

Absolum Thindwa changes direction and so does Orlando Pirates' captain Nick Seshweni in this semifinal game.

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and were subject to disqualification.

But they were not disqualified. The league allowed the Dynamos victory to stand, fixturing them to play Orlando Pirates.

Pirates beat Dynamos to advance to the next round, and came very close to reaching the final.

The first top division club to be eliminated was Moroka Swallows, who went out to national second-division side, Cape Town Spurs.

Two days before the match, Swallows had agreed to transfer one of its star players, Thomas Hlongwane, to Bush Bucks until the end of the season.

There had been numerous disagreements between Hlongwane and coach Rodney Bush. Hlongwane's form had also been erratic for most of the season.

Defeat by Spurs cost Bush his job. He was replaced by George Eastham.

One of the surprises in the competition was Leeds, who in their first season in the first division reached the semi-finals before bowing out to

Warren Jack
☐ The game abondoned by referee Stan Swart after

Celtic 0

-1987 Statistics -

Orlando Pirates 4 Ernest Makhanya (2)

	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
RESULTS	
FIRST ROUND (Last 32))
Klerksdorp City 0	Rangers 3 Les Grobler Aaron Nkosi Shane McGregor
Computer Stars 1 Leonard Likoebe	Arcadia 2 Paddy Hall Ricky Ferguson
Royal Tigers 0	Bush Bucks 2 Thomas Hlongwane Barnett Gondwe
Publican Brothers 0	Sundowns 1 Donald Khuse
Highlands Spurs 1 Isaac Jacobs	Hellenic 8 Nevin Payne (3) Reggie Jantjies (2) Taswald Human David Wymers Gavin Hunt
Cape Town Spurs 3 Trevor Casswell (2) Dopey Johnson	Moroka Swallows 2 Mike Mangena (2)
Vaal Reefs Stars 0	Kaizer Chiefs 3 Johannes Molatedi Nelson Dladla Tutu Marks Maponyane
Vosloo Sporting 0	Wits 2 Mike Rowbotham Peter Frielick
Celtic 3 Bloemfon Troy Saila (2) Ishmael Mokitlane	tein Training Centre 1 David Mopeli
Randa Spears 1 Ishmael Mokoena	Fairways Stars 5 Emamnuel Phamotse (4) Hamilton Mahlangu
Liverpool 0	AmaZulu 4 Moran Khulu Joel Faya Julius Chirwa Pele Mncina

Chippas Dynamos 2 John Mandweni

Amos Motaung	Mandla Sithole Basil Steenkamp
Mpumalanga United	
Brothers 0	Witbank Aces 1
	Thomas Ngobe
Seshego Naughty Boys 0	Jomo Cosmos 2 Pitso Mosimane (2)
Leeds United 4	Wanderers 2
Warren Jack (4)	Jabulane Ngubane Gordon Ingesund
Blackpool 0	Durban City 1 Gavin Radford
SECOND ROUND (Last 16)	
Rangers 0	Leeds United 1 Llewelyn Donnely
Pirates 1	Arcadia 0
Mandla Sithole	
Jomo Cosmos 0	Hellenic 2 Nevin Payne Sabelo Peters
Chiefs 2	Cape Town Spurs 0
Nelson Dladla Tutu Absolum Thindwa	
AmaZulu 1 Owen Ndzimande	Witbank Aces 0
Celtic 2	Sundowns 1
Troy Saila (2)	Harris Choeu
Fairways Stars 1	Bush Bucks 1
Steve Potsane Stars won on penalties	Thomas Hlongwane
Wits 1	Durban City 0
Nicky Shaw	borban City o
QUARTERFINALS	
Chiefs 3	Wits 2
Trevor Mthimkhulu (2)	Kevin Mudie
Dickie McMillan (og)	Ronnie Molotsane.
Orlando Pirates 3	Hellenic 2
Ernest Makhanya Jacob Mahlangu	Reggie Jantjies Faried de Goede
Derek Glasgow (og)	runeu de ovede
AmaZulu 2	Bush Bucks 1
	David Magwaza

k Aces 1 homas Ngobe no Cosmos 2 Mosimane (2) Nanderers 2 ane Ngubane don Ingesund	the penalty kick was tak went wide, Swart ordered The crowd, according t and he decided to aband was scrapped and the g Reefs.	d a retake. To Swart, became restive, don the game. The result
Gavin Radford	Leeds 1 Walter Ndlela □ Leeds won 4-3 on pend	Celtic 1 Troy Saila
ds United 1 velyn Donnely	SEMIFINALS	
Arcadia 0	Kaizer Chiefs 1 Fanie Madida	Orlando Pirates 1 Tebogo Moloi
Hellenic 2 Nevin Payne Sabelo Peters	AmaZulu 1 Jimmy Ormshaw	Leeds United 0
own Spurs 0	SEMIFINAL REPLAY Kaizer Chiefs 1 Absolum Thindwa	Orlando Pirates 0
oank Aces 0	Official Attendance	ce Figure: 62 765
Sundowns 1 Harris Choeu	of which 58 765 pa Total Sponsorship:	
ush Bucks 1 s Hlongwane	Sponsorship Alloca tration (R34 000);	ation: Adminis-
orban City 0	Winners (R70 000) (R35 000); Losing); Runners up
W 0	(R14 500 each): Lo	

alsts (R10 000 each); Last 16 losers (R3 500 each); top amateur team

Total Number of Matches Played:

Total Number of Goals Scored: 91

 $(R2\ 000).$

Leeds United 1



Ntsie Maphike considers his options as Nick Seshweni considers how to tackle him



They had beaten African Wanderers, Rangers and Celtic.

Orlando Pirates nearly made it to the final. They were drawn against arch rivals Kaizer Chiefs in the semi-finals in a game for which the League, with little regard for paying customers, raised the admission price to R5 because it was "a bonanza for the fans".

Pirates unexpectedly dominated Chiefs and led by a single goal until, a few minutes before the end of normal time, Chiefs equalised.

The Amakhosi won the replay with a glorious goal from Absolum Thindwa, who struck a fierce drive from outside the box.

The game was marred by some violence.

