



Africa's Biggest Classroom

Not inappropriately, given that its usage is for the qualification of primary school teachers, Africa's biggest classroom is known simply as 'The ABC'.

Situated at Rhodes' East London campus, the 1 200 square metre lecture hall was once a wool store. Today it could seat 700 students at one time for lectures or it may be divided by means of acoustic screens into several smaller lecture areas.

Prof David McKellar, Head of Primary Education at East London, says that the facility represents the conclusion of an initiative of 14 years' planning.

"But it was not until recently", he says, "that Rhodes was able to contemplate the expansion of the Department of Education in East London to its current level. There was no space until we were able to purchase the old warehouse adjacent to the existing University buildings. In 1994 the first group of teacher upgrade students moved to East London from Grahamstown. This group grew in size (from 36 in 1994 through 160 in 1995 to 311 in 1996) and we are, of course, now offering the BPrimEd degree in East London as well."

From next year there will no longer be any primary educational qualifications on offer at the Grahamstown campus.

Within the new facility are two other success stories, says McKellar.

*A class in session in The ABC (below).
Note the television monitor suspended from the ceiling.*



Professor turns Editor

A new text book, *The Geomorphology of the Eastern Cape*, was launched at Rhodes last week and promises to meet a need in the studies of South African students and scholars.

Edited by the Head of the Department of Geography, Prof Colin Lewis, it has been printed and published locally, by Messrs Grocott and Sherry, of Grahamstown.

Speaking at a function attended by academics from all four of the Eastern Cape universities and teachers from several schools in the Province, Vice-Chancellor Dr David Woods recalled that this was the latest in a list of many books produced by staff members of the department.



Prof Lewis said that the Department has been preparing for change since the 1980s, with applied research into water affairs for industry and had now turned its attention to the texts needed by South African students.

Mr Jeff Grocott, representing the publishers, presented a copy of the volume to Mrs Bea Rennie, widow of Rhodes' first Professor of Geography. The book is dedicated to her late husband, Prof J V L Rennie and copies may be bought at Grocott and Sherry at R 74,95.

Mr Jeff Grocott presents a copy of Prof Colin Lewis' book to Mrs Bea Rennie. Dr Sarah Gess (left), a guest at the function, looks on.

Further qualifications to be encouraged

At two recent Alty Award ceremonies, the Vice-Chancellor congratulated recipients on their higher qualifications and said that their attainment represented a most valuable pursuit — one to be encouraged amongst staff at all levels at Rhodes.

Recipients were Miss Babalwa Sishuta, (seen in the top photograph with the Vice-Chancellor, Dr David Woods, the University Librarian, Mr Felix Ubogu and several of her colleagues) and Dr P W Froneman (lower picture, photographed with Dean of Science Prof Randall Hepburn, Dr Woods and one of his two supervisors, Prof Christopher McQuaid, Head of Zoology). Miss Sishuta, a part-time librarian, has recently been awarded her Masters degree in Social Work by Rhodes and Dr Froneman, a Research Officer with the Southern Ocean Group, has gained his PhD after presenting a thesis concerning the role of plankton in carbon recycling in the Southern Ocean. It was co-supervised by Dr Renzo Perissinotto.



The Vice-Chancellor, Dr David Woods, and Mrs Charlotte Woods, are pleased to initiate informal get-togethers of ALL RHODES STAFF. These will take place on Fridays between 17:00 and 20:00 in the Vice-Chancellor's dining room, Rhodes Union.

The first of these functions will be held tonight, Friday, 28 June 1996. A bar service will be available and partners are welcome. There will be no such get-togethers during the period of the National Arts Festival (4 to 14 August), however.

The intention of these gatherings is to foster good relations between staff in a pleasant, relaxed environment so do pop in on your way home.

Africa's Biggest Classroom

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One is in the use of television monitors which, apart from being used for traditional purposes, such as the screening of visual aids during lectures, are also of great effect in bringing the teachers 'closer' to the students who may be physically quite far removed from the front, such is the size of the room. Another benefit of the huge space is that it ideally prepares future

primary teachers for their later years in practice where flexibility in the classroom is so important. In the ABC, says McKellar, "the movable screens and big floor areas enable us to show teachers how flexibility is of key importance in modern primary school teaching".

While it is initially difficult to comprehend, when standing in the room, the Primary department is already experiencing cramped conditions, although this has largely to do with peripheral and associated facilities and

logistics. More television facilities are sorely needed and until recently students had access to a total of three computers only for their all-important studies in computer literacy. This situation will be alleviated somewhat with the commissioning of the new 30-terminal computer laboratory in the old library, but the popularity of the courses on offer by the department has caused other concerns. "We need more staff", says McKellar. "The existing complement is under

Current research activities and projects

The Marketing and Communications Division has been asked to undertake the compilation of a list of current research activities/projects at Rhodes, on behalf of the Research Institutes Committee. The intention is to make this information available to the Rhodes research community.

Departmental Heads are asked to list the research taking place in their departments as follows:

- Name of project:
- Name of supervisor:
- Nature of project (two or three lines only):
- Time length of project:
- Estimated date of completion:

Replies should be sent to adh@giraffe by 31 July 1996. Should you have any queries, please address these to the Dean of Research, Prof H Parolis at ext 8495

extreme pressure to cope with the number of registered students. There is demand for more and different courses which we are simply not able to cater for at present. The library collection needs to be enhanced and expanded as well".

The few remaining needs aside, however, do not detract from the efficacy of the new teaching facility. Popular with students and staff alike, it is playing a noteworthy role and has already become a prized asset on the East London campus.

