

The STAR
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Dennis Mpali, trumpet virtuoso from the Chris McGregor septet, a local band, who, according to those in a position to know, is "playing the best jazz South Africa has ever heard." The writer of the accompanying letter complains that Radio South Africa does not do justice to jazz. He adds that there will be a national jazz festival at the Orlando Stadium on September 7.

Jazz and all that jazz

Sir,—Well done, Jon Sylvester! I fully agree with him in "The Week on Radio" in The Star on August 9 when he says that not enough is made of our local jazz musicians.

The pioneers of jazz in the United States—King Oliver and Louis Armstrong—had to struggle for years to gain recognition but is that any reason why they should have to do the same here?

Is the S.A.B.C. going to cover the National Jazz Festival, comprising the best talent in all Africa, to be held in Orlando Stadium on September 7?

South African jazz is as good as much produced in the United States, but with a difference; a sound that can only be heard on this continent — an African sound.



Louis
Armstrong

These musicians desperately need radio publicity to reach the largely non-jazz orient-

ated public. In years to come this music will be famous.

As Jon Sylvester said, the S.A.B.C. should be glad to broadcast transcriptions. This would be proof at least to send to the outside world that some of our Africans can and are thriving under apartheid.

ISINGUBU.



THE NEW TERM has just started at the African Music and Drama centre at Dorkay House, Johannesburg, at the end of Eloff Street. This is a bustling and thriving community that has provided the talent for Union Artists' shows, among them "King Kong," "Emperor Jones," "The Blood Knot."

It is by far the most advanced of anything of its kind in the country. Courses are conducted in musical theory, appreciation and instrumental instruction of all kinds, as well as speech and drama training and choir groups.

"We want students to improvise, to listen to each other and incorporate this awareness in their own playing," says Ann Adams, London-trained cellist who is in charge of the staff.

"But we desperately need instruments of all kinds—there are not nearly enough to go round, and as most students can only come in non-working hours, Saturdays and Sundays especially, we are continually frustrated by lack of instruments."

Miss Adams's telephone number is 33-8225.

The picture shows Mr. Mackay Davashe, former leader of the "King Kong" band, entertaining the music students.