

RHODED

Things are looking up

May 1990





ANC leader Kathrada may address SANSCO's launch this weekend

A RHODES branch of the South African National Students Congress (SANSCO) is to be launched on Sunday 13 May.

RHODEO spoke to Lincoln Mali of the SANSCO regional executive, about the organisation.

RHODEO: When will the branch be officially launched?

LINCOLN MALI: We will be holding elections on Friday 11 May. Any member of SANSCO is eligible to vote. Then on Sunday the branch will be launched.

We hope to have our president Mike Koyana and honorary president, Ahmed Kathrada present to address us. Members of the national and regional executive might also be present.

RHODEO: What role will the SANSCO branch be playing and

how will it differ from the Black Students Movement (BSM) which already exists?

LINCOLN MALI: Originally the BSM was not affiliated to SANSCO but with the upsurge of the Congress tradition and ideas around non-racialism, the BSM affiliated to SANSCO in the mid-80's.

BSM became a branch of SANSCO. Theoretically all black students are members of SANSCO but we must ask whether this is true in reality.

BSM took a particular direction because of its affiliation to SANSCO but still claimed to represent all students. There is currently much discussion about whether BSM should continue to affiliate to SANSCO or not.

The BSM plays a representative role. It takes up a variety of student issues; academic, political, entertainment, relations with admin etc.. and tries to represent all students on these issues regardless of their political affiliation.

Popularise ANC

On the other hand, SANSCO will be taking up political campaigns, for example challenging apartheid education and the apartheid system as a whole. It will try to politicise students and win them over to the non-racial, democratic view.

SANSCO will be running campaigns to popularise and explain the ANC and around the future

we're fighting for.

The SANSCO branch will be building leadership but membership will still be members of BSM. SANSCO will contest the BSM but other forces will be allowed to contest the BSM.

One organisation?

We don't want BSM to duplicate SANSCO. All interests must be accommodated in the BSM.

However SANSCO will vigorously espouse non-racialism. It will explain its relationship with NUSAS and intensify discussions around the possibilities of one organisation.

This would be difficult in a structure like BSM as not everybody believes in non-racialism.

Rhodes VC, Henderson, surprised to be on the SABC Board



RHODES VICE-CHANCELLOR, Dr Henderson was recently appointed to an honorary board of SABC directors. Other members who have been appointed include Mrs M.N. Maponyana, a prominent Johannesburg businessperson and Professor T. Links of the University of the Western Cape.

In the light of the controversial role the SABC has played in the South African media, Rhodéo decided to ask the Vice-Chancellor a few questions.

RHODEO: What exactly does your role on the board entail?

V-C: The board has a controlling function, and collectively the board members advise the SABC on how to run their affairs.

I am the only representative from the Eastern Cape and I think it is important that the Eastern Cape community have a say in SABC affairs.

RHODEO: Did you feel that it was an honour to be appointed to the board? Are there any prerequisites involved in being appointed?

V-C: No, I don't know how the nominations work. All I can say is that it was certainly a surprise.

RHODEO: How do you feel about the SABC's political bias? Do you not feel that it plays a key role in perpetuating National Party ideology?

V-C: Well, if all this had happened before the second of February, I certainly would have been hesitant in accepting the position. Since then there have been a lot of changes. In fact, there are 4 black members on the board, 3 of whom were recently appointed. The husband of Mrs Maponyana who is on the committee is a close friend of Nelson Mandela's. There have also been more English-speakers appointed. I honestly believe that, in this way, the SABC is making a genuine attempt to have a board which is less influenced by a certain ideology, and reflects all different points of view. There is definitely a sense of moving in the right direction.

Rhodes students duped

Rhodes students fooled by jokes

GRAHAMSTOWN — Most students at Rhodes University were duped by two April Fools' jokes which appeared in the campus newspaper last week.

The student newspaper, Rhodéo, carried two "joke stories" when it hit campus last Friday. Rhodéo editor, Mrs Vanessa Barolsky, said she thought it was a good idea as the newspaper was published just before April 1.

One story said some 100 students from the university's biggest residence would have to sleep in army tents on the rugby field for a month because hot water was being installed in their rooms.

A student from the residence said: "I was really worried, the part about four students sharing one tent and having to sleep on stretchers really got me."

Students were also fooled by a story which said the campus bar was to close due to financial losses and drunken student behaviour.

The Rhodes Union sells the cheapest drinks in Grahamstown, and its alleged closure horrified students, some of whom had already organised petitions to fight the demise of their favourite drinking hole before realising they were April Fools.

Mrs Barolsky said she was surprised when several newspapers telephoned the campus public relations officer, Mrs Mary Burnett, only a few hours after Rhodéo was distributed on campus.

Mrs Burnett said the media wanted to know what the administration was doing about having to house its students in army tents. — Sapa

THIS STORY about the April Fool's joke RHODEO played on campus found its way into the commercial press like in the DAILY DISPATCH above.

Within hours of RHODEO hitting campus, national newspapers were jamming admin's switchboard enquiring about the historic transformation of the campus rugby field into a spanking new student squatter camp.

Funnily enough the students were more interested in the closure of their Union Bar than whether they had a roof/tent over their heads at night.

Some gullible Union patrons even planned a campaign/demonstration, luckily we reached them in time - Ha Ha ...varsity is supposed to educate you...Next time read more critically.

For contraception or contraceptive advice contact Sister Pretorious at the Contraception Clinic

Tuesdays and Wednesdays

1 - 4pm

Back entrance of San

Former Rhodes student harassed by Bop police

SIDWELL MOKGOTHU, an ex-Rhodes theology student was recently detained as an illegal alien by the SA Bophuthatswana police.

This is not the first time Mokgothu has faced this charge, even though he has lived in Bophuthatswana all his life.

In 1985 the Bop government tried to deport Mokgothu as an "illegal alien" when he returned from studying at Rhodes.

According to fellow students at Rhodes, the reason for these repeated deportation attempts was Mokgothu's long history of involvement in anti-apartheid organisations in Bop.

When he came to Rhodes he continued this involvement by joining the Black Students Movement (BSM) committee.

He was elected cultural officer in 1987 and vice president in 1988.

On the day that Rhodes closed for the April vac '89, Mokgothu was detained.

When he was released several weeks later restrictions were imposed on him, which effectively prevented him from participating in organisations or even attending meetings.

After leaving Rhodes at the end of last year, Mokgothu went to Makapanstad in Boputatswana.

It was there that the police recently detained him.

Although the original purpose of the detention was to deport Mokgothu, the police mistakenly released him on bail and Mokgothu was able to escape into hiding in South Africa.

Rusco working with the community

RHODES UNIVERSITY student community organisation (Rusco) was formed in 1988 after a number of attempts to establish it before this.

According to the Rusco committee, the organisation offers students the chance to give back some of the skills and knowledge they gained at Rhodes and channel it back into the community.

It aims to co-ordinate and direct student-based community services in Grahamstown.

Rusco currently has three projects in operation and one waiting in the wings. At least once a week a group of students set out to visit the sick and aged or care for the very young.

Visiting the Old Age Home is the main project Rusco undertakes. Here students talk with the aged and teach them crafts.

Students also look after children at the Raglan Road Play Centre. Children are taught Eng-

lish, Drama, Music and Art. But if you are not at all artistically inclined, don't worry. You can also supervise homework and indoor and outdoor activities.

Visits to the Settlers' Hospital are another Rusco project.

A sports coaching clinic is also being planned.

However Rusco only has an active membership of about thirty and experiences many practical problems. Lack of transport, finances and low student participation all combine to severely undermine the efforts of those working in Rusco.

Students can be the solution to at least one problem. All that is necessary is to spend one hour (maybe only once a month) working on one of these projects.

If you are interested contact Cathy Andrews at Oriel annexe (22004) or Debbie Malherbe (25421)

Nusas/Sansco — one organisation?

Nusas and Sansco could form one organisation by the end of this year, if recommendations made at a national workshop recently are accepted by the organisations' respective constituencies.

This emerged from a workshop held last term at Wits University, which was attended by over 300 delegates from both organisations.

The workshop was held to look at the formation of a single non-racial organisation for tertiary students.

It was an historic occasion for both Nusas and Sansco, as it was the first time the organisations had met nationally. Up until now Nusas, a federation of SRC's, has represented white students on the liberal campuses and has had local committees on some Afrikaans campuses. Sansco has represented black students on the liberal campuses, but also organises on more than 70 colleges, technikons and 'tribal' campuses.

At their respective congresses last year, both Nusas and Sansco committed themselves in principle to the establishment of a single organisation. Debates since then have focussed on the question of how, and when, this should take place.

The workshop's main aim was to examine obstacles and to make recommendations, "but not to



(From left) Ray Suttner (ANC's Education Officer), Erika Elk (NUSAS President) and Lawrence Phokanoka (Senior ANC member) address delegates at the workshop.

make decisions," said Sansco president Mike Koyana. "Everything that we discussed has to be taken back to our campuses and branches."

Two suggestions were tabled at the workshop:

- that the organisations should merge and form a single non-racial organisation for tertiary students;
- alternatively, that Sansco should open its membership to white students and be transformed into a non-racial organisation.

It was unanimously agreed that, while delegates would take both options back to their campuses for discussion, they would recommend

the first option.

The second option, according to a statement issued by the National Executive Committees of the two organisations, "presupposes that Sansco as an organisation has no problems and is capable of taking the student movement forward."

"This option will limit the ability and scope of white students to make a meaningful contribution towards the development of a strong non-racial student organisation."

The statement, which was adopted by the workshop, challenged Nusas to organise students in residence and faculty councils,

and not to be content with holding SRC portfolios."

It also urged greater participation by white students in the South African Tertiary Institutions Sports Congress (Satisco).

Another of the recommendations was that Sansco branches on the liberal campuses "explore joint participation in house committees, faculty councils and SRC's". Since its formation in 1980, Sansco has followed a policy of non-participation in liberal university structures, on the basis that black students are a minority on these campuses and that their needs could not be adequately represented in structures

dominated by white students.

The workshop also recommended that joint working committees (JWC's) be established to "ensure that discussions are taking place at a regional and local level, and to organise another joint workshop before the annual congresses of Nusas and Sansco."

While the impact of the recommendations would be greatest on the liberal campuses, the workshop took pains to stress that discussion around these campuses should not dominate the process leading up to one organisation.

"The experiences of liberal campuses should not be the basis for discussions," said the NEC statement.

"We must accept that this is an issue which is facing the student movement as a whole. In effect, this means the existence of SRC's and Black Student Societies on white campuses should only be reference points, and not the framework of the debate. The discussions must also assess the conditions in black universities and colleges."

The statement also recommended that the JWC ensure consultation with all students by means of a questionnaire, pamphlets and by holding mass meetings. — SAS-NEWS

San makes contraception freely available on campus

CONTRACEPTION IS to be available on campus after a year long battle between the SRC and Admin.

Oral and other forms of contraception will be available from San twice a week. An additional sister has been employed to provide this service.

In a survey conducted last year, 96 per cent of students wanted contraception made available on campus and 75 per cent said they would use the condom-vending machines.

Almost half of the 731 students surveyed did not know the location of the nearby Grahamstown Family Planning Clinic. Private doctors and sisters at the Clinic agreed that the pregnancy rate at Rhodes was "high enough to be cause of concern".

It was known that as many as six women fell pregnant per term, and most of these women resorted to illegal abortions which had dangerous physical and psychological effects, said a local doctor.

The SRC felt that the availability of contraception would not in itself solve the problem of student pregnancies but that it had to be accompanied by an intensive programme to provide students with information.

SRC women's councillor, Nina Shand said the Women's Group intended to visit both male and female residences to speak to students about contraception, AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases.

And Now

IT'S NOT easy tracking down the Right-wing in Grahamstown — there's no visible AWB presence, no high-profile militants, and even the parliamentary types have been fairly quiet of late. RHODEO tried to find someone who could tell us what they think of recent developments:

"We are going to have chaos as soon as the miserable government gives away South Africa in a one-man one-vote election," says Mr Lood Crous, HNP candidate for Albany in the 1988 elections. "This country belongs to me and it belongs to the white man. If they give it to the black man we will have murder and bloodshed."

According to Mr Crous, there

... about them Right-wing elements...

are a "great number" of people in the region who share his feelings. The absence of public visibility is supposedly no indicator of actual lack of support, but rather an attempt by right-wingers to maintain a low-profile.

Mr Crous said, however, that he had heard rumours to the effect that the AWB would soon be organising in the region.

At the moment there is no known AWB organizational structure. Mr John DuToit, vice-chair of the East London AWB, maintained that there definitely were groups of people in Grahamstown who believed in Right-wing causes. However he declined to reveal names.

Kyle blasts his way to No.1!

THE CAMEL Campus DJ competition, won by Kyle Hannan, drew an unusually large crowd to the Great Hall recently.

Nearly a thousand students went along to watch (and hear) RMR DJ's show off their studio skills. These DJs were competing in the first round of a national competition to find South Africa's best campus disc jockey.

The biggest prize for Kyle, other than the R150 prize money, is the chance to go to the Provincial finals in Cape Town this month where he'll be meeting the best from UCT, UPE and Stellenbosch campus radio stations.

A victory there and he could be at the National Pyramid of Light Competition in Johannesburg, rubbing microphones with the ultimate DJ role model - Aiech Jay.

