

RHODOS

RHODES UNIVERSITY STAFF NEW SLETTER



10 November 1995 Vol 7 No 11

Grahamstown pupils in new initiative

In a first for South Africa, twenty township teenagers have earned certificates for producing South Africa's first teenage newspaper on the Internet.

This represents an initiative by students in the department of Journalism and Media Studies.

The students from Grahamstown schools spent 15 sessions in a programme writing, editing, designing and publishing a pan-school newspaper named *Grab*.

Using Rhodes journalism students as trainers, and computers donated by Apple Macintosh, the teenagers produced a version of their paper on newsprint – and on line.

Their stories about drugs, teenage pregnancy and local soldiers sleeping with school girls are now being read on paper by their peers, by courtesy of *Grocott's Mail*, and on the Internet by people worldwide.

"Teenagers who had not done any journalism, nor touched computers, before this short course were able to tell a global audience about their lives", he said. "It shows that with the Internet, it is simply a case of 'Have access, Can publish'."

In an article in *Grab*, scholar journalist Simon Masoma interviewed fellow students about the project. "It gave me more knowledge about computers", said Nomathamsanqa Matiwana, from Nathaniel Nyaluza High. "It increases our skills", believes Noyise Madikwa, from Nombulelo High.

According to Masoma, the group hopes to act as trainers next year, passing on their skills to a new group of teenagers. Prof Berger believes it is only a matter of time before most South African schools have Internet access, and students across the country will be able to publish on it.

Within a few hours of *Grab* getting on the Internet, messages of encouragement had arrived from around the world.

From Melissa Moore in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, came the comment: "I really enjoyed your article on children who commit crimes. We have the same problem in Louisiana, where I live. I write about it sometimes in the newspaper here. No one seems to know what to do to stop it."

"You have a lot of writing talent. I was especially impressed because the web page said that English is not your first language. Take care and keep writing!"



The **Grab** journalists at their certification ceremony in the Rhodes
Theatre last week.

In another e-mail comment from the USA, Peter Saint James said: "The stories all of you have written have told me a great deal about what living in South Africa is like. It's not a whole lot different than living here in the United States."

"I like the freshness and immediacy of your writing. Reading your stories, I see the situations, feel the feelings. Your writing is very good. Keep it up. I would like to read more of your stories."

From Sweden, Roland Stanbridge wrote to student journalist Michael Nekile expressing alarm at his article on scholar use of alcohol, and commended Xolani Mngxuma for his story on the dangers of smoking.

Grab on-line may be read at the URL www.ru.ac.za/departments/journ/grab.html.

Commonwealth Fellowship awarded

Professor Vivian de Klerk, Head of the Department of Linguistics and English Language, has been awarded a prestigious Fellowship by the Association of Commonwealth Universities, after being nominated by the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Dr Derek Henderson.

Competition for the 20 ACU Development Fellowships is fierce, as Vice-Chancellors throughout the Commonwealth are invited to submit nominations. The annual Fellowships were instituted to help universities with staff development and to develop the human resources of Commonwealth countries by promoting

cooperation and interaction between universities, industry, commerce and public services.

Prof De Klerk plans to take up her Fellowship in April and May, 1996, at the London University Institute of Education, where she will collaborate with Prof Gunther Kress in several fields of linguistic research, including critical linguistic analysis, language and power language and ideology. "These are areas which are important in South Africa", Prof De Klerk said. "They tie in with second language teaching and with language and gender issues." She also hopes to share what she gains with

students registered for the joint Masters degree programme in English second language teaching in which either linguistics or education can be the focus of specialisation.

"English as a second language is a growing problem in Britain because of the number of non-English-speaking immigrants, so we can learn from their experience as well as share ours. We have had to develop 'first-aid' programmes for students at the tertiary level in our university Academic Development Programmes because of the legacy of apartheid. We therefore have much to learn from one another", Prof De Klerk said.



Letters to The Editor

Rhodos invites correspondence on matters of concern to the University community which will indicate the wide spectrum of views held and will promote further discussion.

