

## New Belo chief told to foster development

By Kimbo Jacob Jumngvin in Boyo

**N**gontum Andreas Kukwa has been enthroned as the new chief of Sho village, Belo in the North West with a challenge to enhance the development of the village. The village's activities are said to have been halted by the dethronement of former chief Ncham Ngoinbi.

The enthronement which took place recently was masterminded by the *kwifon* society, the highest traditional council of the village after listening to several petitions from the village dwellers against the former chief.

While enthroning Ngontum Andreas as the new village head, the *kwifon* called on the villagers to collaborate with him. The *kwifon* also reassured the new chief of

their support so as to enable him succeed.

The *kwifon* further lamented the behaviour of the former chief that led to his dismissal. Former chief Ncham Ngoinbi was accused of mismanaging 18,000 FCFA contributed by the villagers in 1993 aimed at carrying out development projects in the village. He was also flayed for selling people's goats without compensating them, amongst other vices.

These instances of embezzlement, the *kwifon* said, had led to the dismissal of the former chief in favour of a new dynamic ruler.

Meanwhile, the enthronement ceremony of the chief of Mbingo, Boyo division of the North West has been slated for 3 October.



Bobe Ngongtum

## 20% Cameroonians are afflicted with heart ailments

By Ntaryike Divine Jr. in Douala

**C**ameroon engaged commemorative activities marking the sixth edition of World Hearts Day on 25 September on a rather grim note.

20% of Cameroonians are currently suffering from cardiovascular complications. Across the continent, some one million persons are dying annually, with the bulk (600,000) killed by arterial hypertension. Extrapolations indicate that by 2010, the health hazard could become the leading cause of death in developing countries.

It is in a bid to forestall disaster, that for the first time, a city like Douala, played host to multiform manifestations last week. For the first time in six years, mobilization was remarkable. Through conferences, free screening, sports walks, etc, the Cameroon Heart Federation (CAMEHF) left an indelible mark.

Cardiovascular disease and hypertension, in particular, is generally likened to a silent killer. Doctors who animated conferences in prelude to the day, celebrated every last Sunday of September, warned that "it is difficult to detect specific symptoms." They prescribed remedies including regular checks and control on heart tension, body weight; the

suppression of tobacco use, regular exercises, controlled nutrition, inter alia.

Throughout the presentations aimed at beating up awareness, it emerged that obesity is one of the causes of heart disease. Today, the world counts more over-weight women, for example, than those who are under-fed. Obesity, *The Herald* learnt,

is manifested physically by a contorted silhouette showing an accumulation of body fat around the waist.

Men with 94cm waistlines and women whose waists measure 8cm and above are prime candidates, not only for obesity, but also cardiovascular disease and cerebral complications. The juvenile Cameroon

Heart Federation, created in March 2005, as an affiliate of the World Heart Federation aims at drawing popular attention to the impact, risk factors and prevention of cardiovascular disease. Its executive director, Jean Vincent Tchienehom, told *The Herald* they have been collaborating with government authorities in the area of prevention.

## US based NGO donates to pupils in Bafoussam

By Tendong David in Bafoussam

**S**ome 72 pupils from four primary schools in the West province recently received gifts worth over 2,000,000 FCFA from a US-based Cameroonian group.

The group *La Famille Bamileke* (LAFABA) is made up of Bamileke people resident in Dallas USA. It is the third time this group is donating school equipment and prizes to best pupils of government primary schools in the West.

The president Honoré Kwame said their objective is to promote education and assist their younger brothers and sisters back in the villages. He told the pupils that in spite of the long distance between the USA and Cameroon, LAFABA thought it

necessary to have a positive contribution to their future through education.

The gift to pupils comprised complete text books for the academic year and school fees. The headmasters of the four different schools concerned received complete textbooks for all classes and a football.

Teachers on their part were given note books and teacher's guide to help them prepare their lesson notes. The donors promised that back in Dallas the members of LAFABA will democratically chose another division that will next benefit from their largess.