Being chosen best national

campus DJ means R1500 for the entrant, R400 for her/his station and enrollment into a foundation course in broadcasting run by the management teams of Radio 5 and 702. But that is only in September.

What made Kyle Rhodes' best DJ? Alex McGowan, one of the judges and organisers of the competition, says that Kyle's good technical skills and knowledge in the studio, programme presentation, voice fluency and clarity did it all.

His 4 years experience on RMR helped develop that undefinable "certain something" Alex sites as the main reason for Kyle's victory.

Tove Kane, runner up, got a good vibe going, says Alex, but Kyle's professionalism made his performance outstanding.

The other judges - Dave

Shackleton (Radio 5), Paul Johnson (702) and Rod Dixon (SRC pres) - obviously agree.

Kyle said that this years bias towards studio work, his speciality, as opposed to the club DJing emphasised last year, really helped him win.

The competitors get a hectic 10 minutes to present and play two songs (30 seconds each), read newsheets and promos and do interviews and "ad libbing".

It's the "buzz, people and pressure" that makes radio work worth it for Kyle, although he doesn't plan to make disc jockeying a future career.

And the R150 prize money? "Most of it will go to those little things called study loans, unfortunately."

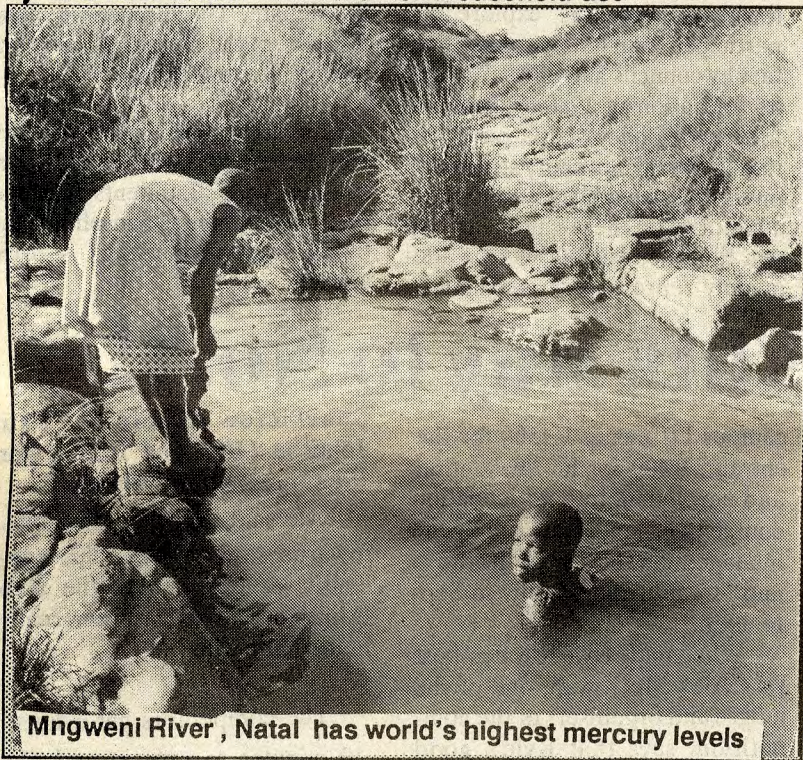
Hope you make the big one, Kyle!



Green Earth to fight exploitation



These drums were used to store toxic waste and are now used by locals to collect rainwater for household use



Mngweni River, Natal has world's highest mercury levels

"Health care for all...now"

THE ASSOCIATION of Progressive Pharmacy Students (APPS) is planning to launch a campaign to educate students about the political causes of health problems in South Africa.

APPS recent membership drive was aimed not only at pharmacy students.

According to APPS an adequate health care system is the responsibility of all South Africans.

APPS spokesperson, Paresh Natha said that for too long students had ignored the issue of health in a changing South Africa.

He added that medical and pharmacy faculties could be powerful instruments of change both within health education and society as a whole.

At the moment two student organisations exist in the pharmacy faculty, APPS and Rupsa (Rhodes University Pharmacy Students Association)

APPS and Rupsa have recently met in a bid to establish a working relationship.

APPS consciously upholds the principles of non-racialism, non-

sexism and democracy.

It also subscribes to the 'Health worker concept' and to 'Primary health care'.

Natha explained the Health worker concept: "Doctors are not the only health care practitioners. 'Health has to be placed in the hands of the people through clinics, education programmes and proper facilities. This requires nurses, teachers, paramedics and parents to be involved in health care."

APPS also believes in 'Health for All' which refers to a level of health that would permit people to live socially and economically productive lives.

Primary health care is aimed at providing a comprehensive health service to the community on a continuous basis at minimal cost. APPS believes that health care is a basic human right.

Natha called upon students to start using their skills for the benefit of all as this was the only constructive way to build a non-racial society.

"The planet earth is our 'spaceship' and if the earth is trashed all the political struggles in the world become irrelevant."

IF YOU thought the environmental crisis did not affect us here in South Africa, think again.

- The Eastern Transvaal has the highest levels of sulphur dioxide on the planet - vast forest plantations have been destroyed by the resulting acid rain.

- South Africa not only produces her own toxic pollutants but also accepts first world toxic waste. All this 'toxic activity' whilst boasting only one disposal site that meets world standards.

The environmental crisis is global and transcends international boundaries. This is the view of Green Earth, Rhodes recently launched environmental action group.

Green Earth's first major project will be to conduct an environmental audit on campus to establish the extent of environmental damage at Rhodes.

According to SRC Environmental Councillor, Tom Lebert, the ultimate aim is to change Rhodes campus into an environmentally sound area that will set an example to the rest of the community.

Head of Rhodes' Botany Department, Prof Ted Botha ad-

ressed the launch of Green Earth on 'Planet Earth: What chance for survival?'

Although encouraging students to join environmental societies and to stop buying 'environmental enemy' products, Botha felt that even these measures might be too little, too late.

Will we be liberated?

This was because he doubted whether humanity would be able to adapt its way of life to ensure the conservation of the world.

Nevertheless, Lebert stressed that students must become actively aware of the global environmental crisis and that Green Earth would be actively drawing in students once the environmental audit had been completed.

Green Earth also felt that environmental degradation was a social problem and was thus related

to South Africa's political system.

Lebert said: "The planet earth is our 'spaceship' and if the earth is trashed, all the political struggles in the world become irrelevant."

We cannot say we are liberated if the air we breathe is polluted, if the water we drink is poisoned and if our land is unable to grow food to support us, because of its over-exploitation now."

Therefore the liberation movement had to adopt a greener politics with a holistic approach that combated all forms of human and environmental exploitation, Lebert added.



Campus Leadership Forum- getting it together for students

EXCITING NEW developments are taking place as Societies, House Committees, Food Reps, Senior Students, and the Nusas-SRC meet together as the Campus Leadership Forum.

A wide variety of issues which affect students on campus are debated and addressed. The Forum consists of two separate groups, one for societies and one for reses.

Stress has been placed on the need to involve students more broadly in the forum. One way of doing this is for the representatives to these forums to be continually reporting back to the sectors they represent.

In this way the majority of students on campus will be able to contribute to the discussions held in the forum.

Both these forums have the potential to start addressing student needs. For this reason it is essential that all residences, societies and faculty councils participate in them.

The Societies Forum meets at least twice a term to discuss issues affecting societies and their members.

These meetings are used to discuss Nusas-SRC campaigns, the needs of societies, such as the provision of notice-boards and the creating of more office space,

as well as broader issues which affect students, such as the role of societies in building non-racialism on campus.

This forum is also used to foster inter-society activities and discussion. Media skills, and Chairing and Financing skills workshops have been organized to assist society committees in the more efficient running of their organisations.

The SRC/SASPU Media Skills Workshop was held for societies last term with reps from a number of societies learning word-processing, desk top publishing, bro-miding, silkscreening and banner

making skills.

The Residences Forum meets every two weeks. The Nusas-SRC has reported extensively on its residence campaigns to gauge the opinions and ideas of the house committees and together work out how best to take these campaigns forward.

Issues discussed recently have been the food campaign, the Student Disciplinary Code, meal cards, the laundry system, permanent keys, electronic locks and smoke detectors.

The SRC will be holding a referendum on May 15/16 to gauge student opinion on these issues.

Non-racial Cultural Evening

THE CAMPUS Leadership Forum is also organising a Non-racial Cultural Evening and Sport Event.

This is due to occur on May 19 and is organised by a number of societies.

SRC Societies Councillor, Mike Carklin said the aim of the project was to build non-racialism on campus.

A fun-run is planned for the morning with the cultural event taking place in the Great Hall in the evening.

Carklin said: "A number of bands and cultural groups have been contracted to perform and societies will also present items of poetry and plays."

Societies can also set up display boards in the Great Hall Verandah, to show students the exciting cultural diversity which exists in South Africa - which could be a basis for building unity, Carklin said.

SANSCO women to organise after a two year delay

SANSCO will soon be forming a Women's Group on campus in order to encourage more women to participate in organisation.

The purpose of the group will be to politically educate women as well as to highlight the issue of women's oppression.

SANSCO feels that Black women are oppressed on the basis of their sex and by Apartheid.

But many women oppress themselves by adhering to values prescribed to them by their parents and society.

These values dictate to women that they should play a subservient role within society.

The ultimate aim of a Women's Group should be to transform society as a whole and to improve the relations between the sexes.

SANSCO says that they would consider working with Nusas Women's Group since they believe that all women are oppressed, although in different ways.

The SANSCO women's group

asserts that the issue of women's oppression cannot be separated from the fight for national liberation and economic emancipation.

However sexism cannot be eliminated simply by changing laws but involves a change in people's consciousness.

At the moment the number of women at national leadership level does not reflect the number of women in society.

Women should make their presence felt by actively participating in the struggle against Apartheid.

SANSCO discussed the issue of launching a Women's Group at its national congress in 1987. Many branches had difficulty with the idea of separate organisation for women. Therefore SANSCO decided to suspend the separate organisation of women until this year.

The Women's Group will only be officially launched after SANSCO's local launch and its various sub-committees have been established.

Historic student press conference

BLOEMFONTEIN - STUDENT NEWSPAPER representatives from English and Afrikaans universities met for the first time at the University of the OFS (UOFS) recently.

Delegates from ten campuses participated in the historic national student press conference organised jointly by the UOFS newspaper, Irawa and the SA Students Press Union (Saspu).

The conference resolved to strive for a single press union representing all tertiary institutions in SA. Contact between campuses would be developed in the short term by swapping news.

Student journalists working on Afrikaans campuses said they were severely restricted by their university administrations and student representative councils. The conference resolved to address the issue of press freedom on these campuses.

Association of Democratic Journalists secretary general, Mr Tyrone August told the conference a free press and free SA was closely linked - one could not exist without the other.

A six-member steering committee was elected to ensure contact between the campuses, to act as a "watchdog" over press freedom and to investigate future conferences.

Saspu President Mr Richard Maguire described the conference as positive and a step in the right direction. "It is about time student journalists prepared for a future non-racial society", he said.

WELL, MY parents died when I was very young so I was brought up by my older sister. I didn't start school until I was ten because there was no-one to take me there.

At school my teachers paid for my education because I did well. Until Std.8 I went to the township school and then I got a bursary from the South African Council of Churches to go to boarding school in Nongoma, near Ulundi. It is ironic that I went to an Inkatha stronghold.

In 1986 Inkatha tried to force our school to become pro-Inkatha but we didn't want to. Inkatha said that the school belonged to the KwaZulu government and that they would come to the school. They did but the principal closed the gates on them. He was later dismissed because he was anti-Inkatha.

Inkatha tried to come to our school to hold a meeting but we took out all the light bulbs so they couldn't hold the meeting. Later we burned one of their buses.

We've heard much about the conflict in Natal in recent weeks. One of RHODEO's staffers, Thami Mchunu, comes from the township in Ladysmith, Natal. We asked him about his experiences with Inkatha there.

Inkatha then went on the rampage attacking all the youth. From that day we had running battles with Inkatha. We were also hunted by the police. I went to stay with relatives for a month. When I came back I was caught by the police and detained for about a month and a half.

After '86 things quietened down but there was still a boycott of the KwaZulu bus service because the buses are very expens-

'Youth, building the future, not fighting it', at peace march

A RALLY scheduled to take place after a "Youth for Peace" march was cancelled recently after the school where it was due to be held was broken into.

The principal of Nombulelo high school, Mrs Dwane, refused to allow the rally to go ahead after the school was broken into the night before the march.

According to ECC member, Jonathan Elliot, Mrs Dwane "regarded the break-in as intimidation by right-wing elements and was afraid that if the rally went ahead it could have serious repercussions for the school."

He added that she had acted "in an autocratic way without regard for the consequences of her actions."

"There could potentially have been trouble because the rally was cancelled at the last minute. Nevertheless, the crowd was disciplined and well-behaved, and no-one was hurt."

The march was organised by the End Conscription Campaign (ECC) and the Grahamstown Youth Congress (GRAYCO) and was an attempt to involve the whole community in actively opposing apartheid and building non-racialism.

A small but enthusiastic crowd of supporters set out from Church Square, singing and toying their way down Bathurst street, into Beaufort street and were joined by people from the townships at the bridge near Matyana River.

SRC president, Rod Dixon, said that although the white community did not participate as extensively as was hoped, the march was still a success.

"Greater efforts need to be made in the future as whites also have an important role to play in opposing apartheid and building non-racialism. Fears and uncertainties can only be gotten rid of



through direct involvement," he added.