A pseudonym is acceptable, but the writer must supply his or her full name and residential address to the editor, who will respect confidentiality.

Thanks to all involved

The Editor,

As one of the many Rhodians involved in the recent elections, I must thank and, indeed, congratulate all those who contributed to the process, making sure that all the potential voters were properly informed.

The media, whether Activate, RMR, or the Journalism students made an important contribution. The residence wardens clearly did an excellent job in keeping their students as fully informed as possible. The students who engaged in the thankless task of registering voters early in the year deserve the appreciation of us all.

The administration and workers who made available the zoology lecture theatre for a public meeting and the Great Hall for polling also played their part. The students who assisted the parties at the polling station added an element of youthful vitality and purpose to the occasion. The spirited but good natural competition between the many candidates from the university community set an example to the city and the country in how to conduct themselves in elections. In the event, democracy won and I was proud and grateful to be a part of it.

Michael Whisson

Proctor netted!

Now that the cricket season is upon us, we thought you'd like to know that former Springbok fast bowler Mike Procter now has his own Web Page where he discusses news and topical subjects within the local and international cricket world. He will update articles every three weeks and invites anyone to send him cricketing questions. He will reply by means of his WWW page which can be found at the URL http://www.aztec.co.za/exinet/sport/procter/procter.html

Publisher makes award

Nasionale Pers has recognised the initiatives taken by the Commerce Faculty at Rhodes University to address educational imbalances through the development of the Commerce Foundation Programme.

This recognition has taken the form of an award for the best result in Accounting 1, together with the best aggregate for the Foundation Programme as a whole.

Seen here with Mrs Coetzee (Coordinator), Prof Van der Watt (Dean of Commerce), Prof Surtees (Head of the Department of Accounting) and Mr Sieberhagen (Accounting lecturer) is Mr Sisa Sidumo the recipient of the Nasionale Pers Award.



from computing services



UNINET NEWS

Time-of-Day Tariff

Uninet has introduced a time-of-day tariff as the basis of the usage component of the fee paid by member institutions. This was used to calculate the 1996 fee. The usage patterns from August 1995 until July 1996 will be used to calculate the 1997 fee, so sites that can move their usage into the 'free' periods will achieve savings in future.

The time-of-day tariffs are:

Period	Weighting Factor
00h00 to 08h00	free
08h00 to 12h00	1
12h00 to 20h00	2
20h00 to 00h00	1,5

Users are requested, where possible, to avoid access to international internet sites during peak periods, particularly from 12h00 to 20h00.

Bandwidth

From January 1996, the bandwidth on the

South African backbone circuits and on the link to the USA will be increased to 512 Kbps (these links are presently operating at 256 Kbps). A decision regarding a further increase, maybe to 2048 Kbps, maybe in October 1996, will be taken at the next Board meeting to be held in February 1996. By February, the results will be known of Uninet's efforts to raise additional funds to subsidise the costs of circuits.

Mailing List

The MajorDomo mailing list package has been installed at the FRD, and the mailing list NETNEWS has been set up for the purpose of distributing announcements about Uninet. To subscribe to this mailing list, send the following message:

To: majordomo@apies.frd.ac.za Subject: ignored – can be anything Message contents: subscribe netnews end

Open Day at the IWR



The Institute for Water Research held a successful Open Day last week during which a variety of subjects was addressed. Here some of the visitors listen to Prof Dennis Hughes, of the IWR, explaining aspects of hydrological data analysis and modelling during the course of the day.

Joint R&D programme for Mozambique

Professor Tom Hecht, Head of the Department of Ichthyology and Fisheries Sciences, has recently returned from Belgium where amongst other things he attended an international conference on fish larval culture at the University of Gent. Het was one of six world fisheries experts – the others were from the United States, Norway, Singapore, France and Japan – who were invited to run the poster section of the conference which concerned itself with fish and crustacean lava. The conference itself he said; "was a great success attended by some 340 delegates from 62 countries".