25 years in gestation!

A quarter of a century of effort produced a fine baby last week when Mrs Penny Silva, Director of the Dictionary Unit, received a pre-launch copy of the *Dictionary of South African English on Historical Principles*, published by the Oxford University Press.

Work started on the compilation of this reference work in 1970, and many people have been involved, including Jean and William Branford, Margaret Britz, and the late John Walker.

The volume, in its deep blue cover trimmed with three colours from the South African flag (Mrs Silva's contribution to the design), is as handsome as its content will be useful, and she and her team are justly proud of the result of their efforts.

Mrs Silva herself will be attending the launch of the dictionary, at South Africa House in London, on August 22nd, where a cocktail function will follow a press conference. The South



Penny Silva (centre) cradles the new baby with two of her co-editors, Dorothea Mantzel (left) and Madeleine Wright. To their regret, Colin Muller and Wendy Dore, who were part of the editorial team, have left Grahamstown for Durban and Christchurch, New Zealand, respectively and could not be photographed with them.

African High Commissioner will host the event and a group from the OUP in Oxford will be present.

This event will be followed, two weeks later in Cape Town, by the South African launch. President Mandela has been invited to attend and Mrs Silva and her colleagues will be present. She

hopes that the Vice-Chancellor will also be there and the guest list includes leading Cape Town personalities as well as government officials from the departments of arts and culture, and former colleagues, among others.

This may be followed, the Board of the Dictionary Unit

feeling that it would be appropriate, by a further function in Grahamstown.

It is anticipated that press interest, locally and abroad, will be intense and we may expect to hear and see some coverage of the publication on radio and television.

Facing the music and surviving the blast

Harassment. Before you switch off to this concept, you need to realise that this is not a figment of the imagination. Harassment, in all its forms, exists everywhere and anyone can be a victim.

This is what prompted the University to set up an Anti-Harassment Panel, which was approved by Senate in August 1993. There was a need to address this harassment issue as cases of campus rape were reported.

According to Ula Horwitz, the Anti-Harassment Officer, students need to be made especially aware of the forms of harassment and its

existence. "It is not only females that get harassed. Males, too, need to realise that they can approach the panel with complaints. Movies like *Disclosure* have not helped us at all because they offer a distorted view of harassment directed at males", she added.

The panel has identified, among other types, racial, religious and sexual harassment. These are the most prevalent forms identified on our campus.

Like any other formal panel, the Anti-Harassment Panel has certain policies and procedures which must be followed. They offer

alternative ways of dealing with cases which may include laying charges with the police, mediation, and counselling. A complainant may choose private counselling or can use the University's own confidential counselling services.

Complaints may be reported to the Student Adviser, Ula Horwitz at the Psychology Department and to Sister Buchner at the Sanatorium. Initial anonymity is essential while an investigation to check against false complaints is conducted. The victims are never forced to carry through with a complaint should they wish to withdraw.

There are 15 members on the panel and the outgoing chairperson is Michele Crowley from Psychology. The other panel members are mostly staff members with a representative from the Gender Forum. NEHAWU has been invited to appoint a representative.

The panel is there for the use of everyone on the Rhodes campus. If you feel the need to use its services, do so. You have the right to say "NO!", it should be remembered, whether you are a child or an adult. Life is a song worth singing — sing it.

Myra Phenya

Doing it with a smiley :-)

The daily Festival newspaper, *Cue*, this year promises to be fatter than previous years, with a daily map and listing published in its pages. The Journalism and Media Studies Department's project will also operate its media centre for some 20 visiting journalists during the Festival.

A mentoring scheme by visitors for some of the student reporters is on the cards.

As a new initiative, *Cue* will go online on the Internet this year with a student team led by visiting US professor Richard Beckman. The venture is celebrated in the 1996 *Cue* t-shirts which feature the *i-Cue* URL (<http://www.ru.ac.za/i-cue>), and the slogan — "Rhodes journalists do it with a :-)".

Cue's cyberspace activities for this year also include a CyberCafé in the journalism building, complete with its own special homepage and direct access to *i-Cue* and festival sites globally. Co-ordinated by student Martin Kerem, it will allow Festival goers to conduct database searches of past reviews.

Roland Stanbridge, a visiting lecturer from Sweden, will conduct internet training sessions in the *Cue* CyberCafé each day, introducing

members of the public to the cultural side of the Web.

Another Festival CyberCafé will be that operated by the Department of Information Systems' honours class who will be operating from the 1820 Settlers Monument for the duration of the Festival.

Following the success of a number of similar cafés throughout the country, the Festival organisers have secured substantial donations from industry to establish their own CyberCafé. Packard Bell has donated the use of ten multimedia PCs with full internet software, and UUNet Internet Africa has donated the costs of a 64KB digital line from Port Elizabeth to the Monument. They will also make network facilities available on their host server in Port Elizabeth for the

duration of the Festival and the Schools Festival.

Nine honours students will be in attendance for 12 hours a day, from 10:00 to 22:00. They will assist visitors in experiencing at first hand some of the dozens of applications of the Internet.

Visitors will be able to sit down behind a PC in the CyberCafé and navigate the World Wide Web at a cost of R 20,00 per hour. They will also be able to 'surf the net', log in to any machine, anywhere, on which they have sign on rights, check their email, send email and write and run programmes.

This venture is a practical extension of the Schools Festival which has the Internet as one of its main themes this year.