Dixon also said that the youth had born the brunt of apartheid with both sides participating in the conflict in different ways.

Young white males are being conscripted into the SADF while young black people are directly encountering the conflict in the townships.

The theme of the march was "youth building the future, not fighting it". It also called for an end to conscription, the release of objectors and the introduction of alternative community service.

Dixon said that the importance of the march also lay in the fact that a grouping of white people were able to enter the township and view conditions there.

'...We'll show you this is Inkatha land'



Armed with a guitar and a 'Kwasha' -- a homemade gun

ive. One KwaZulu MP tried to force people to use the buses. His name was Sithebe.

Recently, in March of this year, he organised an invasion of our

township because the youth congress had become so strong there.

They have taken over all facets of community life and have even managed to stop crime in the township. I think he wanted to start trouble because he sent his

impis to the township. Fortunately the youth congress knew beforehand. They reported to the mayor and got an interdict to stop him coming into the township.

Sithebe had already announced that Inkatha would be marching on the township and even after the interdict he said he would still march. The youth congress knew that it was not just going to be a march, but an inva-

sion, an attack on the youth. They knew this because somebody who was part of the youth congress but used to belong to the Inkatha youth brigade went to their meetings and found out Inkatha were not only planning a march but an attack.

The youth congress went to the station commander and told him everything. He went with police to the houses where these people live and found many weapons.

Then Inkatha came in something like 45 buses to all the entrances of the township. They were stopped and searched.

Weapons were found and the leaders arrested. A lot of the people on the buses didn't even know they were going to use weapons - they were only given them on the bus. Also the buses came at 5am. Who has a march at that time? At 7am Sithebe arrived. He was also stopped and searched and KwaZulu police guns were found. He was arrested.

Sithebe was the third KwaZulu minister to be arrested recently.

No more prejudice against gays

CAPE TOWN - The UCT SRC has passed a motion that commits it to fighting homophobia, which is the discrimination against homosexuals, on campus.

The motion adopted in April this year notes the existence of homophobia in our society and the widespread discrimination against homosexuals and lesbians, as well as the lack of understanding around these issues on campus.

The SRC reaffirmed its belief that discrimination against any group of people on the grounds of race, gender or sexual preference is morally indefensible.

It therefore resolved to take an active stand against homophobia and antigay discrimination.

According to the resolution, this includes challenging campus organisations which act in a homophobic manner, educating around gay and lesbian rights and issues and supporting the UCT Gay and Lesbian Association (GALA).

The resolution was passed in response to dissatisfaction among SRC members that NUSAS had not adopted its usual gay rights motion at the last NUSAS annual congress.

Among the reservations expressed by gay students about this new motion has been that the resolution deals only with homophobia (the active fear and hatred of gays) and not with heterosexism (the incorrect and prejudiced assumption that heterosexuality is normal and natural).

Responding to this criticism SRC member Mandy Driver said that, "The SRC did decide to highlight gay and lesbian rights and issues but didn't want to make any complex technical resolutions about heterosexism until they knew more about it".

Nevertheless the motion is none too soon say gay sources and needs more than fine words to make its intention a reality. Gays face some of South Africa's most oppressive laws such as possible discrimination for making love to each other, yet their cause is seldom publicised.

Campus gays continue to hope for a change in attitudes. The past few years have seen women's rights being placed squarely on the South African political agenda to the extent that most UCT campus organisations now claim to be nonsexist. Perhaps in a few years time it will be common place for organisations to make a point of labelling themselves as nonracial, nonsexist, democratic and nonheterosexist.

SASNEWS

Student newspaper "immoral"

STELLENBOSCH - The assistant editor of 'Die Matie' - Stellenbosch university's student newspaper - faces dismissal by the Students Representative Council for writing in a style "not in keeping with Stellenbosch morality".

Tina du Toit was accused by the SRC Media Committee chairperson, Johannes Grobelaar of writing in bad taste and being biased towards certain viewpoints.

Du Toit writes a satirical column, "Perspektiewe en Dinge" which she described as: "questioning the traditional values and institutions of the Afrikaner community."

The student press nationally and 15 Stellenbosch University organisations supported Tina du Toit by rejecting the "violation of Die Maties freedom of speech".

Representatives of South Africa's English and Afrikaans student newspapers endorsed a motion supporting Die Matie at an historic conference in Bloemfontein over the weekend.

Delegates from 10 campus newspapers, condemned the Stellenbosch SRC for restricting the press and denying students access to information.

Examples of Du Toit's offensive writing as cited by the SRC include; calling PW Botha 'Piewie' and President De Klerk 'Effie'. The SRC described these terms as "unacceptable euphemisms".

The SRC added that Tina was disrespectful to the university's rector, Professor Mike de Vries.

She was also accused of contradicting Stellenbosch morality by challenging the SRC to take a political stand.

The editor of Die Matie, Dries Liebenberg said: "It must be remembered that the column is a

satire. The SRC's narrowmindedness is seriously violating the freedom of the newspaper."

The motion that Tina Du Toit be fired is to be heard by the SRC next week. Miss Du Toit said: "I am sure the SRC will fire me to use me as an example to others that the SRC is not prepared to accept political criticism."

Du Toit's lawyer, Mr Pierre de Vos indicated that he is prepared to take the case to the Student Court if necessary.

SASNEWS

University defence units

DURBAN - Fearing an Inkatha attack, Zululand University students formed defence units on the last two days of term.

On Sunday 8 April a student body meeting resolved to reschedule tests and assignments on Monday and Tuesday to enable students to concentrate on defending themselves.

Most students decided to leave campus for home as there were only two days of term left.

Students became aware that they might be in danger on Thursday 5 April when South African National Students Congress (SANSCO) members entered Esikhaweni in order to consult with students involved in the National Education Co-ordinating Committee (NECC) at a local high school. The SANSCO members were stopped by the South African Police and forced to identify the high school students they were coming to visit.

However the high school students could not be found.

While in the township, SANSCO members heard of an alleged amabutho (army of warriors) that had gathered and began to fear an attack on their campus.

During this week Congress of South African (COSATU) workers in the area had been planning a Natal stayaway in protest against Inkatha and Kwazulu (ZP) police killings.

From sources in the area it appears that the attack was feared as a response to the level of organisation around the Cosatu/UDF stayaway and protest action that was planned by students and the community.

The threat of Inkatha is not new to University of Zululand students.

In 1985 Inkatha members killed students in an attack on the university.

However at the time of going to press the situation had normalised and students were back on campus for the second term.

Illegal alcohol

UCT - ALCOHOL is a very profitable business at any university. Selling liquor in the pubs or at beerfests, brings in undisclosed amounts of money every year.

Although to most students this may mean a lot of fun it also leads to various problems, especially as alcohol abuse results in reckless behaviour and sexual harassment.

UCT is currently in the process of obtaining separate liquor licences for each of the pubs on campus to try and prevent these problems.

Police investigation into alleged alcohol abuse in pubs last year revealed that until now, the pubs have been operating illegally and the profits have been going into the pockets of the Pub Committees.

Residence House Committees have been illegally giving out tenders to individuals to run some of the campus pubs, says Mr Roach, Deputy Registrar.

While UCT is in the process of

obtaining these liquor licenses, admin has placed a prohibition on open parties in the residences. Permission for other functions involving the sale of alcohol on campus will also have to be gained directly from the registrar.

This banning remains in effect until June.

Liquor licenses will be given to the pubs on condition that they follow a set of rules, standard for each pub, laid down by the Residence Committee.

Contravention of these rules could mean prosecution for the particular pub.

The rules should cover the question of sexual harassment in the pubs, but it is doubtful if they will do so sufficiently. The major concern of the University in bringing about this measure seems to be to prevent their prosecution for alcohol abuse, rather than addressing what many consider to be the major problems of the pubs.

SASNEWS

"Too far for the media"

WITS - Two Wits students, Lawrence Ndandwe (B.Sc II) and Xolile Mazabane (B.Proc II), were detained in Jouberton outside Klerksdorp over the Easter break.

Their detention came in the wake of a massive crackdown on activists in the area, after the community decided to embark on a consumer boycott following police action against a march to the Council offices. The march had been held after councillors had ignored grievances ranging from high rent to the shortage of housing.

By March 21 more than 100 Jouberton residents and about 300 more from the surrounding area were in detention.

The two Wits students, who were members of the Jouberton Youth Congress, only arrived in Jouberton after the boycott had been initiated. Nevertheless they were detained on April 12 and taken to police headquarters.

On April 13 both embarked on a hunger strike and were transferred to Bloemfontein's Grootvlei Prison. Mazabane was hospitalized after five days and released on April 20.

Ndandwe remained in prison and continued his hunger strike. He was released on April 24. The following is Xolile Mazabane's account of the incident:

You travel about 120 km to the west of Johannesburg and you find a region "too far for the media".

This is an area where mass detentions, hunger strikes and even deaths on hunger strike are still the order of the day but still go unnoticed by the public.

Located in the heart of this region is Klerksdorp, the biggest town and centre of apartheid repression of the region. This is my home town. You probably had a peaceful Easter vacation, even if you did not, let me give you a slice of what mine was like in Jouberton, Klerksdorp.

Before my arrival, while I was still at Wits, the people marched to the offices of Council to present their grievances - ranging from high rents to shortage of housing.

It was hardly a week after this march, when the police decided to launch a reign of terror on activists.

Five leaders of the Jouberton Civic Association (JCA) were detained a day later after holding talks with the Council.

The community was outraged by this police brutality and it decided to embark upon a consumer boycott until its leaders were released.

By the 21st March, more than 100 residents were detained from Jouberton alone. About 300 more residents were also surrounded in nearby townships. Detainees ranged from young

school kids to well-known business people.

The first thing that greeted my arrival was my angry father, Mr January Mazabane (45), who had been picked up and assaulted by police of my age group.

They vowed to "destroy" his family and business. On the 12th April at round about 2pm, a large contingent of police entered my room, while I was still enjoying the night. I was verbally abused in front of my stunned father and later taken to one of about 15 police vehicles which were waiting outside my home.

I was locked in a cell of about 40 high-school students, some as young as 15. Lawrence and I decided to embark on a hunger strike until we were released or charged.

When a white warder opened the cell door and called us "f...ing kaffirs", I had no choice but to refuse food immediately. I was instantly taken to solitary confinement where I spent the day and night without blankets in a cold cell. It really was Friday the 13th for me.

On Monday, after four days without food, I was driven with Lawrence, who was also on hunger strike, and two other comrades, from Khuna to Bloemfontein. Hungry as we were, we were put on leg-irons by members of the security branch, who showed no secret of their happiness over our ordeal. To aggravate the situation, they had a chicken to eat on the way. Those who have gone without food for four days will know the tormenting effect of this.

On the fifth day I was hospitalized and I was subsequently released on the seventh day. Hundreds of other Western Transvaal region residents are still languishing in the apartheid dungeons. Many of these are students who have got to attend school.

The euphoria of negotiations is nowhere to be found in Klerksdorp. The people of the region feel alienated from the present political mood. All they talk about now is protection of their dignity, children and property.

- SASNEWS

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Face to Face with the ANC

Rhodeo interviewed the ANC's publicity secretary, Tom Sebina, on a number of issues ranging from ecology to the economy.

RHODEO: Could you explain how you would see the economy operating in a post-apartheid society including your ideas around such concepts as nationalisation, mixed economy and the redistribution of wealth?

TOM SEBINA: I think that we are all agreed that the apartheid regime has plunged the economy of the country into an unprecedented crisis. The lack of skills, huge unemployment, high rate of inflation, the large apartheid bureaucracy, huge spending on the SADF and the SAP and disinvestment are all the result of apartheid. The dismantlement of apartheid will open the way for a rapid development of the economy which will in turn benefit all the people.

The reality of the situation in South Africa is that the economy of the country is in the hands of a tiny minority drawn exclusively from the white section of the population. It is colour and colour alone which determines the economic position of each and every individual in South Africa.

However we must avoid two equally dangerous options with regard to the post-apartheid economy.

One is the wholesale privatisation of the economy. The De Klerk regime with its policy of deregulation is actually pursuing this extreme. This will result in fewer and fewer people becoming rich while the bulk of the population get poorer.

The other extreme is the total nationalisation of the economy, which by the way is not synonymous with socialism. No government is able to control the economic activity of each and every enterprise.

We must identify a point in between these two extremes which will guide our economic policy. I would broadly refer to this as a mixed economy. The ANC's

Constitutional guidelines and the Freedom Charter actually advocate this policy.

Flowing from what I have stated above, it is logical to redistribute the wealth of the country in order to compensate those who have previously been denied any access to the wealth of the country.

RHODEO: What role does the ANC feel the university should be playing in terms of democratising its own structures, the education crisis and broadly in transforming society?

TOM SEBINA: It is important that students not only reject apartheid but also articulate the alternative to that system which is a united non-racial democratic society. Within the university democratisation of university structures is important. SRC's should be democratically elected. We also need to identify the progressive elements within the administration and lecturers and work hand in hand with them. It is also important that the university intensify the struggle for a people's education by highlighting the inadequacies of Bantu education and the effects it had on the Black people of this country.

RHODEO: In the Constitutional guidelines you outline that affirmative action should be taken to redress the inequalities between sexes. Could you give more details around your policy towards women?