While he was in Belgium, Prof Hecht also met with one of the Directors-General for Africa of the European Commission to discuss funding for a joint aquaculture Research and Development programme with the Aquaculture Laboratory & Artemia Reference Centre of the University of Gent in Mozambique.

"These discussions were very successful," Hecht believes; "Prof Patrick Sorgeloos of the University of Gent and I are of the opinion that the programme could commence in July next year. Not only will this provide funding for our research but will also lead to a significant exchange of students between Rhodes and the University of Gent; funded of course by the EC."

"We also met with the Director of International Affairs of the University of Gent (Dr Bracke) who was highly supportive of another initiative. This revolves around the development of aquaculture coursework at the Honours and the Masters level for distance education over the World Wide Web. Prof. Sorgeloos and another of his colleagues will probably be visiting the Department early next year to get the ball rolling on this initiative.

"All in all", he adds, "it was a pretty hectic week. Apart from the above we also had a meeting of the editorial board of one of the international journals upon which I serve and had to attend an ad-hoc meeting of advisors to the International Foundation for Science." Prof Hecht is one of the Foundation's advisors.

"While at the Conference I was also asked to serve on the International Scientific Committee for an international conference on marine fish stock enhancement entitled First International Conference on Stock Enhancement and Sea Ranching which is to be held in Bergen, Norway, in September 1997", he adds.

Rhodes WWW page to be 'tidied'

Mr Greg Watkins, a graduate student in the Department of Computer Science, has taken on the task of developing and maintaining the University's home page on the World Wide Web.

His initial task will be to 'tidy things up' so that the material is easy to access. He will then visit the academic departments and research units which do not appear on the page to gather material for display. The Marketing and Communciations Division would be grateful if this material could be prepared and saved onto disk in ASCII to speed up the process. The Division hopes to be able to develop the home page as a means of presenting Rhodes to potential students, staff members and visitors – but needs the assistance of departments and staff as information providers.



Rhodos, 10 November 1995

Certificates awarded to RU staff members



Some 70 Rhodes staff members received certificates, after attending a variety of courses on the Rhodes Worker Education Programme, at a ceremony held recently.

Twenty-three of them were recognised after attending the Xhosa/ English basic literacy course; 20 had attended the Typing and Computer courses and 37 had passed driving tests for code 8, 9 and 10 vehicles.

The ceremony was well attended and many present paid tribute to the Community Interaction Project and especially retiring coordinator Ms Patricia Hall.

Here some of those who received their certificates are photographed with friends, colleagues and supporters during the event.

New media liaison strategy

Media releases have, in the past, been the most frequently used means of channelling information to the media.

They have never been the ideal means of communication for several reasons – there are so many of them that news editors and copy tasters drown under the flood; news editors are aware that they are not getting an exclusive story; and journalists have well-developed 'puffery' detection antennae.

Until about four years ago, the Rhodes Media Office had rather good media release use figures, but this has been dropping, for a number of reasons, one of which is that papers have shrunk in size and become more parochial.

Rhodes has led the South African field in using ProfNet Search with some spectacular results. There are still only three or four ProfNet members at South African Universities. This service will become even more valuable to us as South African media cotton on to it, as they are now slowly beginning to do. We will always have to use media releases to some extent, but we hope to cut down on this with the introduction of 'tip sheets' early next year. Media releases will be prepared in the usual way and sent to relevant periodicals and 'country' papers such as Grocott's Mail. They will not be sent to the daily and weekly papers or the electronic media We will set up tip sheets for the various disciplines at Rhodes, which will be circulated to the media about once a week. Each tip sheet will carry short summaries of the media releases and information about how to follow up on the story. This means that each newspaper will be able to handle the story as they wish.

The tip sheets will also inform them how to access the Rhodes WWW page, which carries all media releases on ru.announce.

Mary Burnett

Was responsible for the internet



A long-standing friend of Rhodes and the person without whom the University would not have connected to the Internet took time off during a visit to Africa to call in and renew associations with a number of people from the Computer Services Division and the Department of Computer Science.

