

WEDNESDAY

malta today

Business Today FREE inside



ANNA MALLIA
PG 12

€0.50



1

ISSUE 128 • WEDNESDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER 2009 • WWW.MALTATODAY.COM.MT



Borg backs down as EU opts for tuna ban

Commission votes to ban bluefin tuna trade, despite Joe Borg's efforts to defend Malta's €100 million industry **PAGE 5**

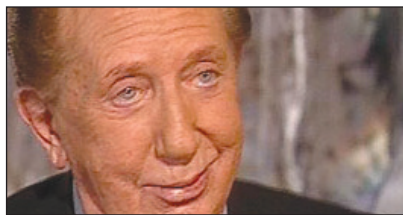
Malta misses opportunity to honour Mike Bongiorno

RAPHAEL VASSALLO

ITALIAN TV presenter and quiz show master Mike Bongiorno died yesterday at the age of 85 – two months after the government ignored a proposal to award the veteran broadcaster with an Honoris Causa from the University of Malta.

The suggestion was made by former tourism minister Joe Grima, who remembers being hosted by 'TeleMike' on Canale 5

in the 1980s: "I first met Mike Bongiorno in 1986, shortly after the Americans bombed Libya," Grima recalls. "The bombing had an immediate impact on Malta's tourism, with bookings dropping to practically zero, especially from Italy. We embarked on a campaign featuring spots on Canale 5, and I was invited as a guest on Bongiorno's



programme..."

and end of everything to him, and it was a pleasure to see the respect with which he treated his guests," Grima recalls.

programme..." Grima, himself a former television presenter, remembers Bongiorno as "a professional to the hilt".

"His programme was the beginning of everything to him, and it was a pleasure to see the respect with which he treated his guests," Grima recalls.

"Very recently I suggested to (tourism minister) Mario de Marco that he nominate Mike Bongiorno for an 'honorificenza' from Malta, in appreciation of his enormous contribution to broadcasting, and knowing that these kind of honours were among the things Mike valued most at that point in his life. As far as I know the proposal was passed onto to someone in the ministry, and that was the last I heard of it."

FULL OBITUARY ON PAGE 2

BUSINESS TODAY EDITORIAL: WANTED – ONE SERIOUS FINANCE MINISTER Pg 11



Flamingo

30% discount on Office Furniture

Flamingo Complex, Canon Road, Qormi • Tel: 22794218/9 • Fax: 21445983 • Email: sales@flamingo.com.mt

News paper post