TOM SEBINA: The struggle for women's emancipation concerns all of us, women and men, and no section of society can be free when the rest is in bondage. We must not approach the question of women's emancipation in a paternalistic and mechanical way by putting women in positions simply because they are women,

this can be counter-productive, they must be liberated mentally so that they gain confidence in themselves.

RHODEO: The issue of the environment is causing major concern all over the world. How does the ANC view such issues?

TOM SEBINA: We need to



take practical steps such as creating environmental monitoring units throughout the country to expose the destruction of nature by industrial waste and the use of poisonous agents.

RHODEO: Could you comment on the issue of conscription and the role that the ECC is playing to end it?

TOM SEBINA: We have always opposed the conscription of our white youth into the SADF and we feel that the ECC is doing tremendous work in campaigning for the release of imprisoned objectors and an end to conscription.

RHODEO: Could you outline how the ANC views student organisations such as NUSAS and

SANSKO and in particular the process of forming one student organization?

TOM SEBINA: There have emerged many uniting factors such as the need to replace apartheid and create a new democracy. We believe that the question of a people's education is in the common interest of all of us and that the road to this is through united organisational strength. These organisations have done tremendous work in democratising the student population and indeed the entire society.

RHODEO: Could you tell us about the call to Whites Campaign and the role that you would see Whites playing in the struggle

to oppose apartheid and in a future South Africa.

TOM SEBINA: Whites are part of South African society. The apartheid system can no longer guarantee the future of any section of our people. The Whites have a decisive weapon which the Blacks have been deprived of all along - the vote. This

makes the apartheid regime more sensitive to the mood of white people. Therefore the pressure of Whites on the regime to create a conducive climate for negotiations is vital. Pertaining to the role of the Whites in a future South Africa, I can say they have a role and a place in rebuilding a democratic country. But they will do this not as privileged whites but as fellow South Africans.

RHODEO: It seems likely that the ANC will be returning to the country and setting up offices within a short space of time. Could you tell us more about these plans?

TOM SEBINA: Firstly the ANC has never been purely an exiled organization. We have always found ways and means of working and surviving in the country. The difference now is that we can now come out into the open.

Already we have formed the ANC Headquarters in Johannesburg. There is a Committee chaired by comrade Sisulu which is charged with the task of rebuilding open ANC structures.

RHODEO: How would you view the possibility of negotiations and what preconditions would need to be fulfilled by the state before you would be willing to enter into such negotiations?

TOM SEBINA: The prospects of the creation of a climate for negotiations are real today but the situation has not yet become irreversible. The historical responsibility that lies on the shoulders of all of us today is to compel the regime to move as quickly as possible to create this climate.

"Looking forward to the future..."

— by Nicole

"BUT DIDN'T you feel threatened?" was the horrified reaction of most people when I told them I had attended the rally held for Nelson Mandela in Bisho stadium on March 31.

Like many other white South Africans, I had always been alienated from political activity which occurred in my own country.

I did realise, however, that dynamic changes were taking place in my country. This meant I had to see myself in the context of a changing South Africa.

History was in the process of

being made and I was witnessing it before my very eyes, along with a quarter of a million of my fellow South Africans.

I must admit that I had reservations about some of the strategies of the ANC, but what Mandela said seemed to be the most realistic approach to solving South Africa's problems. For the first time in my life I was able to listen to unedited, "un-SABC'd" speeches of black leaders.

I was also able to have direct contact with black South Africans from whom I had been isolated and witnessed their joy at hearing the words of a man who had been

imprisoned for 27 years because of his commitment to non-racialism.

The atmosphere at the rally was overwhelming and my fears of ostracisation soon disappeared when people shook my hand and called me "comrade."

So what is the basis of white South African's fears and prejudices? As a white South African I have much to be disillusioned about if I consider the history of our country. But after attending the rally I realise that we have more to look forward to in the future, than we have to be afraid of



Economy-Stalinist Russia's achilles heel

You notice the little things first. Old-fashioned cars, grubby from the slush of early winter snow. Quaint wooden dachas, gray ravens in leafless trees and black-clad babushkas sweeping the streets.

There's the absence of advertising in the city, writing unintelligible to Westerners, red stars and golden cupolas.

It's not immediately obvious that a revolution is taking place around you, because it's not happening in the parks and on the pavements. It's in the people.

The Soviet Union is the size of Africa, with a population of 280-million and more than 100 national groups, with its own customs and language. Leningrad, on the Gulf of Finland, is closer to Cape Town than to Vladivostok at the other end of the Trans-siberian railway line.

The Soviet Union has 16 cities the size of Cape Town or larger, the biggest being Moscow with nine million people.

The heart of Moscow is definitely Red Square, a stone-cobbled area flanked by the high Kremlin wall, Lenin's Mausoleum, the fantastical St Basil's Church and the GUM store.

Each day were there, a long queue of cold-looking people in thick fur hats formed outside the Mausoleum to view the corpse of Lenin which (despite his growing popularity under perestroika) is gradually shrinking.

Leningrad has the dreamers

You immediately notice the absence of shops and their advertisements... window shopping is simply not part of Moscow culture. The central city is dominated by large offices of which must have once been palaces.

Leningrad has a completely different feel about it. It's a city built on more islands than Venice, with wide tree-filled roads and magnificent old palaces, often whole streets of them!

Leningrad is a Western city, built by Peter the Great to rival the capitals of Europe. In fact it surpasses them in beauty, despite being cruelly damaged in the Second World War by 300 days of German bombardment.

The city is politically left of Moscow. It's newspapers, television station and people breathe a freer air away from the bureaucracy of the capital. It was here that the revolution began, and it citizens are quick to remind you of this heritage. It is the home of the Winter Palace, the Smolny Institute and the new liberalism of glasnost.

If Moscow has the thinkers, Leningrad has the dreamers. But in both cities people have a shy warmth and openness unmatched in Europe.

Sitting over, yes, a bottle of vodka, in the giant Rossiya Hotel on Red Square, our Russian hosts were brutally frank about the problems facing their country.

Stalin was an autocratic Czar or

'For us, five South Africans on an adventure into an almost mythical society, empathising with the Russians was easier than we imagined. If there is anything our cultures share it's a passion for talking politics and an increasing sense of political insecurity' -- Don Pinnock.

worse, who killed the spirit of the Communist Party. His attempts to govern the Soviet Union from Moscow led to massive violations of human rights.

But although national anger has been growing since 1917, Soviet socialism had taken root in a society with no democratic political tradition. Opposition was muted and, where it appeared, it was crushed.

There is open admission of the atrocities of forced collectivisation and the horrors of the gulags.

But the achilles heel of the political giant Stalin built was, in the end, its economy. The mixture of commands, quotes, crooked book-keeping and repression served to inhibit productivity and crush individual initiative.

By the 1970s the Soviet economy was stagnant and the standard of living was falling.

No goods to buy

The high growth rates during Stalin's time had only proved that methods of primitive accumulation could stimulate purely quantitative growth. But was it socialism? And at what human cost?

In the many people we met, glasnost had released a flood of argument and debate dammed up by decades of silence. Winning hearts for socialism seems to have been virtually abandoned and self-criticism is the order of the day.

We were, oddly, forced into the role of defenders of the Soviet Union. 'You have full employment...everyone has a house!' 'Ah yes,' they said, 'but it's under-employment and the flats are small.'

And why has socialism not delivered the consumer products and good life of capitalism? Where are the computers and the cars, the gold watches and the sausages?

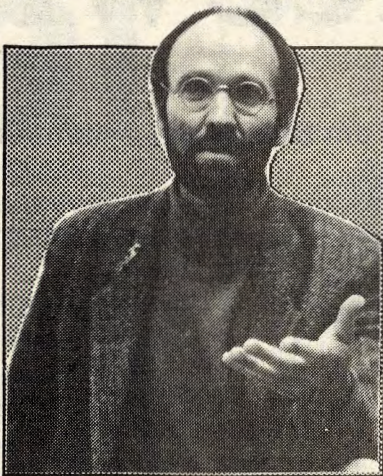
As a Russian academic put it: 'I have the roubles to eat at an expensive restaurant, but not the shoes to walk there'.

Moscovites do not earn well by Western standards, but mere money is not the main problem.

A teacher earns around 160 roubles (R40) a month and pays 15 roubles for a flat, including water, lights and heating. Food costs her between 100 and 120 roubles, transport six roubles and the monthly phone account around 2.5 roubles (all local calls are free).

A newspaper editor earns about 200 roubles (R50) and a miner between 1 000 and 1 700 a month.

But although people - especially workers - have money to spend,



there are estimated to be only 27 kopeks (cents) worth of goods available for every rouble.

So despite full employment, real poverty remains a factor of the Soviet System. And the queues continue.

Radical overhaul needed

Another problem is the low international value of the rouble. It was devalued a few weeks before we arrived, the bank rate moving down to six roubles to the US dollar.

Low work incentives, a lack of commodities, a top-heavy bureaucracy and a stagnating economy were undoubtedly the incentives for perestroika.

It is probable that the reformers around Gorbachev wished to restructure only the economy. But, in the over-centralized Soviet system, once the snowball began rolling it was unstoppable.

'At first,' says Gorbachev in a 1989 review of perestroika, 'we thought that all we had to do was to rectify some deviations in our social development and improve the traditional system that had become established during the previous decades.'

Now, however, we have come to the realization that a radical overhaul of the entire social edifice, from its economic foundation to the superstructure, is essential.

We are taking practical steps to change property relations, economic structures, the political system and the spiritual and moral climate'.

What is being put in its place is the source of much debate and complaint from Moscow State University on the Lenin Hills to taxi drivers in their steamy cabs. The debate is prompted almost daily by shock waves coming from Eastern Europe. The old command administration is rejected by all those who do not grow fat on its perversions.

Stalin's excesses led to the loss of the central concept of Lenin's socialism - the view of the individual as an end, not as a means. (Indeed a question South Africans need to ponder as we debate our future is how an ideology based on humanism gave birth to a semi-terrorist administration.)

However, the passage from the old to the new is pitted with so many traps that commentators in the Soviet Press often wonder whether the union will last beyond the end of this year.

Removing the Stalinist ratchet from the machine of state has

caused the cogs to spin at an alarming speed. Attempts by Gorbachev to allow the ownership of private property, and his strengthening of the soviets over the central administration, is

encountering fierce resistance from the apparatchiks of the bureaucracy.

Attempts to mobilize workers through incentive schemes is also hitting administrative bottlenecks.

'Economic activity', complains economist Ruslan Hasbulatov, 'is regulated by 200 000 different instructions. Perestroika cancelled 20 000. But when will the other 180 000 be abolished?'

The effect is massive frustrations and waste. Nearly a million tonnes of meat in the Soviet Union is spoiled during processing. Half the potatoes brought to vegetable houses in Moscow rot before they can be distributed.

'Socialist ideals still valid'

The shortage of commodities, coupled with the inability to 'get things done' are turning people against perestroika at a time when Gorbachev most needs their support against bureaucratic inertia.

Many feel perestroika is not going fast enough or far enough. Russians we spoke to were envious of South Africa's ability to get people into organisations and out on the streets.

Others, like those of the neo-Czarist Democratic Union, would like to install czarism with a human face or even czarist socialism, whatever that may be.

'The Soviet people have been raised in conditions of non-democracy', says Hasbulatov. 'This has created psychological fatigue and a disbelief in officials and their preachings.'

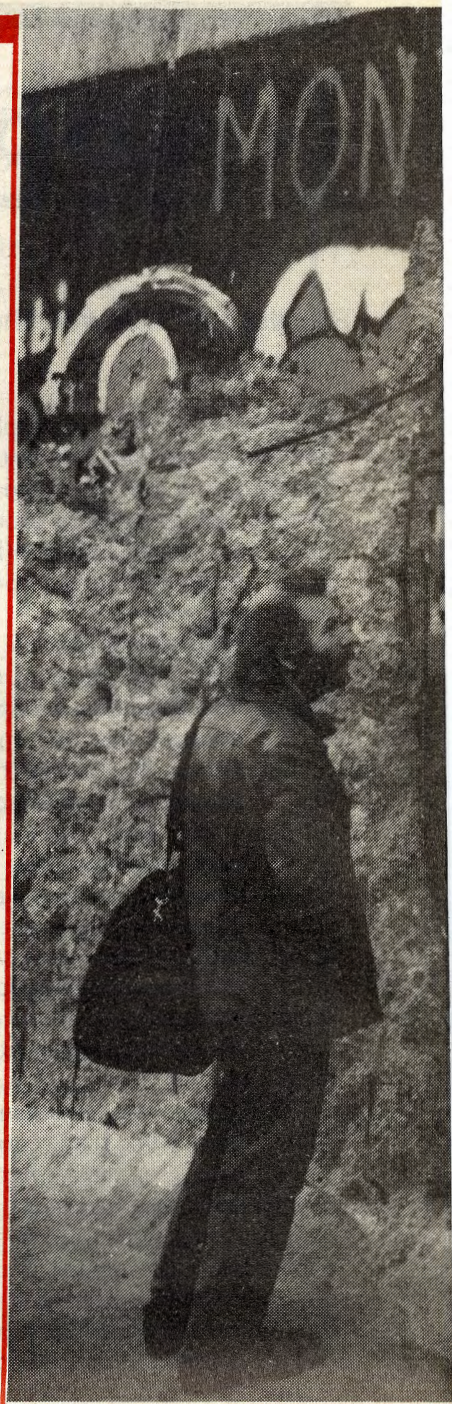
Talking to ordinary people in the Soviet Union, however, dispels much of the gloom being generated outside the Soviet Union. In many ways they are not an ordinary people.

