

Rhodes' most Presidential student newspaper

May 1996

activate

Independent Student Newspaper

third
Edition



PUTTING THE FACTS STRAIGHT

Maria McCloy

THE LOCAL branch of the ANC and SASCO met to form a memorandum on students' experiences and feelings round the Motara issue. The memorandum aims to counter what they see as slanted information.

ANC Chairperson, Julia Wells, said the meeting aimed to put forward an alternative documentation of events to that of admin, as thus far most media had been slanted in favour of admin. This was critical as the media was used by government officials to interpret the situation at Rhodes and a new vice chancellor was in place and was only getting one side and "making decisions on the basis of that picture".

Wells commented that such

lopsided information is read by people concerned with campus issues and "a lot of academics but also many white students haven't heard an alternate point of view". Regarding ANC intervention in the crisis Wells said the local ANC branch coordinated a meeting between students and Speaker of Parliament, Frene Ginwala, who was in Grahamstown over Graduation. Ginwala then spoke to admin. Wells added that people from provincial ANC structures have met with SASCO and helped comprise negotiating positions.

SASCO Chairperson Mboneni Mulaudzi gave a summary of events round the Motara issue from the beginning of this year to the present and students also gave input around the issue and transformation of Rhodes - all of..

(continued on page 3)

Break-In At Local Bottle Store

Activate Reporter

APPROXIMATELY R12 000 worth of goods was stolen from Grapevine Bottle Store in High Street after a break-in on May 11. Thieves broke in through the store's front window and escaped with several cases of spirits, liqueurs and beer before the police and security guards arrived.

Store manager, Tizi Gottini, said he thought "it was the students. There was a bunch of them outside the shop when I got there and some of them were drinking from our bottles, but you know, what can you do?"

He added: "There was a big crowd of students on High Street from the Town Hall all the way up, because there was some function happening in the City Hall then. They were drinking and urinating outside. They're a bunch of hooligans."

According to Gottini the burglars stole only the most expensive goods in the store: "A third of the spirit rack is gone. There was a broken bottle of Southern Comfort by the front door."

Gottini said someone was arrested in connection with the case later that night. He said the security firm had been alerted of the break-in when they got the signal but were slow in their response. The police got there first. "I think they were a bit slow too, maybe they were all busy on other call outs", Gottini remarked.

The police officer in charge of the case, Sergeant Goliath, could not be reached for comment.

Smuts Students Take Decisive Action

Steven Moti

A GROUP of concerned students, in Jan Smuts house, lodged complaints to the House and Hall wardens at the beginning of this term. These included among other things the criteria used for appointing sub-wardens.

Despite failure to agree on certain crucial issues - notably the sacking of the newly appointed sub-wardens, meal funds, the quality of food and res fines - the university has included students in decision making, in light of the new draft policy.

The house warden of Atherstone is leaving and there needs to be a warden appointed as quickly as possible. Students were drawn in by the selection panel, for the first time.

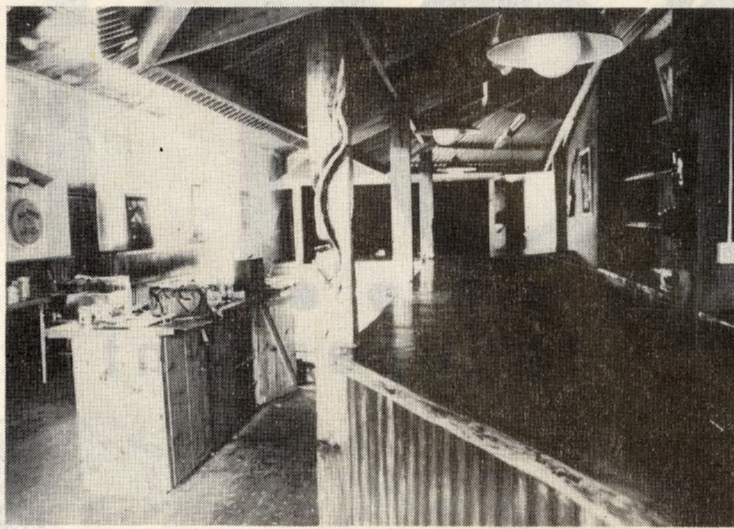
In his address to students in the Smuts Hall on May 7, the hall warden, Godfrey Meintjes explained the university wanted to be as transparent as possible to students and it was not willing to repeat the mistakes it made in the past. He said the new Vice Chancellor, David Woods, wanted student participation in the selection for the particular house warden in Atherstone.

This is said to be an interim measure and by the end of the year this method would have been abandoned. Two students will be sitting in the selection panel and they "will be having a final say, and have a significant input in short listing the applicants," said Meintjes.

Meintjes waxes almost lyrical, though conceding the parties might be having reservations: "the varsity has been slow to transform but is committed to transform".

Various outstanding matters are listed, including the drafting of the

True Blue Hang-Out



pic: Ian Rowett

GOOD news for blues lovers is the opening of an exclusively blues pub with a distinct New Orleans flavour. James Truter, owner of Tin Roof Blues, says he decided to open the venue because there is "a lack of entertainment in Grahamstown. Students need live

music. Tin Roof Blues, whose theme is similar to that of Truter's other pub in Knysna, will be hosting an array of jazz, rock and cabaret acts. The venue possesses a bar, stage, beer garden and lounge. Business hours will be from 11:00am to 2:00am seven

days a week. Apart from its Southern theme another of the pub's unique traits is that the venue was a church until about a month ago. Tin Roof Blues will be opening on Friday, May 24, at 8:00pm. To complement the blues atmosphere Jack Daniels bourbon will be sold at R2 a tot.

Everest Team Heading For The Top

Montgomery Cooper

THE South African Everest expedition, including Rhodes student Cathy O'Dowd, have made a decision to summit the world's highest mountain this week.

The South Africans will be making their second attempt ahead of five other teams trying to scale the 8800 metre peak.

South African climber, Deshun Deyzel, who did not make the first attempt due to difficulties obtaining a climbing permit, will now climb with the team, as she has obtained a separate permit through the intercedence of Michael O'Dowd of Johannesburg. The team is still planning to do a live radio broadcast from the summit to South Africa.

The South African team delivered notes of condolence to the teams that have suffered tragedy on the Hill this season. At Base Camp, the expedition flags are flying at half mast to honour the eight climbers, from five different teams, who have died over the past two weeks. In the past century Everest has claimed over 100 lives.

The South African team was involved in a hair-raising rescue

attempt, helping escort the seriously injured climbers from the International and American Groups down the massive Lhotse face to Camp Two.

The camp was a "battlefield", said the South African Technical Officer, Phillip Woodall, with a hospital set up and several doctors tending to the injured climbers who have already reached the tents.

The intention is to try to treat the climbers and evacuate them out to Base Camp as fast as possible, where the rescue helicopters can fly them to Kunde Hospital, near Namche Bazar. If the injuries are too serious, the climbers may have to be evacuated to Kathmandu.

But it has not been plain sailing at Base Camp either, with Phillip Woodall battling to keep the expedition in touch with the world and keeping lines of communication open to the climbers on the mountain. The team's generator is faulty, and Phillip has to use two car batteries to communicate.

Meanwhile, back in South Africa, several climbers have voiced their support for the team, expressing regret that they had not supported Ian Woodall and his expedition prior to the rescue drama.

Cover Story

ACTIVATE'S front cover sketch was drawn by Rhodes Fine Art Masters student, Cui Ning, who produced the drawing especially to be presented to President Mandela on his recent visit to Grahamstown on behalf of the People's Republic of China.

DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS

Ilda Jacobs and Brigid Martin

THE SASCO/PASO internal disciplinary hearings have been delayed until the start of the third term, following further disruptions on campus on Monday, the 6th of May.

A group of about 30 chanting Rhodes students again disrupted lectures by marching into lecture halls and emptying bags full of rubbish and leaves. Tyres were also burned on campus and the head of campus security, David Charteris, who was filming the students, was attacked as students tried to confiscate the videotape.

The demonstrators, marching as "concerned students" were protesting against the appointment of advocate John Whitehead as the Chairperson of the disciplinary hearings. The SASCO/PASO alliance objects to the appointment of Whitehead because, as an old Rhodian who has represented the University before, they feel that he will be biased towards admin.

SASCO proposed that the chairperson of the Human Rights Commission, Barney Pityana, act as Chairperson, but admin have rejected this suggestion. Vice-Principal of Rhodes, Dr. Michael Smout, said that admin had contacted Pityana, but his responsibilities do not allow him to settle student problems. SASCO chairperson Mboneni Mulaudzi said Pityana had agreed to represent them, but only if there

were cases of human rights abuse. Latest reports confirm that Whitehead will act as the chairperson of the disciplinary hearings despite SASCO's objections. The board will also include a Proctor of the University and a student representative, appointed by the Student Representative Council (SRC).

Smout admitted that Whitehead has worked for the University before, although not representing it in court or in a dispute. According to him Whitehead investigated Latin as part of a law-course nine or ten years ago.

Mulaudzi, who is charged with disrupting lectures, said the postponement of the hearings will give them the opportunity to study, because "the crisis has interfered drastically with academic work". Smout said "the disciplinary hearings may be postponed, but they will definitely take place." He assumes students who disrupted the campus on Monday, will also be disciplined.

Members of SASCO and PASO also face charges from the Supreme Court after violating an interdict which banned them from disrupting the campus. The case is to go ahead later this month.

Vasco Ndebele, chairperson of the SRC, said he hopes students whose rights were infringed, would be satisfied with the outcome of the hearings, because the disciplinary committee is "supposed to be an independent, credible structure". He called on all Rhodians to "come together to solve our problems".

Putting the Facts Straight...

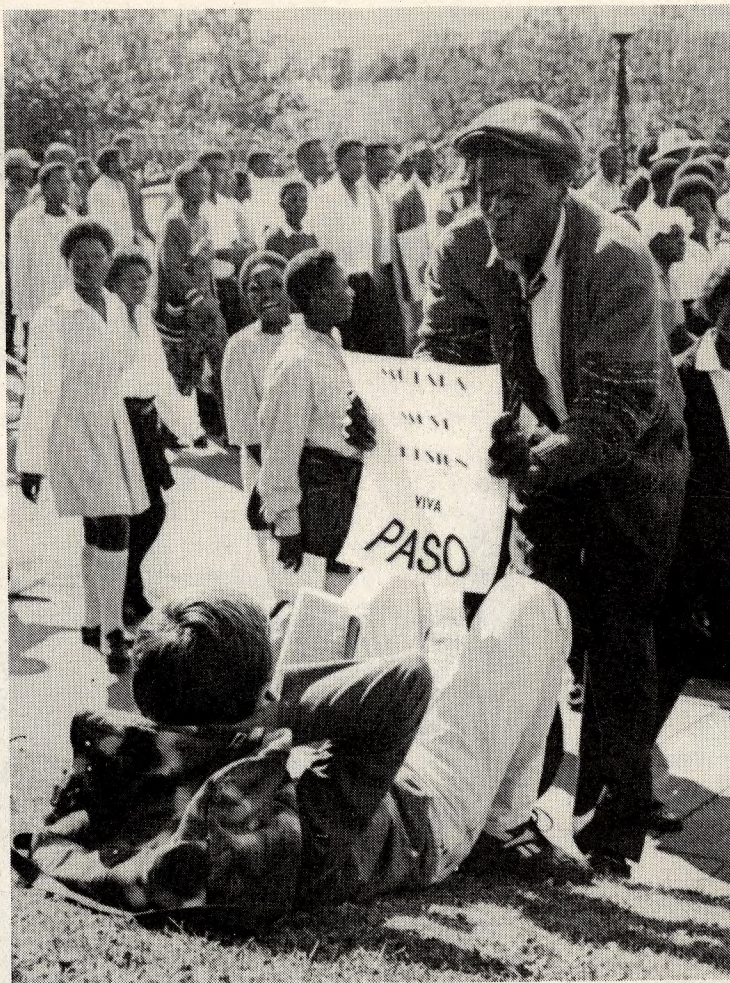
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which was noted down to go in the memorandum.

Highlighted in the meeting were students' accounts of police brutality. Those at the meeting believed some media either downplayed or ignored the issue of police batoning and beating students.

Wells described police and legal action as a "heavy-handed form of harassment...admin needs to accept some of the blame for not handling the situation effectively from the outset. We feel there's a lot more room for discussing some middle ground position" as legalistic actions were felt to be aggravating the situation far beyond where it could have been. Wells believes the problem in the handling of the Motara question was students mistrust of admin, which she sees as having been compounded many times over and rooted in the fact that "Admin does not take them seriously and disregards their complaints".

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Rhodes students and workers, joined by pupils from Grahamstown high schools and students from other tertiary institutions in the Eastern Cape, marched to Admin to deliver a petition demanding the withdrawal of the interdict issued against workers and students last term.
pic: Ian Rowett

Students Claim Police Brutality

**Karen Makgamathe
and Maria McCloy**

MEMBERS of SASCO and PASO who broke down the door of the lower level of admin during last term's protest to demand the removal of Dr Motara, claim police on the scene used violence against them.

According to SASCO Chairperson Mboneni Mulaudzi and PASO Chairperson Patric Mahlangu, police manhandled students and batonned them as well as firing rubber bullets - all with no warning.

**"That kind of brutality is
clearly wrong"**

Registrar Stephen Fourie commented on the reports by journalists of beatings and shootings which resulted in the hospitalisation of 3 students. "That kind of brutality is clearly wrong", but the allegations needed to be tested. He said former Vice Chancellor Derek Henderson called in the police to "restore order" because of damage to property and alleged assaults on students.

The last thing admin wanted on campus were police and calling them in is "very much a last resort, when the situation gets out of control", said Fourie.

Mulaudzi denied that PASO and SASCO protesters had assaulted other students, and pointed out that police were on campus before they broke down the door.

Though being against the disruptions of lectures and the protest action both SALSA and DEMSOC

have come out against police brutality.

SALSA Chairperson Leonard Olyott said "violence only serves to incite students", adding "admin felt that they had a right to protect themselves like any citizen would".

Olyott said he also felt admin acted in breach of agreement by telling those who participated in the sit-in they were willing to enter into negotiations and then calling the police to arrest them.

Kim Coetzee, speaking for DEMSOC, condemned police action and said "action must be taken to prevent any outside intervention from the beginning". Admin was not justified in calling the police although she can understand it from admin's side as "they felt they needed to".

Head of Campus Security, Dave Charteris, said he did not see the way police behaved but "I have no reason to believe they used excessive force...I saw no evidence of beating...as far as I'm aware the force applied was reasonable given the circumstances."

**..called in police to "re-
store order", because of
damage to property and
alleged assaults on stu-
dents**

Regarding the allegation that one woman was hit on the head with the butt of a gun, Charteris said it was the first time he heard of this. He said he didn't see anyone shot with a rubber bullet, but heard a protester was injured through punching a glass window.

Mulaudzi does not believe a police presence was necessary during the last protest, saying that if there was ever an absolute necessity to call in police, or if the dispute could not be settled internally, "we should also be consulted".

On the day Rhodes workers and students were due to appear in court for defying an interdict applied for by admin, SASCO and PASO from Rhodes and other Eastern Cape educational institutions, NEHAWU members and pupils from local schools marched to the Supreme Court to hand in petitions.

**if the dispute could not be
settled internally, "we
should also be consulted"**

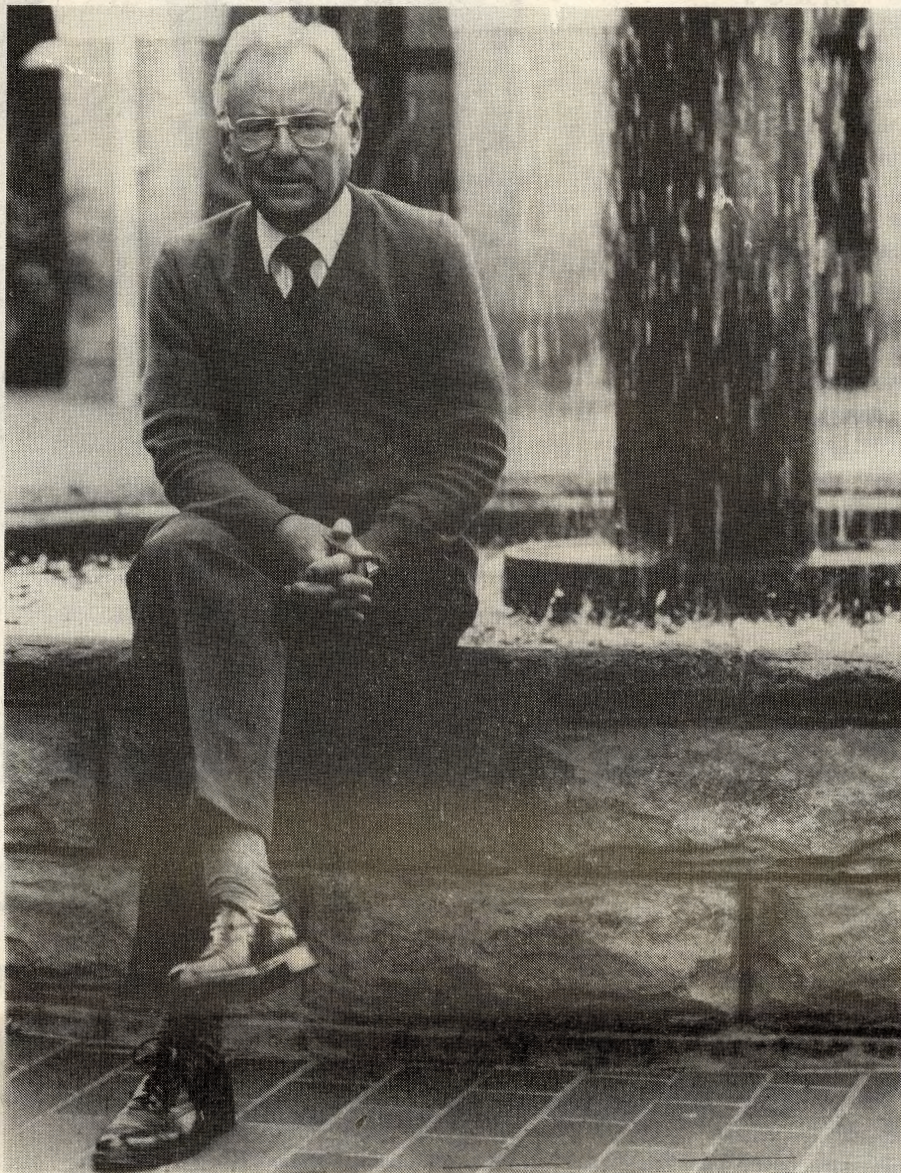
A memorandum was also handed to the police and to Rhodes administration.