It was to be Chiefs' sixth Mainstay cup-final in 10 years.

They had lost to Wits Univeristy in 1978 and beaten Highlands Park in a replay the following year. In 1980 they did not appear in the final. The next year saw them in the final against Orlando Pirates, whom they beat.

In 1982 Chiefs won the trophy for the third time, beating African Wanderers. In 1984 they met and beat Orlando Pirates in the final.

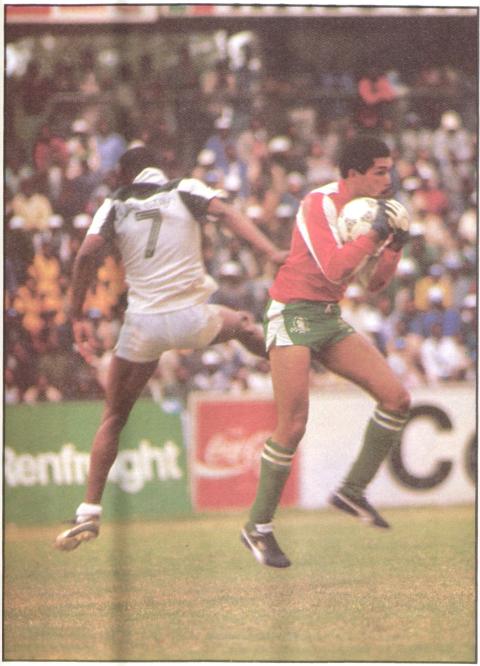
All in all, they had won it four times.

AmaZulu accounted for lower-league club Liverpool, Witbank Black Aces, Bush Bucks and then Leeds to earn the right to play in their first cup-final since the early 1970s.

At the request of the sponsor, the final took place at Ellis Park in the



Absolum Thindwa begins to sprint away from Orlando Pirates' Sipho Sikhonde



AmaZulu's Joel Faya stands no chance as Leeds' goalkeeper Neil Blanckenberg gathers the ball in this semifinal game. AmaZulu won 1-0

Ternent, Rodney Bush, Keith Broad, Arnie Hurwitz, Richard Kellet and Dave Watterson. Seated: Cliff Crouch, Tony Jacobson, Lucky Stylliano, Eddie Lewis

(coach), Mike James, Davey Jacobs and Joe Brown.

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evening.

Chiefs went into the game as favourites. This was mainly because of their well-deserved reputation for playing well in cup games, their experience and their temperament.

AmaZulu, led by Archie Radebe, had a talented team with some very experienced players. They were by no means written off.

On the night they played fluently, but seemed a little overawed and lacked the required punch.

Radebe was guilty of amazingly missing an easy chance, which if taken properly, would have provided the equaliser. Three minutes from time, he found himself with only goalkeeper William Shongwe to beat. He dribbled the keeper, and faced with a yawning goalmouth, he shot

AmaZulu created an impact in both halves, but it was Chiefs who created more goalscoring opportuni-

Close-range attempts in front of an inviting net from both Trevor Mthimkhulu and Patrick Ntsoelengoe went over the bar.

AmaZulu goalkeeper Derrick Naidoo pulled off two spectacular saves in the first half. But he left his line when he should not have in the 71st minute and Marks Maponyane's superb opportunistic header sailed over his outstretched hands.

This match too, was marred by crowd violence, several fans being iniured.

AmaZulu fans removed an object they apparently believed was "muti" from Naidoo's goal. This later led to skirmishes with some Chiefs fans.

The cup-final squads:

KAIZER CHIEFS: William Shongwe, Sylvester Kole, Jack Chamangwane, Howard Freese, Wellington Manyathi, Ntsie Maphike, Trevor Mthimkhulu, Patrick Ntsoelengoe, Abel Shongwe, Marks Maponyane (captain), Nelson Dladla Tutu, Absolum Thindwa, Doctor Khumalo, Fani Madida, Isaac Chirwa

Coach: Theo Dumitru Assistant Coach: Gabriel Khoza

AMAZULU: Derrick Naidoo, Steve Yates, Jimmy Ormshaw, Junior Njiyela, Muzi Khumalo, Neil Tovey, Joel Faya, Pele Mncina, Archie Radebe (captain), Owen Ndzimande, Julius Chirwa, Moran Khulu, Menzi Xulu, Special Sithole, Buddy Govender. Coach: Clive Barker

Theo Dumitru.

- Statistics -

Mainstay Cup Winner 1986 - Mamelodi Sundowns

Mainstay Cup Winner 1985 - Bloemfontein Celtic

RESULTS 1986

FIRST ROUND (LAST 32)

Moroka Swallows 2 Boksburg United 0 Fairways Stars 3 Thembu Royals 1 Blackpool 0 Bloemfontein Celtic 3 Rangers 1 Seshego Naughty Boys 0

Mpumalanga United Kaizer Chiefs 5 **Brothers 0** Hellenic 2 Witbank Black Aces 0 Cape Town Spurs 0 Leeds United 0

Aces won on penalties

Mamelodi Sundowns 2 Eleven Experience 0 Arcadia 2 Harmony 0 AmaZulu 16 Ford Pirates 0 Durban City 1 Klerksdorp City 4 Orlando Pirates 1 Pretoria Callies 2 Pirates protested that Callies fielded unregistered players. Their protest was upheld and they advanced to the next round.