They are probably the most well-read people on earth, and their willingness to engage in political discussion, to think through ideas and to criticize themselves and their system are some of the most refreshing memories I am left with. One simply cannot imagine such a national soul-searching in the West.

As the Aeroflot flight lifted me southwards over the endless tree-clogged taiga one issue was not in doubt. Those who expect Gorbachev to jettison socialist ideals are mistaken; they are the principal cement he has left to draw the country together.

He must persuade the people that, notwithstanding the crimes of the past, these ideals remain valid and can provide a decent life for everyone.

The odds are against him. But he governs a nation which has repeatedly astonished the world both by its achievements and by its excesses. And no figure on the world stage today combines such intelligence with such audacity.



East meets west - contact being established between border guards and a West Berliner

Ba in US

'Those who expect socialist ideals are mistaken. He must persuade the people that, notwithstanding the crimes of the past, these ideals remain valid and can provide a decent life for everyone', writes Don Pinnock about the Soviet Union.

Can socialism be saved?

The fact that most socialists applaud Eastern Europe's quest for democracy has largely been ignored. RHODEO took a closer look at what the socialists themselves are saying.

THE POPULAR revolts against unpopular governments in Eastern Europe has been welcomed wholeheartedly by democrats worldwide.

Political journal, Work in Progress, reports in its latest issue that the former regimes of Eastern Europe were an affront to any conception of democracy, be it 'bourgeois' or 'socialist'.

The ensuing revolutions have brought basic democratic rights within reach of millions who barely enjoyed them before. These dramatic changes have, contrary to popular belief, been fully supported by the majority of committed socialists.

One of them is South African Communist Party (SACP) general secretary, Joe Slovo, who recently published a discussion paper titled 'Has Socialism Failed' in which he called for a multi-party democracy in a post-apartheid South Africa.

Slovo agreed, a key lesson to be learned from Eastern Europe is that socialism must win majority support in a free clash of ideas - or not win at all.

He said the basic principles of socialism had become perverted since the rise of Josef Stalin. The term 'Stalinism' is used to describe the bureaucratic and authoritarian operation of many communist parties. Power was concentrated in the hands of a tiny elite with little democratic participation.

Socialists are now breathing a sigh of relief as the stubborn intolerance of Stalinist thought is denounced for what it really was - totalitarianism.

Work in Progress (WIP) states that socialists around the world can now freely reconstruct original socialist ideas and practices on a 'radically democratic basis'.

WIP argued that real socialism was not an 'inevitable end' in itself, but was just one conception of human society. The pursuit of socialism could never justify the imposition of ideas on people with differing beliefs.

Slovo believes likewise and quoted Rosa Luxemburg, a contemporary of Lenin: 'Freedom only for the supporters of the government, only for members of one party - however numerous they may be - is not freedom at all. Freedom is always exclusively, freedom for the one who thinks differently.'

Ultimately the mission of socialism is to project possibilities before the human race, not to save human beings from themselves.

SACP for democracy

It seems some of Eastern Europe's lessons have already been digested by the SACP. Slovo confirmed that the SACP cherished a system which guaranteed all citizens the basic freedoms of organisation, speech, thought, press, movement, residence, conscience and religion; full trade union rights for workers including the right to strike.

Slovo added that the SACP was committed to a multi-party democracy with regular, free and democratic elections.

WIP warned that all levels of democratic organisation - local, central and societal had to be conferred to the widest range of participants, cutting across economic and ideological boundaries.

If anti-socialist groups democratically won power then they must be permitted to do so and that cases could exist where genuinely democratic socialists would never win majority support in conservative populations.

But, WIP added, socialists could still do much to advance social progress from the position of a militant opposition party.

Even where socialists govern with popular consent, they are not entitled to use state power to regulate all aspects of social and economic life. This meant a separation of state power entailing amongst others, an independent judiciary, a strong legislature and the protection of the individual's right to pri-



The SACP's Joe Slovo

vacy and initiative.

The path Eastern Europe took to socialism - with the establishment of a single political party which fused with the state and state control over social life - was not the only one in fact it could be argued with hindsight that it was a totally incorrect one.

It is clear that any future socialism will have to be fundamentally different to the models provided by the USSR, Eastern Europe or even China and Cuba.

A lot of debate, experimentation, learning and unlearning lies ahead to discover what forms a democratic socialism could take.

Political analysts also warn that the revolutions in Eastern Europe - with their emphasis on the indispensability of full democratic rights - do not leave the 'Western democracies' untouched.

In most of these states effective access to political power is limited to a small number of citizens. Workers and the poor do not enjoy equal access to education and money, to enable their effective political participation.

This could lead to a new readiness on the part of Western citizens to re-examine the quality of their own lives and the deficiencies in their own democratic institutions.

"Therefore socialism could have a future - not in spite of, but because of the upsurge of popular agitations for democracy that is sweeping the world", WIP concluded.



May she live to enjoy true freedom - note the Mandela graffiti on the Berlin Wall, February 1990

Editorial

In the last few weeks you may casually have read about the revelations of the Harms Commissions. You may even have been shocked. And indeed the brutality that was exposed by the commission was sometimes hard to imagine.

However it is clear that these activities had been going on for some time, probably for at least half our lifetimes. Only six months ago most South Africans would have scoffed at the notion that secret spy and assassination networks were operating in the country and that "respected" leadership in the South African Defence Force were responsible for cold blooded murders.

The horror was brought to our doorstep when Major Dirk Coetzee disclosed in London the details of his involvement in the deaths of two Port Elizabeth activists. One activist was "eliminated" in order to avoid a public disclosure of the brain damage he had suffered during interrogation in detention. The other activist was also "eliminated" by burning after poison had failed to kill him.

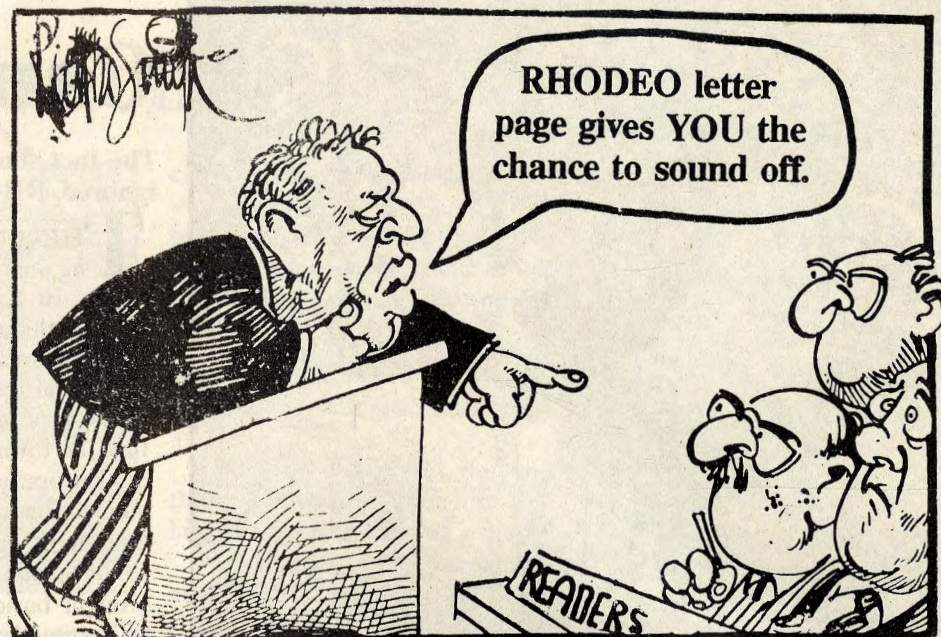
Descriptions of Coetzee's vigils through the night as he watched the young men's bodies burn makes farcical any glib racist truisms about "savage blacks" who necklace people. Whites were carrying out this activity years before and not even in the context of extreme poverty and hardship that can sometimes drive human beings well beyond the usual norms that would govern their lives.

We must ask ourselves exactly who the "savages" are. It is unlikely that many of us would have admitted to the possibility of such atrocities a few months ago, but now they are open knowledge and we need to seriously ask ourselves how was it possible that we let this happen. For by blinding ourselves we gave tacit support to murder, torture and the untold horror that apartheid has inflicted on millions of South Africans. White South Africans have to take moral and political responsibility for their culpable ignorance.

In this climate of negotiations it seems easy to sit back and say that things are changing and therefore we are absolved of responsibility. This change did not fall from the sky as some lucky revelation to the National Party. It was the result of years and years of struggle and hardship on the part of the millions who wanted apartheid to end.

Through their pressure the Nationalist government was forced to begin to reassess its methods of maintaining power. Hence we see the changes that have happened recently and which we so easily pat ourselves on the back for. How many of us actually lifted a finger to make that change happen?

We still have a lot of fighting to do before apartheid really goes and we are finally allowed to have free and fair elections where all South Africans can vote. The legacy of apartheid will remain with us for many years and every South African must begin to repair the damage, if it's not already too late, and rebuild our divided and shattered society.



Dear Rhodeo

With the present environmental consciousness re-awakening, everyone is falling over themselves in trying to SAVE THE WHALES, REDEEM THE OZONE LAYER, THE RAIN FORESTS, etc.

But how can anyone profess to "care" about the environment without giving a damn about themselves. Don't they realise that we have to start within ourselves to reach our ultimate aim. By avoiding products that are harmful to our bodies is as good a start as any. Smoking ourselves into oblivion while espousing the virtues of the environment won't do the EARTH any good. Do we actually take any note of the amounts of tartrazine, nicotine, caffeine and cholesterol (among others) which we consume so haphazardly? What's the point of millions of sick people fighting for a better environment?

This could prove to be just as futile as the Surgeon General's Warning on cigarette packets which no-one reads but find quite quirky to read.

Green with Concern
David

Dear Rhodeo

Am I glad.

Boy, am I glad to be at a university that is concerned with such important issues like practicality and modernisation. We used to have this old stone path down to Drosty arches, gee it was a bitch to skateboard on. Now instead we have this really smooth path that is just like our driveway at home (which we had done at the same time as they put in the pool. I hear some people complaining and saying things like that they should have spent that money on something else, I mean, who really needs another book in the library?

If the university manages to get some more money there are a few more modernizations I'd suggest. A brick Linguistics building would be nice, you know atone is so cold and impractical. As for that building where we did our Plato exercises for English last year, that too should be demolished and a more modern looking building built.

Also, we could get rid of some of those older looking reses. I mean Baker may have designed College, but it looks so old. Why don't we demolish it and build a Fuller Bowles look alike in its place, now that would be great. If we run short of money, no problem, we could just pawn off some of our excess library books.

I used to think the Politics Department was understaffed, that the Journ department was short of equipment, that our staff was poorly paid ect. but then I realised that those were the naive rumblings of an undergrad. There are, after all, better things to do with money.

Yours sincerely
Brick lover

Creditorial

Vanessa Barolsky
Nicola Coningsby
Chris Letcher
Janet Howse
Thamsanqu Mchunu
Ibrahim Seedat
Bronwyn Roberts
Lee - anne Alfreds
Llewelyn Roderick
Nicole Heideman
Lauren Shear
Christian Pacella
Jon Kellet

Kevin Smith
Jacki Davids
Marianne Ba - Low
Jackie Murray
Mogi Naidoo
Wendy Rowlands
Peter Soufa
Joasia Tomecki
Zola Phinda
Clinton Nagoor
Caron Johnson
Stephen Marrier

Special Thanx to:
Simon Pamphletbomb

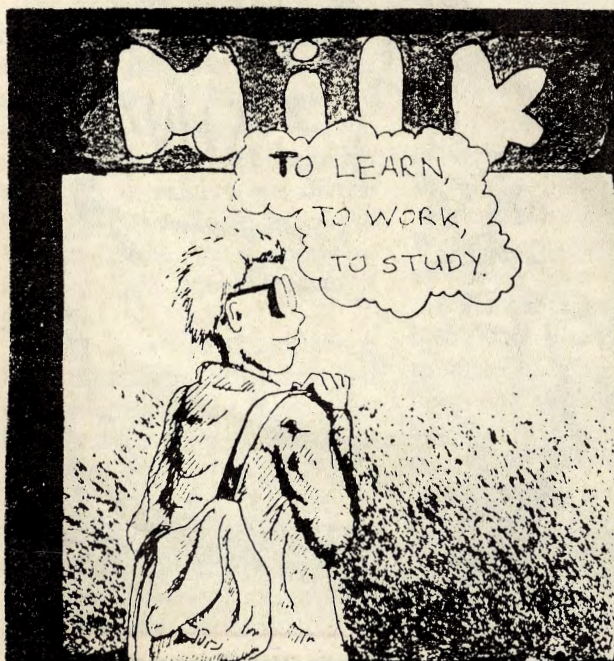
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Evening Prayers and
Sunshine

smalls

Creative Arts meets every Wednesday, 7pm, BSM room.
I am small and I want to be smaller- contact v
Mountain Trail bicycle wanted- contact 23108
For Sale - Steel String guitar R100 - contact Lisa at 2350
Wanted - one holiday

Dear Rhodeo

I have always enjoyed reading RHO-DEO, as a non-sexist newspaper, but was horrified to read your new column, "Auntie Rhoda". The title stereo-types women as maternal, caring, dowdy advice-givers. Does this not go against your principles? I would like to suggest that you change the name of the column to something like "Relative R" or some other generic term that does not puport sexism and sexual-stereotyping.
BA 3 student



Dear Agoniser!