SALSA and DEMSOC's names appeared on the posters announcing the march to the police station on March 25, but according to Olyott SALSA had only agreed to march to admin to hand over the petition to Dr Henderson, and had not agreed to march to the court houses or the police station. Coetzee said DEMSOC had not agreed to take part in the march at all.

Police Spokesperson, Captain George Green, said he was not able to make a statement until the trials of the 165 Rhodes students and workers arrested for defying the interdict issued by admin after the break in last term.

New Vice-Chancellor Backs Transformation

Rhodes new Vice-Chancellor, David Woods, left his post as Deputy Vice-Chancellor at the University of Cape Town to take up his new position at Rhodes on May 1. He is an old Rhodian himself, having graduated from Rhodes with a Bachelor of Science degree. He went on to Oxford, England, where he completed his Phd in Molecular Genetics, before returning to Rhodes in 1967 to lecture in microbiology. He then went to UCT where he became professor of microbiology in 1980 and was appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor in 1988. He spoke to **Zandile Nkutha & Maria Kurian** about his role at Rhodes.



Rooting For Change...Rhodes' new Vice-Chancellor, David Woods is hoping to start a "meaningful transformation process as soon as possible".
pic: Taryn Cass

People who fear that South African Universities fail to transform because they are led by administrators who are tied to the past and don't have the vision to get the transformation process going, can relax because Rhodes' newly elected Vice Chancellor, Dr David Woods, promises to transform this university as soon as possible.

Woods believes Rhodes "is not behind" in the transformation process compared to other tertiary institutions in South Africa, particularly Wits and UCT. He says his appointment was in itself part of the transformation process, simply because it was done in a new way. However, he says Rhodes' attempts at transformation have been unsuccessful so far, and it is impossible to proceed until outstanding issues such as the situation concerning Dean of

Students, Moosa Motara, and the issue of disruptions were addressed. He adds that his colleagues and fellow administrators are supportive and share his vision of transformation. Woods says he has a lot to offer Rhodes, and he could assist the University to develop. "I am very keen to start a meaningful transformation process as soon as possible."

He plans to consult a range of people regarding the process and set up a broad transformation forum with full representation. Woods hopes to involve the whole university in transformation and will employ a mission statement that staff and students can identify with. Referring to the current campus crisis Woods says he arrived at a time when Rhodes was in turmoil.

"An institution cannot have a member of staff victimised on vague grounds, and if there is a case we want it investigated". Woods has met with SASCO and PASO, the groups leading the protest, but negotiations have deadlocked. "The students are unwilling and will not agree to external arbitration or mediation and that is what I cannot understand".

He emphasises that he considers arbitration and mediation the only acceptable propositions.

He is disinclined to agree to instate the commission of inquiry into the Motara issue that is being requested by SASCO and PASO because he believes this means that a case already exists against the Dean of Students. "[The evidence] we and the world know about is not sufficient to call a commission of inquiry".

Arbitration will bring in an independent person, who will hear the grievances against Motara, and then decide whether or not the students have a valid case. Mediation, however, would be on the premise that there is no case and evidence must be put forward to build it up. SASCO chairperson, Mboneni Mulaudzi, says they disagree with

this because they believe they have a case against Motara, and arbitration weakens their view; a commission of inquiry would enforce it. He added that during talks before the crisis, Admin had indicated that they recognised the students had a case against Motara, and had requested an internal commission of inquiry.

Woods said the disciplinary hearings of students involved in campus disruptions will go ahead. "Internal discipline must take place and the University code must take its course". He said the people involved should take responsibility for their actions.

The internal disciplinary structures had been adapted to consist of an independent chairperson, two assessors, a proctor and a student representative, to be selected from a student panel of three members, says Woods. The chairperson was to be selected by SRC president, Vasco Ndebele, and himself.

"I have suggested and nominated Senior Advocate Judge John Whitehead for the position, because he knows the law backwards". He says SASCO/PASO rejected Whitehead on "what I consider highly invalid grounds".

Mulaudzi explains they did not want Whitehead because he is an old Rhodian who represented Rhodes eight years ago and would be biased towards preserving the "old Rhodes culture". Whitehead does not fit the description of someone who is independent of Rhodes. SASCO feel their choice, Barney Pityana, chairperson of the Human Rights Commission, is completely independent of Rhodes and has substantial legal knowledge.

Woods feels Pityana is not legally suited to the position. When asked why he would go ahead with this decision despite SASCO and PASO's disapproval he answered: "We have reached a deadlock situation and I have the last word." Mulaudzi says Woods and Admin were not seriously considering any of SASCO and PASO's suggestions and this was severely hindering progress and negotiations. "Because Admin. has an upper hand and are using their power, whatever we suggest they reject and simply go ahead in whatever they feel is right", he said. Mulaudzi added that to prevent further deadlocks during negotiations SASCO and PASO have suggested mediation between themselves and Admin during the discussions, hopefully creating a smoother path to transformation.

**Whitehead was appointed as chairperson after this ACTIVATE interview.*

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Drug raids on the increase

Activate Reporter

ANOTHER drug raid occurred in Grahamstown at the 'Extreme' rave on May 10 in Bathurst Street. A group of narcotics officers entered the premises at approximately 1:00am and proceeded to search the venue with flashlights - after turning the music off and the main lights on.

Ravers waited until the police left before continuing with the rave until the next morning.

"Every single police action relies on very reliable information or a complaint," said an unidentified official last week.

He refused to comment on specific cases or give statistics on the number of busts this year. However, he did predict that there would be more Ecstasy raids, saying the only reason the drug enjoyed relative obscurity, was because of a lack of information until recently.

The drug was first seized in Grahamstown in a raid on April 16 when two students, Daya Coetzee and Kim Lombard, were found with 37 'E' tablets.

"I didn't realise the Grahamstown police were so on the ball," said a third year student whose digs was raided two weeks ago on an alleged complaint.

Three police officers searched the premises

One student had to spend two nights in the Grahamstown police station in his first year - he was arrested immediately after buying a 'bankie' off the street.

The ordeal happened because offenders are not allowed to leave the jail until they have appeared in a Magistrate's Court.

On the second night a man who was put in the cell with him claimed to be there on charges of illegal arms possession. However, at the subsequent hearing the student saw the same man in police uniform - after having spent the night chatting to him. "I felt sick, actually I don't know what the word is to describe how I felt".

"What really freaked me out was that they looked everywhere in my room where I normally hide dope," said another student, who was arrested last year for having four marijuana plants in his garden.

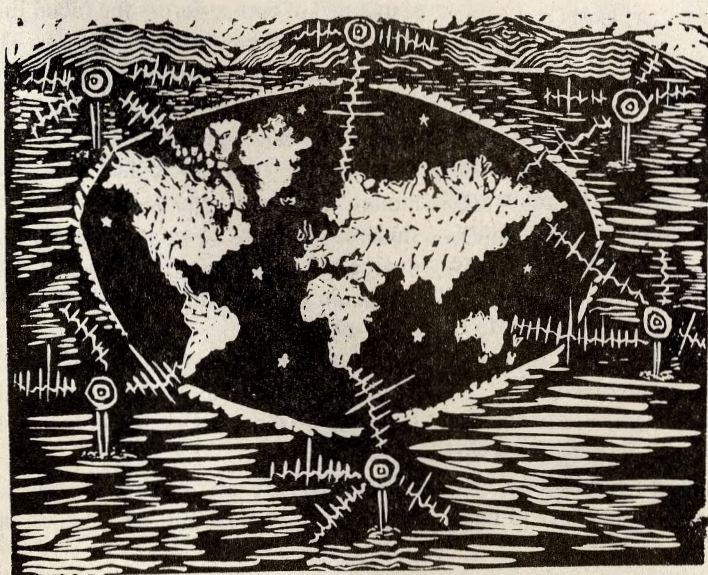
The arresting officer allegedly used the words "we'll make it chill for you" to try and encourage him to sign a statement saying he dealt drugs.

"I didn't even get one phonecall. He phoned a lawyer whom he spoke to like an old school-friend...its just frustrating, fucking frustrating. I got off because I cut my hair and the magistrate said I looked like I had repented."

DAYA Coetzee and Kim Lombard, both 21, pleaded guilty to the possession of the Ecstasy tablets on May 7 at the Grahamstown Magistrate's Court. The case was remanded until July 11.

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"I'm not a politician..."

Philani Vince Masuku

"**MANY** white students at Rhodes seem not to understand the genuine problems at hand. This is because most of them are not affected by the problems," says Mboneni Mulaudzi who is the man leading the South African Student Congress (SASCO) at Rhodes. He is qualified as a teacher and is in his second year of journalism. He is deeply involved in the current problems affecting Rhodes.

To get a picture of him one has to imagine an individual who is soft tongued, mildly aggressive, humble and yet extremely controversial. Mboneni's character is of a volatile nature which makes him a surprise package for the unsuspecting.

According to Mboneni, life at Rhodes has changed for the worse for him in all aspects. He is especially worried about his academics which has taken a big blow as a result of what he calls: "the struggle." Socially, he has created enemies especially amongst white students. For him, the arrival of the new Vice Chancellor, David Woods, is a worsening effect on the whole problem at Rhodes.

He recently met the new VC and comments: "He generally knows how to deal with students, but I think that he is going to be more bossy and less flexible when it comes to addressing our needs. Basically I'm not impressed with him. Last year when he won the contest to become our VC, I was disappointed and angry. He is a stricter and much more energetic version of Henderson."

Mboneni has a wealth of experience in student politics dating back to when he was at the Venda College of Education.

He has also been an SRC Vice President, a SASCO chairperson, an ANC youth league Vice Chairperson and, ironically in the light of his involvement in the recent class disruptions, Mboneni has also worked as a peace monitor. His past experience with student issues did not directly motivate him to get involved in student politics at Rhodes.

"This institution has a unique problem. I'm not a politician, but just a simple person with a thirst for transformation. The undemocratic nature of Rhodes is the reason I decided to help make a change by leading SASCO. Leading student organisations is not my career, I'm a journalist."

Mboneni maintains that although there may be further obstacles obscuring transformation, the struggle shall go on by any means necessary. Giving up is something he refuses to consider.

"We have made a lot of progress in our struggle. South Africa is now aware of the problems of transformation at Rhodes. We have talked to influential leaders in the country who will help to bring about change. Whether the Rhodes administration like it or not, Rhodes is going to transform. We are never going to give up."

An ideal Rhodes University for Mboneni is an institution that will operate democratically in all aspects of life. "It will have to reflect South Africa's demographics. All students will have equal rights and opportunities. I want radical change," said Mboneni.

He has become emotionally involved in the Rhodes saga. He says he does not understand why the administration is not flexible, sensible and human when dealing with student needs. Although the roads ahead are not quite clear, he is optimistic about Rhodes' future. Mboneni is already planning a celebration bash to honour the "struggles" victory.

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Voice of the People...

Swapna Prabhakaran, Ilda Jacobs & Carlien Vavruch

Do you know what the recent disruptions and marches at Rhodes were about?

Yes, the students want Dr Motara to leave. Students feel Dr Motara has been insensitive and doesn't have sympathy for students from disadvantaged backgrounds. My own view is that it is a wider issue, it has wider implications. It is not just Dr Motara, but the issue of transformation - Dr Motara is just at the front of it all.

Post-grad Mathematics student
They were upset with the student guy. They said he's insensitive.

Cher Potter BFAI
I'm not really informed. It started out as the Motara issue, but now I don't really know what it's about. I don't think they really tell the students what's going on.

Mohamed Manjoo BPharmIII
I saw it as Patrick Mahlangu doing a bit of a one-man show in the name of change. And a lot of people not knowing about the issues and seeing it as a chance to goof off from lectures.

Leigh-Anne Littleton BJournIII
To rid the university of its colonial system.

Wamkele Mene BAI

How much of an impact does campus politics have on you?

Campus politics pisses me off. They get in my way and disturb my lectures.

Ryan Budge BScI
Politics that affects me are not from campus, but nationally. The approach that I make is an approach that we get from a national perspective.

Thembinkosi Lehloesa LLBIII

Were you personally involved or affected?

I was not marching, but not in lectures either. I supported them by staying away.

Tiro Mokoditso BSocSci III
Yes. I was hosed down with a fire hydrant for expressing my opinion about my right to attend lectures.

Leigh-Anne Littleton BJournIII
I was not affected or involved because we are not part of the Rhodes staff and also not members of Nehawu. We belong to an outside organisation. We wanted to join and support, because students help us with our problems - but because of our organisation we couldn't.

Linda Thomas, Kaif cashier
My tut was cancelled, we couldn't get in. I felt very put out because we're paying for our education and we don't get it while they're doing all their wonderful riots.

Anon BJourn I
My lectures and a few tests were disrupted. Also, no food and that's important!

Brian Lam BScI
I am personally involved, there is an interdict against me.

Thembinkosi Lehloesa LLBIII

Do you think it has become a racial issue?

This is not a racist issue. It's been stressed that it is not, so it isn't.

Stuart Edmonstone BScIII
It has definitely developed into a racial issue. I was at the last meeting and PASO

The wave of protest and disruptions that engulfed Rhodes last term evoked a variety of emotions and responses among the student body. After listening to the opinions of Admin, SASCO, PASO, SALSA and DEMSOC, ACTIVATE reporters decided to ask Rhodes students what they felt.

and SASCO would only speak black languages. White speakers weren't given adequate time to address us.

Ryan Budge BScI

It has. Black people are marching, and white people went to lectures. Racial comments are being made.

Angela Makholwa BJournIII

People affected are of racial groups because of their economic background and history. But essentially it wasn't (a racial issue).

Wamkele Mene BAI

Yes. I don't see any whites demonstrating.

Anon BJournI

Yes it became a racial issue. That was not necessary. It has become perceived as a demand by black students only. Of course, mainly it's the black students who have

Angela Makholwa BJourn III
Admin handled it well. The students didn't and that's why they ended up with a bad rep. I think the student body was quite passive. It was like nothing was being done, and if it was it was on the quiet.

Anon BPharm III
The media has handled it well, RMR especially. I haven't read the Activate article, but I think RMR has got both sides.

The SRC have been pretty good in keeping order. I saw when they tried to restrain one of the marchers in spraying an accounts lecturer.

Richard Holmes BJourn I
Not properly handled by Admin, they treat us as their enemies.

White students are staying outside the issue. RMR, The Herald and The Daily Dispatch were naughty, except Activate. The Herald and The Daily Dispatch were Admin



Making themselves heard...some disgruntled students objected to the disruption of their lecture in the Zoology building this term.
pic: Taryn Cass

dealings with Motara, because of their financial situations; but I don't think that's a reason for white students to like him; and I don't think they do.

Mboneni Mulaudzi BJournII
In a way it was a racial issue because, no but wait, no one was threatening white students or anything. And that guy they're trying to get rid of, he's black isn't he?

Cher Potter BFAI
A lot of white students are aware that there is a problem with Dr Motara, but I believe it should be solved through negotiation. Riots and the like are an 80s way to solve a 90s problem.

Leigh-Anne Littleton BJournIII
What do you think of how it has been handled by - admin, SASCO/PASO, police, media, SRC, students etc. ?

Admin uses its powers to shut PASO and SASCO up by sending in the police. The media make them look like fools and the SABC interviewed people who are pro-Admin.

messengers.

Thembinkosi Lehloesa 3rd year Law
I think Admin were supposed to discuss it before taking them (the students) to court.

Faith Katu, SRC Secretary
Sasco and Paso handled it quite badly. Basically there is a communication lapse between all parties involved.

Tracy Douglas BA HMS II
Personally I don't like the way the schoolchildren became involved.

Post-grad mathematics student
The media was biased, extremely biased. It's not even an issue for discussion. Admin reacted in a way they would have reacted 50 years ago.

(With regard to how student organisations handled it): there could have been other options. (The students) could have proceeded in a different way, but Admin did over-react.

Tiro Mokoditso BSocSci III
Admin has handled it very badly from the beginning. While Admin may find it

difficult to negotiate they should have made more of an effort.

Sasco and Paso should also have negotiated more before lecture disruptions. I don't think they have the right to disrupt lectures. But, other students, white students, should have been more aware.

The police were necessary to prevent chaos, because it could have been chaos.

Activate did what they could - with printing and equipment limitations. No one could have expected more. True to tradition they presented a student organisation line.

RMR provided excellent coverage of events, but we had a major problem with neutrality, because it was far easier for us to have Admin on air - we asked Patrick and Mboneni to come on, but they said they couldn't.

We did attempt to rectify the situation by having Vasco on air. For a very young, inexperienced, news team we did very well.

Stephen Grootes BJourn III

There was a rumour that Fort Hare students were bussed in to support. It strikes me as a bit odd, to get support from elsewhere, was there not enough support here?

Calum Stevenson Arts Management Consultant - assisting in the Drama dept.

I don't think Admin takes it seriously, they didn't want to acknowledge that we are serious. Because of the way they treated Sasco/Paso, we had to make them realise how serious we were. Unfortunately that involved actions like disruptions, which involved trampling on other people's rights. I think most of the newspapers were not getting the whole story from both sides, only Admin's point of view.