Rhodes man for Advisory Committee

Mr Robin Cross (below), Director of the Electron Microscopy Unit, has been appointed to the International Advisory Committee (IAC) for the International Federation of Societies for Electron Microscopy (IFSEM)'s 14th International Congress on Electron Microscopy, to be held in Cancun, Mexico in 1988.



This is an indication of the high regard in which Mr Cross is held by his peers around the world. IFSEM has some 40 national societies as members. As an IAC member he will join others, leaders in their fields, from 37 different countries. They are expected to comment on topics submitted for symposia and to suggest other symposia and courses which would be appropriately added to the programme. He will also be asked to propose Chairpersons and invited speakers for those symposia which fall within his own broad fields of work. He will also be giving at least one presentation on results of work in which he is involved at Rhodes.

Ten commandments for an enthusiastic team

1. Help each other to be RIGHT — not wrong
2. Look for ways to make new ideas work — NOT REASONS for why they won't
3. IF IN DOUBT — check it out! Avoid NEGATIVE assumptions
4. Help each other WIN and take pride in EACH OTHER'S VICTORIES
5. Maintain a POSITIVE ATTITUDE in all circumstances
6. SPEAK POSITIVELY about each other and about the team; AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY
7. Act with INITIATIVE and COURAGE — as if it all depends on YOU
8. DO EVERYTHING with ENTHUSIASM — it's contagious
9. Do not lose faith — NEVER GIVE UP
10. and ... most of all - HAVE FUN !!!

Submitted by Peter Clayton

Contributions sought

Rhodes invites contributions from staff members and other readers.

Articles should be forwarded to the Editor, at the Marketing & Communications Division. They are preferred on diskette in any of several common formats, including ASCII and Word Perfect. Text may also be e-mailed to rhodos@ru.ac.za.

Photographs and line art are also welcome, either as stand-alone items or illustrative of articles. Please note, however, that we prefer black and white photographs as the quality of reproduction is better than from colour originals.

Commonwealth fellowship proved valuable

Professor Vivian de Klerk, Head of the Department of Linguistics and English Language, has recently returned from a six week Fellowship in Britain during which she worked from London University's Institute of Education.

The Institute, exclusively for postgraduate study, attracts some 100 Masters and 60 PhD students annually, from around the world.

Prof de Klerk's Commonwealth Universities Fellowship required her to engage in "useful interaction with her colleagues" and the Institute, specialising as it does in literacy,

multiculturalism, multilingualism and the challenges posed by teaching English as a Second Language (ESL), provided the ideal environment for this. She delivered several seminars on language related issues in South Africa to groups who she found "fascinated by all aspects of South African life. They wanted to know about everything that's going on here right now", she says, "including socio-political trends and several other areas outside my speciality."

She was also extremely impressed by the Library at the Institute, describing it as having quite the best collection of material relevant

to her field which she has ever come across.

A high proportion of the students, she adds, were from China and certain Asian countries. "While we in South Africa have mainly to do with ESL students whose home languages are African in origin, those students are from Chinese and Asian backgrounds. So, in broad terms, the challenges are common, but the specifics differ widely."

While in Britain, Prof de Klerk was invited to deliver the Ruth First Memorial Lecture — which she entitled *The politics of naming* — to students, staff and the public at Durham University, an

annual event in support of the Ruth First Bursary of some dozen years' standing. First lectured at Durham until shortly before her death in 1982.

She learned, while at Durham, that only some 16 applications were received from the defined underprivileged student group in South Africa, for this year's bursary. Believing this to be largely the result of a lack of effective advertising in South Africa she has offered to assist in making it more widely known in future. The bursary is self-sustaining, funded and administered by Durham staff and students, themselves now fearful that South Africa's new found legitimacy may cost them the support which will still be needed. "After all," says Prof de Klerk, "we've still a long road to travel before we can begin to believe that we are successfully facing up to the education problems in our country."

Before leaving London she was able to conclude arrangements with Old Rhodian Mary Scott who will visit Rhodes for six weeks in August and September. A lecturer in the Culture, Communication and Societies Unit at LU, her speciality is Academic Literacy, a subject which is of great relevance to staff and students at Rhodes.

While in London, Prof de Klerk responded to the invitation by Mr John Pepper, a former Warden of London House, made during his visit to Rhodes earlier this year and stayed at that residence. She found it extremely good value for money and was impressed with the ease and rapidity with which she was able to access her email from the laboratory in the building. She recommends it to her colleagues.

Of Words and Windmills

Professor Barbara Bosch is "Going Dutch" this month, but she's by no means doing things by halves. In fact by the time you read this she's probably cruising a canal, watching a windmill or picking tulips in Amsterdam.

Partnered by a post-graduate student, Surita Joubert, who is studying at Rhodes for her masters degree in Afrikaans, the Head of Afrikaans en Nederlands is presently attending a four week course entitled *Kursus Nederlandse Taal en Kultuur*, in the Netherlands, the goal of which is to familiarise the delegates with Dutch language and culture.

The first two weeks of the course were held at the James Boswell Institute at the University of Utrecht in Belgium, and the last fortnight will take place at the Talencentrum at the University of Gent in the Netherlands.

The first person from Rhodes to be invited to attend the course, Prof Bosch, and 15 others from universities all over South Africa and Namibia are attending intensive language courses in

the mornings, and are able to absorb the culture of the country on their afternoon excursions to Antwerp, Brussels, and Amsterdam, amongst other cities. Delegates to the course are staying with Dutch families in and around Utrecht and this enhances their exposure to the local culture.

As well as equipping delegates with an understanding of the broader context within which the Dutch language can be found, the course will also stimulate international contacts and create great opportunities for the future.

