

WHAT EVERY DURBAN BUSINESSPERSON NEEDS TO KNOW.

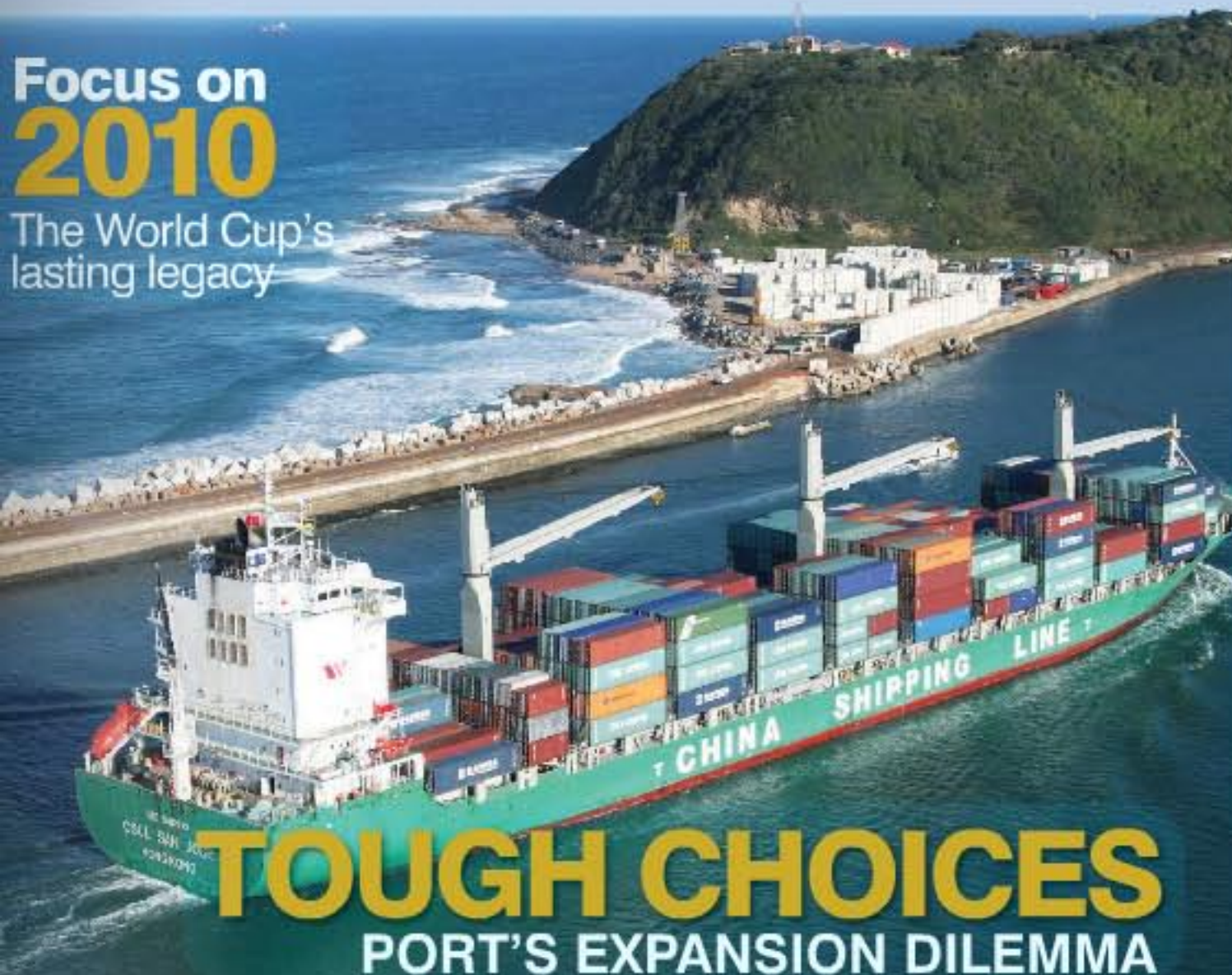
# BUSINESS

SUMMER 2009 R35 (incl VAT)  
www.businesstoday.co.za

## IN DURBAN

Focus on  
**2010**

The World Cup's  
lasting legacy



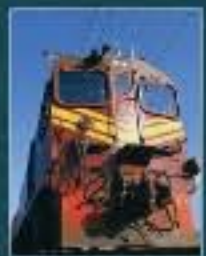
## TOUGH CHOICES

### PORT'S EXPANSION DILEMMA

WE SPEAK TO CEO MILLAR MATOLA

**The ICC**  
DURBAN'S INTERNATIONAL  
EVENTING PLATFORM

**RETURN  
TO RAIL**  
Transnet  
plans on  
track



**T**he work integrated learning module aims to prepare students stepping into the real world to make a living from the expensive and privileged education they have secured.

Durban University of Technology (DUT) fine art and jewellery head Tony Starkey says the course forms part of a broader programme that provides the institution with a competitive advantage. However, it also embraces the principle that universities of technology are centres for knowledge application. Second-year students are taught entrepreneurship where their business plans are analysed for accuracy and feasibility. The following year dedicates a semester to professional practicalities including hands-on teaching in the Durban Art Gallery and placements in commercial ventures like the Umcebo Trust shop at uShaka Marine World.

"This gives them skills to move into different settings within the commercial art world and prepares them to tackle the challenges that that will entail. It matches the theory with the practical, something that is too often lacking," Starkey says.

Sayuri Naidoo, Lisa Herselman and Bondumenzi

# Art

## for a living

Ensuring that theory learnt at tertiary institutions is put into practice and translated into a means of making a living is a pressing issue for all students. **NICOLA JENVEY** spoke to a group of art students who spent several weeks getting to grips with real life

Ngobese are in their final year, while Stephanie Balkisson and Brigitte Laurent graduated last year, but as one voice the group praised the experience gained working under Umcebo Trust director Robin Opperman.

**Their brief demanded creating work that recycled waste into commercially-viable art or décor pieces**

Naidoo converted shooter glasses into a chandelier that she believes will fit into pubs. Herselman incorporated melted pieces of 2l plastic cold drink bottles and beads into a chandelier. Ngobese was inspired by the informal settlements to transform discarded cans into lampshades symbolic of hope and success. Balkisson saw an opportunity in changing



▲ (Back): Bondumenzi Ngobese, Brigitte Laurent and Tony Starkey  
(Front): Lisa Herselman, Stephanie Balkisson and Sayuri Naidoo

the expensive tin packaging from tennis balls and discarded beer bottle glass and mirrors into a chandelier, while Laurent created a light filling by drilling a pattern into plastic guttering.

She has already sold a chandelier created from corks and beads. "There is a shift in our generation to recycle waste and leave a better planet for those coming after us. There is an understanding among many young people today that we must take responsibility for our actions," Herselman says.

Balkisson says increasingly the DUT fine art department promotes entrepreneurship, and already thinking beyond the confines of university she sees herself as a commercial ceramist focusing on décor. Ngobese says while practising as an artist, he can promote recycling and use the art medium as a visual means for communicating the sustainability in life. Laurent says in establishing her own business that merges fine art with high-quality, desirable craft, she has a platform to help future students earn a living from their passions and talents.

"Essentially, this experience has applied theory into invaluable practice," Herselman says. **BID**



There is a shift in our generation to recycle waste and leave a better planet for those coming after us. There is an understanding among many young people today that we must take responsibility of our actions