The police claim they were called in to maintain law and order, but they behaved in a way one wouldn't expect in the post-1994 situation. I didn't expect them to shoot but they did. They started shooting at us, and beating people without giving any warning.

The SRC didn't take the issues as we'd expected them to. They should maybe have been leading this issue, they should take student issues very seriously, irrespective of what section of the student body is bringing it up.

The student body - the majority of them responded of course across the racial lines, not to the problems but to our actions. They were not looking at the root of the problem. There is tremendous student apathy, but I don't know how to combat that.

This year is different to last year. Even though there is a considerable number of students who want to get involved and take notice of the issues. I don't think a campaign of this nature would have taken off last year.

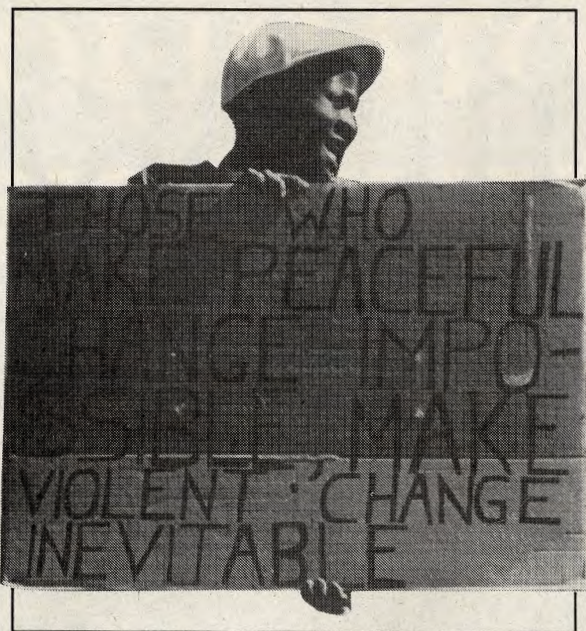
Mboneni Mulaudzi BJourn II
Sasco handled the situation diplomatically. Paso seems to be the junior partner in the campaign.

Admin is very arrogant. How can you negotiate with someone who is in a disciplinary committee?

The media is depicting the whole situation as a mob of black students who are instigating unruly elements.

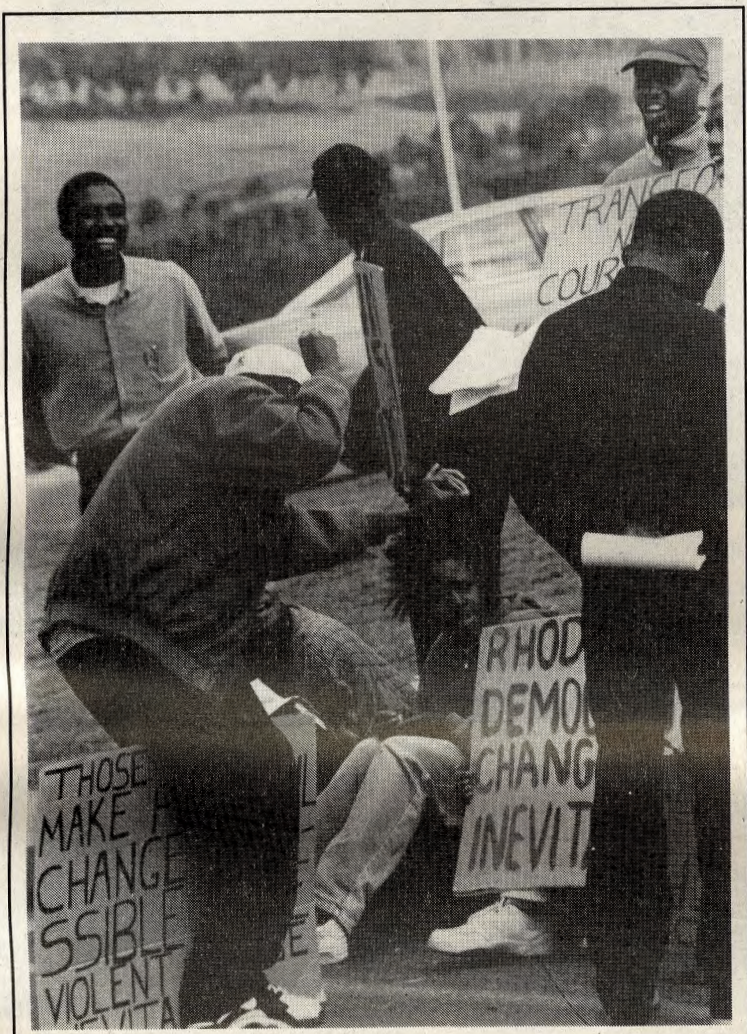
Wamkele Mene BA I Law
I don't think it was handled properly. They could all have stopped it or looked for a solution before the disruptions happened.

Brian Lam BSc I

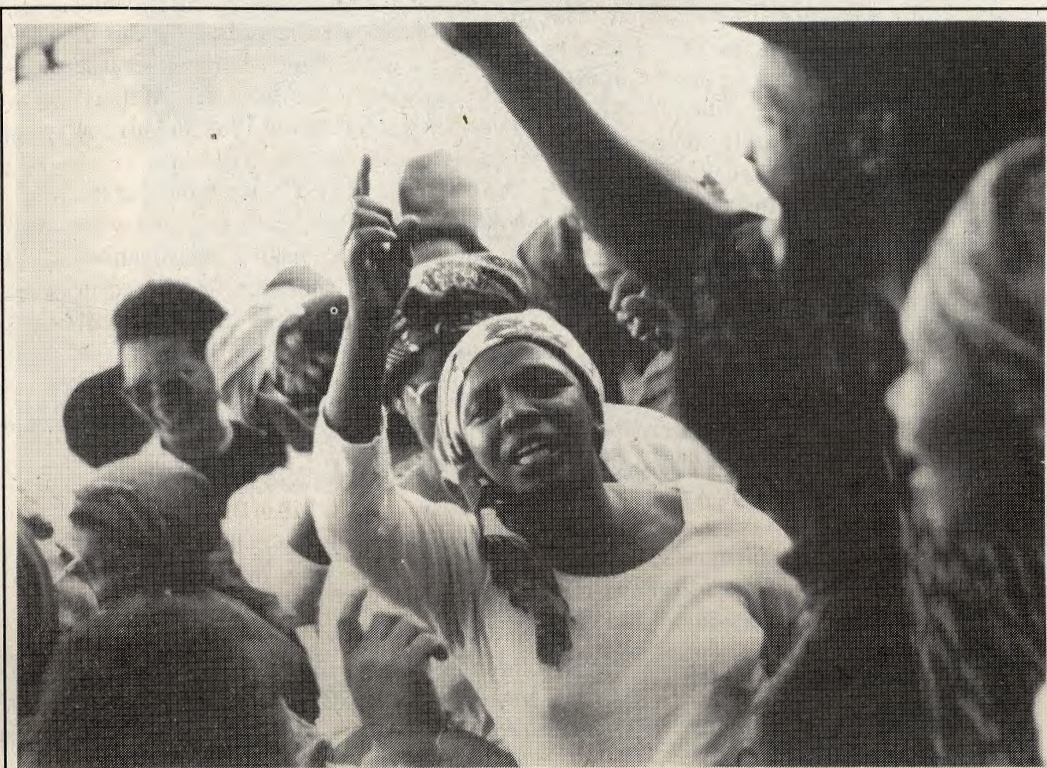


Transforming pictures

ACTIVATE reporters followed the story of the campus disruptions from the very beginnings of dissatisfaction ... *ACTIVATE* photographer, **Taryn Cass**, followed the crowds to bring you these slices of the action.



Its no joke... Despite the supreme court interdict barring public demonstrations, student protesters gathered outside the monument during the graduation ceremonies to gain support for their cause from graduands and their parents.



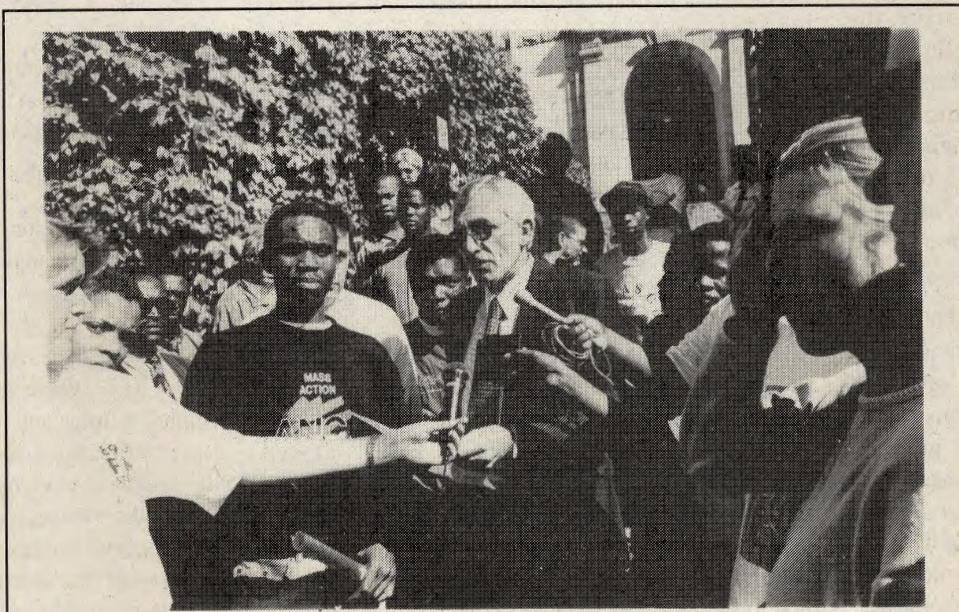
Workers Unite... Nehawu workers converged on the magistrates court to show their support for the 168 workers and students arrested outside Admin on April 3.



Armed and dangerous... Members of the public ordering unit march into Admin to evacuate student protesters who occupied the ground floor on April 2.



Aluta Continua... Patrick Mahlangu, left, chairperson of PASO, makes himself heard during the SASCO/PASO disruptions on April 2.



Talks about talks... Vice Principal Michael Smout receives a petition from Src President Vasco Ndebele condemning admin's response to the disruptions, signed by Rhodes Students and workers, Grahamstown scholars, and visitors from other tertiary institutions in the Eastern Cape.

Truth Commission

Maria McCloy

THE Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) hearings in East London had statements from five Grahamstown victims of human rights abuses. Their statements, along with those that have gone to the commission but have not yet been heard, were taken by the TRC statement taker for the Albany region, Khayaletu Plaatjie. Khayaletu says the TRC is a result of an act within the constitution which was finalised at the end of last year. He sees the commission as ensuring that a "process of healing is undergone in South Africa...it's not possible for people to accept reconciliation when they do not know the truth, so I'd imagine that logically speaking truth must come out before people can reconcile."

Khayaletu said; "people should take it as a matter of the Eastern Province designing a role model for the country in so far as how to ...get such a commission in place". The TRC has 17 Commissioners and there are three committees. The Human Rights Violation Committee deals with processes like the one in East London, the Reparations and Rehabilitation Committee, and the Amnesty Committee which recommends to the President and the Cabinet how perpetrators should be dealt with. Khayaletu emphasised "the Commission does not have powers to take decisions...all the powers its got is to recommend to the president."

The hearings included horrifying accounts of human rights violations from a spectrum of people.

People giving testimony were given as much time as they needed to tell of their loved ones' life and activities, and violations committed against them or their loved ones. Spectators in the City Hall heard people detailing events around their experiences of torture, detention and attacks or heard testimony round such activity that killed the testifiers friends or family.

There was testimony where people wanted to know where their friends/husbands/children had disappeared to, or wanted to find their bodies to give them a decent burial. People asked the TRC to help pay for tombstones and the school fees of victims' children.

Khayaletu said some of the reparations money comes from the Presidents Fund, but so many people need reparations the commission does not have enough money, and the presidents fund can't manage to pay every victim.

He said as a government drive the commission would not be granting lump sums to individual victims, but could compensate in terms of medical aid, granting bursaries for children to continue education and can recommend that the president interact with Govt departments that deal with things like pensions.

Khayaletu says many people are prepared to forgive provided they know who perpetrated crimes, who sent them and what their objectives were. The wife of one of the 'Cradock Four', UDF activists who were killed by Security forces in 1985, Nyameka Goniwe, said her husbands killers should show "remorse. They must say they are sorry for what they did." The individuals who killed these activists have not been named. Goniwe hoped the TRC would be

able to identify the killers. Babalwa Mhlauli, whose father was also a member of the Cradock Four, spoke of police harassment of her family even after her father's death. "We want to forgive but we don't know who to forgive", she said.

On the second day of the East London hearings the hearing was adjourned for 10 minutes when Nomonde Calata began to weep whilst telling about her husband's murder. On the same day Tutu broke down when a wheelchair-bound Singwana Malgas sobbed as he described 30 years of torture, harassment and detention because of his affiliation to the ANC. Malgas' house was burnt down in 1985 and his son died after acid was poured on him.

The challenge of the Commission after the hearings seems to be finding out who committed crimes, making investigations into the people who were implicated in testimonies. Reparations in the form of financial assistance for orphans, for families who lost breadwinners or for people needing assistance paying medical bills due to their torture was also a common need expressed by those testifying.

Joe Jordan, an ANC MP in Bisho, described his constant torture by police. He named the policeman who jumped on him constantly to 'cure' him of his communism, and spoke of how he was electrocuted through every orifice in his body. As a result he still suffers from severe back problems.

In the East London hearings 5 out of the 35 victims were from Grahamstown. Khayaletu's job involves identifying victims, and moving around the region gathering information on people who were grossly violated. "Initially I had to go to people because hearings were due (in April)...we had no other option but to reach out...but now it is not my duty to go to those people it is the people that have to come to the office and...tabulate their story."

The TRC will go on for 18 months to two years. People who were victims of gross violations between 1960 and 1993, or are applying for amnesty for violations committed during that time frame, have to make submissions to the TRC during this time.

Khayaletu dispelled the notion of the commission benefitting only those in the liberation movements, saying there were victims from different sectors.

The East London Hearings did hear testimony from people who were victims of an alleged APLA attack of the King William's Town Golf Club in 1992. Beth Savage had to undergo open-heart surgery and have half of her large intestine removed; at the hearing she said "I would like to meet the attackers in an attitude of forgiveness and I hope they could forgive me for whatever I might have done."

There was also testimony by people whose relations went missing in exile. Bessie Mdoda testified about the disappearance of her son after he joined Umkhonto we Sizwe in exile. She believes the ANC was linked to her son's disappearance.

At the closing of the hearings Desmond Tutu said the whole country had been deeply touched. He said the testimonies and willingness to forgive had been extraordinary, and with people of such character "Apartheid did not stand a chance."

***The second round of east cape HRV hearings began on May 21..**



The sessions of the Commission were opened with a prayer and hymn and the lighting of a remembrance candle-Lauren said the atmosphere created was one of great respect for the victims and the stories they were about to tell.

pic: Ilija Graulich

Lest we forget...

Maria McCloy

Files of statements made by people to the Black Sash during apartheid will be used to identify and locate people who can then appear before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) with their experiences of human rights violations.

Lauren Netto is a Researcher, going through the Black Sash files in the Cory Library in search of human rights abuses in the Grahamstown, PE and East London areas documented from 1984 to 1988.

Its history as an advice office, helping people with pass offence cases, and aiding and counselling ex-detainees and their families, put the Black Sash in possession of numerous statements relating to human rights abuses, making it an invaluable source for the TRC.

The Commission approached them for victims' names, but as statements were issued under an oath of confidentiality the organisation could not just give the names of people whose statements were in the files. It has been acknowledged that the hearings began in the Eastern Cape because of the extent of human rights violations committed here.

The files contain people's statements and information relating to human rights abuses in the form of press clippings, pamphlets, posters, publications.

The criteria for who qualifies as a victim is set out by the TRC - these are torture, murder, attempted murder and abductions, as well as severe ill-treatment.

"Now I've identified these victims the next stage is to contact the victims to see if they want to tell their story" Lauren said.

For victims who wish to make a statement to the TRC, a statement taker will be called in

and will take the statement under set protocol.

Lauren explained that victims have to be informed of the way the commission works and its legalities - that the perpetrators of abuses cannot be prosecuted if they've applied for amnesty, and if a "public hearing is held, that information can't be used as evidence if a person wants to bring a civil claim" against a perpetrator who has applied for amnesty.

However the Investigations unit can look into a violation, and legal action against a violator who has not applied for amnesty could be recommended.

Those giving testimony during the public hearings have counselling in the form of comforters as they recount events and after giving testimony are taken into a counselling room.

Lauren believes regional NGO's and Religious organisations should help set up support groups, as "we can't sit and wait for something to trickle down."

Information Lauren has come across matched a lot of the testimony at the East London hearings - cases of torture, people being electrocuted and severely beaten. She says most of the perpetrators in her research have been police or security force members, but there are also violations committed by vigilantes.

About the media coverage of the first hearings Lauren comments; "I have a real problem with people sensationalising it." Lauren says it is important people are aware that not everyone who experienced violations is going to get a public hearing. People in smaller towns will not have highly publicised hearings in front of TRC Chairperson Bishop Tutu, and for some people the only person to listen to the story will be the statement taker.

Explicit talk

LET'S get one thing straight. I am not out to preach some misconstrued reconciliation spirit nor to win hearts.

What our little Oxford-in-the-bush experienced in the past few weeks remains to be talked about very sincerely. It is quite clear that this country still has a long way to go before we can start deluding ourselves with rhetoric like reconciliation and nation building. We first need to clearly define words like reconciliation before we can see compromising structures like the Truth and Reconciliation Committee.