Prof Bosch's trip follows shortly after her well-received inaugural lecture entitled *Afrikaans and the Spirit of Equilibrium*, a highly topical exposé on the influence Afrikaans may have on creating unity and

multilingual equilibrium in South Africa.

During the lecture, Prof Bosch argued for, amongst other things, the role of language as a vehicle for identifying, manipulating and changing power relations between people, the changing position of Afrikaans within the school curriculum and within society, the right of Afrikaans speakers to acquire their cultural and linguistic heritage through the language, and the collective right of Afrikaans to exist, despite being different, as a part of the rainbow nation.

"Historically" she said, "Afrikaans has proved able to respond to a changing environment, making the language ideally suited to contribute to a balance in our South African linguistic heritage."

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Baptism by fire — staff and students turn out at

Rhodes' new Vice-Chancellor, Dr David Woods, has experienced a second baptism by fire in as many months, he told Library staff at an Alty Award ceremony last week. He, in the company of many other staff members and students, had spent much of Fathers' Day fighting the fire which threatened much of Grahamstown.

The fire is believed to have started near the old power station when a power cable support blew down in the wind, causing sparks as it fell. This happened adjacent to the workshop in which Mr Steve Lawrie makes steel drums such as those used by Andrew Tracey's Steel Band. Three 200-litre drums of resin in the workshop exploded, projecting pieces of metal and burning resin several dozen metres.

Fanned by fierce and gusting winds, the fire licked the walls of Cullen Bowles House at one stage and also threatened a University house on the upper reaches of Lucas Avenue, next door to the Vice-Principal's home. Around Kimberley Hall it was only extinguished



From left to right Messrs Les Reynolds, Angus Paterson, Mike Young and Gerry Day prepare the University's small fire pump. Moments later they discovered that the pump's fuel had been stolen, but were able to refuel it and return in time to play a

through the combined efforts of the student residents themselves, "aided and abetted" by Hall Warden Mike Oelschig.

Dr Woods was highly appreciative of the way in which staff and students rallied around and said, in a message posted to the ru.announce newsgroup two days later, that he wished to thank everyone who assisted in

safeguarding Rhodes property. "Many staff and students came to the rescue, doing their utmost to prevent damage to homes, university residences and the cars in the car pool. Particular thanks are due to Lydia (Information Systems) and Mike Palmer, who brought their water truck in from the farm, thus saving Rhodes

premises from any serious damage", it read.

After the fire was extinguished, it appeared that we had been extremely lucky at Rhodes, said Les Reynolds, Director of the Estates Division. At one stage some drums of tar, which were too heavy to move from behind the Engineering workshops caught

Rhodes Trio on the Fringe

The Rhodes Trio would like to thank the many people who attended the celebration concert for Dr Tim Radloff on 31 May 1996 in Beethoven Auditorium. After receiving numerous requests to repeat the programme we are pleased to announce that the Festival Office has accommodated us at a very late stage.

As a result, the Rhodes Trio will be performing in Beethoven on three occasions: Wednesday, 10 July at 12:00, Thursday, 11 July at 19:00 and Friday, 12 July at 14:00. The programme comprises works by the Classical composer Ignaz Pleyel, and the Twentieth Century composers Ary Verhaar and Jean-Michel Damase.

Tickets cost R 14,00 per person and will be available at the door or from the Festival Office.

Sally Inurie

Rhodes to become a 'guinea pig'

The Committee of University Principals has asked for volunteer institutions to assist it by participating in a pilot quality control audit scheme which it is considering implementing.

Rhodes has become one of the first of these 'guinea pigs' to come forward, says the Registrar, Dr Steve Fourie, and will thus be exposed earlier than most to what, he says, is becoming a growth industry in tertiary education around the world.

What exactly will be required of us is yet to be made known but it is probable that the quality and effect of our teaching and research will be measured against certain standards still to be determined.

Dr Fourie sees the initiative as being part of an effort to "get South Africa up to speed", and thinks that Rhodes' small size makes it particularly appropriate for an experiment of this nature.

The Shroud of

What promises to be a fascinating Royal Society lecture will be delivered on 24 July, at 19:30 in the Biological Sciences Major lecture theatre, by Dr Nicholas Allen of the Department of Art and Design at the P E Technikon, on the subject of *The Shroud of Turin*.

The Shroud of Turin, the purported burial cloth of Jesus Christ, is a piece of fine linen 3 feet 7 inches wide by 14 feet 3 inches long (exactly 2 by 8 cubits, the ancient measurement in Israel). It bears the detailed front and back

firefighters



They all rallied around — from first year students to the Vice-Chancellor. From left Gareth Walwyn (BScI), Dr David Woods and Mark Hazell, Manager of Grounds and Gardens, prepare to help move a tree which blew across a road opposite Stanley Kidd House, restricting vehicular access to the fire front. It was eventually sawn into manageable pieces and pushed clear with a tractor.

...his first test in 'combat conditions'.
...role above Prospect Field.

...light. Head security Guard,
...Mr Linda Bottoman, who lives
...with his family in a house near
...the Tick Research Unit, was
...obliged to evacuate his home
...with his wife, children and
...their possessions. The fire came
...very close to the house and did
...cause some damage to the
...Herman Olthaver Institute for
...Aeronomy's new radar

installation when it melted an antenna and burned computer cabling where it exits the computer room into a trench. HOIA Director Allon Poole says that it will be back in operation within two months but that serious damage was averted by the actions of Mr Bottoman who had insisted, barely a week before the fire, that the area be mown and the cuttings removed. The inaccessible areas that were not mown were severely damaged.