Dear Agoniser

Lately I've noticed a lavenderish hue to my skin. I wouldn't have been too bothered if I didn't already have a completely purple relative.

I have been to numerous skin specialists but to no avail. The blood transfusion proved useless and so did the laser treatment (turned me pink cum blue instead) and right now I am beginning to have serious doubts about the proposed over-all skin graft.

My other concern pertains to my racial classification, WHAT AM I TO BE? I also don't think that other students would take too kindly to a purple person hanging around campus. (I shall be completely Purple by June if all treatment fails)

Please do advise because I am blue in the face with worry.

WHAT IS TO BECOME OF THE NEW PURPLE BREED?

AND HOW AM I TO COPE DURING THIS TRYING PERIOD OF TRANSITION?

Margarita

Dear Margarita

Don't let it get you down; some of my best friends are purple. I can think of two solutions to prevent you feeling out of the crowd:

- 1) Hang around Cape Town during protest marches and
- 2) Avoid wearing green jerseys.

Dear Agoniser

It's always been my life's ambition to be a police spy. Recently I saw on TV that there was a shortage of jobs in this field.

Can you tell me who I should speak to and what qualifications I would need.

Love Dave

Dear Dave

Being a police informer is a demanding and often hazardous profession. It offers little long term prospects. However the only qualifications needed are a birth certificate and a fickle disposition. If you are the person who enjoys tormenting little fluffy animals with sharp objects your chances of promotion are assured. Apply c/o Lloyd Edwards, Carlton Centre, High Street.

Dear Agoniser

During the past three years I have developed a style of dress that I feel most natural with. I have grown my hair long and unbrushed. I wear sandals and a faded khikoi with cigarette burns. I am about to graduate this year with a B. Theology degree and the thought of changing my dress to suit my future career spaces me out.

Help!

Divine comedy.

Dear Divine Comedy

The desire to wear sandals and a khikoi is more common among young people than you may think. As you grow older and start to earn more money, you should feel the desire gradually fades. If, however the problem persists, I suggest you contact a psychiatrist and an industrial psychologist in order to help you overcome or accept the problem.

Are Governments drug barons?

"...SOCIETY LOST the drug war before it started by accepting that the consumption of addictive drugs for pleasurable effects is okay if the drugs are alcohol, nicotine or caffeine.

"It is thus hypocritical to expect people to say no to illicit drugs because the destructive effects of some legal drugs are often greater than those of some illegal drugs.

"Realistically the habitual cup of cocoa at bedtime does not fall into the same category as the abuse of cocaine.

"But then in practice, alcohol is directly and indirectly responsible for far more misery and human degradation than is cannabis.

"It is only because governments have adopted the role of drug barons in pushing it that we have come to regard alcohol and tobacco as a socially desirable commodity.

"It is high time the city fathers and the parliamentary pundits took a good look at themselves before condemning the depravity of youth." - The British Pharmaceutical Journal (Feb 1990)

The issue of smoking and alcohol consumption once again fell under the spotlight when the above extract appeared in Britain recently.

It is now accepted that the international drug problem has its root causes in the widespread use of socially acceptable drugs.

This casts a whole new light on the popularity of nicotine and alcohol, especially amongst students who are supposed to be the 'educated elite' of society.

So is smoking the in thing on campus or not? RHODEO's survey of 60 students came up with some interesting conclusions.

Rhodes students spend an average of R8 a week on their 'fags' and over 70 percent of those interviewed increased the amount they smoked since hitting campus.

Why? Because of the freedom of the 'wide open campus spaces' - over 50 percent of student smokers would not puff in front of their parents.

What about the non-smokers? Over 50 percent of them have smoked before, with 33 percent being tempted to smoke since arriving at Rhodes.

The issue of smokers, non-smokers and gender really rustled the tobacco leaves. Although there were some females that were against males smoking, not one of them was a female smoker, whilst most male smokers were against females smoking.



RHODEO spoke to the Dean of Pharmacy, Prof B Potgieter on nicotine/alcohol related issues.

Prof Potgieter said the World Health Organisation regarded, alcohol, nicotine and caffeine as addictive substances, in fact 10 percent of those who drink alcohol get addicted to it.

He agreed that the cause of illegal drug abuse was directly related to the use of socially acceptable drugs.

"Most people start with cigarettes before going to dagga and cocaine", he noted.

Potgieter said: "The small fortune the government spends on elaborate screening tests for lung cancer can be put to better use if only they just got people to stop smoking."

But then again that would be quite difficult especially in Britain where 100 times more is spent on cigarette advertising than is spent on treating nicotine related diseases.

"Every student smoker can tell you they have an uncle who chainsmokes and is now a robust 90 years of age - we all believe in fairy tales", Potgieter said.

Why then, if alcohol and nicotine are killer drugs are they not outlawed completely?

Potgieter said governments received a lot of revenue from the cigarette and alcohol industries. "You can't ban the goose that is laying the golden egg", he said.

More interesting was the fact that especially in the developed countries, people were living longer, therefore governments had to pay out more in pensions.

Potgieter said that nicotine and alcohol consumption was reducing the lives of the elderly thus saving governments millions in pension money.

Potgieter noted that regarding nicotine and alcohol, profits seemed to be winning the day.

"Tobacco and alcohol companies are exploiting the poor and the ignorant (which includes teenagers) all over the world. Because the number of smokers in developed countries is decreasing these companies are focusing on the developing nations."

Rock Me Right!

Your campus radio station is looking at great things for the future, especially in a new plan to get a licence to broadcast over the whole of Grahamstown.

RMR feel they are competent and responsible enough to use local frequencies without intruding and competing with SABC, who are very reluctant to relax their stronghold over the airwaves.

RMR have had a few transmission problems in the past, especially concerning the land lines to the reses, but these have been overcome to a certain extent and they feel they would use Grahamstown broadcasting rights effectively.

RMR has improved their campus image noticeably and are setting higher standards of professionalism all the time. Their recent policy statement concerning their commitment to non-racism also shows they are taking themselves as an influential campus society more seriously,

The recent Camel Campus DJ competition winner and RMR Committee member, Alex McGowan, said that RMR is "planning big things for the third term - an event that will be the first of its kind in South Africa".

You have been warned.

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GREY ADVERTISING AND MARKETING 15597

Author suffering from "rooi gevaar" fever?

Book review

Book: Understanding the Freedom Charter - The political orientation of the African National Congress

Author: David Styles

Publisher: National Student Federation - October 1989

DAVID STYLES, a third year politics student at Rhodes, seems to be suffering from severe "Rooi gevaar" fever.

Maybe someone should inform him that the Cold War is over, Gorbachev has introduced Perestroika and State President FW de Klerk recently shook hands with the Soviet Foreign Minister in an independent Namibia.

Only a fifth of the book is devoted to an analysis of the Freedom charter itself. The rest is an attempt to portray the Charter as a 'Marxist-Leninist' pathway to socialism.

Styles describes the 'two-stage' process of national democratic revolution and socialist revolution. The Charter's commitment to the working class should

be seen in light of the SACP's commitment to socialism, he says.

Everything in the Charter is regarded as a conspiracy to impose socialism on South Africa.

Even the clause: "The aim of education shall be to teach the youth to love their people and their culture, to honour human brotherhood, liberty and peace," gets labelled with Styles' Marxist tag — it bears similarities, he asserts, to the Soviet Union, where children are taught to 'love their people and their culture, to honour human brotherhood and peace'.

Its not often that a political commentary becomes obsolete within a few months of its publishing. On the other hand, governments don't often change tack as quickly as the Nats did recently.

The current political climate — 'Pretoriastroika' and all — has consigned the book to the rubbish dump of history.

The aim of the book is to portray the Freedom Charter as a communist document — the only snag being that for

Styles, anything that doesn't support a rabid free market economy is communist.

Styles makes out that the SACP wants to turn a post-apartheid South Africa into a totalitarian satellite of Moscow. He argues that this self-styled communist vanguard would rule the roost, Stalinist style.

This argument falls flat in the face of a recent SACP discussion paper titled, 'Has Socialism Failed?', in which the SACP commits itself to a multi-party democracy guaranteeing freedom of speech, thought, press, organisation, movement, conscience and religion.

The SACP also commits itself to regular elections where they must obtain a mandate, if they are to govern.

Styles also cites the example of Nicaragua's Sandinista revolution of 1979, in which the Sandinistas used a united front approach to destroy the unpopular Somoza regime. He states that social democrats working in united fronts are really Marxist-Leninists who turn sour as soon

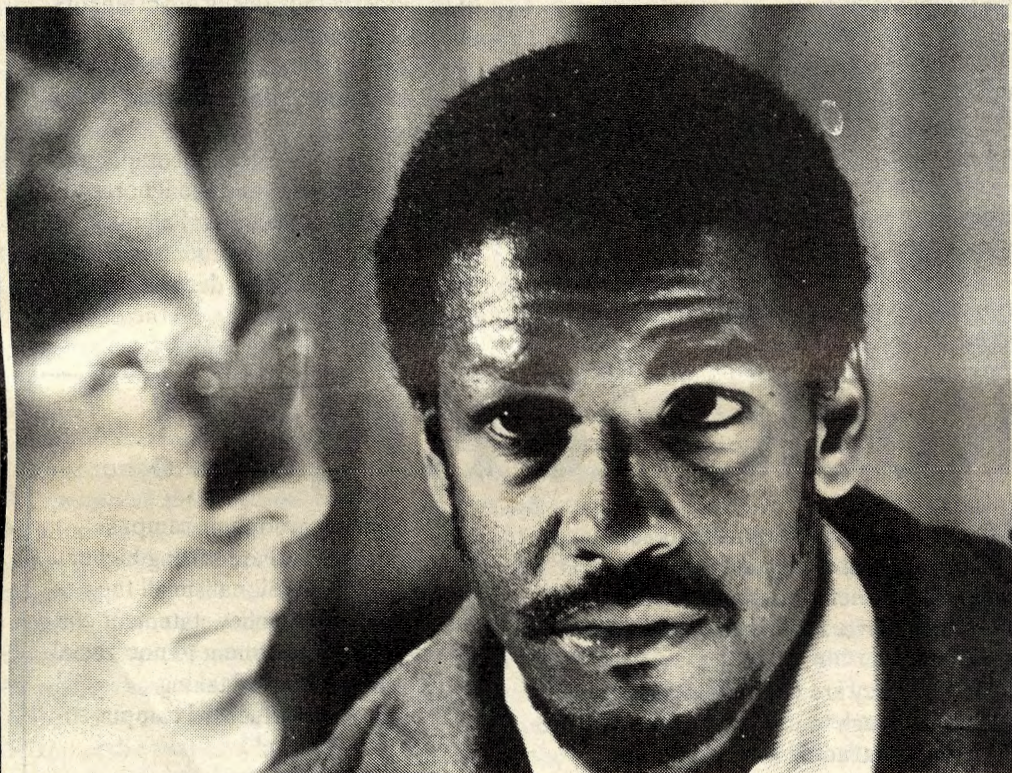
as they win power.

Again Styles' case study loses badly to reality — Nicaragua has just held US style, democratic elections which the Sandinistas lost. The so-called tyrants accepted their defeat in a democratic poll.

It's odd how people like Styles call for "total democracy" when talking about foreign countries, but add numerous qualifications when talking about South Africa — 'federal options,' 'limited franchise' etc.

Anti-red raves aside, the content of the book is pretty thin. It consists largely of quotes from SACP and ANC sources which are out of date and out of context, and contributes little to the debate on a future South Africa. Which is a pity, because at this point we need critical, rational debate to be taking place among students. We certainly DON'T need throwbacks to the McCarthy era or the hysteria of Magnus Malan's total onslaught

CRY FREEDOM



DIRECTOR: Richard Attenborough

STARS: Denzel Washington (Stephen Biko); Kevin Kline (Donald Woods); Penelope Wilton (Wendy Woods).

BASED ON THE BOOKS BY DONALD WOODS

ON AUGUST 18, 1977, Stephen Biko is arrested at a roadblock outside Grahamstown. Twenty-five days later, a victim of brutal security police 'interrogation' methods, Stephen Biko is dead.

Stephen Biko (played by Denzel Washington of 'Glory') is a young black man who lives in a township shack. He has a compelling personality — warm, articulate and compassionate. At Natal University, as a medical student, he helped found the Black Consciousness Movement with the aim of inspiring black people into a sense of positive pride in themselves and their heritage.

Donald Woods (played by Kevin Kline of A Fish Called Wanda) is the affluent editor of a crusading newspaper who has grown up hating the white government's oppressive policy of legal racism, or Apartheid.

Woods believes he is playing an effective role in the struggle to end Apartheid. Then, accepting a challenge, he agrees to meet a black man, 13 years his junior, who has been declared a Banned Person because of his political activities: Stephen Biko.

Biko is the first black African Woods has met who treats him as an equal. Woods perceives Biko as a persuasive man of peace with the potential to sway many more minds and hearts, possibly even helping to avert a bloodbath increasingly predicted for South Africa.

That his name, his ideals, his vision and his life story are not buried with him is greatly due to the unflagging persistence of his friend, Donald Woods.

The escape of Woods and his family, entailing disguise, deception and a heart-stopping race against the clock, has all the elements of a fictional thriller. But the very real penalties for even partial failure can only be measured against the fate of Stephen Biko, and that of countless others — many of them black children who are held to this day in police detention, without trial, without charge, prosecution or evidence.