African Wanderers 2 DNC Aces 0 Computerr Stars 0 Cardiff City 0 Wits University 7 Wits University 14 VR Defenders 0 Bush Bucks 7 Mabopane United 0 Jomo Cosmos 6

SECOND ROUND

Moroka Swallows 1 Fairways Stars 0 Bloemfontein Celtic 1 Rangers 3 Kaizer Chiefs 5 Hellenic 1

Mamelodi Sundowns 3 Witbank Black Aces 1 Arcadia 2 AmaZulu 1 Orlando Pirates 3 Klerksdorp City 2 African Wanderers 1 Wits University 0 Bush Bucks 0 Jomo Cosmos 1 QUARTERFINALS

Moroka Swallows 2 Rangers 1 Kaizer Chiefs 2 Sundowns 3 Arcadia 1 Orlando Pirates 2 Cosmos 2 Wanderers 1

SEMIFINALS Moroka Swallows 2 Mamelodi Sundowns 3 Orlando Pirates 1 Jomo Cosmos 4

FINAL Mamelodi Sundowns 1 Jomo Cosmos 0

RESULTS 1985 FIRST ROUND (LAST 32) Bloemfontein Celtic 2 Witbank Black Aces 2 Witbank Rangers 1 Hellenic 2 Kimberley Naughty Boys 0 Benoni United 2 Rangers 5 Jomo Cosmos 6 Rand All Stars 0 Spes Bona 1 Cape Town Spurs 4 Durban City 3 Moroka Swallows 5 Glenville 1 Klerksdorp City 4
Blackpool 0 Arcadia 1 Silver Spurs 0 AmaZulu 2 Pretoria Callies 1 Buddy Callies 2 Sundowns 0 **Orlando Pirates 4 Umtata Bush Bucks 1 Bush Bucks 3**

Wits University 2 Kaizer Chiefs 2 Nkosi Bomvu 1

Jeppe Highlands 1 Motherwells 0 African Wanderers 3

SECOND ROUND

Bloemfontein Celtic 1 Witbank Black Aces 0 Hellenic 1 Rangers 0

Hellenic were disqualified after fielding Pat Wasmuth who was not properly registerd with them.

Rangers advanced to the next round.

Jomo Cosmos 2 Cape Town Spurs 1 Durban City 1 Moroka Swallows 2 Arcadia 3 Amazulu 1 Orlando Pirates 1 Pretoria Callies 1 ☐ Pirates won 5-3 on penalties Bush Bucks 1 Wits 0

Kaizer Chiefs 2 African Wanderers 2 ☐ African Wanderers won 5-4 on penalties.

QUARTERFINALS

Bloemfontein Celtic 3 Rangers 1 Moroka Swallows 1 Jomo Cosmos 1 N

☐ The game was abandoned.

Replay
Jomo Cosmos 2

Moroka Swallows won on penalties 5-3 Moroka Swallows 2 Arcadia 2 Orlando Pirates 0

Bush Bucks 1 African Wanderers 2 **SEMIFINALS**

Bloemfontein Celtic 3 Moroka Swallows 1 Arcadia 0 African Wanderers 2 FINAL

Bloemfontein Celtic 2 African Wanderers 1

By John Kingsley-Jones

NOEL Cousins of Arcadia achieved a unique goal-scoring double in 1987 - the first season in which two goalscoring competitions were

The 25-year-old player won both. He was the top scorer in the Castle League with 25 goals - a feat which earned him R1 000 prize money. And he was the top scorer in the Golden Boot competition which took into consideration league and cup goals scored.

However, Cousins' efforts were not enough to win his team the prize as the club that scored the most league goals.

That honour went to Rangers, who scored 61 goals to take the R1 000 prize.

Previous winners of the event, sponsored by Richleigh:

TOP GOALSCORER

1983	
Noel Cousins (Arcadia)	22
Basil Hollister (Wanderers)	22
1984	
Moran Khulu (Chiefs)	25
(20 in the Castle	League)
1985	
Frank McGrellis (Wits)	25
Mike Mangena (Bush Bucks)	25
1986	

25

Thomas Hlongwan		wall	ows)		2
LEADING GOALSCORERS - 1		M'stay	Top 8	Champs	JPS	Tota
Frank McGrellis (Wits)	25	1	0	0	3	29
Mike Mangena (Bush Bucks)	25	2	0	0	0	27
Thomas Hlongwane (Swallows)	22	3	0	0	1	26
Pitso Mosimane (Cosmso)	20	3	0	0	0	23
Noel Cousins (Arcadia)	17	3	2	0	1	23
Shane McGregor (Rangers)	22	0	0	0	0	22
Calvin Petersen (Bush Bucks)	19	0	0	0	0	19
Terry Cooke (Black Aces)	14	0	0	0	0	14
Jomo Sono (Cosmos)	10	4	0	0	0	14
Moren Khulu (Chiefs)	8	1	0	2	3	14
Joel Faya (Amazulu)	11	2	0	0	1	14
Thomas Ngobe (Black Aces)	12	1	0	0	0	13
Mandla Sithole (Pirates)	11	2	0	0	0	13
Trevor Mthimkhulu (Chiefs)	8	0	1	1	3	13
Lovemore Chafunya (Sundowns)	12	0	0	0	0	12
Les Grobler (Rangers)	.11	1	0	0	0	12
Mlungisi Ngubane (Bush Bucks)	11	1	0	0	0	12
Andries Chitja (Swallows)	8	2	0	2	0	12
Mike Ntombela (Wits)	10	0	0	0	0	10
Bashin Mahlangu (Sundowns)	10	0	0	0	0	10
Steve Van Eck (Durban City)	9	1	0	0	0	10
Nelson Dladla Tutu (Chiefs)	8	0	1	1	0	10
Marks Maponyane (Chiefs) LEADING GOALSCORERS - 19	3	1	2	0	2	8

