

**goes on air**



Dancers



... team in a dance, and chairman, Dr B.M. Gecaga, unveils a plaque to mark the launch of 96.4FM radio station.

# with 96.4FM on air

## Station will meet our expectations, say listeners

Nation Radio is on the air - and already Kenya simply loves it.

"This new radio station is promising to give us what the rest have failed to," said Michael Kioko, a driver with St John Ambulance. "There's a variety of music that meets listener taste across the age groups."

He was speaking outside Nation Centre as the launch of the new Nation Radio on 96.4FM got under way, with a colourful carnival of music and dance - with speeches deliberately kept to the minimum.

Christine Mboya, 21, wanted to hear Ndombolo, which she called "the music of our times."

"Play it and you can be sure of the support of the youth of this country," said Christine, who also asked the new station to air more programmes targeting young people.

Christine also wants 96.4 FM Nation Radio to present educational programmes that would help tame the spread of the killer HIV/Aids.

### 'Nation FM should take up the challenge'

"It is time our radio stations talked openly about Aids and sex. Many girls are dropping out of school due to early pregnancies and 96.4 Nation FM should take the challenge and chart the way forward," she said.

Wilberforce Wafula, a secondary school teacher in the city, said: "We have known the Nation newspapers for accurate and balanced reportage and we hope this will be translated to its radio station."

By noon, the entertainment had moved on to the wide field behind City Stadium where the band on the Nation float was performing for an enthusiastic audience which braved a scorching hot sun - reminding people of the sNation 96.4 FM jingle - "The station in the sun."

"Nothing else matters when

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Nation 96.4 FM is in the air; I am here to dance," said Abdul Shawn who asked the station to play more rap music.

"We want to listen to music by the late rap maestro Tupac Shakur because he told us a lot about reality; in romance and whatever else one wanted to hear," said the 21 year-old mechanic.

After a three-hour performance at the stadium the float headed for Buru-Buru shopping centre, through Kimathi, Bahati and Uhuru estates.

Crowds formed quickly along the way, enjoying the antics of the acrobatic skaters.

"I love the colours," said Caroline Odongi, who appealed to 96.4 Nation FM to play more gospel music.

Pupils from Morrison and Kimathi primary schools in Bahati estate took advantage of their lunchtime break to scramble for caps from the passing truck.

Some asked for the balloons that hung on the sides of the truck - and were given what they wanted.

After a one-hour journey the road show arrived at Buru-Buru shopping centre to a warm reception.

Most businesses stopped as traders poured out to listen to the music.

Some lunch-goers who were in the middle of their meals came out, plates in hand, and eating as they danced.

"This music is great! At last, we hope to have an independent radio station that reports stories in a bold and accurate manner like the *Daily Nation* and the *Sunday Nation*," said one who enjoyed the show.



Clockwise from top left: Group managing director Wilfred Kiboro (left) dances for joy, next is chairman Dr B.M. Gecaga; balloons are released; an acrobat goes through his paces and city commuters enter a bus for a free ride to mark the launch of 96.4FM.