ALL MATERIAL COURTESY OF UNITED INTERNATIONAL PICTURES

Poetry gets to the senses

Agony

*Why don't I dress smartly
whereas others do?
Why do I eat dry porridge
while others eat rice?
Why do I walk on foot
while others drive in cars?
Why do I struggle to get education
whereas for others it's easy?
Why am I discriminated against
whereas others are given a big
smile?
Why do I cry
while others happily laugh?
Is this because of a mere gene
which makes me different in colour
from my counterpart?
Hmmmmmmmm!*

THIS IS one of the performance poems by Victor Mhlahla, a first year BA student at Rhodes who has been writing poetry since 1987.

Mhlahla, whose poetry fits into a long African tradition of oral, performance poetry, performs his poems at mass meetings and rallies in Grahamstown.

The aim of performance poetry is to reach its audience through the senses and Mhlahla performs his poems with a powerful voice and gestures to convey the poem's meaning. Unlike most European

poetry where the message is embedded in often complicated language, the message in performance poetry is direct.

"In African poetry," says Mhlahla, "poets express their feelings directly. Our suffering is conveyed straight to the audience."

People listening to the poems can respond directly to them and don't have to stop and analyse the poems to discover the "hidden" meaning. An important aim of this tradition of poetry is to arouse people's emotions.

Victor Mhlahla was born in the Eastern Transvaal and credits a drama teacher at his high school, who also wrote poetry, as one of the important influences in his writing.

"African culture has been destroyed by Apartheid," he says. "We need to revive people's confidence and pride in their African culture."

"Poetry plays an important informative role in South Africa. Through poetry we can make people aware of the suffering in this country.

"Especially during the State of Emergency, when information was difficult to come by, performance poets had an important job to do in telling people what was really happening."

Mhlahla is studying drama at Rhodes. He is collating a book of unpublished poems and would like contributions from other poets.

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This Fest best yet?

THIS YEARS Grahamstown National Arts Festival which will run from June 28 to July 7, promises to be one of the best yet with exciting music, drama and dance productions, and exhibitions.

Workshops in movement, fine art, acting and music have also been scheduled to run in township venues during the festival and many of the problems around the festival's "relevance" and community connections are on their way to being solved.

In a South African "first" Pact has obtained the rights to stage an adaptation of Andre Brink's novel "Houd-den-Bek" at the festival.

Veteran playwright Gibson Kente will perform his musical drama "Give a Child" and a new work by Andrew Buckland and percussionist Maciek Schejbal entitled "Thing?" will be performed as well.

The music programme reflects the inclusion of new members onto the Festival committee with a mix ranging from the CAPAB Chamber Orchestra to the internationally acclaimed South African afro-fusion band Sakhile who will perform material from their latest album "Phambili".

The festival has come along way in the last few years. Ten years ago the themes printed on festival posters were, for example, "Mostly Mozart" and "Boldly Beethoven". The last few festivals have, however, reflected a much more South African culture.

The Festival Committee has elected a new chairperson who, according to a Weekly Mail article, has invited exiled ANC members to this years festival and hopes to have ANC representation on the committee.



"When the leaders of the ANC return to this country we want them to address us on how they see the festival in South Africa and what role they want it to play, on eurocentricity and on the host organisation, the 1820 Foundation," said Alan Crump the Chairperson of the Festival Committee to the Weekly Mail.

The Festival's press officer said Crump was "misrepresented" by the Weekly mail and when Rhodéo attempted to contact Crump, we discovered he was on Honeymoon.

Lovers and Warriors

In the past struggle writing has been regarded as sloganeering. The trend in South African writing is changing towards a more relaxed form of creative writing through organisations such as the Congress of South African Writers (COSAW). These aspiring writers have found new modes of expression in order to develop an individual aesthetic in South African writing.

As with all art, literature reflects the climate in which it is produced. How does writing in South Africa reflect our own political climate?

Writing in South Africa has always posed a challenge to both readers and writers. Writers have had to struggle against a European based literary tradition that established a norm against which all writing was judged. Resistance writing which challenges this tradition was often felt to be artistically inferior. Emphasis was placed on ideological significance rather than on achieving a well-grounded artistic style. This is, however, changing due to the ongoing commitment of organisations such as COSAW who aim to break down this division by taking poetry off its pedestal and putting it back where it belongs - with the people.

COSAW has joined with other cultural organisations to create cultural evenings using music for poetry readings as well as incorporating visual arts. In spite of this, writing remains the main focus and it is through workshops where media and critical skills are taught that they aim to help writers develop.

"Struggle" writing has undergone major changes since the 1950's. Abdu-raghiem Johnstone, a published poet working with COSAW sees writers now having far more access to knowledge and as such are aware of other struggle writing from Nicaragua to Palestine

which offers a different perspective on their own work. It is this ability to "drink from a well of knowledge" that has made South African writing not only more ideologically diverse but artistically more focussed.

Writing has become richer because contrasting ideas are being explored, for instance, writers are beginning to write about democracy and the Mass Democratic Movement, but it is individual and critical perspectives which are being offered, not just rhetoric. Recently love poetry has also begun to receive some much needed attention. For, as Johnstone says, "the struggle is permanent and it has become a celebration of life. Poetry cannot be all anger but must also be based on other human experiences such as love making and nature."

But given the present changes taking place in South Africa what will happen to struggle writing in the future? Where will the images and words come from? For Johnstone the term post-apartheid society is just another slogan that has the potential to make artists complacent. For him writing is not about accepting. No matter if you are writing now or in the so-called post-apartheid

era, writers must be true to themselves and always test ideas by questioning.

It is this ability to question that will lead to a stronger, more artistically sound South African writing from which will emerge the new truly South African culture.

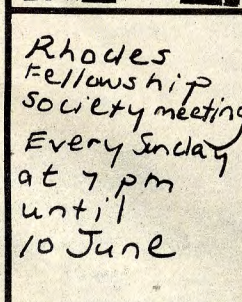
Wot's On?



Pharmacy
Ball
11 May
7.30 pm



SANSCO
Launch
13 May
Non-racialism
Workshop,
Cultural
Evening and
Sports day



Rhodes
Fellowship
Society meeting
Every Sunday
at 7 pm
until
10 June



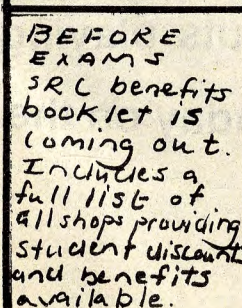
Women's
Group Film
Festival
Starting 14 May
Monday to
Wednesday
for 2 weeks



MR CIVE
Shreider
managing director
of Johnson
& Johnson:
"How business should
respond to the
unfolding events
in SA"
17 May
7 pm Zoo Major



DIESEL
BALL
"Sunset in
Venice"
26 May
Monument



BEFORE
EXAMS
SRC benefits
booklet is
coming out.
Includes a
full list of
all shops providing
student discounts
and benefits
available.



PROF. S. TERRE-
blanc
from Department
of Economics
at Stellenbosch
speaking on
"Rigidities and
Imponderables
en route to a
post-apartheid
economy"
26 July Major
200



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for one c

Brink leaves for UCT



INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN author and Rhodes academic, Prof Andre P Brink, will be leaving Rhodes for Cape Town at the end of the year.

Andre Brink, who has been at Rhodes for almost thirty years, accepted the position as a professor in the English Department at UCT.

He is head of the Afrikaans Department at Rhodes and started writing and publishing in the fifties.

From his earliest novels Brink shows a pre-occupation with justice and the decay of the structure of law in a South African context.

He became a prominent figure in South African Literature with his novel

"Lebola vir die Lewe" which was published in 1962.

This novel, and novels by authors like Jan Rabie and Etienne le Roux, introduced a new movement in Afrikaans literature.

He not only made breakthroughs with literature but was, with Breyten Breytenbach, one of the first Afrikaans writers to meet with the ANC. After the first meeting in Dakar, he attended several other conferences with the ANC in Europe and Africa.

Brink, whose novels have been translated into twenty-two different languages, designed and introduced the increasingly popular Modern Fiction Course at Rhodes.

At the moment he is lecturing in Canada and was recently a judge for the Jeanne Jacques Rousseau Prize for literature in Geneva.

Mr Tim Huisamen, a colleague of Brink and lecturer in the Afrikaans department, said that Brink's leaving is a tremendous loss for the department and Rhodes University.

Big Time for Planet Rock

TWO RHODES schemers who love music, media and money are planning to rock the planet!

Harold Gess and Leon Lazarus will be producing a high quality national music magazine called PLANET ROCK MAGAZINE which will feature both local and international music news and sell for R3 an issue. Their ambition? - To be rich and famous!

Harold and Leon think BIG. They are investigating the possibility of television coverage of the launch of the maga-

zine and hope to advertise on the radio once the magazine has been started.

The Magazine will be published by the Natal Witness but produced entirely by students. Leon and Harold will welcome contributions from students across the country. Hell, from across the UNIVERSE!

Three editions are planned for this year and although there is still alot of work to be done, the first edition should be rocking the planet soon!



Rhodes Hockey A team battling it out with Pirates from Port Elizabeth. Rhodes won 3-0.

All students both black and white urged to get involved in non-racial sport

SATISCO EMPHASISED the need for more students to be involved in non-racial sport at a recent workshop on non-racialism in sport.

Lungisa Magwentshu, Satisco chair, started off by outlining the reasons why the workshop was being held.

He highlighted the fact that it was held to solve the problems of playing sport and administering it and how to cope with the problems arising out of that. The other reason was to address the decline of sport on campus - people were losing interest in playing sport for SATISCO.

He said that it was important for SATISCO to draw in all progressive forces on campus to play non-racial sport. Lungisa also said SATISCO sport must be broadened and be made to be as accommodating as possible.

He pointed out that some people saw SATISCO sport as being black and these people must be shown that non-racial sport is the sport of the future and their sporting future lies with bodies like SATISCO. He also pointed out that these people would not come into SATISCO if the sport was not well organised.

Aniele Rugunanan, Satisco media officer, concentrated on what non-racial sport is, why it is played and what it means for our society.

He said that non-racial sport is only one aspect of non-racialism and that non-racialism as a whole is a key means of achieving national democracy in South Africa.

"On the sporting terrain, the belief that discrimination in sport is a

direct consequence of the discrimination in the political and economic system is widely supported. Discrimination in sport has been used by the government to perpetuate segregation and an exclusively white culture.

"So non-racial sport is seen as a means for social reconstruction and must be actively pursued as a political and social objective. It is a means to be used to dispel the myths of racial separateness, racially-based culture and racial superiority.

"A complex plethora of state legislation such as the Separate Amenities Act, Group Areas Act etc, has entrenched itself into sport. The significance of this reality is that established South African sport is also a medium through which interest groups, such as capital, assert themselves.

"In advanced capitalist societies, sport is viewed as a meritocracy and as a medium of social mobility. It emphasises competition and individual motivation while maintaining the myth that sport is apolitical so that it cannot be used as a means to challenge the status quo.

"Non-racial sport attempts to change the society in which we live and shares in the vision of a democratic society as espoused by the mass-based democratic movement. Non-racial sport was and is truly representative of the mass of the people which constitute society and not of a particular interest group.

"Its ideological content reflects the aspirations of the same mass of people. Non-racial sportspeople

are part of the broader democratic movement and support its strategies to bring about the demise of apartheid and to achieving a united, democratic South Africa where the principles of non-racialism will be respected at all levels of society. If the non-racial sports movement is to make a contribution to a democratic South Africa, then it must reflect the democratic composition of South African society. Non-racial sport should be popularised both in the townships and in the suburbs. Multi-racial sports facilities should be used by non-racial sportspeople.

"Even multi-racial sportspeople have come to the realisation that the key back into the international sports arena is through non-racial sport."

Ros Fairbank at Rhodes

Ros Fairbank has been coaching young tennis players at DSG and recently addressed the monthly stockfair tea at the Settler's Club.

She said that loneliness on the international circuit was one of the hardest things to deal with.

Fairbank first thought about playing on the international circuit when she was in Std. 9.

However her father was unwilling to let her end her studies but was eventually persuaded to allow her to spend a year playing on the junior tournament rounds in 1978.

In that year she played a number of major junior tennis tournaments.

Sports Roundup

Rugby

OF THE 12 Rhodes players chosen for Eastern Province Under 20 Rugby Trials, only one was able to make it into the team which played Western Transvaal in Port Elizabeth. He is Deon Preston who plays Fullback.

Other players who were initially chosen for the Trials were: B Robertson (Rightwinger), C Price (Centre), T Sieberhagen (Flyhalf), S van Niekerk (Scrumhalf), T Gooding (Loosehead prop), B Grant (Tighthead prop), A Hoard (Hooker), B Thayer (Lock), M Carlson and P Snyder (Flanks), H Saffy and F Slabbert (No 8s). Other rugby results of the games played on Saturday, 21st April are:

Rhodes 1st XV - 7	Swifts
(Uitenhage) - 28	
Rhodes 2nd XV - 14	Swifts
- 18	
Rhodes 3rd XV - 57	Swifts
- 0	
Under 20A - 11	UPE B
- 12	
Under 20B - 22	Cru-
saders - 0	

Hockey

Men's hockey team beat Westview 5 - 0

Women's team was beaten by Walmer 4 - 0

Soccer

The first soccer team drew with Walmer Celtic 3 - 3

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Inter-res rugby: Jan Smuts playing against Oppies last Sunday on the Great Field.