LEADING GOALS	CORERS - 19	986					
		NSL	M'Stay	Top 8	Champs	JPS	Total
Thomas Hlongwane	(Swallows)	25	0	0	1	5	31
Noel Cousins (Arco	adia)	20	1	4	4	1	30
Shane McGregor (Rangers)	21	0	0	0	6	27
Calvin Petersen (Bu	sh Bucks)	12	3	0	4	1	25
Mlungisi Ngubane	(Bush Bucks)	15	0	2	7	0	24
Trevor Poole (Arca	dia)	19	0	1	2	1	23
Marks Maponyane	(Chiefs)	14	4	0	2	1	21
Mike Mangena (Sw	rallows)	18	2	0	0	0	20
Frank McGrellis (W	(its)	13	6	0	0	1	20
Les Grobler (Range		13	1	1	0	4	19
Emmanuel Phamots	e (Stars)	16	2	0	0	0	18
Julius Chirwa (Amo	Zulu)	15	3	0	0	0	18
Lovemore Chafunyo	(Sundowns)	14	3	0	0	0	17
Jomo Sono (Cosmo	is)	11	3	0	0	3	17
Johnny Masegela (Cosmos)	11	5	0	0	1	17
Enzo Coppolla (Du	rban City)	14	0	0	0	2	16
Derick Mills (Range	rs)	11	3	0	0	1	15
Moses Kamanga (V	Vanderers)	10	2	0	0	2	14
Kevin Mudie (Amaz	Zulu)	13	0	0	0	0	13
Harold Legodi (Bus	h Bucks)	10	0	0	0	3	13
Barnett Gondwe (B	ush Bucks)	8	1	0	3	1	13
Thomas Ngobe (Blo	ack Aces)	12	0	0	0	0	12
Goble(Hellenic)		11	0	0	0	0	11
Johnny Maboa (Ca		11	0	0	0	0	11
Trevor Mthimkhulu	(Chiefs)	3	1	0	6	1	11
Steve Potsane (Kleri	k City)	10	0	0	0	0	10
Glen Newins (Heller	nic)	10	0	0	0	0	10
Dylan Kerr (Arcadio	a)	9	0	1	0	0	10
LEADING GOALSO		87					
Name	Club	NSL	M'stay	Top 8	Chall	JPS	Total
Noel Cousins	Arcadia	25	0	2	0	0	27
Marks Mananyana	Chiefe	12	2	4	1	2	25

13 2 6 1 3 25 21 1 0 1 0 23



Arcadia's Noel Cousins, the NSL First Division's top goalscorer.

			,				
Warren Jack	Leeds	18	4	0	0	0	22
Troy Saila	Celtic	17	4	0	0	0	21
Mike Mangena	Swallows	13	2	0	3	0	18
Reggie Jantjies	Hellenic	12	3	1	0	1	17
Mlungisi Ngubane	Bush Bucks	10	0	5	0	2	17
Les Grobler	Rangers	13	1	1	1	0	16
Mandla Hadebe	Wanderers	16	0	0	0	0	16
Scara Thindwa	Chiefs	9	2	2	2	0	15
Basil Steenkamp	Pirates	10	0	0	0	4	14
Harold Legodi	Sundowns	12	0	0	1	0	13
Jomo Sono	Cosmos	11	0	0	0	2	13
Thomas Hlongwane	Bush Bucks	8	2	0	1	2	13
Nevin Payne	Hellenic	7	4	0	0	1	12
Peter Frielick	Wits	11	1	0	0	0	12
Pat Ntsoelengoe	Chiefs	11	0	0	1	0	12
MoranKhulu	AmaZulu	10	1	0	0	1	12
Trevor Mthimkhulu	Chiefs	5	2	1	3	1	12
Steve Potsane	Stars	10	1	0	0	0	11
John Mosoeu	Blackpool	10	0	0	0	1	11
Trevor Poole	Arcadia	10	0	0	0	1	11
Glen Jordans	Hellenic	10	0	0	0	1	11
Archie Radebe	AmaZulu	10	0	1	0	0	11
Ernest Makhanya	Pirates	10	1	0	0	0	11
Calvin Petersen	Bush Bucks	8	0	0	0	3	11
Emmanuel Phamotse	Stars	6	4	0	0	0	10
Nelson D. Tutu	Chiefs	8	2	0	0	0	10
1987 CASTLE	LEAGUE	LEA	DING	GO	ALSO	COR	ER!

Emmanuel PhamotseStar		4	0	0	0	10
Nelson D. Tutu Chie		2	0	0	0	10
1987 CASTLE LEA		DING	GC	ALSO	COR	
Noel Cousins	Arcadia					25
Shane McGregor	Rangers					21
Warren Jack	Leeds					18
Troy Saila	Celtic					17
Mandla Habebe	Wander	ers				16
Les Grobler	Rangers					13
Marks Maponyane	Chiefs					13
Mike Mangena	Swallow	S				13
Harold Legodi	Sundow	ns				12
Reggie Jantjies	Hellenic					12
Jomo Sono	Cosmos					11
Peter Frielick	Wits					11
Ace Ntsoelengoe	Chiefs					11
Steve Potsane	Stars					10
John Mosoeu	Blackpoo	ol				10
Trevor Poole	Arcadia					10
Glen Jordans	Hellenic					10
Mlunaisi Naubane	Bush Bus	cks				10

A survey of all league and cup games since the beginning of the

National Soccer League shows that Arcadia's Noel Cousins has been the country's most consistant striker.

With a total of 80 league and cup goals to his credit, Cousins is well clear of his nearest rivals, Shane McGregor of Rangers (72 goals) and Thomas Hlongwane of Bush Bucks (70 goals).

This remarkable achievement is largely the result of his 1987 performances, in which he netted 25 league goals to finish the season as the country's leading goalscorer.

His 25 league goals also helped him win the first ever Golden Boot competition.

Although he scored only two goals in cup games, he was still two goals ahead of runner up Marks Maponyane of Kaizer Chiefs who to talled 25 league and cup goals. Standings since 1985:

ottilianigo omico 1700.			
	League	Cup	ToN
Noel Cousins (Arcadia)	62	18	80
Shane McGregor (Rangers)	64	8	72
Thomas Hlongwane (Bush Bucks)	55	15	70
Mike Mangena (Swallows)	56	9	65
Calvin Petersen (Bush Bucks)	44	11	55
Marks Maponyane (Chiefs)	30	24	54
Mlungisi Ngubane (Bush Bucks)	37	17	54
Frank McGrellis (ex Wits)	38	11	49
Les Grobler (Rangers)	37	10	47
Jomo Sono (Cosmos)	32	12	44

NSL PLAYER AWARDS

Pule Mokhine

Awash in a sea of awards

There were several competitions for NSL first division players in 1987.

THE FOOTBALLER OF THE YEAR

THE Sunday Times newspaper announced it would sponsor this competition for R500 000 over three years.

The monthly winners each won a cash prize of R5 000. The overall winner, whose name is due to be announced early in 1988, receives a cash prize of R50 000.

This is the biggest prize ever for a player in local soccer, and it is believed it could be the biggest cash prize of its kind for footballers in the world

Eleven monthly winners were chosen – two jointly in October. Two "wild cards" were added to bring the total number of finalists to 13.