He is Mr Randy Bush (pictured at left), a United States based consultant, who travels the world for clients involved in developing countries.

South African pioneer

Rhodes pioneered the Internet in South Africa, in 1988, and from then until 1992, Mr Bush was our link with the outside world. The gateway used by Rhodes, and thus the whole of South Africa, he recalls, was in fact a computer situated in his garage at home.

Mr Bush gave freely of his time to set the Internet link up and was a great supporter of the concept at a time when international sanctions were a force to be reckoned with. The entire news and mail feeds to South Africa flowed through his home in America and it was only recently that he ceased to act as the FidoNet gateway between the United States and the rest of the world.

Prof Pat Terry had heard that Mr Bush was in Kenya recently and invited him to extend his trip by visiting Grahamstown for a few days. He was happy to oblige and gave an informal seminar while on our campus.

Charles Gordon Rice Memorial Scholarship winners 1995

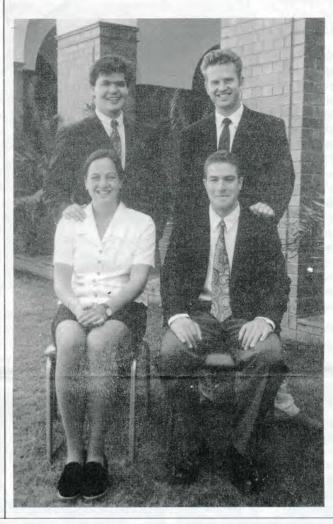
Briony Wishart (Management III,
Grahamstown Division) and Elizabeth
Smales (Management III, East London
Division) are the joint winners of the 1995
Charles Gordon Rice Memorial Scholarship,
on the basis of their achievements in
Management II in 1994.





Management III business plan winners

The Department of Management has recently included a course module in its undergraduate programme at third-year level to provide the basic skills for developing an enterprise, as well as on the specific needs of the successful management of small enterprises.



Students, working in groups, are required to write a business plan which they could realistically start the following year. Apart from the written submission of the business plan, each group of students is required to present the plan to a panel, which includes a banker or venture capitalist. One of the tests of a good business plan is whether a banker or venture capitalist would be prepared to put money into the business which is being proposed.

> The best business plan for 1995 was presented by, clockwise from left, Tanya Gurnell, Mark Stavrakis, Herculano Costa Tré and John Dismore. The business plan which they presented was in connection with starting a business, Hydrotech cc, for manufacturing and distributing high quality drinking water filtration systems for use in households and places of work.

National training strategy launched

Mr Gerard Corsane, of the Albany Museum's History Department, was elected Chairman of the South African Museums Association (SAMA) Training Committee in July.

He has subsequently been directed by the Council of the Association, of which he is now a member, to draft a national training strategy for staff working at museums, art galleries, monuments and heritage councils.

Having met, during the course of a recent tour of the country, with a wide range of people in the industry, he is now determining the training needs of all staff working in heritage institutions, identifying established and potential trainers, evaluating and assessing training courses and opportunities and establishing where to source funding for training.

Mr Corsane is to submit a draft strategy to the SAMA Council in January. This will be circulated to staff in the provinces for further input and will be finally presented to the national departments of Arts, Culture, Technology and Science and Labour.

Mr Corsane invites anyone who wishes to contribute to the discussions and process to telephone him at 2 2312.

Mr Gerard Corsane (right)



Rhodos, 10 November 1995

Up the icy mountains and through the rocky glens

It used to be said of Geography that it is best learned through the soles of one's feet.

"Even in these days of satellite images and remote sensing, this is the case", holds Head of the Department of Geography, Prof Colin Lewis, who has just returned from New Zealand and its Southern Alps. He presented two research seminars, at the Universities of Canterbury in Christchurch, and Otago in Dunedin.