Is sport a man's domain?

When Don Schollander swam the 400-meter free-style in 4 minutes, 12.2 seconds at the 1964 Olympics, he set a world record and took home a gold medal. Had he clocked the same time against the women racing at the 1980 Moscow Games, he would have come in fifth. In swimming and athletics, women have closed to within 10 per cent or less of the best male times, and their impressive gains raise an intriguing question: will men and women ever compete as equals?

AT THE Olympic Games of 2040, there will be no events exclusively for men or women. There will only be Formula One, Formula Two or Formula Three - with a mixture of men and women in each category.

This is the prediction made by the Human Genome Project, a study done by the Medical Research Council's Mammalian Development Unit in London.

The purpose of the study is to identify all 100 000 human genes so that individual genetic mapping will make it possible to identify the athletic potential in young people.

The Mammalian Unit's director, Dr Anne Maclaren, says we may have three identifiable types of people in fifty years time. These groups will be high, low or medium potential groups according to the genes for their heart and lung capacity.

The gap between men and women in the Olympic games has steadily been narrowing since women were permitted to compete in 1900, and it seems possible that by the year 2040, women will be competing on equal terms with men through their own training and physical ability, without the help of genetic mapping.

However, some sport scientists seem to think that women will never be able to catch up and certainly never overtake men, especially in sports that require strength and stamina.

UCT sports scientist, Professor Tim Noakes, says the only way for women to catch up to men is for them to "become men" by taking the male hormone testosterone from as early as age four or five.

Some physiologists and sports coaches seem to agree that women will improve their times but will always be behind in size and strength.

Muscle vs fat

A man's biggest advantage in competition is his muscle-mass. An average man is 40 per cent muscle and 15 per cent fat while the average woman is 23 per cent muscle and 25 per cent fat. Sometimes athletes try to stimulate muscle-growth by taking anabolic steroids, even though these have been banned by most major sports.

Men also have larger hearts and lungs and more haemoglobin in their blood which allows them to pump oxygen to their muscles more efficiently than women can.

Although women who have developed their lower bodies can become equal to men in leg-strength, their upper-body power will usually only be a half to two-thirds of an equally well-conditioned male athlete.

In some sports however, the female anatomy is an advantage. Extra body fat gives a female English Channel swimmer better buoyancy and more insulation from the cold, while narrow shoulders reduce resistance in the water. Women have beaten the fastest male's round-trip channel crossing by a full three hours.

In long distance running it seems that a woman's fat can supply her with deeper energy reserves.

"On races 100 kilometres and up, it may turn out that women are more suited to endurance than men," says Joan Ulyot, author of 'Running Free'. "Women tend to do better relative to men the longer the distance gets."

The flexibility of women is also an advantage to them in sports such as gymnastics.



Above — Deon Holtzhausen winning the men's section in a record time of 3:49:12.

Settler's Marathon was a family affair

A NEW record was set when Deon Holtzhausen of the Nelspruit Athletics Club won the First National Bank Settlers Marathon from Port Alfred to Grahamstown.

In fact not only did Deon break the previous record set by Boysie van Staden of Pinetown and District Athletics Club in 1988, his wife Mara Holtzhausen also won the women's section. Deon's record-breaking time was 3:49 min, 12s.

According to Rhodes University Sports Officer, John Donald, the race was excellent and ideal training for this year's Comrades Marathon which takes place in three weeks time. This was also evident by the presence of Sam Tshabalala who won the Comrades last year.

Tshabalala ran a tactical race, taking it easy for the first 35 kilometres, speeding up for the next 15 and then sprinting the final ten kilometres. He ended up taking fifth place overall. Race director, Donald, said that the race was regarded by many as being as tough as any 60 kilometres of the Comrades.

Comrades gold medalist, Deon, broke the record held by Van Staden by 1 min, 56s. He received a gold medal and R500 for his efforts. All the finishers were awarded with free T-shirts.

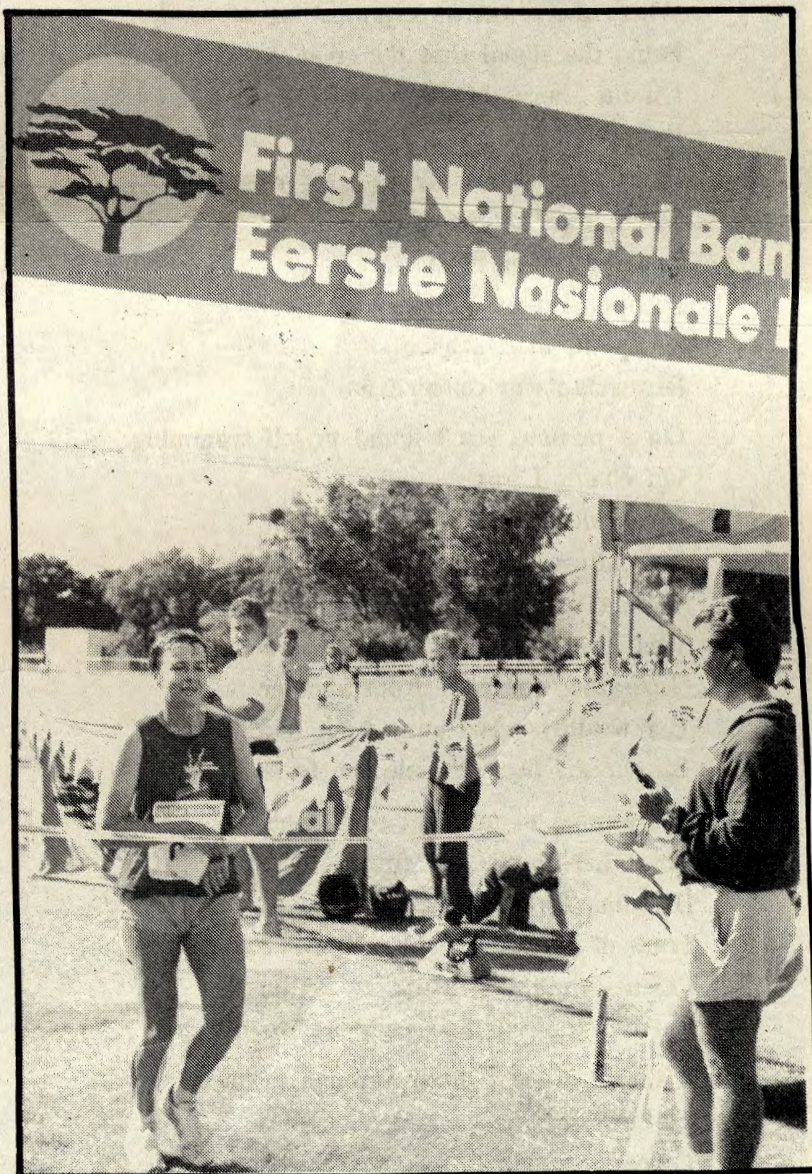
MEN'S SECTION:

- 1st - Deon Holtzhausen
Nelspruit Athletics Club
3:49 mins, 12s.
- 2nd - Efese Peter
Ciskei Defence Force
3:50 mins, 2s.
- 3rd - Boysie van Staden
Pinetown District
Athletic Club
3:58 mins, 31s.

Another Holtzhausen — Deon's wife, Mara, winning the womens section of the marathon

WOMEN'S SECTION:

- 1st - Mara Holtzhausen
Nelspruit Athletics Club
5:04min, 27s.
- 2nd - Sharon Murphy
UPE Athletics Club
5:44min, 51s.
- 3rd - Nikki Green
Albany Road Runners
Athletics Club
6:02min, 39s.
- 4th - Shean Erickson
Port Elizabeth
Athletics Club
4:04 mins, 8s.
- 5th - Sam Tshabalala
Spectrum Athletics Club
4:07min, 20s.



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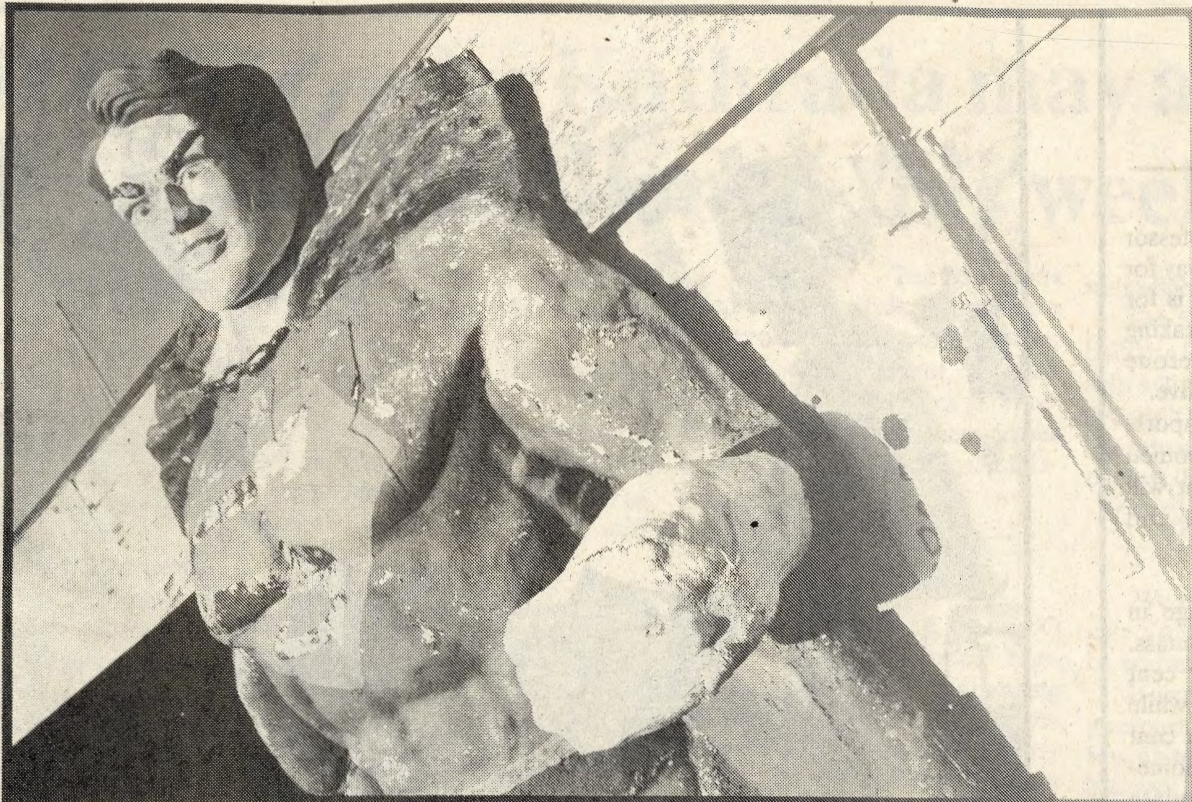
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• Desserts

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john hodgekiss

Call Continues
Stan Kidd tel noise
noise ja ! noise ...none
answer none rescue shrill viece

Stand i up sit up-
head in hands thoughts far,
far away beyond guards plus borders
or so

Persisting shrill somthing hits
my mind prance east plus west
north minus south
"Pretoria not answering the call"
yes the phone shrill is endless
eintlik the call continues

Swiftly sit me a table and call
invite them gods bright metaphysics
guide me cummings deep lines
powers that possess mzwakhe!
mzwakhe! h-mmm mzwakhe
me , emcumings the lines.

David

I'm the sound from African drums
Whose rhythm sends my enemies freezing;
Like eloquent music my voice
Flows in the rivers of Afrika,
And taken by the beautiful mountains
Into the green valleys of Mother Afrika.
I'm the child of the soil.

born in the fertile lands of Afrika,
In the cool forests of my ancestors' home
Where there was an everwhistling of wind,
Being the signal that the great grand parents of Africans were pleased.
On the shores landed new faces,
Faces which drove me out of my home,
Faces which drove me into the mountains.
Greed, their motivation,
Prejudice, their masters,
Locution on foray, their art,
Conquest, their slogan;
Descendants of colonialism.

On a perilous sea I found myself swimming.
On chains I was
My pride smashed
My culture scoffed and destroyed.
Without my concern, my beloved country
Was torn into pieces, with foreign barbed wires
Seperating one piece from another.
Her wealth sucked away from her,
Barren she became, pale she turned.

She wanted to talk but could not,
Down her cheeks ran tears,
Dripping from her marbled gorgeous eyes.
Tears of sore and pain;
Rescue-demanding tears.
But they turned their ears deaf to her cry.

A thrust of pain drove through my heart
Through frustration and anger
Echoed my voice
Into the valleys, mountains and rivers of Afrika.
Like a flash the spear of Afrika thundered over them.
Mowed them and smashed their pride.
"Kaffir", "Terroris", is what they labelled me.
Derring-do, through a bazooka barrel,
"We are reforming, let's talk," they shouted.
The son of the soil was on them.
Robbers of my land, you'll know me,
I'm the child of the soil.

Victor Mohlahla

SUMMER

I collapsed slothful on the floor of the park
The huge triffid sunflowers
dangling over me
And from my hot eye slovers I glimpsed
Vermilion jungle gyms
with the frolick the flounder
the flutter
And pondered envious
The ethereal

mystery
of
children

Cassandra



artbeat

john hodgekiss