The competition was surrounded by some controversy because of the composition of the panel of judges. At first it was said that the newspaper's readers chose the monthly winners. Then a panel of judges consisting of soccer writers and NSL PRO Abdul Bhamjee chose a few.

Later it was not disclosed who chose the winners, but it is believed to have been Bhamjee and the Sunday Times soccer writers.

It was questioned whether a league official should help select players, particularly as a panel had not been announced for many months.

In addition, no official criteria for judging the finalists was publicised.

The 11 monthly winners were:

March: Marks Maponyane (Kaizer Chiefs) April: Patrick Ntsoelengoe (Kaizer Chiefs) May: Absolum Thindwa (Kaizer Chiefs) June: Noel Cousins (Arcadia)



Warren Jack of Leeds (left), seen here with Moroka Swallows' Joel Mnini.

July: Faried de Goede (Hellenic)
August: Nick Seshweni (Orlando Pirates)
September: Mark Tovey (Bush Bucks)
October: Harris Choeu and Mark Anderson
(both Mamelodi Sundowns)
November: Archie Radebe (AmaZulu)
December: Jomo Sono (Jomo Cosmos)
The wild cards:

Harold Legodi (Mamelodi Sundowns) Marco Giavampaulo (Jomo Cosmos) The Footballer of the Year competition was sponsored and organised by *City Press* from 1982-1986.

The finalists in the Footballer of the Year competitions for the last five years:

1982: Marks Maponyane, Aubrey Makgopela, George Makhubela, Stewart Lilley, Lawrence Chelin, Rodney Charles, Mike Mangena, Moran Khulu, Gerald Julius and Jomo Sono.

Maponyane won the 1982 award. 1983: Jomo Sono, Rodney Charles, Teenage Dladla, Ace Mnini, Marks Maponyane, Dave Watterson, Johannes Molatedi, Mike Mangena, Stewart Lilley, and Noel Cousins

The winner that year was Jomo Sono. 1984: Moran Khulu, Harris Choeu, Teenage Dladla, Thomas Hlongwane, Cyprian Maimane, Aubrey Makgopela, Frank McGrellis, Jomo Sono, Mark Tovey, Ernie Wallis.

The winner in 1984 was Moran Khulu.

1985: Mike Mangena, Ernest Chirwali, Thomas Hlongwane, Eden Moleko, Trevor Klein, Shane McGregor, Frank McGrellis, Pitso Mosimane, Andries Mpondo and Calvin Petersen.

Ernest Chirwali won the award. 1986: Mike Mangena, Charlie Cleeve, Thomas Hlongwane, Johnny Masegela, Dylan Kerr, Shane McGregor, Andries Mpondo, Absolum Thindwa, Mark Anderson and William Zondi.

The winner was Mark Anderson.

THE PLAYERS' PLAYER OF THE YEAR

This competiton was started by the South African Beweries in 1986.

The players in each of the 18 first division clubs were eligible to vote for the player they felt was the best in the league.

The only proviso was that a player could not vote for a member of his own team.

In theory they were to judge the players on their perfromances in the Castle League only, and the award was officially called the Castle League Players' Player of the Year.

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The sponsors introduced the award because it had been a success in England, and because "peer group recognition is the supreme accolade for any player".

The award was won by Kaizer Chiefs' Absolum Thindwa in 1986, and by Arcadia's Noel Cousins in 1987. The prize in 1987 was R8 000.

Not all clubs voted in 1987, and there appeared to be some doubt whether it would be continued.

ADIDAS GOLDEN CLUB COMPETITION

The competition, introduced in 1987, had five categories for NSL first division players. There are two others, for the Referee of the Year and the Soccer Journalist of the Year.

The competition was administered by Adidas, and no NSL official served on the panel.

The panel comprised 12 soccer writers and two television broadcasters. However, they did not vote for the Golden Save and Golden Goal

competitions. The TV viewers decided on the winners.

Its members were Mark Gleeson (The Sunday Star), Phil Nyamane (The Star), Bafana Shezi (The Star), Fanyana Shiburi (Sowetan), Louis Mazibuko (Sunday Times), Boiki Mothei (City Press), Sy Lerman (Sunday Times), KJ Zwane (TV 2 Sport), Dan Setshedi (TV 2/3), Lennie Kleintjies (The Argus), Greg Spencer (Natal Mecury), Frans Xolo (Ilanga), Sekola Sello (Drum) magazine, and Force Khashane (Pace) magazine.

The organisers conducted a preliminary vote shortly before the end of the season, and another after the season. The preliminary vote produced six finalists in each category.

All the awards are run in conjunction with TV 2/3.

The awards were due to be made in February, 1988, and the results of all but one were not known in 1987.

GOLDEN BALL COMPETITION

This award is, according to the organisers, made to the leading field player who, in the opinion of the panel, is the NSL's leading footballer.

The six finalists, in alphabetical order, were: Noel Cousins (Arcadia), Harris Choeu (Mamelodi Sundowns), Ernest Chirwali (Bloemfontein Celtic), Marks Maponyane (Kaizer Chiefs), Patrick Ntsoelengoe (Kaizer Chiefs), Archie Radebe (AmaZulu), Absolum Thindwa (Kaizer Chiefs).

The prize for the best field player is a Golden Ball trophy and a trip overseas. The runner-up receives a Silver ball trophy and R1 000, and the player voted third a Bronze Ball trophy and R500.

GOLDEN NET TROPHY

The award is made to the best goalkeepr in the NSL first division as judged by the panel.

The six finalists, in alphabetical order, were: Mark Anderson (Mamelodi Sundowns), Neil Blanckenberg (Leeds), Deshi Baktawer (Arcadia), Marco Di Giavampaulo (Jomo Cosmos), William Shongwe (Kaizer Chiefs), and Dave Watterson (Bush Bucks).

The prizes are the same as in the Golden Boot competition.



Rangers' Shane McGregor (left) is still one of the **NSL's leading** marksmen. He scored 22 goals in 1985, 27 in 1986 and 23 in 1987. He is second on the overall three-year list, having found the net 72 times.



