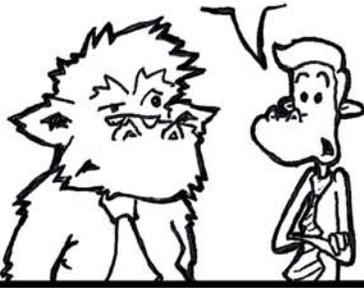


**KERNEELS**

I do not think the Ovals are going to accept this modification.



There's nothing illegal about this mod!



With this I'll always reach the finish line first.



He might not reach the finish line, but at least he gets to go the moon.



**Former mayor in the dock...**

**Rustenburg** – Two senior members of the RLM (Rustenburg Local Municipality) were arrested on Friday 23 September 2011, for their alleged involvement in the murder of another member of the RLM in 2009.

Former Rustenburg mayor Mathews Wolmarans, now a senior member of council as well as Cllr Amos Mataboge, MMC for Local Economic Development (RLM) briefly appeared before the Rustenburg Magistrate's Court (Monday 26 Sept 2011) before magistrate Andrew Steenbok. They were both remanded in custody until the 17th of October 2011.

A large group of protesters gathered outside the court and consisted of protesters pro- and against the accused, including Rustenburg citizens and members of the local ANC Youth League, SA National Civic Organisation as well as Cosatu.

The accused were arrested for their alleged role in the murder of former councillor, Moss Phakoe. Phakoe was shot dead at the driveway of his home in Rustenburg North after returning from an ANC 2009 election campaign. He was murdered just two days after handing over documents containing allegations of corruption at the Rustenburg Local Municipality to Minister of Cooperative Governance Sicele Shiceka.

Prior to these arrests, was the arrest of Enoch Matshaba on the 6th of August. Matshaba was a bodyguard of former Rustenburg mayor Mathews Wolmarans. Matshaba, a former Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK) operative – who is being represented by Julius Moloto – was also refused bail. During a telephonic interview with the current executive mayor of the Rustenburg Local Municipality, Cllr Mpho Khunou, he noted, "The situation might be awkward, but the Rustenburg Municipality will go ahead with business as usual. The law must take its course."

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**Missing any Platinum?**

On Tuesday 27 September, police swooped down on an international Platinum smuggling syndicate in a series of carefully coordinated raids.

Unrefined Platinum ore with an estimated value of R50m were seized at a refinery in Babelegi, close to Hammanskraal, owned by the syndicate, police said. Fifteen uncut diamonds were also found at the refinery. The raid came as a total surprise to the alleged syndicate boss who took delivery of a consignment of stolen Platinum valued at R1m at the refinery the night before his arrest.

This operation follows an incident earlier this month in which several men allegedly assaulted, tortured and kidnapped employees of Lonmin's Western Platinum Refinery. At time of going to print Lonmin's communication unit was not available for comment. According to the Lonmin employees, the men claimed that they were searching for stolen metals and money. The Hawks are investigating a bank account in Panama that they believe is being used by a global syndicate operating in diamonds, Platinum and currency.

The "Godfather" of the alleged Platinum smuggling syndicate arrested started his precious metals exporting business in 1987 and he is also suspected of smuggling hundreds of millions of dollars worth of Platinum out of South Africa over the years.

The alleged syndicate kingpin, a 77-year-old Italian male with dual South African and Italian citizenship, was arrested in his pyjamas in Fairland, northwest of Johannesburg.

In the past decade, Platinum mines have become the main target of international crime syndicates due to the exorbitant price Platinum fetches on international black markets. At the bottom of the feeding chain you also get small-time criminals, who steal Platinum from mines and smelt it down in "rent-by-day" smelting facilities.

The Platinum Weekly eagerly awaits confirmation as to the source of the unrefined Platinum.

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