In its first 'combat' situation, the University's small fire tender proved to be worth its weight in gold, said Reynolds. This was in spite of the fact that, when it was first brought to the fire near Prospect Field, it was discovered that someone had stolen the petrol from the pump. After it had been refuelled, it was well used in controlling the spread of the fire above the Sports Administration offices. Reynolds says that he will be

holding a full debriefing session with members of his division, the Campus Protection Unit and other appropriate sections of the University. He feels, however, that various procedures worked well and is also appreciative of the unsolicited help from many people, staff and students alike, who rallied around. He says that he will be addressing the niceties of back-burning and the making of fire-breaks as a priority, however.

Turin — legitimate relic or medieval forgery?

images of a man who has been crucified in a manner identical to that of Jesus of Nazareth as described in the Scriptures. The Shroud has been in Turin, Italy since 1578. At its last public viewing (a rare event), in 1978, about 3 1/2 million pilgrims passed by to view this delicate cloth over a period of five weeks.

The Shroud has been intensively studied by a large group of highly skilled scientists, whose main objective was to determine the properties of the image and how it originated. Over 1 000 special tests have been

conducted and over 32 000 photographs taken. These studies, along with various others, combine to make the Shroud of Turin the most intensively studied single object in history. The tests show clearly that the Shroud images are not any kind of artistic production but are the result of physical/chemical changes in the linen fibres themselves. However, they fail to explain how this occurred.

Debate still continues as to whether or not it really is the cloth that wrapped His crucified body or simply a

medieval forgery, a hoax perpetrated by some clever artist? Modern, twentieth century science has completed hundreds of thousands of hours of detailed study and intense research on the Shroud. It is, in fact, the single most studied artifact in human history, and we know more about it today than we ever have before. And yet, the controversy still rages.

The shroud will be on public view again, at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Turin, for six weeks in 1998, and again in the year 2000. The 1998 exhibition marks the 500th

anniversary of the consecration of the Turin Cathedral and coincides with the 100th anniversary of the exhibition of 1898, when Italian amateur photographer Secondo Pia took the first photograph ever of the Shroud of Turin.

The exhibition scheduled for the year 2000, from 29 April to 11 June, will commemorate the 2000th anniversary of the birth of Jesus.

Readers with access to the World Wide Web may be interested to visit the Shroud's home page at the URL <http://www.shroud.com/>.

Anyone we know?

Dr Billy de Klerk, Curator: Earth Sciences at the Albany Museum, has sent the following, gleaned from the internet, for publication. It purports to be a genuine essay written by a college applicant to NYU. The author was accepted and is now attending NYU.

3A. In order for the admissions staff of our college to get to know you, the applicant, better, we ask that you answer the following question:

Are there any significant experiences you have had, or accomplishments you have realized, that have helped to define you as a person?

I am a dynamic figure, often seen scaling walls and crushing ice. I have been known to remodel train stations on my lunch breaks, making them more efficient in the area of heat retention. I translate ethnic slurs for Cuban refugees, I write award-winning operas, I manage time efficiently. Occasionally, I tread water for three days in a row.

I woo women with my sensuous and god-like trombone playing, I can pilot bicycles up severe inclines with unflagging speed, and I cook thirty-minute brownies in twenty minutes. I am an

expert in stucco, a veteran in love, and an outlaw in Peru. Using only a hoe and a large glass of water, I once single-handedly defended a small village in the Amazon Basin from a horde of ferocious army ants.

I play bluegrass cello, I was scouted by the Mets, I am the subject of numerous documentaries. When I'm bored, I build large suspension bridges in my yard. I enjoy urban hang gliding.

On Wednesdays, after school, I repair electrical appliances free of charge. I am an abstract artist, a concrete analyst, and a ruthless bookie. Critics worldwide swoon over my original line of corduroy evening wear. I don't perspire.

I am a private citizen, yet I receive fan mail. I have been caller number nine and have won the weekend passes. Last summer I toured New Jersey with a traveling centrifugal-force

Top students receive certificates



The top Physics and Electronics students for 1995 received recognition in the form of certificates and a small party in their honour which was held after a Physics Talkabout in the Physics Department recently. The Arthur Trevor Williams prize for Physics IS for 1995 was awarded to Miss G H Shaw, the Georg M Gruber prize for Physics 1P for 1995 went to Miss K S Johnson, the Arthur Trevor Williams prize for second year Physics was won by Mr M A Roberts, the Alexander Ogg prize for third year physics was presented to Mr R A Laubscher and the Basil Schonland Prize for Physics was claimed by Mr A E Botha. Seen (above) at the recent party where certificates for prizes won were presented for the second year, are, from left, Andre Botha, Gail Shaw, Dr Paul Nathanson, Kristie Johnson and Robert Laubscher.

demonstration. I bat .400. My deft floral arrangements have earned me fame in international botany circles. Children trust me.

I can hurl tennis rackets at small moving objects with deadly accuracy. I once read *Paradise Lost*, *Moby Dick*, and *David Copperfield* in one day

and still had time to refurbish an entire dining room that evening. I know the exact location of every food item in the supermarket. I have performed several covert operations for the CIA. I sleep once a week; when I do sleep, I sleep in a chair.

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News from the Library

Our system vendor, URICA Integrated Systems (Pty) Ltd., has now implemented the Library's requirements for improving our acquisition and cataloguing procedures. We can now source and download bibliographic records from various databases and our accessions list can also be sent electronically. URICA informs us that, since we started discussions on downloading into and e-mailing data from our system, all other users have expressed great interest in this innovation.