Thomas Hlongwane didn't have a great 1987 - he scored only 13 goals with Moroka Swallows and **Bush Bucks, but** he is the third top scorer over the last three years, with 70 goals.

GOLDEN SAVE COMPETI-TION

This award is given to the goalkeeper who is judged to have made the best save in a match recorded by SABC TV.

The winner receives R1 000 and a trophy.

GOLDEN BOOT COMPETI-TION

This award is for the highest goalscorer in the NSL's league competition and its four official knock-out competitions.

It was won by Arcadia's Noel Cousins, who scored a total of 27 goals, 25 in the league and two in the BP Top Eight Cup competition.

Second was Marks Maponyane of Kaizer Chiefs, whose total was 25. Of these, 13 were scored in the league, six in the BP Top Eight, one in the Ohlsson's Challenge, three in the JPS KO and two in the Mainstay Cup.

Third was Rangers' Shane McGregor, who found the net 23 ti-

The first prize is a trip overseas,

the second a Silver Boot trophy and R1 000, and the third a Bronze Boot trophy and R500.

GOLDEN GOAL COMPETI-TION

This is won by the player judged to have scored the best goal in a match recorded by SABC TV.

RICHLEIGH TOP GOALS-**CORER AWARD**

This award, which has been running for some years, is made to the player who scores the highest number of goals in the NSL's Castle League.

It was won by Noel Cousins, who won a prize of R1 000. Second was Shane McGregor of Rangers, who scored 21 goals. Warren Jack of Leeds was third with 18 goals, and newcomer Troy Saila of Bloemfontein Celtic was fourth with 17 goals.

Marks Maponyane, who came second in the Golden Boot competition, scored only 13 goals in the league.

The sponsor of this award also gives a prize of R1 000 to a team which scores the highest number of goals in the league. Rangers, who scored 61 goals, won the competition in 1987.



Mark Anderson

NSL ADMINISTRATION IN REVIEW

Meshack Motloung

The pull on the ragged reins of power

THE National Soccer League, as the country's premier soccer organisation in terms of spectator support, power and influence, ought to be an institution all followers of the game in South Africa can be proud of.

The league's clubs and their supporters (minus those who riot), we all love. We grew up with them, and they've become part of our culture.

But sadly we can't be proud of the league's administration. It is backward, poorly structured and has a long way to go before it will be able to earn the respect of all those closely associated with the game.

The NSL's management committee system is seriously flawed, and the league just does not have the manpower expertise it needs.

In 1987, 26 years after professional soccer was introduced among black South Africans with the South African Soccer League in 1961, it was still very much a one-man or two-man show.

The result was that some officials had too much power. We all know what damage that did to our soccer over the years, but we haven't yet learnt our lessons.

On top of that, some officials were members of the Board of Trustees of the SA Soccer Academy, serving a purpose that is lost on me.

Those officials will continue to have too much power until the day we make up our minds that we want to do things properly, and are prepared to see that they are done properly.

As a reform movement – that's the basis on which we were led to believe the NSL was formed in 1985 – the league has been an embarrassing



NSL PRO Abdul Bhamjee

failure. Its officials apparently have forgotten why they broke away from the SA National Football Association in the first place.

NSL PRO Abdul Bhamjee became in 1987 what he so hysterically accused George Thabe of having become in 1985.

And no soccer administrator in my experience has been guilty of so much self-congratulation and hype.

He used to say after the breakaway in 1985 that he was dealing with a "blind school".

There are a lot of fools out there, but there are also people who are not fools, who won't be fooled and who are prepared to stand up for what is right.

Bhamjee is a talented man, but like so many sports administrators, he is blind to his shortcomings.

The NSL claims it has made tremendous progress since it was formed in 1985.

The league is three years old, but its conduct must be viewed in the context of professional soccer since 1961.

The NSL owes its existence to long years of toil in the 1960s, 1970s and early 1980s. In most ways it is merely a continuation of the NPSL at that organisation's height.

That is an historical fact, and no amount of propaganda will change it.

It may differ in some ways, but the NSL's administration hasn't changed too much.

We have mostly the same officials, the same clubs, the same sponsors, and even the same office staff!



NSL GM Cyril Kobus

Only George Thabe, who is generally not given the credit that is so obviously his due, has left. Much of the old order has remained.

Beneath the manufactured glitter and glamour, the huge sponsorships and crowds is an administration that has yet to prove its worth.

It wants us to believe that it will lead us into a better future. But the general lack of expert knowledge, vision and statesmanship for a future for ALL soccer in South Africa is lacking in the NSL.

It has too many limitations which it will not acknowledge, and no amount of cheap, rubbishy public relations will obscure that.

Let me deal first with what I think are the good things the NSL has done.

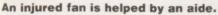
Its record when it comes to supporting charities is excellent. It raised nearly R650 000 through two tournaments in 1986 and 1987 for the needy, and has donated generously to the Natal Flood Fund.

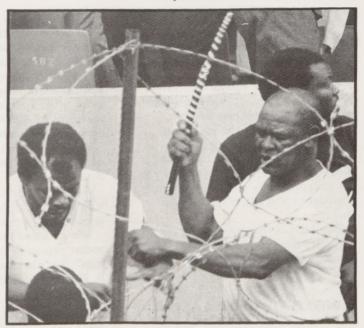
It could go a step further, of course, and show more concern – by persuading its clubs to play free of charge in the annual tournament.

The NSL has to be congratulated for its efforts to build a stadium. At the same time it must never be forgotten that facilities in the townships generally are insufficient and of poor quality.

The impression created by some in the light of the proposed First National Bank Stadium that all is well as far as facilities are concerned is a false one. The new stadium must not be used for propaganda pur-







A security officer brandishing a sjambok.

So far the NSL has honoured its commitment to amateur soccer under the Soccer Association of South Africa, and there has been a genuine concern for those amateurs.

But the NSL had and has many faults. Too many.

THE ADMINISTRATION

The management committee system which provides for club officials to serve on it has over and over again proved itself to be a waste of time.

The club officials have their own club affairs to attend to, and rarely have the time and expertise necessary to do the kind of work that a growing league requires.

