

Media24 to pay up for defamation

By Simone Puterman

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NEWSWATCH: *City Press* publisher Media24 will be coughing up R150 000 in damages for defaming ANC politician and medical doctor Zweli Mkhize in March 2007, the Pietermaritzburg High Court ruled yesterday, Monday, 17 March 2008, writes the *Mail & Guardian Online*.

Keeping with *City Press*, Journalism.co.za reports that its political editor Sthembiso Msomi has resigned. It is not known where he is next moving to, but he has denied that it will be the *Sunday Times*.

Meanwhile, IOL has published an edited version of a recent paper presented by Raymond Louw, chair: media freedom committee of SANEF at the Africa Dialogue Lecture Series, Centre for International Political Studies, University of Pretoria, entitled "Muzzling South Africa's media"; News24.com has published a column by Jon Qwelane in which he tackles transformation of the media; and IOL Technology reports on the findings of a recent study on whether the Internet has changed the media.

The Gauteng meeting of SANEF last Friday, 14 March, was told by Professor Danny Titus, chairperson of the South African branch of Transparency International, that "South Africa's 2010 World Cup soccer tournament was a prime target for corruption," writes SABCnews.com

Lastly, the *Mail & Guardian Online* reports that News Corporation and NBC Universal is now offering free online TV to public America through internet joint venture Hulu.com.

For more:

- Mail & Guardian Online: Media24 fined R150 000 over defamatory report
- Journalism.co.za: <u>City Press loses politics editor</u>
- IOL: Muzzling South Africa's media
- News24.com: <u>Transform the media</u> [Jon Qwelane]
- IOL: Has the Internet changed the media?
- SABCnews.com: <u>SA's 2010 World Cup prime target for corruption</u>
- Mail & Guardian Online: Hulu turns on internet television

ABOUT SIMONE PUTERMAN

Simone Puterman (@SimoneAtLarge) is currently editor-at-large at Marklives.com and deputy chair of the Sanef online editors subcommittee. After majoring in psychology and

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