The availability of these facilities has increased our throughput and also enhanced our current awareness service. Very good progress has been made towards clearing the backlog of materials waiting to be ordered.

New accessions bulletin

The URICA system mentioned above, coupled with the introduction of subject codes in the database, has enabled us to change the format of the New Accessions Bulletin from one large monthly printed list of all new material, to smaller individualised lists of material acquired by, or of interest to, each department. These lists are distributed to members of staff at the end of every month, either in printed form or electronically via e-mail. We

have received some positive feedback on this service, and we would always appreciate further views from the University community.

Information literacy

Many Rhodes students arrive on campus under prepared for academic work, and we believe that their acquisition of basic information and technology skills will help them succeed. The Library is, therefore, exploring ways to initiate an Information Literacy programme. It will be designed to enable students to locate, evaluate, and use information more effectively to satisfy their requirements. An Information Literacy Committee has thus been established, chaired by Mrs Eileen Shepherd. The terms of reference of the committee are as follows:

- Explore the possibility of developing an information literacy programme in the University;
- Organise workshops as may be appropriate;
- Continue to find additional new directions for the instruction programme; and
- Prepare a pilot programme for measuring student outcomes based on competencies.

School of African music

The Director of the International Library of African Music (ILAM), Dr Andrew Tracey, has recently returned from the Quissico district of Mozambique's Inhambane Province where he has been putting the final touches to a fund-raising project.

It is hoped that this will lead to the founding of a school which will contribute to the maintenance and development of what in Dr Tracey's opinion is one of the most important and impressive music and dance cultures in the whole of Africa; the *timbila* culture of the Chopi people.

The *timbila* instruments, gourd resonated xylophones, while related to those in other parts of Africa, are unique in their craftsmanship of construction and in the associated complexity, artistry and showmanship of the musical dance known as the *mgodo*. A *mgodo* can utilise between eight and 20 instruments, upwards of 20 dancers and singers and several rattle players. It can last for an hour and its movements are closely comparable to those of a Western symphony.

Tracey is very familiar with *timbila* music; he and his late father, Dr Hugh Tracey, were recording it in the 1940s.

"The recordings are a vivid record of the social and political history of the Chopi", he says. "The song and dance became a vehicle for social commentary; on the Portuguese, on unpopular officials, on the chiefs, on the hardships of migrant labour on South African mines and on intimate details of home life. No person was safe from the barbs of the *timbila* composers."

Timbila orchestras owed much, for their healthy existence, to the South African mines, though. At one stage there were as many as 30. Within three years of Mozambique's independence in 1976, Chopi composers, instead of being socially constructive, became mouthpieces for government policy. The following 20 years of violent turmoil has had a destructive effect on cultural activities involving many people and this, combined with the government's abolition of chiefs and their related power structure, has almost killed off *timbila* music and all that went with it. "It must be understood", explains Tracey, "that it is necessary for future musicians to learn to play a *mbila* (singular form of *timbila*) from the age of five, if they are to be good".

One master musician remains and upholds the *timbila* tradition. Venancio Mbande is an orchestra leader, composer and, importantly, a skilled instrument maker. For nearly 35 years until his retirement, he ran *timbila* orchestras on South African mines. The last ceased to perform when he left on retirement. He is probably the only person alive who is able to pass on the centuries-old traditions (first described by Portuguese explorers in the 15th century). His talents have been internationally recognised and there exists a Dutch *timbila* orchestra which he founded. Mr Mbande has toured Europe and will be repeating the exercise at the end of this month, with a group of some 18 dancers, singers and instrumentalists.

Andrew Tracey and his fellow supporters of the proposed "Katini" Centre for Chopi *Timbila* music, see its



Mr Venancio Mbande (centre, at right), playing a *mbila* while leading his musicians and dancers in the *mgodo* dance.

establishment in Chopiland, with Mr Mbande as its founding Director, as a vital necessity. Funds are needed to establish basic infrastructural needs where none exist. There is not even telephonic communication. A diesel 4x4 pickup has already been obtained and is being used to collect materials, such as the vital sneezewood, from which the best instruments are made. A borehole will have to be sunk and basic residential accommodation for staff and pupils provided. A Maputo company, Nambu Productions, will manage the project. Donors will be assured that the project will be responsibly supervised by Nambu Productions, Dr Tracey himself and De Media,

a Belgian-based agency which already manages Mr Mbande's foreign tours. A Council of Elders, wise in Chopi culture, will be appointed to act in a supervisory and legitimating role.

"The Chopi people and their musical culture have long been known in the ethnomusicological world", says Tracey. "They have maintained their identity and independence for many hundreds of years. Their music is truly classical and the making of the instruments a true craft. We owe it to history and civilisation to assist in entrenching and enhancing the future of the Chopi culture in any way we can."

Application form

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While on vacation in Canada, I successfully negotiated with a group of terrorists who had seized a small bakery. The laws of physics do not apply to me. I balance, I weave, I dodge, I frolic, and my bills are all paid. On weekends, to let off steam, I participate in full-contact origami. Years ago I discovered the meaning of life but forgot to write it

down. I have made extraordinary four-course meals using only a mouli and a toaster oven. I breed prize-winning clams. I have won bullfights in San Juan, cliff-diving competitions in Sri Lanka, and spelling bees at the Kremlin. I have played Hamlet, I have performed open-heart surgery, and I have spoken with Elvis.

But I have not gone to college.