The sheer racism and arrogance manifested during the protests for Transformation at Rhodes are the real symptoms of apathy on our campus. Apathy is a highly contagious DISEASE! It never ceases to amaze me why so many cling so passionately on to it. The fact that it had to take a disruption of a countless number of lecture sessions to get everyone's attention leaves me spine-chilled. Even the attention did not amount to much except for a few liberals who uneasily felt that their DEMOCRATIC rights were being tread upon. To these emerging liberals I ask -being a Black South African fully aware of his past- JUST WHAT IS DEMOCRACY?? It should not be found strange; for reasons we are all so scared to talk about today; that there are people like myself who do not have the slightest conception of what this hackneyed democracy is. There was a crisis (and still is), but very few of our 'friends', were aware of that since the only crises they know is when their maid arrived an hour before their dinner party and they were supposed to have turkey for dinner. Why do we have to put up faces and act as if all is right when we all know well that it isn't. Why is it that every white person we meet around gives us some grin as if we are some novel creation. Lighten up, we know that 300 years of isolation from each other made us aliens to each other but it is not like we have not been aware of each other's existence. There is a need for an improvement of race relations in our campus. By race relations I do not mean sitting together over a meal discussing a movie's performance at the Oscars or how crappy the dining hall food is. I mean deliberations over issues that separate us from each other. The core essences that make me Black and you White, more as a matter of identity and much more trivially as matter of race. We all first have to move from the premise that you can never ever be Black and I can never ever be White (this regardless of some effortful attempts by some of my black brothers and sisters). Even if we all sit for a chat about the unpredictable nature of Grahamstown's weather I know that you probably do not quite like me because of the unbearable thought that while we may be doing the same degree and you probably getting more firsts than I do (for reasons best left uncited) you find it excruciatingly daunting that I have much more chances of landing a good job, than you do. This is what would have made some reactionaries to the protest marches understand the reasons behind the actions. It is because we have not yet communicated with each other. To quote - though sternly advised against stealing of people's words by another Dr. who gave our university some consultation - one of our lifetime martyrs Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (not necessarily verbatim) he said "we are afraid of each other because we do not know each other. We do not know each other because we have not yet quite communicated with each other". How sagacious his words. Questions asked are not in any way different from questions like why are Blacks in the poorest sector of our economy? Why are Blacks the most underperformers in the academic cycles? Why are the higher echelons of the administration made up of only white males? These are purely naïve questions and they kept on being asked as if there lies some mystery in their answers.

To show Rhodes' reluctance to Transform it does not only take the attitude of the admin towards the Student protests but the general nature in which they have systematically evaded calls and policy discussions on the establishment of bodies or Forums that had Transformation in mind. What we kept being fed on is the ever increasing rate of Black foreign students to camouflage the ill balanced ratio of South African Blacks to their White counterparts. This is all disclosed when there are engagements like the ones we had. As for their (foreign students) behaviour during the marches, the least said about them the better. The way Rhodes resisted to be shaken, leaves calls for grave concern for the institution. The shape of things to come could be read from the face of the Speaker of Parliament during one of those events held to commemorate the vision and the spirit of Rhodes - not forgetting on whose sweat that spirit and vision was built. Another sinister occurrence during the celebrations that could not go undetected, was the omission of the Dean of Science to call a distinction obtained by the only Black student in his faculty and leading to the break of monotony of distinctions called for our other friends. I guess like all those who chopped peoples hands off and blew peoples brains with headphones he is really "sorry". While pardons belong to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission we may in the mean time take it as a mistake.

During the unforgettable debate when the outgoing VC kept on lamenting about the meagre eight days left for him to achieve something in terms of Transformation, he reminded me of Rhodes' famous quote "so much to do yet so little time." Makes you want to believe in reincarnation! Will the incoming VC also after a period of more than twenty years and with only eight days remaining sing the same song? Like always only time will tell.

Tiro Mokoditsoa



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A Fresh Look At Rhodes

Ilda Jacobs

I HAVE so often heard the words "it is a first year thing." My fourth year friend, who changes his hair colour every week, always teases me about doing first year thingies. How do first years, like myself, experience varsity?

Socially the first term was a rave. Second term sux. We are bored stiff and stressing for our first exams. New Street is not new anymore: you start off at The Onion, a stop at Wellies for a sweet-and-sour-chicken pie, then The Rat-without-a-Rat, a dance or two at The Vic, pizza at Posh Pizza, and before you go to bed (to sleep?) or before you pass out, a cool-off swim at Kolors.

Some privileged First Years attend digs parties with interesting company, music, fires and candles. You get to meet the familiar faces: Scott, who is always chasing the dog or causing some kind of hysteria and blonde "Kurt Cobain" (Nicholas) who always introduces himself as the "ultimate asshole" or the "ugliest guy in town". The drama crowd move from their daily position on the steps outside the Drama Department to these parties at night.

Some courageous freshers attended the rave at the Monument after their parents phoned to warn them about the dangers of drugs. Brave Ravers! Surprise surprise, moms and dads and other ignorant people, drugs are not found at raves only. You definitely don't have to wait for the next rave to trip on acid: res rooms, digs or the bathroom of a favourite family restaurant will do.

A strange thing for some First Years were the marches and disruptions on campus. Rhodes students claim to be so liberal, but First Years were surprised: racial division does occur on campus and only a minority of students unite in an attempt to help each other. Apathy seems to be the disease of the era. Congrats to those who involved themselves! A friend assured me that I will become as apathetic in two years: no enthusiasm, only occasional ecstasy.

How helpful do I find Admin? I refuse to

put my head inside this beehive, but may I mention that my meals are going to be booked Muslim next term. By now all First Years are used to res meals: baked potato, fried potato, potato salad, potato slices, hot chips, mashed potato. And we have realized that we should bunk our 12:20 periods if we want salad, desert or jam on our table.

Rhodes vocab is still unfamiliar to me. My first sentence to an oppie sounded a bit arb: "So, do you stay in a dig?" At least I have included "arb" into my vocabulary, although I thought it derived from "ob"scure or "ab"normal. I have also learned to use the shortest forms of words available: res, rep, oppies, VC, house-com, Sam for Samantha, Mel for Melanie. As a second language English speaker, I have come to the conclusion that you can actually speak full sentences if you repeat "You know, it is like, sort off... but basically sort off.... you know?"

Another thing I picked up is reputations. Botha house guys are supposedly arrogant, New House guys attractive and Jan Smuts has sexy bastards. When a guy asked me in first term in which res I was in and I replied "Prince Alfred", he ran off. Apparently previous PA girls did not prefer guys. So we hired ourselves out as slaves to male reses. The latest response I've heard is "PA - all you girls are sluts!" At least it shows that your reputation can change.

Why is it that personality development occurs only among first year Drama students? Their clothing style changes to ethnic, flamboyant and they act more expressively. Hairstyle and colour changes are very common.

An unwritten Rhodes rule (not to be objected against, Patrick) is, that you do whatever whenever it suits you. Face the consequences and the DP-warnings. Dress how you want. Rhodes gives you the opportunity to be an individual. But be warned: several contagious diseases are spreading: Aids and Apathy.



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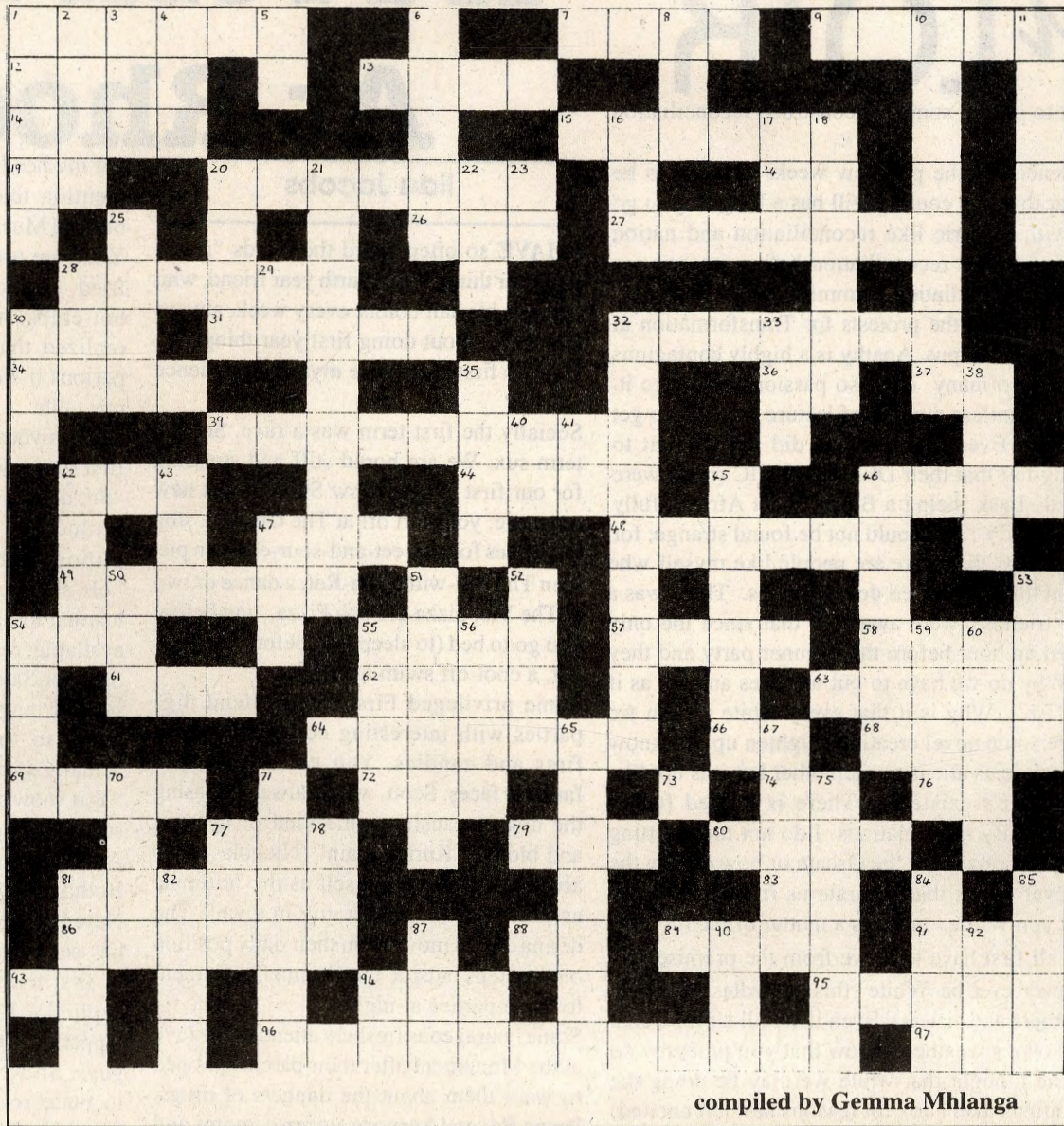
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CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. Puzzling person or circumstance (6)
7. Manage (4)
9. Red body fluid (5)
12. Part in a play (4)
13. As right as ... (4)
14. Tree support system (4)
15. Exceptional intelligence (6)
19. Not off (2)
20. Highest/lowest degree (7)
24. With reference to (2)
26. Knight's title (3)
27. A cheque might have done this (7)
28. Gender discrimination (6)
30. Writing implement (3)
31. Tag (5)
32. Punch and Judy (7)
34. Evaluate (4)
36. Genderless pronoun (2)
37. Edward (to his friends) (2)
39. Science of diseases (9)
42. Obese (3)
44. Of the deeds of heros (4)
46. To put dead body in the ground (4)
47. Come to a close (3)
48. Extreme fear or dislike (6)
49. Highest point (6)
54. Period in history (3)
55. The three wise men (4)
57. Canvas shelter (4)
58. Large seafish (4)
61. Not no (3)
62. Egg shaped (4)
63. Causing death (5)
64. Wildly excited (7)
66. South Africa (2)
68. Unable to walk properly (4)
69. Small V-shaped cut (4)
72. Ovum (3)
73. As simple as _ BC
74. Opposite of 62 across (3)
76. Masculine she (2)
77. Be (3)
79. Large flightless bird (3)



compiled by Gemma Mhlanga

80. Cruel man-eating giant (4)
81. Public speaker (6)
83. That man Edward again (2)
86. Go back (6)
88. Extra-terrestrial (2)
89. Certain (4)
91. Consumed (3)
93. Mother (2)

94. Sn (chemistry) (3)
95. Flowers (5)
96. Not fully aware of (12)
97. Consume (3)

DOWN

1. Mistake (5)
2. 12:00 (afternoon) (4)

3. International Labour Organisation (3)
4. Achieve (3)
5. Indefinite article (2)
6. Domesticates (5)
8. Play on words (3)
10. O.D. (8)
11. Sleep fantasy (5)

16. Opposite of flow (3)
17. Vase (3)
18. Not common knowledge (6)
20. Very bad (4)
21. Stone set over grave (4)
22. Minute abbreviation (3)
23. Emergency Room (2)
25. Not straight (4)
28. Large body of water (3)
29. Bafana Bafana's home (2)
30. Before (prefix) (3)
32. One of abnormal mental state (9)
33. Needles and ___s (3)
35. Cry for help (4)
38. Without light (4)
40. Operation (2)
41. American soldier (2)
42. To be afraid (4)
43. Number (3)
45. Foot or finger ones (6)
46. Savage, cruel (6)
47. Snake like fish (3)
50. Give money for (3)
51. Brutal, cruel (6)
52. Sand deposits (4)
53. Clothes tied together (4)
54. Merit (4)
55. Not less but... (4)
56. Group of persons (4)
59. U.S State (4)
60. Calls (5)
65. Cell partners (7)
67. Ire (5)
70. Remedy (4)
71. Wears away (6)
75. Commands (6)
77. Consumed (3)
78. Before (poetic) (3)
81. Spoken (4)
82. Skin problems on face and neck (4)
84. Lowest part (4)
85. Stay (4)
87. Spasm (3)
90. Numero ___ (3)
92. Hot beverage (3)

do **YOU** have
a good **eye**?

ACTIVATE challenges all campus photographers - students and staff - to come up with an image that captures the Rhodes Vibe.

Winners and selected entries will be published in both the print edition of Activate and on our WWW pages online, and be displayed on campus.

Prizes will be awarded for the two best photographs in colour and for the two best photographs in black and white.

Photographs must be put in the Activate Box in the Student Union Building by August 5, 1996. Prints in Colour or black and white 5x7 inches or bigger will be accepted. Entry forms may be collected from the SRC secretary; entry fee is R2.00 per picture.

Rules: No member of the ACTIVATE collective may enter. The Judges' decision is final. No late entries will be accepted.

it's too soon to panic!
**goodluck for the
exams!**

Solutions

ACROSS

1. Enigma
13. Rain
20. Extreme
28. Sexism
34. Rate
42. Fat
48. Horror
57. Tent
63. Fatal
69. Nick
76. He
81. Orator
89. Sure
95. Roses

DOWN

1. Error
5. An
11. Dream
20. Evil
25. Bent
32. Psychotic
41. GI
46. Brutal
52. Silt
56. Gang
67. Anger
77. Ale
84. Base
92. Tea

Editorial

IT ISN'T often that a town as small and out of the way as Grahamstown can boast a visit by the President. Yet, it was unsurprising that a comparatively small number of people lined High and Somerset streets for the occasion, the majority of the spectators having been made up of school children.

Indifference seems to be the key adjective to describing this city.

Of course, Mandela was, as usual, his practical, tactful and charming self, drawing warm responses from the crowds but at the same time not failing to highlight pertinent community issues in his speech. We find it ironic that the President has noticed that "Grahamstown is one of the most economically impoverished cities in our country", an observation the City Council has evidently failed to make in light of the fact that they spent a fortune retarring Somerset Street (while many of the roads in Grahamstown East are in desperate need of resurfacing), welding drains on the streets shut and putting up toilets and overhead awnings.

We also find it sad that great lengths have been gone to to convince the President that the "project to bring water to more than a thousand homes in Grahamstown East is proceeding" because rumour has it that had he tried to turn on one of the many new taps that were installed in the township close to Thursday he would have noticed that they were not connected to any water facility...

He even encouraged a solution to the current crisis at Rhodes calling for an end to it to come sooner rather than later. However, despite these earnest *ACTIVATE* believes it is going to take a long time and will be a gradually harder struggle for the student organisations involved. We say this because the words of the new Vice-Chancellor, David Woods, in this issue's interview with *ACTIVATE* that he is the VC and therefore will make the final decision are not words of cooperation but instead arise from a dictatorial attitude; an attitude Rhodes' administration has a long history of attachment to.

ON THE topic of the crisis, despite the deadlock in negotiations we welcome the entrance of SALSA and DEMSOC into the situation. A union of SASCO, PASO and these organisations will involve a greater spectrum of the Rhodes community in the process of transformation. However, we have words of advice for SALSA and DEMSOC: your presence in the struggle will be greater if your members made themselves visible as protesters, like their comrades in SASCO and PASO.

