

*The finalists for the
Businesswoman of the
Year have been
announced – See Page 3*



WINNING WOMEN

Saluting SA's businesswomen

Five finalists of outstanding ability serve as role models

Tomorrow is National Women's Day, which is a good time to look at the finalists of the 2001 Businesswoman of the Year contest.

The award is organised by the Businesswomen's Association (BWA), and is sponsored by Ned-bank For Business.

Dawn Marole, president of the BWA, believes that the role of women in business in South Africa is increasing and that an award like this plays an important role in recognising this.

"The award is 21 years old this year. We are entering a new era as the contribution of women in business to the economy draws greater acknowledgement worldwide."

A banquet to announce the winner of the prestigious award will be held at Caesars Palace on August 22. It will be the largest awards night yet staged, with 800 VIPs and guests expected.

The current Businesswoman of the Year is Irene Charnley, executive director (Telecommunications) of Johnnic Holdings and chairperson of M-Cell.

The five finalists for 2001 are:

■ **Felicia Mabuza-Suttle** – The well-known award-winning TV talk show host is MD of FMS Productions and was recently honoured as one of the Leading Businesswomen Entrepreneurs of the World for 2001



Title holder ... Irene Charnley, executive director (Telecommunications) of Johnnic Holdings is the current Businesswoman of the Year. The 2001 winner will be announced on August 22.

by the Star Group in America. She is a founding member of Pamodzi Investments and has launched her own range of Felicia eyewear, shoes and clothing. She also owns a restaurant, Back O' the Moon, at Gold Reef City. She is a former executive manager of corporate affairs at SAA. She sits on the boards of Altron, Pamodzi and the Civic Theatre.

Mabuza-Suttle is an author, public speaker, columnist and multi-award winner. She was born in Soweto and obtained her BA and MA degrees from Marquette University in Wisconsin, US.

■ **Moira-Anne Moses** – She is MD of Land Rover South Africa and is

responsible for the marketing, sales and distribution of Land Rover throughout southern Africa. Under her leadership the marque has introduced a number of new models. Land Rover has been the best selling 4x4 in SA for the past three years. Turnover topped the R1-billion mark under Moses's leadership. She was previously director of Land Rover before overall brand ownership passed from BMW to Ford.

Prior to that, Moses held a succession of management posts at BMW SA. She entered the motor industry at VW SA, where she was fleet marketing manager.

■ **Nolulamo (Lulu) Nobam-**

biswano Gwagwa – CEO of the Independent Development Trust (IDT), she manages a R650-million portfolio of development programmes. She led the restructuring of the IDT and the new focus on development implementation management. She was previously deputy director-general at the Department of Public Works where she championed construction industry transformation and started the Emerging Contractor Development Programme.

Prior to that, she was a senior lecturer at the University of Natal. She has an MSc from London University and was the first black person to qualify as a town planner at

the University of Natal.

■ **Maria Ramos** – Director-general of the National Treasury. She and Finance Minister Trevor Manuel are widely credited with nursing the SA economy back to health.

She is responsible for state debt management which includes both domestic and foreign debt; cash and asset management; macroeconomic and fiscal planning, including the government's budget and inter-governmental fiscal relations and tax policy. She is the only finalist to control a budget of R180-billion. She was previously deputy director-general of Financial Planning at the Department of Finance. Prior to that, she was an LSE research officer; Wits lecturer and ANC economist. Ramos holds a MSc in Economics and a BCom Hons degree.

■ **Almorie Maule** – She is MD and CEO of Engen Limited, SA's largest oil company. She is also chairperson of the South African Petroleum Industry Association, where she is spearheading industry initiatives to include historically disadvantaged South Africans in the oil industry.

Maule joined Engen in 1992, in a corporate planning and development role, and was appointed to the Engen board in 1999. She has a MSc in mathematical statistics from the University of Port Elizabeth.

■ *There are places at the Awards Banquet available to the public at R550 per person. For further information regarding the Businesswoman of the Year banquet, visit www.bwasa.co.za or contact the BWA at (011) 887-0809.*