With exceptions, they serve only to make up quorums for meetings.

The actual decision-making in ed the NSL in 1987 often appeared to be done by a few, mainly Abdul Bhamjee and general manager Cyril Kobus.

This gave them far more power than was good for the game, but it also placed a great strain on them.

So great was the pressure on Bhamjee's own personal and business life during one period that he resigned or almost resigned.

Some of the league's administralive activities were run from his Fordsburg soccer equipment shop. Where on earth do you hear of a league that describes itself as being run as a professional business enterprise conducting some of its activities from the business premises of one of its offir- cials?

The overwhelming reliance on a few officials cannot go on forever if we want to make real progress. The present system of management has never worked, and it never will.

If we change it, maybe we won't repeat the Mainstay Cup fiascos of the last two years and we won't have the amazing problems the League continued to have with the registration of players.

Maybe not so many decisions will be overturned by the Soccer Association of South African Appeal Board as were overturned in 1987

On October 19 the Sasa Appeal Board made, among others, the following comments after a hearing about the registration of Aubrey Makgopela, which reflects poorly on the league:

"The Appeal Board suggests that the league must scrutinse registration and point out irregularities to clubs before accepting the registration of players.

"In the case of disputes between clubs and players, such disputes must be resolved before the registration is accepted by the League.

The NSL had to be told about those very elementary things.

There has been a conspicuous lack of professionalism in many of the NSL's activities. Press conferences and other functions still start late. Games still start late. There are still cases of teams taking the field with the colour of their jerseys clashing. You still find more people on the team bench at games than is stipulated in the rules.

TECHNICAL MATTERS

The NSL commissioned a report on referees and refereeing which brought several problems to light.

The league wasn't happy with its scope, and commissioned another investigation which is due to be made public in 1988.

There has been much unhappiness with the standard of refereeing and, unfortunately, suspicions of bribery and corruption, raised in the report, have not disappeared.

There were disputes with the League, with claims the League officials were making the appointments.

At one stage, Bhamjee was not prepared to reveal the names of the selection panel.

Later in the season the right of selection was granted to the referees. But controversies continued.

As far as refereeing was concerned, at least a start was made.

But as far as the technical aspects of soccer generally were concerned, the NSL didn't impress at all.

It did not have a technical committee, something that is considered essential to set and maintain standards in certain areas. The NSL just does not have any experts in the field.

It was disclosed during the season by Kaizer Chiefs' coach Theo Dumitru and confirmed by some leading goalkeepers that the sizes of the goalposts at some grounds were very ir-

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regular.

While that may be the responsibility of the clubs, ultimate responsibility must rest with the League, which must provide the guidance.

In the matter of crowd control, the league had its faults. One thing it didn't get into its head is that the use of sjamboks is crude, primitive, provocative and extremely danger-

The League likes to pretend that it doesn't have a crowd violence problem, but the violence that occurred at some matches was there for all to see.

LENGTH OF THE SEASON

The official season in 1987 was far too long. In started on January 17 and finished on December 6.

It became a circus towards the end, with too many matches being played to complete the season's program.

On top of that, the League has not always been able to discipline its clubs as far as the playing of friendly matches is concerned. It is a standing joke that there are really two leagues in operation, the official one and the "friendly" one.

Due to poor planning, the new national second division started in May and was due to finish at the end of January 1988.

The most obvious thing about the NSL's long, long season is that it had too many competitions.

One of the reasons this is so is the apparent obsession with money. Sponsorships, by some weird logic, provide status and prestige.

Then there are the unecessary and burdensome replays and two-leg semifinals in the JPS.

All this to please the sponsor.

It is hard sometimes not to get the impression that the sponsors run the League.

SPONSORS

The NSL's sponsors, in my view, have too much say in the game.

Sponsors should not get involved in NSL draws, which sometimes lack credibility.

Allegations of "rigging" have been with us for many many years – at great cost to the image of the game.

The NSL has shown no great concern for its respectability in this regard, having failed to come up with a standardised draw proceedure in all its knockout competitions that is above suspicion.

I'll never understand why sponsors get involved in draws.

Whether the League likes it or not, whether the sponsors like it or not, there are people who believe some draws are made to accommodate the sponsors' desire to have the big, crowd-pulling teams in the final.

Draws must not only be properly done, they must be seen to be properly done.

Cup finals have become circuses, with sponsors all but taking over what is essentially a soccer match.

We all know that sponsors are in soccer primarily for "business reasons", for what they can get out of it. But there are limits to everything.

AWARDS

The number of player awards in 1987 was mind-boggling.

There was the "official" Footballer of the Year, the Adidas awards for the best field player and best goalkeeper, and the Players' Player of the Year award.

It created a lot of confusion. Here too, it seemed as if sponsorship was the main consideration. Why else have so many awards?

The ordinary fan is probably at a loss to know which is the real thing.

The "official" award based its entire credibility on the fact that the monthly award winners won R5 000 and the overall winner would win

The manner in which most of the monthly winners was chosen was a joke. First there was a panel, then there wasn't.

But somebody was choosing them, and among the selectors was none other than Abdul Bhamjee.

Strange, but true.

When are we ever going to learn that officials should stay out of panels of this nature?

Two "wild cards" were added to the list of finalists, presumably by the same "unknown" panel.

This made the whole thing even more ridiculous.

POLICY

The NSL, as far as I could ascertain, did not have a clear policy on some major issues.

Taken together, the signing of a petition calling for the unbanning of a political body, the National Panasonic sponsorship issue, the sponsorship of what was laughably called an "international" soccer match by the SABC and the sponsorship by First National Bank caused confusion in my mind and in the minds of

many others.

What does the NSL stand for, if anything? More money, perhaps?

The league has studiously avoided issuing written public statements on policy issues.

The only one it did issue was about the Panasonic affair, and that had its contradictions.

Over the last three years there have been numerous public statements. But it is not known whether they were official or whether they represented the personal views of Abdul Bhamjee.

Unless it wants to continue making a laughing stock of itself on policy matters, I suggest the NSL starts releasing written statements.

Sports administrators generally, in my experience, are not above claiming that they were misquoted when they were not.