ANOTHER point that *ACTIVATE* must highlight this time is that of the Truth Commission hearings that are currently happening around the country. Five *ACTIVATE* members attended the first hearings in East London and believe that it is very significant that the TRC began its healing process in the Eastern Cape. This is particularly because this province is the birth-place of many of this country's great leaders and also the ground for some of its most gruesome crimes. Yet, unlike the hearings in Gauteng where there is a hint of vengeance in the testimonies, the East London hearings exemplified the healing factor of the TRC. One may well wonder how victims of human rights abuses and their families can accept that their abusers may walk away under the protective blanket of amnesty and go on believing in justice. However, it must be realised that after decades of wondering when, where or how one's friends, family or comrades in the struggle during apartheid disappeared or were killed, perhaps the best process of healing is not legal justice but rather the ability to be able to tell your story and have an entire nation listen.

creditorial

Nelson "The Jiver" Mandela, Maria (Please help me, I need colon irrigation, but in my brain), Swapna (YES! That's what I want to be - a brainless moron!), Karuna the orgasmic (it's no fun if nothing breaks!), Brigid (I was waiting for him to drop dead right there), Zandi (tea? tea? did anyone say tea?), Brendan (I'll kill them...), Carlien (that makes me out to be cruel and mean), Taryn (with a poster complex), Claire (oh wow talk to me dirty), Joanne (panic attack) Levitan, Katie (your boyfriend will say like who are you?), Mboneni (the reluctant politician), Ilja (we don't have enough for FOUR sports pages), R.Kelly (the luuurve machine), Marco (aka The Mask) Kerry, Maria K, Xolisa, Tshepo, Steven, Gemma, Gina, Ilda, Tiro, Gunther, Sharin, Lineke, Marc, Susan, Rory the computer king, Patricia, Karen, Maria (another one), Samira, Karl, Dror, Jeanne, Nicky, Cui Ning, Ian, Tess (Madiba was where?!), Chris, Adrian, Paula, Prof Hugh High and his R16 000, Bee the brown, Posh Pizza, sleeping dog, the Tribal hockey team...grogs, coffee, the new printer, the internet, the non-existent police and all our mothers whom we love, Happy Mother's Day. The General Lament "oh woe, we are becoming efficient! Pagemaker is too easy these days - and look, we're on time, no! we're actually ahead - oh woe", thanks to Dupli-Print for the clock, the bodyguard who knows a good paper when he sees it!

Dear Activate

Women Beware

IT HAS come to my attention that Grahamstown has become the new target of a sexual harasser. This man has obviously come up from Cape Town recently, and is using the same *modus operandum* here.

He calls young women and tells them that he is conducting a survey and requests their participation. He begins by asking "innocent" questions such as the student's name (first and last if he can get it), the names of her parents and details of where they are from, where they work etc.

He then begins to ask questions delving into the woman's sexual practices, history fantasies etc. as a part of the "survey", beginning with general questions and working his way to the intimate and personal details. During the questioning he will either reassure the victim that these questions are OK as this is an anonymous survey, or he may act very embarrassed about asking such questions to get the victim to make him feel "less uncomfortable" in asking them. He is also able to persuade the victim to provide him with the names and telephone numbers of friends who might like to participate in this 'survey'. This provides this sick man with ammunition to start harassment calls to the victim, her roommates, her family as well as giving him a list of new victims.

I urge *all* students to warn their female friends of the danger of this sick man. In particular if you were a victim who may have been conned into supplying him with names of friends and relatives then you should notify them of the likelihood that they will be contacted by him. If you are the recipient of such calls please inform the police. The sooner that the student body closes this man out, the sooner he will either stop, leave Grahamstown, or preferably be caught and prosecuted.

Dr. G.M Watkins

Constitutional Talk

AFTER what I have seen in the past year or two I have to say that you blacks must be suckers....The principal was and remains: give the blacks the government, and the whites can keep the economy...

Having diligently perused the "new" Constitution one arrives at one conclusion - our people will continue being suckers if they do not wake up. The Constitution is undoubtedly a victory to the white community, and a loss to black people. This is so because it ensures that whites will continue owning the forces of production which they illegitimately acquired.

It does not come as a surprise to one when one of the former liberation movements see nothing unholy with the property clause entrenched in the Constitution for they were never a socialist movement in the first place. But it is indeed saddening for a party that claims to be communist to sound comfortable about the Constitution and only comment about the Lock-out clause being a victory. For one, Lock-out is a rather remote issue, and the bone of contention in this country has always been between those who own and control our economy, and those who have to survive by selling their labour - who happen to be whites and blacks respectively. This Constitution guarantees

that the black working class remains poor and exploited as they were before the GNU's birth.

Assuming that there is an element of truth from the above, we should by now be asking ourselves a lot of "so what?" questions. One's answer will be that, we as the student community need to accept the fact that those who made promises, no longer have the interests of our people at heart. Remember, one is either for the maintenance of the status quo or for the total eradication (not reform) of it, and ushering in of the best (not even better) system. Then the words of the former SASO (South African Student Organisation) and BPC (Black People's Convention) leaders sound appropriate "Black person you are on your own". Indeed black students are on their own.

Here at Rhodes, it must still be fresh in our minds that black students are on their own. When they felt ill treated by the admin they were alone in confronting the admin. They were alone against the (still racist) police, they were alone in what is referred to as internal discipline and if they do not unite, they will alone be excluded.

Just wait and see how many millions are to be spent in celebrating the "remarkable" Constitution, and soon students will be told that the government does not have enough money to educate its own citizens and again we will be alone facing financial exclusions. It is sacrilegious for the Constitution to be "unafrocentric" in that it does not take into account the fact that we are an African people with traditional rulers, which further dehumanises us as a people. This is in fact Europe in Africa. If one thinks about this, it will inevitably have economic ramifications which neither our people (nor the government) have control over.

The Tower

Unhappy Oppie

I HAVE two main complaints. One concerns campus security and the other is the related issue of Oppie benefits. I paid R40 to join the Oppie Union. I don't like Frisco/Ricoffee, I don't need a lawn mower or vacuum cleaner, the "guzzles" are pathetic excuses for meals and the only benefit I can find is watching M-Net in the common room. Unfortunately, campus security guards always beat me to it. They either refuse to change channels or lock the door so that us bona fide Oppies can't enter. I was also under the impression that campus security was "on my side" with regard to personal security. But when I went to report some broken lights on campus I was met with such suspicion, as if I was the "drunk, rowdy student" who had gone around campus kicking the lamp posts. I am a female Oppie and when I need to come onto campus at night I like to think I'm walking in a safe, well-lit environment. Campus security's attitude leaves a lot to be desired.

S.J.

Activate reserves the right to shorten all letters to the editor. If you wish to put your point across write to us via internal mail at: Letters, Activate Student Newspaper, c/o SRC Offices, Upstairs, Student Union Building.

MADIBA ON...

Crisis at Rhodes: "It is my fervent hope that the recent disturbances will be resolved, sooner rather than later, through consultation and negotiations."

Grahamstown's history: "This town was established as a centre of confrontation between expanding colonialists and indigenous people who were defending their land and property...But over the years the community of this city has outgrown those hostilities. You have turned Grahamstown into a city of cultural heritage and academic excellence."

Press Freedom and Rhodes Journalism: "Grahamstown is also the cradle of a free press in South Africa. The pioneers of press freedom kept its flames burning despite repressive legislation emanating from governors-general in Cape Town...I know that Rhodes University will always strive to ensure that its journalism graduates hold on to this proud tradition."

Science and Technology: "Apartheid's education system and the exploitation of science for repressive purposes have, for most of South Africa's youth, robbed science and technology of the excitement and the attraction which it should have. Popularising science and demonstrating the capacity of technology...will enrich South African cultural and intellectual life."

Joking about his book, *The Long Walk to Freedom*, as he was signing a copy: "I didn't know this type of literature had reached Grahamstown yet. I wouldn't read this!"

Bill of Rights: "is not just an empty paper - it is a living document."

Truth and Reconciliation Commission: "We want a commission that is upfront and can carry out its duty."

Constitution: "The adoption of the final constitution last week was a milestone in the democratisation of our country. Our democracy has come of age."

Law and Order: "Above all, the Constitutional Court has been formed...it can override the president...important that we must respect the judiciary."

Pik Botha: "He became an irritant to the NP!...he has foresight...said he was willing to serve under a black president."

The ANC's attitude during the negotiations: "We believed there should be no winners and no losers...very dangerous when one side is backed into a corner."

White professionals emigrating: "...appeal to you not to betray your country...as long as the ANC is in power, no minority should feel threatened."

Grahamstown and the Rainbow Nation: "(Grahamstown used to represent) the cultural heritage of the British, but now it is the cultural heritage of the rainbow nation...I never imagined that in two years we would have this rainbow nation - people of all races working together."

Election promises: "they can't be fulfilled in one day, but *will* be done, even if it takes five years."

Municipality: "As the democratically elected municipality, you face the challenge of marketing the city so as to attract investments and develop its industrial potential."

Monument: "...the far-reaching aim of making this national resource one which all our diverse cultures feel to be truly their own, will require hard work."

Democratic Party: "We welcome the DP. They are led by a young man, Tony Leon, who has a very sharp tongue!"

National Party: "The NP are no longer a strong enough opposition...the DP has stripped the NP of its power."

VIVA M



pic: Kerry Irish



pic: Trisha Charalambides

Madiba Jives

Maria McCloy

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela said he felt "humbled to be counted as one of this city's citizens" after receiving the Freedom of the City of Grahamstown from the Transitional Local Council at a packed J.D. Dlepu Stadium.

The ceremony was opened by Hindu, Christian and Muslim prayers, and three Imbongis praised the President. Premier Raymond Mhlaba said he was welcoming the President on behalf of the Provincial Government and "the entire people of this province...this city in particular...who are thirsty for progress and development." Indian Dancers and the joint Abancendici and Masakheke choirs, entertained the President. One song caused Mandela to get up and do the 'Madiba Jive', delighting the crowd.

Mayor, Mzukisi Mpahlwa, announced that M Street in Joza had been renamed Mandela Street. The Freedom of the city was bestowed on the President in recognition of his contribution in the struggle for South Africa's freedom and for his "ongoing contributions to ... peace, prosperity and social harmony among all who live...within the city and beyond". He added that Mandela's presence was a dream come true for many.

Mandela praised the Grahamstown community for outgrowing hostilities dating back to battles between colonialists and indigenous people "who were defending their land and property," producing heroes like Makana and Ndlambe. He said the city had been turned into one of cultural heritage and academic excellence. "With the gift of the freedom of your city, granted in reality not to me as an individual, but to the people of south Africa as a whole, you affirm your dedication to peace and reconciliation."

He emphasised Grahamstown's poverty and high unemployment rate, saying the municipality should market the city to

We are all eager to see Mandela laughing or dancing, we loath to see our President as a suit-and-tie type. Photographers don't need a unique dress-sense reinforces this image. His warm personality ensures that he always looks delighted him and expresses his appreciation so aptly, one can see he is acutely aware of Grahamstown he did observe some serious moments - for instance when the anthem was played time he sported the well-known "proud Grandfather" smile - appreciating the artists and musicians an imbongi who greeted Mandela at the Monument with

attract investors and develop its' potential. Mandela stressed development could only materialise if Grahamstown's residents became involved, adding that anti-apartheid measures cannot be used "against our own structures." Referring to the Masakhane Campaign, he said RDP projects would not succeed if rents and services were not paid. Though the government is committed to improving quality of life, restoring cultural assets and creating conditions for art to flourish is also important. "Under apartheid, historical sites, cultural collections, arts, and monuments related to the history of a few. The heritage of the majority was neglected, distorted and suppressed." He said this should be addressed at a grassroots level with people playing a leading role in restoring this underplayed cultural heritage. As the home of the National Arts Festival, and a base for other cultural projects, Grahamstown should play a role in this reconstruction.

Referring to the protests on campus last term, Mandela said he hoped "the recent disturbances will be resolved, sooner rather than later, through consultations and negotiations."

Speaking about draft report of the Commission of Inquiry into Higher Education, he urged those concerned to come forward with their views and "make a constructive contribution to the transformation process."

Commenting on the fact that freedom of the press was entrenched in the new constitution, he described Grahamstown as the cradle of a free press, and said: "I know that Rhodes University will always strive to ensure that its journalism graduates hold on to this proud tradition."

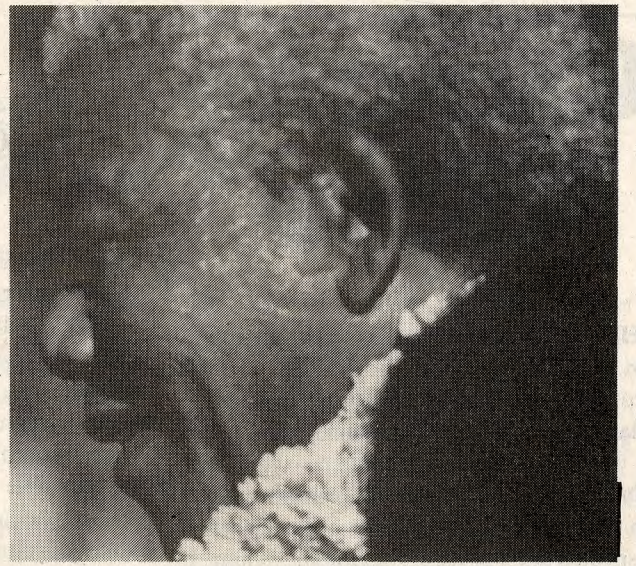
He concluded his speech by thanking all those who made the day who made the day "one that will be unforgettable in our memory." saying he would always "carry myself in a manner befitting a resident of Rhini."



The Rhodes Point Of View...eager students and staff crowded around the corner to High Street to join the rest of the town.

ADIBA

*is a serious, business-like politician. Not that we don't take him seriously, but it is just
n't need to follow Mandela onto a golf course to capture him relaxed and happy. His
s looks content and just utterly happy to be where he is. He beams broadly at whatever
are of how much his smile means to the people of South Africa. During his visit to
as played or when he was delivering important parts of his speeches. But the rest of the
d musicians, grinning at the crowds or laughing delightedly at the small boy dressed as
with his own determined version of praise-singing.*



pic: Joanne Levitan

Monumental Visit

Carlien Vavruch

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela reopened the 1820 Settlers Monument in a vibrant ceremony. He was escorted up to the Monument by the St Andrews band and was met by pre-schoolers singing in Xhosa, Afrikaans and English.

In the auditorium the choir of 540 school children from the 10 high schools in Grahamstown were accompanied by the Kingswood Marching Band.

Mandela was welcomed by the Chairperson of the Grahamstown Foundation Council, HG Chapman, who said: "At an occasion like this, one is quite overwhelmed by the warmth and humanism of our President."

Chapman explained the rededication of the renovated Monument was important as it gave impetus to the Monument's role in transformation. The building "is a national treasure, a living monument," and is intended to fulfil a role as resource centre for arts and culture.

Chapman also stressed how cultural activities stimulate economic growth, foster greater understanding and assist in nation-building.

In Afrikaans Mandela said the ANC and the government are devoted to protect the cultural heritage of all South Africans.

He referred in English to pupils on stage as the future generation "which will make us very proud".

Mandela defined three types of monument in South Africa. Those which have no significance and hold no interest beyond the history books; those which do nurture a tradition that is inherent in our land but which may be an exclusive tradition; and finally those "which open the past to scrutiny; recalling it in order to illuminate it and transform it into part of our living and changing society".

"Such monuments, if they are successful...are a beacon for the future of all our people, as much as a memory of the past." As the 1820 Settlers Monument had set out to belong to the last category, Mandela said he was honoured to share in its rededication. He added that as this monument works towards reaching its aims, "it will help us all to realise the broader vision of a new South Africa".

After the prepared speech Mandela continued with the observation that "all over the world and right down the centuries men and women come and go. Some leave nothing behind, not even their names. It would appear that they never existed at all. Others do leave something behind - the haunted memory of their crimes against other human beings."

But there was another category of men and women all over the globe, who take up the fight for the protection of human rights. These people contribute towards change in the world, they fight poverty, disease,

illiteracy and assaults on human dignity. Mandela said these people "aim to put sunshine in the hearts of all human beings" and to make everyone "feel that it is worthwhile to be alive". And most importantly: "They stress that morality is the highest value of all."

"They are immortal", they possess extraordinary qualities, and Mandela said: "I can see them in all your faces...Every time I go to bed, despite my heavy schedule I always feel strong and 50 years younger!" Mandela appealed to professionals in the largely white audience to recognise the powerful impact they have, and "not to betray your country" by emigrating and contributing to the 'brain drain'. The president continued with the nation building which has become his trademark, expressing his admiration for white politicians like Kobie Coetsee and Pik Botha, who had the "courage" to fight against the trend of their parties to help bring about transformation.

Mandela welcomed the NP as a oppositional party, as opposition is the sign of a healthy democracy, but said he thought the NP was no longer strong enough to provide this, as the DP, under the leadership of Tony Leon, had stripped them of this position.

The whites in the beginning who helped the cause "were few and far between - like a voice in the wilderness"



and the cavalcade to get a glimpse of the president before running down
pic: Marco Pedroncelli

pic: Joanne Lillie

Campus Voice

THE Muslim Students Association (M.S.A.) is an association involved in protecting and nurturing the religion of Islam here at Rhodes. Its main purpose is to educate students on campus - yet the Muslims themselves are not well-informed on the basic teachings of this highly respected and beautiful religion they claim to believe in.

In previous years the M.S.A. was primarily associated with Muslims students only, but they have recently opened up an innovative communication channel, aimed at communicating with different organisations and cultural groups. Its cooperative basis lies in the strength of its committee members and Brother Afzal Ismail, the devoted leader of approximately 120 Muslim students on campus. Striving for unity and working towards the preservation of an Islamic way of life is proving quite a mission for the M.S.A.'s controlling body. This is due to the fact that most of the Muslim students come from different backgrounds making it difficult to unite, respect and tolerate the different views and opinions held. Participation within the Association relies heavily on social gatherings such as beach braais, sporting activities and religious meetings - held on a fortnightly basis during the academic year. Bridging the divisions among members of this society is quite a task as many individuals feel that there is a certain amount of separatism within the organisation itself. The Ameer (leader), Brother Ismail has pointed out that a gradual reformation and change is required to combat the weaknesses of Muslim student isolation, hypocrisy and a general narrow-mindedness that surrounds particular groups, in order to rectify the misconceptions of Islam held by non-Muslims. A strong point that the M.S.A. outwardly displays is its support of universal brotherhood and the belief that compromise is essential in tackling complex issues.

It is important for Muslims to interact with non-Muslims in order to actively propagate Islam, as many Muslim members have very little or no knowledge of any other culture outside the religion of Islam. A view held by a young Muslim convert is the feeling that the "Muslims choose to isolate themselves" and they feel that they have no social obligations to meet as long as they live within their "Indian" way of thinking, thus making no real effort to understand other cultures. This creates a distorted reflection of Muslims altogether.