Presiding at the occasion, Takogne Jean-Luc, representing the provincial delegate for

Basic Education for the West lauded the efforts of LAFABA, who are carrying out their own campaign in the fight against poverty by offering prizes to pupils of GBPS. He said if other sons/daughters of Bamileke origin living in other parts of Europe copied their example the education of youths will be highly improved. He called on the beneficiaries to make proper use with the gifts so LAFABA will count on success and increase their gesture. He called on LAFABA president to extend the sincere gratitude of the Cameroon government to members of *La famille Bamileke* in Dallas USA. He promised the total support of the Education family in Cameroon to LAFABA.

## Briefly Yaounde

By Nforngwa Nditoti Eugene

### Escaping detainee crushed by truck

A detainee of the Yaounde central prison, Kondengui, who tried to escape by jumping down a fast moving truck was violently knocked down and ran over by the same truck and sent to hospital with a badly crushed leg, Tuesday. Prison officials gave the name of the inmate only as David.

Inmates, accompanied by armed guards were returning from court at the end of a daylong of trials when the weird idea of escaping crossed his mind. David unsuspectingly climbed to the side of the open top truck and jumped over as it neared the prison, a guard said.

### Gold merchants were connen

Five connen sold a bag of sand to a victim claiming that it was gold dust from an artisan mine in the East province, Yaounde judicial police sources said recently. The connen made their victim pay up to 600,000 francs for the king metal after convincing him that it could be resold for more than five times that amount.

They were nabbed when one came back to make another sale but was confronted by an unforeseen request from the victim who insisted on keeping some of the gold for himself. Not even fool's gold, an iron mineral that looks exactly like gold, but a poorly sorted mixture of sand and earth poured out of the neatly packed parcel when it was torn open.

The connen identified as Ondoua Richard, Njankam Gilbert, Rene and Mbem Landin had hoped to swindle millions of francs CFA from their victim by convincing him to buy more gold and disappear before a resale was arranged, abandoning him with the bags of sand.

### Poisoned pork in Yaounde streets

Pork sold in the streets of Yaounde could be coming from pigs killed by poisoning, according to serious allegations by vets and livestock officials. Amid increasing pork demand, pig farmers and thieves, were deliberately poisoning their animals to make transportation and slaughtering easier and faster.

Many were also ignoring sanitary inspections and killing the animals under doubtful condition in private homes and at night, officials said, as a campaign to reinforce the respect required practices in slaughter houses went underway last week.

Veterinary doctor Bayiha Kack Léopold said they were trying to establish the effects the unidentified poison could have on humans. He warned that butchers who violated animal slaughtering regulations faced up to a three-year jail terms and five million francs in fines.

### Army colonel, police superintendent named in medicine traffic

A ring involved in diverting medication destined for health centres in the Adamawa province could include an army colonel, a police chief and several other influential individuals, police in the East province said yesterday. The traffic that has been going on for a long while was uncovered when a lowly placed ring member transporting a fresh consignment from the Adamawa to Yaounde was caught with 10 million francs worth of assorted medication while on transit in Bertoua.

Health official traced the medication to regular supplies destined for a health unit in the Adamawa. The unidentified ring member denied to give details but told police that an army colonel in the Adamawa had assigned him, reports said.

He also received assistance from a superintendent of police and bribed his way through checkpoints along the long route from the Adamawa to the East. He was on his second outing with the drugs, he said.

### Girls thrash warden over caution fees

Three girls ganged up and thrashed a student hostel caretaker and warden at the university town of Soa Tuesday, when they could not get him to reimburse their caution fees when their tenancy contracts expired. Caution fees are refundable at the end of the tenancy contract but many wardens hardly respect that clause.

According to news report the girls who had come to the end of their stay at the university of Yaounde II were determined to put an end to the widespread dupery. To thunderous applause from exited onlookers, they easily overpowered the muscular caretaker before tossing and kicking him around.

They did not succeed to recover their money, about 90,000 francs but were satisfied that they had thought him a lesson.