The former is particularly well-known for the standard of its Geography. The applied aspects of the subject are stressed and many staff members are actively involved in environmental consultancy work. Prof Lewis found that there are plenty of employment opportunities for geographers, a situation mirrored in South Africa

Heavy snow prevented Prof Lewis from visiting the mountain areas but he did spend two days in the field with local scientists examining massive landslides and escarpment failures. A further highlight was an excursion to the Otago peninsula to visit Maori site remains. He was also exposed to the university's Institute of Environmental Management and to the Department of Ecology, both of which, he believes, could be

usefully replicated at Rhodes.

Prof Lewis is known to be particularly interested in glaciers and it was thus predictable that he would visit some in New Zealand, especially given that they have recently begun active phases of advance.



His final day in the mountains, winter having not yet given way to spring, brought more

snow and fears that he would not be able to return to Christchurch. He managed, however, and was able to indulge in another interest when he conducted a quarter peal on the bells of Christchurch Cathedral for a special Choral Festival Evensong.

"The importance of such visits as this cannot be over emphasised", says Prof Lewis. "The time has come to build bridges, especially between universities in the Southern Hemisphere. Many of the geographic problems of isolation from major economic and cultural centres which we face in South Africa are common to Australia and New Zealand and even to South America. Through visiting New Zealand I have been able to establish important links with the universities of Canterbury and Otago, the benefits of which will become apparent in the years ahead.

Prof Colin Lewis returned home (left) by train, for the final leg of his trip. This is appropriate, given his efforts towards returning passenger services to Grahamstown in recent months. Mountain boots in hand, he was happy to return to some form of summer; distinctly lacking while he was in New Zealand.

Graduate Placement Programme draws more firms

The most sought after students, during the Rhodes University Graduate Placement programme this year, were those studying information systems, especially at Honours level, computer science and auditing.

The Student Adviser's Office once again mounted a successful Graduate Placement Programme to give final-year students the opportunity to meet a range of potential employers.

Rhodes graduates amongst the best

Mr Bill Boyd, who runs a technical and scientific software house in Johannesburg, said that his company visits only Rhodes to look for prospective employees. "Rhodes graduates are among the best in the country. The standard of Rhodes graduates is consistently high and we find that they are well-rounded individuals", he said.

"I have interviewed nine students during my visit here and all of them have great potential. Software production is a young person's game, so we are always on the lookout for bright, young talent.

Representative of 23 firms conducted interviews with students, while nine organisations mounted presentations", said Mr Mark Rainier, the Student Adviser.

"It is still much cheaper and more efficient to recruit new staff in this way than to run advertisements in the national press", he said. "A number of new firms participated and a number who have not visited the University for some years returned. The Zimbabwe branches of a few firms also attended. This is a trend I encourage, because of the number of foreign students at Rhodes who cannot be employed in South Africa", he said.

"Apart from the huge demand for information systems, computer science and auditing students, there is still a fair spread of commercial employers and a few liberal arts recruiters, largely in the advertising field", Mr Rainier continued.

Talking to arts students

He said that a number of the commercial employers are interested in talking to arts students who have appropriate experience or who show a definite interest in commercial work.

"The growth of recruiting in information technology and computer science has been marked and more employers are competing for the same students. They are thus finding it harder to recruit students who, in turn, appear to be well prepared for their job search and serious about the whole process", Mr Rainier concluded.

Rhodos invites contributions from staff members and other readers.

Articles should be forwarded to the Editor, at the Marketing and Communications Division.

Articles are preferred on diskette in any of several common formats, including ASCII, Word Perfect and Xywrite. 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.

RHODOS STAFF

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The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor, Rhodos staff, or the University. The Editor welcomes all contributions but reserves the right to edit these.

RHODOS DEADLINE DATES

Copy Date 16 November Publication Date
23 November

International exposure for RU academics

Rhodes staff should be aware that their opinions and authoritative comment can be given wide international exposure, says External Communications Manager Mary Burnett of the Marketing and Communications Division.

Miss Burnett is a Public Information Officer (PIO) of Profnet, and international clearing house for queries from journalists from all over the world.