Believing in Islam and knowing that it is indeed a dynamic religion for the whole of mankind, not just for Muslims who have been born into it, could bring about solutions to the everyday problems we face and changes to our lives. Open-mindedness is what is called for to make the M.S.A. a successful and more productive and meaningful association that students can take pride in being associated with.

In the hope of better performance and participation of both members and non-members and anyone who has a keen interest in helping the M.S.A. to facilitate and interact with other cultures and organisations, let there be no fear or apathy ruling your hearts and minds but rather seek the important knowledge of the Holy Quran.

Samira Esat

raving addiction

THE rave that took place at the Monument raised questions: What is the rave subculture about? What is one supposed to experience and how important are drugs to this experience?

Different youth cultures used different drugs: cannabis and LSD for the hippy-sixties, amphetamines and heroine in the seventies, cocaine for the eighties, and now Ecstasy for the rave culture.

Raving started in the late 80's and its main function is one of "escape from the world we're in" says Nicole Raubenheimer, also known as Miss Nic, an RMR talk show-host on raves. Raving is a social event that offers an experience on a different level: there is a sensual, energetic vibe between ravers, everyone is equal and accepted. These conditions allow ravers to become individuals exercising their freedom of expression.

Media coverage focusses on all the negative aspects of the rave-culture: drugs, sex, and Satanism. This has left raves with a bad image. The Weekend Post (23 March), describes the "shamanistic appeal" that rave culture holds.

Grahamstown Rave DJ Gary Metcalfe, who is a junior lecturer in Philosophy, emphasized that the rave subculture is not a "religion" as some might think. "It is not dogmatic, and it is not telling people what to do."

Individualism is important, because the rave-scene is free and open for new ideas, new motions, and fresh approaches. The important thing is to relax and enjoy yourself. Pharcyde, a top rave company in SA, believes "raves are designed for people to have a good time in a safe, controlled environment with deep reaching, positive energy."*

Miss Nic claims that raving has left her "with a more positive outlook" and that she "accepts everyone more easily." She fights against the bad attitudes at raves where people scrutinise the appearances and dance styles of others instead of accepting everyone for what they are.

Rave culture admits there is an invitation to do drugs, but they promote awareness.

"Drugs are only one tiny element of the rave culture," says Gary. "It is an entire

Ilda Jacobs and Maria de Gray Birch

experience, the music, the lighting, the technology... Drugs are not essential, but you will get confronted with it at some stage if you enter the rave-scene."

Another rave DJ, Robin Kelly, member of "Glenn and Guests", the company who hosted the Monument-rave, agrees with Gary. "Drugs are a personal choice."

Rave culture claims to be the most informed culture, and they are educating their ravers to rave safely.

Some rave companies have raised controversy through their publications of flyers acknowledging the use of drugs among ravers. The argument is that these actions promote the use of drugs. On the other hand, through drug awareness, there could be fewer deaths from drug abuse and it may discourage would-be users. The best way would be to do it naturally - rave culture claims to have a healthy orientation.

One will notice that ravers prefer not to drink alcohol. Smart drinks and fruit juice are caffeine- and glucose packed and give energy boosts. The drinks contribute to the health and fitness aspect of raving. Low alcohol sales is a likely reason why there are fewer cases of vandalism and fights at rave events.

Rave is an art form...

So if the experience is not about drugs, what creates the "positive energy?" What makes the "journey" worthwhile? "The music and the dancing", claim the two rave DJ's and Miss Nic.

"Rave is an art form and the DJ is the artist," says Robin. "DJ's do not just put on one track after the other, the mixing and playing of music makes a DJ unique."

The DJ plays with the crowd, and their response is important. Miss Nic says the crowd faces the front because they are attracted to the DJ. The essence of raving is that one is allowed to express sounds visually. Robin explains the journey as

"visualizing other worlds through rave music". But one can only do this through acquired listening, allowing the rhythmic beat to take you into an "elated state".

Standard house beat is 90 beats/minute, and apparently it is the rate of the heartbeat of a baby in the mother's womb. This explains the significant role of the beat and bass in the experience.

The rave scene in SA has boomed to the point where thousands of people will attend a rave function. Raves have taken full advantage of the latest technology through their use of lasers, the most advanced music equipment and satellite link-ups. Pharcyde linked up with a rave in Munich and 2500 SA ravers could dance with 20 000 Munich ravers. Another SA company called Vortex linked with Canada and Boston on World Peace Day. They used Bishop Desmond Tutu as the South African live on-air screen representative.*

In Grahamstown "rave" has gained a new meaning following the Monument rave. About 500 people attended this rave, not only hard-core ravers, but many first-timers too. It proved to be an enjoyable and somewhat exhausting experience, especially for those who raved until the sunshine warmed the Monument.

The local narcotics bureau (SANAB) have described the rave culture as "another youth stage". The police were present at the Monument rave and they said that on the surface it appeared clean. They are aware that there are hard drugs in Grahamstown, but these drugs are available in digs, on campus, and at various events so raves are not the only cause of drug abuse. They received good co-operation from the Monument rave-organizers and so far, they have not had any problems with this high-tech form of entertainment.

Is the rave culture booming in Grahamstown? It would seem so. Grahamstown has been made the destination of various well-known South African rave DJ's who believe that we have the right attitude towards raves.

*- Sourced from "Get the Funk Out", April 1996

Rave Craves

Drugs are a part of campuses, schools and societies that no one may deny.

Harmless drugs, or legal drugs such as caffeine or slimming tablets, are often abused.

ACTIVATE investigated drugs that are most likely to be used at or before a rave.

ECSTASY:

Ecstasy acts as both hallucinogen and stimulant. A stimulant excites the central nervous system, producing sensory distortions. Ecstasy is a powerful neurotoxin that can cause brain damage.

When taking ecstasy, one can either dehydrate or suffer from heatstroke, or you could drown internally when drinking too much liquids for your body to cope with. Ecstasy increases heart rate and blood pressure, reduces appetite, and produces depression, anxiety and drug craving once the high wears off.

LSD:

LSD (acid) is a hallucinogen. Hallucinogens distort the vital functions of the central nervous systems, producing sensory illusions and hallucinations. LSD can cause mental disorders, toxic psychosis, coma and convulsions, and psychological dependance. Frequent LSD-users may experience flashbacks that can cause accidents.

DAGGA:

Dagga is also a hallucinogen, causing brain cell malfunction in behaviour and memory areas. Dagga causes, apart from several lung diseases, a loss of fertility and mental and emotional problems. Dagga affects concentration. This drug has long-term-effects.

APPETITE SUPPRESSANTS:

Appetite suppressants also act as

stimulants of the central nervous system. They cause a rapid pulse rate, a need for a great deal of liquid, hyperactivity, insomnia, palpitations and alternating 'high's and 'low's'.

What would happen to a person who is caught using drugs? The local narcotics bureau explained the procedure to ACTIVATE.

At an event such as the rave at the Monument the police observe ravers and call aside anyone who looks as if they are on drugs. If they are not found to be in possession of drugs, they would probably be released. If the police wanted to they could take the suspect in for blood and urine samples to determine if they are on drugs and if so, press charges. If someone is caught in possession of drugs they are charged and would have to stand trial. Sentences vary depending on the drug type and the quantity found in possession.

English Expansion

Brigid Martin

THE English Department is set to change its courses next year, to make them more accessible to second language speakers and to students coming from English in Africa and Modern Fiction. The Department is aiming for "A School of English" cooperation between the English, Linguistics, Journalism and Drama

departments as well as creating ties with the National English Literary Museum and the Institute for English in Africa.

Professor John Gouws, head of the English department at Rhodes, said that this cooperation meant "bringing together something Guy Butler dreamed up - we are getting his inheritance."

The changes mean that students who have studied English in Africa and Modern Fiction (only offered at

second year level) will be able to do English III without having done English II.

Students who have done English 1A - English for academic purposes - will now be able to do English II, provided they are "interested, keen and capable".

The gap between English 1A and English II will be bridged by a new paper, the Language of Literature which will provide relief from the purely literary content of the

course.

English III will no longer have any compulsory papers, and students will be given a wider choice of topics. As it stands at the moment, English III students write two compulsory papers, with two Option choices. The new curriculum will include Renaissance literature, the Rise of the Novel, Southern African literature, Contemporary American Literature and a paper still to be introduced which will deal

with literature and teaching. Another "compulsory" paper will allow students to choose a topic, more general than the Options offered now, in the first half of the year, on which they will write an extended essay in the second half of the year.

These changes have been made to encourage more people to do English by making the course more accessible to a larger number of students.

Fifty Fishy Years

Ilja Graulich

TUCKED away in the front corner of Rhodes' campus, is a building often overlooked by most students on their way to The Rat. The J.L.B Smith Institute of Ichthyology is a major centre for pure and applied ichthyology and is celebrating its golden anniversary this year.

Established in 1946, it plays a key role in the study of fish in Africa, as well as in the training of students in the fields of ichthyology and fisheries sciences.

Before being proclaimed a Declared Cultural Institution under the Department of National Education, the J.L.B Smith Institute was a research institution at Rhodes University. The teaching side now falls under the auspices of the Department of Ichthyology and Fisheries Sciences, which was established following the new proclamation of the institute.

The Institute, whose major function is to conduct scientific research on marine, estuarine and freshwater fishes, together with the Department constitute the largest concentration of ichthyologists in Africa. Its reputation is recognised worldwide, coming to prominence with the discovery of the "extinct" coelacanth.

The Institute also has a stimulating education programme directed at scholars and the public. A diploma in aquatic resource management has been established by the department, a course particularly important considering the vast rural population in South Africa.

So, Rhodians, if you have five minutes to spare, go around to the Institute and see what they have to offer.

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Our evening presentation will be on August 21 at 6.00 p.m. in the Arts Major Theatre

Natural Born Singers...do it a capella

Jeanne Louise Moys &
Joanne Levitan

SINCE their formation at the beginning of 1995, *The Natural Born Singers* have achieved growing popularity across the Eastern Cape, culminating in their performance for President Mandela this week.

The student group, consisting of Roy Hobson, Jenni Hill, Martin Donnelly, Murray Macaulay, Linda Pledger, Eliot Short, Jane Silva and Ingrid van Eck, performed in a packed Rhodes Chapel over Graduation weekend. In a recent tour, they attracted huge audiences in Mossel Bay, Knysna and George. Although only in their second year, *Natural Born Singers* have received invitations to perform on the Fringe at the National Arts Festival, at the Hogsback Arts Festival and the Knysna Arts Festival. Last year they took Grahamstown by storm, received acclaim for their concerts at the National Arts Festival and the sold-out Hogsback Arts Festival shows. As singer Martin Donnelly says "its incredible because we were almost completely unknown".

The *Natural Born Singers ... do it a cappella* concert, which will be performed for students on June 1, promises variety and entertainment. A *cappella*, for those who are not familiar with the lingo, is unaccompanied singing.



Natural Born Singers...preparing for the president's visit.

pic: Rycherde Walters

Original works, featuring ambitious harmonies, complex rhythms and vocal percussion, written by Bongani Ndodana and Anthony Caplan will be performed as well as original arrangements of well known songs. Programme items range from humorous songs such as *I'm A Train* and the *Humpty Dumpty Medley* to some vocal jazz in *Operator* and melancholic numbers like Billy Joel's *And So It Goes* and Sting's

Fragile. Also in the programme are: Marc Cohn's *29 Ways*, James Taylor's *That Lonesome Road*, the Cranberries' *Ode to My Family* and a *Billy Joel Medley*. Their 1995 hits included Paul Simon's *Under African Skies*, Bruce Springsteen's *Streets of Philadelphia* and the original arrangement of the *Aladdin Medley*. The concert will be performed in the Rhodes Theatre at 7pm on June 1.

Music on Offer

Nicky Manson

*TWO years ago Rhodes' Music Department funded by the Norwegian Foundation, introduced the "Outreach Youth Programme" which has a growing impact on the township community. Aptly named, this innovative programme sends out voluntary music students to teach township youth to play different instruments. The people who devote their time to this worthwhile project are Anthony Caplan, the drummer in *Larry Strelitz's Blues Band*, who teaches guitar and basic drum skills; Mike Tame who teaches marimba and Bongani Ndodana who, until this year, taught keyboard skills. Because of the lack of resources in the township, these young teachers use their own instruments and share a venue with the Dakawa Programme.

*THE Music Department is now offering a foundation course for people with no previous experience or formal training in

music. It is a purely practical course, which means there are no history of music lectures to go to. Three disciplines are offered: keyboard, singing and recorder. Students are taught two of these and then learn to play an instrument of their choice.

At the moment singing has proved to be the most popular choice, and the less experience you have the better, because then you can be taught the correct techniques from the beginning. This is good news for all of you who sing (badly) in the shower!

*PERFORMANCE classes are also offered in the department. All students are welcome to watch music students perform works they are studying, free of charge. They say large audiences are good to practise in front of. I say they're better to sit in, but then I'm no expert! If you are interested in absorbing a bit of culture, go along to the department, any Friday at 2:15pm for something a little different.

*AND now to tell you what's coming up in

the music department. There are quite a few regular bands playing at the moment as well as some newcomers. Ones to look out for are *Rhodes University Jazz*, every Wednesday, directed by Mike Skipper of D.S.G, the *R.U. Wind Band*, directed by Ian Smith from Kingswood and the Chamber Choir, which was the first university chamber choir in South Africa. There is also *Natural Born Singers*, a group of students who make up an "a cappella" choir and several other student ensembles around.

Keep a look-out for *Opus 3*, an enterprising group who have been together for three years. The members are Grant Olwage on piano, Eleanor Mullins on flute and Carol Schultz on cello. They also compose many original pieces and it is definitely something to watch for.

All in all it looks like the music department is taking the scene by storm. So I leave it up to you to dive in there and GET SOME CULTURE!

Early to bed for Rhodes Blues

Chris Green

THE Blue Note Bar has become increasingly popular over the past few months, especially with the introduction of the *Larry Strelitz Blues Band* on Thursday evenings. Unfortunately, the show always has to end at eleven o'clock, giving the feeling of having been escorted out of a good restaurant leaving a half-finished meal behind you. Many cultured, blues-loving students have complained about their enforced early bedtime and want to know whether the Blue Note could not stay open longer, to provide them with a decent night's entertainment.

Pete Boschhoff, the Rhodes University Club's administrator explains that "residents in South Street have complained in the past about noise from the club late at night. We have come to an agreement to run until eleven o'clock at night and we can only stay open later if a signed agreement is handed to the residents beforehand, and then we can only run until twelve o'clock." This could only be organized on special occasions such as the Landscape Prayers gig a few weeks ago. But is there no chance of soundproofing the Blue Note?

"No, there is not a good chance," responds Pete, "in fact I'd say it's almost impossible". He explains that the situation of the Blue

Note with its open glass doors leading out onto the verandah will make it very hard for the room to be soundproofed. So unfortunately it seems the only way to enjoy Larry at his best is to get there early and make the most of it!

Other Rhodes University Club news is that the Martell Fireside Jam seems to have made a successful return to the social diaries of most Rhodes students. This event provides a platform for local musicians to get together and jam, as well as exchange ideas. Judging from the jovial atmosphere prevalent at most of the jams this year this is something for all culture vultures to look forward to.

BASS LINE

GRAHAMSTOWN'S live music scene is once again on the up and not a moment too soon. Student band *HEAD* and the *LARRY STRELITZ BLUES BAND* have emerged as the major forces and are notable crowd-pulling acts among the fickle student audiences. It is puzzling to see that these two bands, who are enjoying a great deal of success, are the only performers with a regular full line-up. Gone are the days where musicians formed groups, wrote original music, and revelled in playing to audiences. Instead they have been replaced by soloists of which most are more intent on boosting their self-inflated egos or play for the quick buck.

It's about time that musicians take advantage of their talents and enhanced them by playing with other people instead of stagnating due to the lack of outside influences from their peers. It's fine rehashing other people's songs that you enjoy listening to but if you're going to do the solo thing then sit on a street corner and busk - the pay's not that great but at least you'll be providing a service to the community by livening up the streets of Grahamstown.

It's no use having the ambition the size of a plectrum to deal with audiences who insist on buying the next round solely so that they can avoid slouching on the table/bar in a fit of Rhodes Apathy. The Student Union provides a perfect spring-board for beginner bands to hone their skills and immerse themselves in the idea of playing to a crowd of expectant onlookers through their staging of *FIRESIDE JAMS*. Both *LOOMER*, indie band soon to make their return, and *HEAD* have taken advantage of these jams to build up a support base and

improve their respective talents. If you've considered performing on stage then do yourself a favour, lose your inhibitions and give us something to look forward to.

There is no wonder why *HEAD*, The *LARRY STRELITZ BLUES BAND* and the sabbatical *LOOMER* are widely popular - it's all to do with professionalism and confidence. May this be a helpful hint to both budding and stagnant musicians - make the most of your talent!

Adrian Battye



SOPHIATOWN

*"Sophiatown...Place of Freedom Square, and the Back of the Moon. Place of Can Themba's house of Truth. Place of the G-men and Father Huddleston's mission..." Rhodes University Drama Department... experimental, innovative, interesting and predominantly Eurocentric. **Claire Smith** spoke to Andrew Buckland to find out why **Sophiatown**, and why now?*

SOPHIATOWN is unlike previous department plays. Very often the plays are experimental in form, for example Andrew Buckland's staging of the Shakespearian classic *The Tempest* in 1994, and therefore inaccessible to the greater population of Grahamstown. For Rhodes theatre, *Sophiatown* is experimental in content. It appears as the Junction Theatre Company workshopped it for the Market Theatre in the 1980's, a play with music, song and dance, a passionate and vibrant reincarnation of the multi-faceted, multi-cultural life of Sophiatown.