Two-year trial sees course fully fledged

English Language for Academic Purposes, ELAP, is a first year credit course which aims to make the necessary academic skills needed at university accessible to incoming students. The programme started in 1994 as part of the foundation course offered by the Faculties of Arts, Science, Social Science, Commerce and Divinity.

ELAP introduces students to all the academic activities that they will be expected to participate in while studying towards their degrees at Rhodes. The course provides tuition and practice in reading academic texts, writing academic essays, listening and taking notes in lectures, compiling small research projects, participating in oral debates, and in English language skills.

These skills are taught through course content that is both challenging and interesting. This is arranged thematically for each term, with different topics for each week relating to the central theme for the term. The topic is then addressed through that week in tutorials where intensive skills training is given to students on an individual and group basis.

ELAP has been an experimental course for the past two years, but at the beginning of this year it became a fully-fledged course with 98 registered students run by the Department of Linguistics. This shows a marked increase from the 31 students registered in its first year of operation.

In January 1996 a full-time Coordinator was appointed for the first time. Helen Alferts is from Mmabatho, where she was involved in education in the former homeland of Bophuthatswana for 12 years. She has extensive experience in English Second Language

teaching at school level, and subsequently at an in-service College of Education in Mmabatho, having also taught in that field at the University of the North West (formerly UNIBO).

The ELAP staff members are part-time tutors from other departments in the University. Bronwyn Law-Viljoen lectures in the English Department; Arona Dison and Charlotte Jefferay are both in the Academic Development Programme. Together they form a dedicated teaching team who work hard to create an effective bridge to the academic culture of tertiary education from the various secondary education systems in existence at present.

Asked how ELAP would be operating this year, Ms Alferts stressed the importance of cooperation between ELAP and the other academic departments of the University.

"We have had wonderful cooperation from departments for the Monday lectures. Everyone we have approached has been more than willing to offer their services. I would like to work at extending this cooperation by ensuring that all lecturers know and understand the ELAP programme and how it could help in the transfer of skills to the students' other subjects." She added that it would be very hard, for example, to teach students how to write a well structured essay if they were never expected to write



The ELAP team, from left to right, Charlotte Jefferay, Helen Alferts, Bronwyn Law-Viljoen, and Arona Dison.

Pic: Angie Lazaro.

essays in their other first year subjects. It would create the impression that ELAP was something separate and rather distant from other subjects. This could lead to justifiable accusations of irrelevancy. ELAP hopes to meet with other departments this year in order to plan around their requirements and develop the existing ELAP course so that the essential transfer of skills takes place.

ELAP is currently involved in an exciting project with Dr Sholto-Douglas of the Music Department, where ELAP and Music Diploma staff will work together to facilitate the necessary transfer of skills learned in ELAP classes to their Music History and Appreciation course. "This is the kind of project we would like to set up with other departments in order to create and broaden an effective ELAP course," said Ms Alferts.

No Festival Rhodos

Please note that there will be no edition of *Rhodos* during the National Arts Festival.

The next issue of *Rhodos* is due to appear on Friday, 26 July. The deadline for material for inclusion in this edition is noon on Thursday, 18 July.

SA Photo-journalism Conference.

The Department of Journalism and Media Studies has received much appreciated praise from the President of the World Council of Professional Photographers, Abe Orlick, who writes: "I applaud the Rhodes Department of Journalism and Media Studies for your efforts in conducting the SA Photojournalism Conference and presenting such valuable programmes. You have my best wishes for a successful and productive conference."

The conference, an initiative of photojournalism lecturer Montgomery Cooper, takes place on our campus from 30 June to 3 July.

Orlick continues: "The paradigms of the past will no longer carry us into the future. The technological digital revolution has changed all the rules of the game. It is important to educate the players within the industry, to utilise the tools technology is creating and develop meaningful and financially rewarding content."

The Conference will cover areas of Copyright, Photojournalism Education, Community Photojournalism, Ethics, new Digital Technology, and the Future of Documentary Photography. Its opening session will be addressed by the Vice-Chancellor, Dr David Woods; Director of Kodak South Africa, Dave Todd and Abe Orlick.

Fifteen photographic exhibitions will be on display at the Conference.

Later internationally renowned photographers including Jurgen Schadeberg, on the fate of documentary photojournalism, Struan Robertson, on his documentary work and

New book launched



Attending the launch of *Reconstruction, Development and People* were (back row from left): Monty Roodt, Gilton Klerck, Dr Fred Hendricks, Professor Lambe Parolis (Dean of Research at Rhodes), Dr Geoff Wood, and from left, front row, Prof Jan Coetzee (co-editor), Ms Eloise Wessels (International Thomson Publishing) and Dr David Woods, Vice-Chancellor of Rhodes University.

Shifts in the South African political system over the past three or four years have had a substantial influence on the way we think about that most crucial aspect of the South African situation - development, and it is with this in mind that a formidable team of sociologists, economists and political scientists joined forces to update and extend the debates around this issue.

In a new book entitled *Reconstruction, Development and People*, co-edited by Prof Jan

Coetzee, Head of Sociology, and Johann Graaff, senior lecturer in Sociology at the University of Cape Town, the theoretical as well as the concrete and political aspects of development approaches are discussed.

A continuing thread of discussion throughout the first half of the book is the failure of large-scale, top-down technicist development plans and projects and the need for a more humane, community sensitive approach. The second half of the book investigates how the

institutions in civil South African society relate to the central state and to the task of upliftment in the country.

The launch of this book, recently published by International Thomson Publishing, and featuring the work of other Rhodes staff, including Monty Roodt, Gilton Klerck and Geoff Wood of the Sociology Department, was celebrated at a function attended by the Vice-Chancellor Dr David Woods recently.