Profnet operates on the Internet and journalists' queries are sorted and forwarded to PIOs internationally, as they are received. If a PIO thinks that he, she or colleagues and associates are able to respond, this is done directly.

Miss Burnett says that since Rhodes gained access to Profnet she has been able to refer many queries from international writers to members of our staff and to respond with information.

A staffer from *The Scientific American* visited us a few months ago as a direct result of the Profnet activity.

Most recently an article on Data Warehousing, by Naomi Grossman in the *Central New York Business Journal*, was able to use comment by Prof Malcolm Sainsbury, largely, says Miss Burnett, because he was "very quick to respond when I referred it to him".

She makes the point that Rhodes staff can be quoted, as authorities in their fields, in the international and, later, the national media if they will help her to follow up on queries.

Seasonal Science Events – RU input sought for broadcast

The Environment Show airs on public radio in the USA and ABC stations as well as the Voice of America and Armed Forces Radio. Each show features a segment called Earth Calendar during which a seasonal event is discussed, the quirkier the better.

The producers need scientists to talk about these events. The topics can feature animals, plants, and other items of intrest. Events are not limited to North America or even our planet! Their last feature featured a story on tuna migration, while another Earth Calendar featured butterfly migration.

If Rhodes staff have a topic they feel would fit into this radio programme, please make contact with Mary Burnett, ext 8517, e-mail: adbb@warthog.ru.ac.za to discuss it.

A lack of principals!

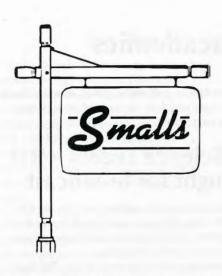
Some three dozen heads of senior schools throughout South Africa were the guests of Rhodes recently and spent a day on our campus. They toured the grounds, visited a residence and academic departments

and senior colleagues.

Rhodos is indebted to Mr Robert Clarence, an Old Rhodian and Headmaster of St John's College in Johannesburg, for the collective noun used in the headline to this report!

of their choice and were entertained to luncheon by the Vice-Chancellor noun used in the headline to this report!

Heads of senior schools photographed with some Rhodes staff members outside the administration block before returning to Gauteng, KwaZulu/Natal and the Western and Eastern Cape.



DOMESTIC WORKER SEEKS EMPLOYMENT

Careful, caring, energetic domestic worker, with us for 14 years, seeks Wednesday job a.s.a.p. Washes and irons, cooks, does general cleaning, etc. Loves children and dogs. Wonderful person. Please phone Wendy Dore at 2 4083 (until 30 November), or Ian Dore at ext 8279 (until 15 December).

BED and BREAKFAST

In Johannesburg's northern suburbs. Charming, newly furnished twin-bedded accommodation with own entrance; bathroom en suite, opens onto private patio, walking distance to shops and restaurants, 10 minutes from Wits, RAU and Wits Tech, metered phone, bar fridge, lock-up parking. Single: R 140,00; per person sharing: R 115,00. Phone (011) 442 8083.

SITUATION NEEDED

Our domestic worker is looking for employment as we are leaving town. She is a lovely cheerful person to have around. Responsible and can write and read English; can also cook. Highly recommended. Phone Joan Mitchell at ext 8569 or 2 4988 after hours.

FOR SALE

BMX boy's bicycle, suitable for under-10 year-old. R 150,00. Tel 2 6075 after hours.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Come and sing! Join the Rotary Carols by Candlelight service on Tuesday, 5 December at 19h30 in the Cathedral, Bring your family and a present for a needy child. A small entrance fee will be charged – proceeds to charity.

AUTHOR SOUGHT

Victoria High School will be celebrating its centenary in 1997 and is looking for someone who might be interested in writing up the school's history into booklet form. Generous honorarium payable. Please contact Denise Long at 2 4033 if you are interested.

FOR SALE

BMW 728i, automatic. R 10 000 negotiable. Tel 31 8029 after hours.