Sophiatown is about relationships, the key issues are of racial conflict, gangsterism, violence and poverty. The politics that affected the people of Sophiatown are still

relevant to Grahamstown today. The play is about people, human conflicts and human understandings. It is vibrant and passionate - people live there, the text is rich and the characters are real, they are alive.

Buckland believes there is a need to change; it is essential that the department begins to address the needs of black students at undergraduate level. For the past two years there has been no black member of staff in the department and this has left them without a strong grasp of black culture. It is also essential that the department starts appealing to a wider audience. Township residents and the stereotypical ruggerbuggers never enter the realms of the Rhodes Theatre. It is necessary that theatre be accessible to all South Africans, both financially and culturally.

Sophiatown will be showing at the Rhodes Theatre from May 21 to May 25. R5 per ticket and there are no concessions for students. We all exist equally in the foyer, before we enter the theatre and become a part of the inequalities and racial constructions that eventually determined the destruction of Sophiatown.



pic: Dror Eyal

Cosmic Cafe



pic: Kerry Irish

Impressions of The Cosmic Cafe.

Lounging on a Japanese floor couch with good friend leaning against my shoulder, I think to myself for a coffee shop this place is pretty funky. Sipping at my cup of Childhood Memories, I gaze at the mobiles as they spin on their weird wire orbits, casting strange shades and shadows on the ceiling. Peering through a kaleidoscope I spot the smiling waitress looming at me against a backdrop of orange and blue diffused walls. My Blue Mountain arrives and the ashtray gets fuller. The music and the cigarettes give me a headrush. I smile.

Voices babble on around me, and the ambient music hushes everything into a quiet trance. I am content and know I'll be back tomorrow night for another esoteric experience.

Grahamstown's new alternative Coffee Shop - the Cosmic Cafe, is owned by Turid Bergstedt, Lara Evans and Cara Lacey, and is situated opposite His Majesty's Cinema.

Dista 3105

IT'S SUNDAY. Again. I am sitting at my desk in the apartment. It's cold and stormy. I'm trying to decide whether to kill myself or go to the Spur when the phone rings. I let it ring for a while. Don't want anybody to think I'm lonely or bored, or desperately wanting a noisy beer. Hell, this quantum stuff may well keep me occupied for the rest of the week. I don't mind hearing the phone ring for a while. It means that someone somewhere out there wants me. Yep, you take your comfort where you can. A couple of more rings to make sure that they realise that I am well content with life, and a quick wallow in the notion that I won't have to kill myself to prove a point. Yep, someone out there wants to speak to me. The ringing stops.

I turn to the cat ... the cat says nothing ... I leave the cat in charge ...

Red and white stripes erupt out of the corner of my right eye. "Hi, can I take your drinks order?"

"I'll have a diet hemlock please."

"Excuse me ..."

"Errr make that a Black Label."

By the time the beer arrives the third Paul McCartney song in a row has come to an end. "What happened?" I ask the waiter, "Paul McCartney die?"

"It's a CD," he sneers back ...

I reach for another cigarette. This waiter is obviously having problems with his self esteem ... did you hear the way he replied?

This man is not happy ... neither am I I could get along with him, maybe we could get together after his shift and kill someone or something. I open my mouth to proposition him when in walks E with his pet stomach. The man should pierce his navel and take his stomach for walks on a leash. "Hi E!"

"What a nasty surprise!"

E sits down at my table, I fleetingly play around with the idea of calling the manager and telling him that E is sexually harassing me and having him thrown out, maybe I could mace him first. Odds are pretty good that I will break into his house around ten tomorrow - after Roseanne - and chop him to death with an axe. The feeling of depression is quickly replaced by anticipation of his eminent death and I return to my usual charming self. E oblivious to the thoughts which race through my head, rattles on about his banal life.

"blah blah blah blah"

"yea .." I nod obliviously, wondering whether I still have time to shoot some pool tonight, it's getting close to midnight, Kolors will probably be closed, alternatively I could just shoot E, one between the pockets It will have to be taped of course, I idly wonder where he keeps his video camera. "blah blah ..." suddenly my ears catch something and the conversation comes into focus again "... blah and then she said, do you have any cigarettes blah blah" Nope false alarm ... I imagine taking one of the

Industrial Psychology III

steak knives on the table, slicing my wrist and aiming the spurting stump at his head, wondering if he would still continue to talk. I decide that he probably would

"Would you like to order sir?"

"Yea, I'll have the nachos ..."

"blah blah blah ..."

"Anything for you sir?"

"blah blah blah ..."

Another Paul McCartney song comes to an end ... the nachos arrive

"blah blah blah blah blah blah..."

"Oh God, " I moan to no-one in particular "I'm going to have to kill him ..."

"blah blah blah blah"

"Just sayno....." I choke on a nacho, spewing green bile and drool all over the table, ignoring the waiter who rushes by to see what is wrong. I am standing, scowling, my mouthflecked with green foam and I notice that my package of rats, hydrochloric acid, axe and safety pins is still under the table and this calms me down enough to sit and drink some water. The waiter is cleaning the table, I pick one of the nachos off the floor and I can taste its acidic flavour and I'm suddenly ravenous and I scoop up a handful of nachos and shove them in my mouth and lick greedily at my palms ignoring the waiter who is staring at me incredulously, I heave the nachos all over the dessert menu, leaving brown streaks all over the cheesecake slice. "blah blah blah blah blah..." Loosening my shirt, ignoring

the waiter, sweat drenched, delirious, I find myself standing again ... when did I get up? I compose myself, muttering to myself over and over again, "I've got to return my library books, I've got to return my library books, I've got to get to the library, I've gottogotothelibrary." I sit down, the waiter hovers by, "Would you like something to drink?" I belch, my eyes rolling back into my head, greenish bile dripping in strings from my bared fangs. "blah blah blah blah blah ..." The waiter grabs me by my jacket and when I look up to see what he wants, he starts singing the chorus from a Paul McCartney song and I pull away horrified and try to make it to the bathroom and on the way the manager offers me face paint, I look at him and grab two red jars and one yellow and swallow them whole and the manager stares at me, trying to mask his annoyance with an amused glare, I glare back. I am sitting at my table and I can sense the waiter hovering in the background, "I'll have a cup of coffee and a plate of chips, with cheese." And he goes off to get the order and another Paul McCartney song comes on the speakers, and the speakers are hissing at me and the room is melting all around me and I spill the ketchup and there is red everywhere and E finally stops talking and the CD finally stops playing Paul McCartney songs and my coffee finally arrives. I leave.

Xiola Blue

Much Umdudo about Dance

Robin Kelly

The Dance Umdudo which was held at the Rhodes Drama department from April 15 - 20, is a regional event that provides a free and open platform for dancers and performers across South Africa. Although the Umdudo has been happening since 1989, this is the first time the event has occurred in the Eastern Cape. That, on its own, made the three evenings of exciting new styles, poetry.

The single most important fact about the Umdudo is that it was in no way competitive. This has various implications, but the first one to confront a journalist writing about the event, is that there is little criteria for the writer to decide what is good and what is bad, and also, there is far too little space and time in print to explain the different styles emerging from each dance. After thirty eight performance reviews, I think we'd be more confused...

The following is therefore a transcript of a panel discussion between: Andrew Buckland, a performer, lecturer and member of the First Physical Theatre; Likhaya Ngandi, a performer and African dance trainer; Adrienne Sichel, a theatre critic for the Star; and Lanon Prigge, a performer, member of the First Physical Theatre and Rhodes graduate.

The discussion is based on the speech made by Professor Whisson on opening night. In short it went something like this...

"We are communicating in a new language...it is one we can all share on an equal basis. It is a language of universal empowerment. What we are seeing here tonight is the first flowering of the cultural rebirth of the region. People have been ground down by poverty and plagued by politics for a generation or two and now they're saying 'Enough! There is more to life than misery and anger.'... People do not live by bread alone is what we're saying in this marvellous kaleidoscope of dance...the medium we share is the message itself. Dance does not require a court interpreter. It speaks in its own universal language of human emotions and artistic expression. It is perhaps the language of Africa...the new shared language of a new South Africa."

Is the Umdudo about language?

ANDREW: (after a long silence) "Nobody's in a hurry to pick that one up (laughs). Everybody has rhythm, and a particular attitude. Its a matter of contacting that and liberating it. One of the experiences of being in the audience is participating in watching other people do that."



Jenni Davies and Amir Mizroch from the Rhodes Drama Department perform a work choreographed by Masters student Tammy Ballantyne

pic: Taryn Cass

Adrienne, as a writer, what do you look for in Dance?

ADRIANNE: "There's a problem when you talk about dance as a language. Its about being able to move, having access. Its not as easy as a "universal language." It should be, but there are divisions in this country and last night was incredibly historical because a lot of dancers were on stage together."

So would you say that dance is on an equal basis?

ADRIANNE: "Not yet. Equality begins in sharing the acting, the training and theatrical technique. But then you have the danger of losing some of that amazing creativity which is unique to South Africa, and to the people using dance as a form of cultural individual expression."

The Umdudo hasn't been competitive in the E.Cape?

LANON: "That allows all the performers the freedom of expression, so you're giving the audience something of what you've learnt - some of your culture, some of your experience, and you're giving it free and openly without any other motives. As soon as the platform becomes competitive, especially in the arts, you're dealing with ego's..."

Ego's?

LANON: "Ego's. Then things get a bit tricky because sometimes you lose sight of the artistry, and the reason you're doing it."

What difference would it make if it was competitive?

LIKHAYA: "Its not in the words, it's in peoples' minds that it is competition. As soon as they go on stage they assume they're going to compete...When people look at this place they just think of the National Arts Festival. But there's more, Grahamstown is a unique place - its small and people know each other very well. For me the Umdudo is an eye-opener, in the sense that some folks of the community, my community, came and participated - I was really moved. My experience in Dramaide so far has showed that you can take someone, anyone, and train them step by step. I don't profess to be someone (giggles) who knows everything. Dance for me speaks volumes - we've been cheated by the spoken language and on stage you can't cheat me cause I can see what you are doing with your feelings in performing."

So language does play a part, even though you can see the movement. We had a mixture of Xhosa and English in Andrew's Umama Umkhulu, for example...Do you actually speak Xhosa?

ANDREW: "No, I'm just learning by doing it and it just gets translated."

LIKHAYA: "While he was performing I was backstage and I could make sense of what he was saying because it was my language. You could see how the audience responded - some of the conversation was much more funny because it wasn't normally the way in which we pronounce things..."

Which parts did you struggle with, to pronounce?

ANDREW: "Initially I had to learn it parrot fashion."

(Andrew leaves for a lecture)

The word dance splinters off into so many different forms and styles. What kind of criteria would somebody use if it was competitive? Who would be the judge, and what would they bring to bare?

LIKHAYA: "There is no proper word in Xhosa for the term dance. You're gonna have a problem when it comes to criteria because with my background you have to define for me what you mean by the word dance before you can even think of judging me. That's where it becomes interesting and also very dangerous."

So what is the power of dance?

LANON: "I would say it is very different for almost everybody. As a performer the power of dance is what it does for me when I'm on stage, what I go through, the process I go through. That very same experience will be different for somebody who's watching what is happening to me."

As a social value, where does dance fit in?

LIKHAYA: "As we saw at the Umdudo on Thursday, its a form of bringing people together - the enjoyment and the experience. I took friends to the theatre for the first time. They'd never been there before but last night they didn't go to bed because they were raving! (laughter) They were surprised that they could understand what was happening. And for me, it was an eye-opener trying to fit into their shoes."

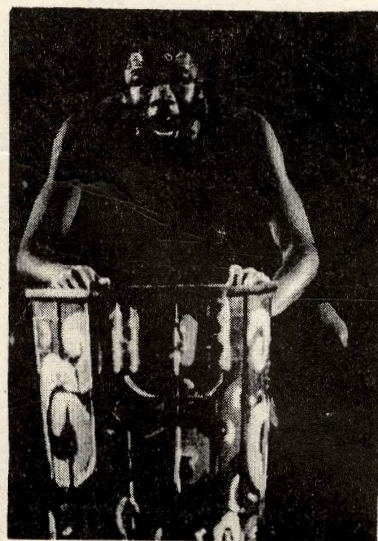
Prof Whisson mentioned that you don't need an interpreter in dance...do you agree?

ADRIANNE: "That goes back to criteria, and when you're talking about criteria the first criteria for the Umdudo is the theatre. The minute you go onto the stage - that's the criteria. The challenge for people writing about dance is that we have to define what it is, we have to set the criteria and develop the aesthetic. That's what is so exciting about being in South Africa. Also, we must not forget that we are in Africa."

Prof Whisson characterised Africa as placing rhythm before melody. He seems to cut a sharp distinction between African and European styles. If we look at township 'pantula, which relies on a lot of synchronicity and uniformity, and Paul Datlin's 70%H2O, which is more self indulgent, is this division between rhythm and melody apt?

ADRIANNE: "Its different rhythm (in Datlin). And don't forget that mapantsula is theatrical. I'm not sure you can use the word "melody" in dance though..."

LANON: "I think its different for whatever art form you're pursuing. In Physical Theatre we've got a standpoint that dance need not have music, but music lends something to dance that you can explore as another



Some dance groups used traditional gumboot dancing as a starting point for modern innovative dance pieces.

pic: Taryn Cass

aspect. A rhythm in Physical theatre may come from inside my body - I don't need a beat thrashing out whereas in Mapantsula, if I take that music away I can see an iiiiiiiiincredible (heavily emphasised) rhythm on stage. I don't need music, but it does add something. The rhythm is in the body and I think there is always rhythm going on."

LIKHAYA: "I'm glad you say that because every time I do a workshop, the African dance workshops, I say to people that walking is a rhythm. That's where it starts. Everyone of us can actually see it happening...if you watch someone crossing the street you can see the rhythm in their movements. But I'm not quite sure you can use the word melody in dance, I'm not sure what that is."

Adrienne, as an arts and culture critic, what is your role - are you there to judge what is good and what is bad?

ADRIANNE: "Firstly, I would ban the word "critic". I don't know if such a word exists in any African language. Criticism is a very Western concept, its really not polite. As a theatre journalist I've always believed that we have to be part of the process as well and in that there is a conflict of interest. Its a very fine line to walk but its got to be done...We have to discover each others rhythms, from an audience point of view and a performers point of view. Anybody who writes about dance, theatre and music in this country - there's no division! You've got to understand and try and grapple with all those things."

Last question. Lanon, as a representative of the Physical Theatre Company, we spoke about dance being a new language. But don't you think its an academic language - none of the other performers in the region seemed to be doing anything remotely like what you're doing? Is Physical Theatre not a bit elite?

LANON: "But that's the point! People are going to say we're elitist, but its the whole thing of language, you've got to educate your audience to understand what you're doing first and foremost, and we're still busy doing that. For example, Andrew Buckland last night - when he started speaking Xhosa his body changed completely. The way he moved, the way he presented himself was completely different to the Andrew Buckland who speaks English. Now explain that to me! That's what we're talking about here, the way language and culture effects the way the body moves and operates and expresses itself."

Festival Focus

Winter School '96

Susan Landman & Patricia McCarthy

WINTER School? Remedial lectures for underachieving students? Wrong! Be prepared instead for a unique intellectual experience that will revolutionize your thinking, broaden your horizons and alter your whole outlook on life!

Based on the American concept of summer school, "Winter School" was originally developed to provide background information to the various art and music exhibitions, but it has, over the years, vastly widened its scope to become an attraction all on its own. Most of the school's lectures take place at Settler's Monument alongside other festival activities and the school "term" lasts as long as the festival itself. According to Tim Huisamen, one of the chief coordinators of the winter school, it deals with a huge range of fascinating topics that draws people from all walks of life and provides them with the opportunity to develop their intellects in various spheres of interest.

Huisamen said the topics planned for this year's winter school are "particularly exciting". One of the courses expected to attract a crowd is the very pertinent issue of the internet. Several internet experts, such as Bruce Cohen, from the Weekly Mail and Guardian, and Paul Goodwin, of the Rhodes Information Department, will give talks and demonstrations about how to get the most out of the internet system, and a "cyber cafe" is planned, offering the audience a hands-on experience of internet facilities.

A well-known literary critic, J. Hillis Miller, will talk on how the internet may, in the future, affect the teaching of literature, as well as influence world culture.

Another interesting subject that will be explored by the winter school this year, is that of minority groups in South Africa. The well-known blind poet, William Rowland, will deal with the issue of human rights for the physically disabled, while Simon Nkoli and Phumzile Mtetwa will talk from personal experience about the misconceptions and superstitions surrounding gay people in African societies.

Several world famous authors have also been invited to give presentations at the winter school - among these are the English writers Stephen Gray, Andre Brink and Mike Nicol (the latter is well known for his theory of magic realism), and the Afrikaans writers Sonja Loots, Elsa Joubert and the poet, Lucas Malan. Huisamen said the literary lectures are expected to draw a "tremendous response" from festival goers who will flock to hear the writers read and explain famous extracts from their works. The winter school will offer talks on numerous other stimulating topics, including photojournalism and digital manipulation, modern cities and their "personalities", dictionary compilation, and much more.

Lectures at the festival comprise a talk by an expert, with slide-shows and demonstrations, followed by a question and answer session. Lecture fees vary from six to eight rands at the door, while advance bookings at the Grahamstown Foundation will receive a discount.

Festival Finance

Karen Makgamathe

THERE is no doubt that the Standard Bank National Arts Festival is Grahamstown's biggest and most profitable event, bringing in thousands of rands each year. Yet to the average Grahamstonian it remains unclear how and where the profits are distributed. However, this year that information may be more readily available.

Rhodes University's Department of Economics and Economic History is currently involved in research to assess the economic impact of the Festival on Grahamstown and the Eastern Cape. The project, headed by Geoff Antrobus of the Economics Department, began in February this year. Its aim is to look into the distribution of Festival profits in Grahamstown. It will also

research the creation of employment.

According to the department there is a widespread perception within the local community that the Festival does not benefit Grahamstown's neediest citizens.