T J Lemon, who will give a special presentation on photojournalism in the newest South African newspaper, the *Sunday Independent*, will address some 120 delegates.

A feature on the programme will be the section on digital photography and, importantly, the ethics of electronic manipulation. Speakers in this section will include Prof Rich Beckman, Visual Communications chair

of the National Press Photographers; Mike Zajakowski, US Documentary Photojournalist and Adil Bradlow from *Associated Press*. Other topics will include the Internet and World Wide Web, photojournalism education, the ethics of photojournalism and copyright. There will also be Photoshop and Internet workshops and an open critique of the work of

photojournalism students from all over South Africa. Student delegates will be able to compete for two National Photojournalism Scholarships, sponsored by a leading photographic print company.

Anyone interested in receiving further information about the conference should contact Ms Angie Lazaro by email addressed to lazaro@thoth.ru.ac.za or by telephone at ext 8344.

Sports Scoreboard

Sports results — 5 June to 15 June

Wednesday, 5 June

Netball: RU 1sts vs FNB 1sts

Rhodes won 21-15

RU 2nds vs FNB 2nds

Rhodes won 25-1

Saturday, 8 June

Hockey: RU Women 1st XI
vs Old Grey Pegs

Match drawn 0-0

RU Women 2nd XI vs Paterson

Rhodes won 2-3

RU Women 3rd XI vs Addo

Rhodes won 4-0

RU Women 4th XI vs Pirates

Match drawn 0-0

Athletics: EP Duathlon

Garie Rabie (18th Junior) 1st

Ian McGregor (2nd Junior) 3rd

Brin Hodgkiss (3rd Junior) 7th

Sunday, 9 June

Hockey: RU Men 1st XI
vs Crusaders

Rhodes won 4-1

with goals by Shimmin,

Walter, Crombie and Dedios

RU Men 2nd XI vs RU Men 3rd XI

2nd XI won 1-0

Sports Achiever of the

Week: Mark Haw

(non-travelling reserve for
the SA Junior Triathlon)

Provincial representation:

EP Senior "A" Team — Parys
Edwards

EP Senior "B" Team — Ursula

Rietman, Vanessa Anderson,

Lauren Collier, Dallah

Edwards and Tracey Douglas.

Sunday 16 June

Volleyball:

Promotional Volleyball League

RU Men vs Goodyear (EP)

Rhodes lost 0-3

RU Men vs Wits Tech (Gauteng)

Rhodes lost 1-3

RU Men vs University of Natal
(KZN)

Rhodes won 3-2

RU Men vs Paulus (Stellenbosch)

Rhodes won 3-0

RU Men vs Delfos (KZN)

Rhodes won 3-1

Saturday, 15 June

Athletics: EP Junior Decathlon
Championships

Gary Rabie 2nd Junior

Shanic 2-stage cycle race

Adam Sargent 9th

Sports Achiever of the

Week: Parys Edwards for her

selection for the EP Senior

Women's Hockey team

Old Rhodian News:

Barrie Knox-Davies came 9th
in the WP Duathlon

Championships.

Of Words and Windmills

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She went on to say that being able to communicate with one another is an essential condition for the creation of an African consciousness, and advocated a need for tolerance and a variety-enhancing linguistic environment.

Prof Bosch suggests that the guiding principles in securing linguistic human

rights for all Afrikaans speakers lie in a balancing act in respect of the South African linguistic reality. "In the long run", she says, "this proposed equilibrium will reduce intergroup conflict potential and create a balance of power and resources."

"Our South African community flourishes as a result of its enormous diversity. Afrikaans and all its varieties is a part of this diversity", she concluded.

SMALLS

FOR SALE

* Trojan exercise bicycle: like new. Digital pad to monitor kilometres, kilojoules, etc.

* Hoover sensatron vacuum cleaner — good condition, with all attachments — R 275,00

* Aim juicer — used once — R 150,00

* Aluminium and glass top table — will seat four — R 75,00
Contact Tina on ext 8393 or at home at 31 2302

LIFT FOR PAINTING NEEDED

Painting (58 x 64 cm) from Randburg to Albany Museum. Any offers for reliable lift? Please contact Fleur Way-Jones or Marijke Cosser at Museum 2 2312 or e-mail AMMC@Warthog.ru.ac.za.

LOSE WEIGHT NOW
ASK ME HOW — Di Searle: ext 8387. Independent Herbalife Distributor.

Thai food take-away

The Rhodes Day Care Centre is embarking on a project designed to purchase some much needed equipment which will be dedicated to the memory of Reshita Narshai, who, with her mother, died tragically in a motor vehicle accident earlier this month.

Please support this fund-raising effort by ordering some authentic Thai food, to be enjoyed in your own home tomorrow evening, 29 June.

The food (4 different dishes at R 35,00 — enough for two!) should be ordered in advance against a ticket which you will need for collection purposes, from the Grahamstown Publicity Association, Grocott & Sherry (Melissa at 2 7222), Supersole: 56 Bathurst St., (2 6738), Nimitta Masilela (ext 8510) or Patricia Hendricks (ext 8569). Mesdames Masilela and Hendricks will be happy to provide further details, including details of the menu.

It will be ready for collection tomorrow afternoon, from 15:00 to 17:00, at the Albany Museum's Rennie Hall.

Nimitta Masilela

ADVERTISING RATES

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Classifieds: 10 cents per word — free to bona fide staff members advertising in their personal capacities.

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