Written statements are one way of avoiding any misunderstanding and confusion.

Another matter the League should give some thought to is the exact relationship with Sasa.

Unless this is clearly defined, there are going to be problems one day. Mark my words.

CROWDS

The NSL has a bad habit of not limiting, as a general rule, the number of spectators allowed to watch a big game.

This has already proved dangerous, but financial considerations seem to come first. Ellis Park put its foot down for the Mainstay Cup final, and I hope they continue doing that.

Talking of crowds, somebody should whisper in Bhamjee's ear that the NPSL used to get large crowds in the 1960s, the 1970s, and the 1980s.

Big crowds may be something relatively new to the NSL PRO, but they're nothing new to those of us who have been following our big clubs for ages.

Bhamjee was with the SA Soccer Federation during that time – he is still suspended from that organisation – and used to spend some of his time criticising the NPSL.

Had he taken the trouble to take a careful look at what was happening on the NPSL's soccer fields, he wouldn't be saying such boring things about crowds these days.

They've been there for a long, long time – supporting the clubs which belonged to the league he used to criticise so much.

CASTLE LEAGUE

Boiki Mothei

Glory for Cosmos, anger for Isidindi

THE Castle League competition has been in existence – in the early years under another name – since 1971, when Orlando Pirates became the first team to win it.

It is sponsored by South African Breweries and is played over two rounds on a home-and-away basis.

The winning team in a game is awarded two points and the losing team gets none. In the case of a drawn match each team is credited with a point.

The 18 first division clubs each play 34 games and the total number of matches played was 612.

Since the 1987 season, in the event of a tie in the log positions when two clubs have the same number of points, they are separated by goal difference.

Previously the goal average system applied.

Two clubs are relegated each year and two promoted. This may change in future as the clubs may decide to reduce the number of teams in the league.

The league was sponsored for R475 000, with the first prize being R70 000.

In 1985, when the NSL was formed, it was sponsored for R400 000.

The 1987 prize allocation was as follows, with the 1986 figures in brackets:

- 1.R70 000 (R50 000)
- 2.R38 000 (R33 000)
- 3.R30 000 (R27 000)
- 4.R25 000 (R22 000)
- 5.R22 000 (R19 000)

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Jomo Sono, owner of the Castle League champions, in action

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6.R20 000 (R17 000)

7.R19 000 (R16 000)

8.R18 000 (R15 000)

9.R16 000 (R13 000)

10 to 18 - R13 000 each (R12 000 each)

In 1986, the sponsors introduced a new competition for clubs in terms of which they are judged "on how they used merchandised material to dress up their home grounds at specified games".

In 1986, Jomo Cosmos won the competition – and a microbus.

Arcadia was judged the Castle League Club of the Year in 1987, winning a microbus valued at R30 000. The sponsors introduced consolation prizes in 1987, awarding three prizes of R1 000 each to Witbank Black Aces, Hellenic and Frazers Celtic.

The league program kicked off on February 27 and ended on December 6 – lasting just over nine months.

The competition was as absorbing as usual, although it lost some of its appeal when too many games were played in too short a time towards the end of the season to make up for the fixture backlog.

In 1987 the Castle League had a sting in its tail – the league champions were decided on the last day of fixtures – and unfashionable Jomo Cosmos emerged victors.

A day before winning the league, they topped the log for the first in the year, and in the end beat Kaizer Chiefs into second place by a point.

They had finished fourth in 1985 and 12th in 1986.

Mamelodi Sundowns, rocked early in the year by the disclosure of a multi-million rand fraud by its owner Zola Mahobe, throughout the season looked the team which would win the most coveted honour in the NSL.

They led for most of the way and only Chiefs looked capable of mounting a strong enough challenge to edge them out.

Arcadia and Cosmos looked at best outsiders.

In 21 games up to August 16, Sundowns lost only twice – 1-0 to Amazulu in an away game and a shocking 5-0 loss to Hellenic at Hartleyvale. Then, in their remaining 13 games they won only three times, losing four games and drawing six.

Chiefs took over the top position during Sundowns' poor run and were



Jomo Cosmos' coach Roy Matthews and player Johnny Masegela at the official presentation of the trophy and prize money.

on top until the afternoon of the day before they played their last game – against Bush Bucks.

The beginning of the end, as it eventually turned out, was a 2-2 draw against Cosmos.

They then lost to Hellenic, beat Orlando Pirates and lost to Sundowns and Bush Bucks.

Their last two games came after their Mainstay Cup final victory over AmaZulu.

Cosmos finished the season having lost only four league matches – a great tribute to coach Roy Matthews and his faith in young players.

Eric September, Thomas Madigage (said to be 16 years of age), Alfred Gwabeni, Gesond Vilakazi, Gregory Kedikanetsoe and Edwin Motale all did Matthews and the club proud.

The final league log produced an-

other surprise + Hellenic. They are not a very popular club, but they were consistent enough to finish sixth.

Celtic, too, had a good finish, making it into eighth place after disaster threatened early in the season until coach Dave Roberts was recalled.

Soweto glamour club Moroka Swallows experienced what was probably their worst ever second half of the season.

They failed to win a single of their last 11 games. George Eastham, who took over from Rodney Bush in September, was in charge of the team for all those games.

What rotten luck he had! Swallows finished 10th on the log.

At the other end of the table, Durban City just managed to stay in the first division – on goal difference.





Kaizer Chiefs' Johannes Molatedi attempts an overhead kick as he is challenged by Moroka Swallows' Andries Mpondo.

They got their last point in their last fixture - against Swallows.

Wanderers will remember with some resentment their relegation. In their match against Chiefs at Ellis Park, they scored what to everybody who saw it was a perfectly legitimate goal.

But referee Stuart Gregory erred and judged that the ball had entered the goal through a hole in the net.

The goal would have given Wanderers a draw - and they would probably have still been in the first division.

Blackpool, the other club relegated, were unlucky in that they just could never produce enough goals in many matches they deserved to

Many of their defeats, until they lost their first division place, were by narrow margins.



Thomas Hlongwane for Bush Bucks, with Arcadia's Mike Lambert.

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