ADVERTISING RATES

Display ads: R 2,50 per column centimetre; double for front and back pages.

Classifieds: 10 cents per word unless a bona fide staff member is advertising in his or her personal capacity, in which case no charge is levied. Advertising is run strictly on a cash basis.

Copy, which is only accepted in writing, should be forwarded with payment to the Marketing and Communications Division.

LIEBERMANN POTTERY FOR SALE

Blue Range. For details phone 31 8209.

FOR SALE:

Dining table (seats 8), solid wood, dark brown, 210x120cm, R 500,00.

2 wardrobes, white, with drawers, R 300,00 each; Reggies cot, white, with mattress, R 200,00; Cupboard, solid wood, dark brown, two-door, height 167cmx107x47cm, R 150,00 Table, solid wood, 243x53cm, 63cm high, suitable for TV, HiFi... R 90,00 Table, solid wood, 210x38cm, 20cm high, fits under the above table, R 60,00 Contact Dr Dizdar @ 31 8343 (w) & 31 2256 (h)

ANTIQUE MUSEUM JARS

The J.L.B. Smith Institute offers for sale several classic museum jars recently removed from its collection. These are ground-glass stoppered (each individually hand fit), molten-cast jars from an era and craft long since passed. Sizes are 2, 3 and 5 litre; all are cylindrical. In addition are some blue-glass tanks of about 40 litres. Competitively priced for sale. Contact Dr. Eric Anderson at 0461-27124 (Grahamstown) to see and admire.

POOL TABLE FOR SALE

Solid oak, slate 3rd size snooker/pool table complete with balls, cues, etc. Like new. Must see. R 3 500,00. Phone John at ext 8256 or 2 8721(h).

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

We are looking to rent a four- or five-bedroomed home from january 1996 to July 1996. Anyone going away on sabbatical who needs a caretaker for seven months, please contact Harry Moss at 2 8932 h) or 2 7115 (w).

GARAGE NEEDED

Lock up garage needed in the vicinity of African Street. Please phone Tom Penlington at ext 8166 or 2 6754 after hours.

ACCOMMODATION OFFERED

Large studio available in 1996 to member of RU staff or mature student. Quiet and secure; near campus. Rental would include continental breakfast, laundry and electricity. Telephone 2 2761 (evenings).

Tournament of 'minimal threat', says Andrew

The Rhodes University Sports
Administration is due to host the 1995
South African Students Sports Union
Underwater tournament in early December
this year and has come under fire from Mr
Dennis Croucamp, of a Port Alfred SCUBA
diving school.

In a letter to the University and to the media, Mr Croucamp, who had been led to believe that the tournament was to be held this month, expressed concern that the spearfishing competition would damage the Fountain Rocks reef area.

The Rhodes Sports Administration has explained that the underwater tournament consists of three disciplines - underwater hockey, SCUBA-orienteering and spearfishing. "Planning has been under way for some months and due regard has been given to accommodating the spearfishing competition over a wide area of the Eastern Cape coastline", said Mr Peter Andrew, Head of Sports Administration at Rhodes. He added that there had not been any intention to include the Fountain Rocks reef outcrop as part of the competition area, saying that the spearfishing competition would be held over many kilometres of coastline, involving a maximum of thirty spearfishermen for two days.

"The spearfishing competition is subject to strict Sea Fisheries regulations as well as self-imposed competition rules which set bag and size limits for the different species of fish", said Mr Andrew. "We have consulted widely and debated the issue at length and it is our firm belief that the competition will be efficiently controlled and that due regard has been given to ensuring that any impact on the fish reserves of the coastline will be minimal", he said.

Thorburn graphics for international exhibition

Work by Mr Dominic Thorburn, head of the Graphic Arts Section of the School of Fine Art at Rhodes University, Grahamstown, has been selected for the Seventh International Biennial Print and Drawing Exhibit in the Republic of China in December this year.

His work has been selected by a distinguished international panel of jurors and will form part of the exhibition which will be on view for three months at the Taipei Fine Arts Museum.