin Mpomane maintained that he is looking forward to 2009 with keenness

as the future looks bright for athletics in Lesotho.

Mr Mpomane said that during the recently completed Vision 2020 National Games his developmental team had 8 budding athletes from Berea district whom four of them won gold medals and others contributed meaningfully in the 4x4 races, which resulted in Berea winning gold overall in athletics, in both girls and boys categories.

He said that he recruited them early last year and immediately started training

them in preparation for the rigours of athletics, pointing out that he is satisfied with the progress they have made so far.

"All those eight kids are orphans and Mr Mpomane had to spend his money to make sure that they get passports so that they could enter Vision 2020 Games since some of them did not have proper documentation before," said Mr Mpomane, highlighting that three of those children have passed their final standard seven examinations and will be

studying at Khubetsoana High School, two others are at Kolojane Primary while the rest are at Teyateyaneng Secondary School.

Mr Mpomane said that he already is fine tuning his athletes for the 2009 season as he already is in a possession of an Olympic Committee Development program and is awaiting the Lesotho Amateur Athletics Association (LAAA) program that will help him build a proper and competent team that can compete with the best athletes in the world.