The project will be divided into two phases and the preliminary results of the first phase are expected by November this year. The final results will be published in February next year.

Vaughan Williams, a junior lecturer in the Economics Department who is also involved in the project, said the Standard Bank as the chief sponsor of the Festival would like to see the city taking more responsibility in managing the event.

He added that the bank would not consider moving the Festival elsewhere, as "there is an aura and tradition about having the Festival in Grahamstown".

Les Pietons

ARMED with an interesting array of costumes, animals, circus and theatre props, Les Pietons, the professional French street theatre group, will be prowling the bungie-filled alleys of Grahamstown during this year's Standard Bank National Arts Festival. Their performance art is rooted in the Medieval tradition of blending music, acrobatics, burlesque, clowning, mime and

dance. Weighed down with magical burdens and immense talent, the group will wander the streets, gathering the crowds, until they eventually unload on some unsuspecting street corner and perform their mix of jumble ballet and circus.

Only three shows will be performed during this Festival, so be sure to be on the lookout for these spontaneous spectaculars!

Freestyle EDUCATION



Andrew Buckland and Sheena Stannard in rehearsal for *FREESTYLE*, Suitcase Production's new theatre experience. pic: Elsabe van Tonder

Claire Smith

SUITCASE Productions, a Grahamstown based theatre company, has workshopped an exciting new theatre experience starring well-known performer, Andrew Buckland. Funded by a grant from the Foundation for Creative Arts, the play is aimed at Std 8-10 pupils and deals issues of identity and conformity.

Freestyle tells the story of a mother and daughter lost within a desert landscape. Throughout the piece they encounter a range of characters - perhaps from a dreamscape, perhaps part of reality. The interaction between the characters results in

a metaphorical exploration of issues pertinent to young adults.

The work incorporates acting, physical theatre, music and innovative visual design. Directed by Michael Carlin who is involved with many other educational theatre events such as Dramaide and EDT, this collaborative work is sure to appeal to scholars and adults.

In addition to the theatre production, workshops will be organised to facilitate the training of teachers who are interested in acquiring educational drama skills.

Freestyle will be performed in the Rhodes Box Theatre on May 30 and June 1. See you there!

Musical Inspirations

Lineke Moen

THE music department is buzzing with new (and not so new) projects this year. The newest of these was only started at the end of March: the Grahamstown Music, Drama and Art School. It is under the direction of Kenneth Mdana who started the school as a personal initiative with no external funding.

Students are taught film skills, especially animated film. This will be especially useful in the emerging field of "moralised animated strips" which help with things like voter education, AIDS awareness and so on. They are also taught music skills - this is where the music department comes in. Three second year music students teach the five to seven-odd students basic keyboard skills. Justin Clarkson-Fletcher, Justin Wardle and Eric Wetherall are the three volunteers who have decided to commit themselves to this worthwhile project. Initially everything was taught at The Crossing, but after several "transport crisis" the department decided to transfer the music section

of the school to the Rhodes Music Department. The pupils are all from the township

and consist mostly of older matriculants. Seventeen pupils were auditioned and seven pupils were selected.

This is definitely an exciting development on the music, drama and art scene and it is great that Grahamstown will now have their own School of Music, Drama and Art. The second exciting project in the music department is the amateur opera company under the direction of Gwyn Lloyd. The group consists of about fifteen students who get together once a week. For bigger productions, like "Amahl and The Night Visitors" choruses were gathered from the township. Festivalgoers in 1995 would have seen this critically acclaimed production, which is due to be brought to the fore again in September and November this year.

The group is currently working on an "Tembha and Seliba" for which Lloyd wrote the libretto. Bongani Ndodana, a student at the department, wrote the music. If this production is successful, it could end up at the Edinburgh Festival in Scotland, so here's hoping!

keeping a BREAST of things...

Gina Flaxman

I'D LIKE to get something off my chest, so to speak. I have small breasts. There, I said it. I'm Gina Flaxman and I have small breasts. They are there, really. They're just hidden or, as someone once referred to them, they're subtle. I have subtle breasts.

I didn't notice it at first. For a while I was a happy, ordinary child. That's the thing with Inadequate Breast Syndrome. It sneaks up on you. You only notice something's wrong

when you realise you're the only girl in your PT class that doesn't wear a bra. And you end up buying one, not because you need to, but because you know they're never going to grow and you begin to feel a bit silly. It's all downhill from there. I have suffered every small-breast humiliation known to womankind. First, there was the Mistaken For Small Boy Incident. Admittedly, my short hair does not help display my femininity, but there was no reason, other than malicious intent, for the fruit and vegetable seller to refer to me as "Boetie". I would like to

believe that she had bad eyesight, but statements from male friends such as: “we’re all men here” have not exactly helped the situation. Then there was the time my mother, my own flesh and blood, took me underwear shopping (this, I must just add, was at the mature age of 18). Upon reaching the counter, surrounded by other lingerie buyers, she lifted the package and shouted (I must emphasise the shouting, “Look, Gina, it says: For small breasts and first-time wearers”. And then proceeded to chuckle. Heartily.

Finally, there was the time my

boyfriend dressed up as Tank Girl.

(It was a digs party not some kind of kinky sex-game thing). Yes, it got ugly. All I'm prepared to say is that he had more cleavage than I did. You know it's bad when your boyfriend's breasts make you feel inadequate.

Oh, the joys of large breasts! I'm not talking about huge ones, just enough so that there's something there and you're not intimidated by men with more cleavage than you. So you can feel them there when you walk, use them as a weapon to bash people with, and rest them on the bar like those big-haired women

at the Vic do.

This is not to say that being underdeveloped doesn't have its advantages. It's a lot more practical. I can walk around without a bra if I want to. Small breasts don't get in the way. I can walk through a door and arrive at the same time as my breasts, and people don't stare at them because there's nothing there to stare at. So take that, all you big-breasted women. I'll walk proudly with my subtle breasts, braless if I want to. And if I get mistaken for a small boy every now and again, well, that's just an occupational hazard!

VRRTNNIA!

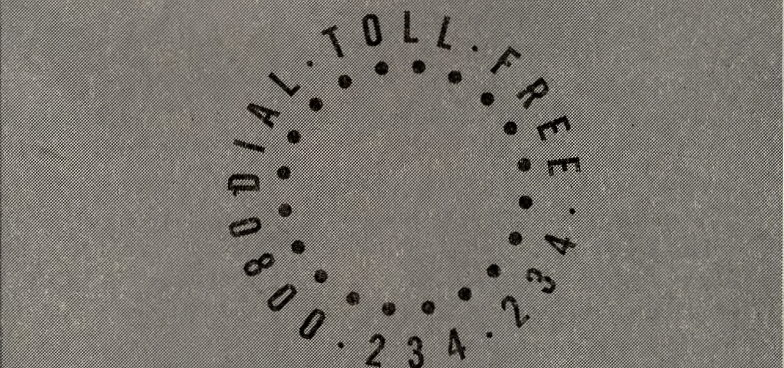
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WINTER

Paula Thistleton

BEANIES, balaclavas, hideous holey scarves and second hand student coats have been spotted out in Grahamstown. Yes, its official: Winter has arrived ! A couple of months too early I hear you say, aah, this is Grahamstown though.

I come from Durban, the place that used to be a holiday destination before Sol Kerzner decided to capitalise on the fact that the only thing missing from Johannesburg was sea & beaches and built the *Lost City*. In sunny Durb's the warmest article of clothing a person owns is a long-sleeved t-shirt, maybe a jersey, although strictly speaking that is actually reserved for using on visits to relatives in Pietermaritzburg. Durbanites regard 20 degrees Celsius as being chilly, a day that is not suitable for the usual crop top or cut off t-shirt. If the temperature drops to below this, "the-changing-world-climate" becomes the current news discussed at dinner tables and geography department meetings alike.

Imagine my surprise when I heard Grahamstown residents referring to a 20 degree day as warmish. There I was contemplating whether or not to buy a second heater for my room, and these two locals were in fact on their way to lectures, in that kind of weather? So last week when the temperature (or lack thereof) dropped to an Arctic 9 degrees I was determined to acquire a leave of absence, citing "non-acclimatisation" as the reason. Needless to say it was not granted and I was forced to brave the cold. I was not alone however, many a Durbanite was spotted shivering under denim jackets and "warm" plaid shirts.

Going out at night in Grahamstown has been quite a fashion experience of late. Attire I've always associated with camping in the Drakensburg, such as woolly hats, tassled scarves and fluffy gloves have surfaced at Fireside Jams held at the Union.

My question is, if Grahamstowners regard 20 degrees as warmish, what temperature do they think of as coolish, or even worse, cold? I shiver at the thought!

Rustlers' Music Festival - '96

For the second year in a row Karl Delpert has braved the pure hedonism of the Free Zone, viewed its dimensions, embraced its principles and survived to give you the following report.

THE alternate-lifestyle envisaged by many and only experienced by a few is available to those intrepid travellers who cruise in their vans and on their thumbs to the beautiful mountainous retreat Rustlers Valley Easter Festival in the eastern 'Oranje Vry Staat' over the Easter public holiday. This Festival might sound 'boer' because of the location, in fact the only ones you see are those situated at the gate with their sniffer-dogs and beer guts. From their on in its the Free-Zone.

Standing at the gate is a black tie-dye rasta with an old 308 'boer' war rifle - loaded 'I hope not'. The 'Info' office, next to the Rustlers Lodge, is buzzing and in the view below 5000 people are settling into their make-shift homes, tents and other peculiar things that can be called a dwelling. Some people just wander and sleep where ever for the five days.

An erected tipi village forms the centre of the gathering close to the dam and mainstage, from this convergence point a meandering mass of people make up a village that was a burning Free-State field days before.

With only one entrance the valley was at one time the place where cow and horse thieves would bring their catch - hence the name Rustlers Valley. To the San this valley was a spiritual power point used for worshipping nature and the beauty that she provides. The valley is surrounded by

mountains and dense green bush, grassy fields, with white fluffy heads dancing lazily in the sun. At the lowest point, next to the mainstage, is an icy-cold mountain dam that provides water for the campers and rejuvenation from the 'hells teeth' hot sun.

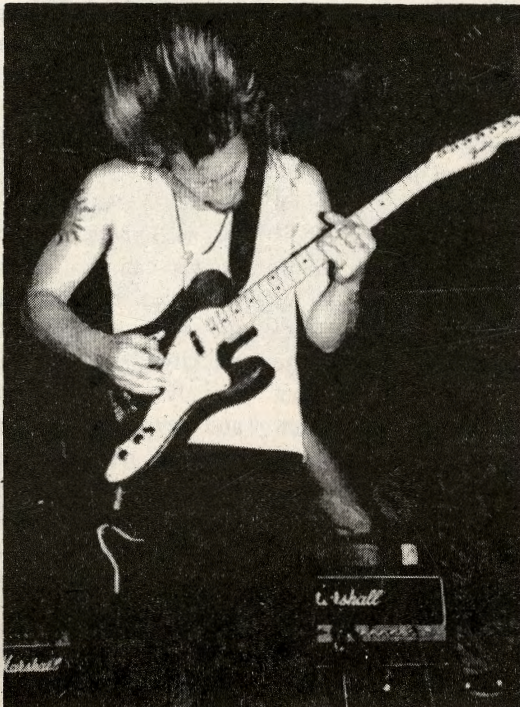
All around are fabulous spots to see and things to do, caves and cave paintings can be reached far up the slopes with much trekking. Otherwise for the not so 'gung



ho' shorter walks into the veld can be relaxing. The valley boasts over 100 species of flowers and many types of buck and other interesting animals, if you're lucky enough to see them. However baking yourself next to the dam is the safest bet for the light-hearted, there's lots of naked 'bods' to see. Today this valley is the FREE ZONE, an

alternative life-style farm, established by an 'organic chemistry' mind-set that the earth is a single living organism and we humans part of its genetic make-up.

The Republic, the law and the police for that matter stop at the gate and people who believe in the ability of mankind to harmonize go forth and do what they want for five hot Free State days and four very cold nights. No violence was reported at Rustlers '96, so there must be some truth in



what I'm saying.

Being warm and camping-equipped is essential in order to derive the utmost hedonistic pleasure from this pure earthly Utopia.

Slowly as the temperature drops and the early evening full-moon rises, smoke from the camp fires descends over the valley and

the MAINSTAGE kicks in, a stage equal to any international stars'. People who aren't afraid to party gather in their droves and boogie on down, mingle, flirt and even try to fly - daring kamikazes stage dive from the three-meter high stage, while international and local bands rock them.

When the vibes get too hot and your feet too cold its time to walk-about. Around you is a fully self contained village. Stalls sell hot-chocolate, tea and coffee, whatever munchies you can think of and an array of ethno-bongo clothes of many styles and individual craftspeople. The atmosphere is like a fun-fair, here and there surreal images and sounds penetrate your consciousness with the notion this is how the world was- or could be!

In the dearth of tents, to the left a second smaller stage, the Comet, vibrates to quieter more folky bands with silent glazed-eyed audiences slowly breathing to the rhythm of Simon and Garfunkel harmonies. Across the dam, in the full moon light a group of naked people sit in a trance outside the sweat lodge. Scattered around are large tree-trunk type fires kept alight by the organisers. The biggest one, in the centre of the Tipi Village, is the venue of the full-moon jam. Here, once all activity has stopped elsewhere, everybody who has a 'didge' (aboriginal wind instrument) or a drum, sax or flute, comes and takes part. This musical get together produces an awesome amount of sound and around sunrise the thudding and pounding of drums, along with the hyperventilating high of the didges forms a tribal acceptance of unity in this one all embracing mind-fuck of a noise.

At about which stage people drift off to their tents and get a little sleep before it starts all over again.

Stool Talk

I WAS brushing my teeth in my own bathroom the other day, and even though I had guests, I didn't feel it particularly necessary to close the door. Scrub scrub scrub, spitting milky froth into the drain, splashing it down to the sewers with cold running water. My bathroom, my living quarters, dig it....when the next instant a little kid no older than the length of time I keep underwear before replacing it, walks in, drops his pants and places his butt on the seat, all the while gazing at me, me with fresh foam all over my face and my face contorted into sheer amazing disgust. And shits. The door is open, I'm brushing my teeth, and this kid just shits. Badly.

What is that! And then, after the fact, he plops off, pulls his pants back on, without wiping, and walks back into the room with all the guests, without flushing. I rinsed my mouth and left the bathroom. I told his father that he hadn't really wiped his ass, and his father replied with some saving dignity that at least his son was wearing pants.

While at the Graduation tea party, an event of prestige, etiquette and high social manner, I mingled amongst the suits ties, gowns and frocks bearing a most singular conversation of "how are you what are you doing CONGRATULATIONS!"

When you stare at something long enough, to the point of bored delirium you see it in new ways. William Burroughs took so many drugs at one time of his life that he recorded a new ultimate low for himself when one

day he spent the whole week looking at his shoe, on his foot. By the end of the week, it was still a shoe to him, but he had travelled a mind of wonder and made profound conclusions about where his life was headed, and although that may have been to worlds where ass-holes learn to talk or people have auxiliary ass-holes on their foreheads, his life had changed.

After a few hours the people splattered about St Peter's Lawns began to look like cranes and instead of talking, they stared. But not in a single direction; they looked about in omni, informally snapping their heads towards glimpses of motion, wordlessly, stretch-necked, like ostriches, but in cranes bodies and with human heads. I had to leave.

While I was making my way out though I was lassoed by this woman who grabbed my hand and roped all the way through the crowds again till suddenly I was standing before these two people I had never ever seen in this life or the last. She introduced them as her parents, and as she was doing this, I realised that I barely knew who she was.

Dear reader, let me hasten to tell you the banality of polite unfamiliarity - I had no fucking clue who these people were!

I spent the next five minutes, uttering useless mutterings cut with teeth and spread with smiles, pretending to know the beautiful daughter far better than the truth would allow, when in the middle of some bit of

lying bullshit her father turns his head slightly to the left, lowers it a bit, cups his mouth and begins to cough. Well, it started off a cough. In the next thirty seconds I stood and stared in absolute amazement as he deteriorated into a burlesque throaty groundswell of mucus, rose to a thick gargle of gob, and climaxed in a throttling choke, after which there was a brief silence that finally left his embarrassed family no choice but to notice him and claim responsibility. The sudden silence drew attention, and the crowd who had been attempting to not notice all cocked their necks toward our little ensemblage. The silence was broken by an abdominal growl and after he had slightly discoloured, was followed shortly by an eruption of great and disgusting barks of phlegm. When he once again stopped the crowd all turned their heads away, and although there was again silence, it was silence that was searching for the thread of a new conversation to steer clear of whatever had just happened. It was at the moment just before conversation resumed, a moment in the river of time cut by a sewerage pipe, that he spat a chunky meat of pale throatal booger onto the grass before his feet.

That was the Grad tea party for me. And that's family for you.

I got home and tried to sleep but was interrupted by a crowd of visitors and friends who wanted to celebrate less formally. I felt groggy, sweaty, and my mouth had some

where during the course of the proceedings picked up the most unsavoury taste. Knowing full well that the only living creature that would share my bed with me smelling like I was storing a beached tuna on my breath was - here we go again! - my cat, I decided to pucker myself up by streamlining my visual and aural charm. The best place to perform this ritual of odour and anal purgation is the bathroom, and generally, I always prefer my own. On my own. A view of what you do in the bathroom would seem to make you less civilised in someone else's eyes...you would appear degraded, without dignity, shameless.

Yet real. Barefoot. Naked.

The first time I really thought to interview Nelson Mandela, we happened to be at the same venue, Gallagher Estates, but at a different functions. I had been trying to organise the slightest mumble from him, but its impossible. The thing is though, the Pres has gotta go sometime too and he also has to do the do, so I figured I'd get him in the cubicals. Body-guards however search the toilet and blockade the door.

But I digress.

When that little kid crapped in front of me while I grooming myself to try and find the new she of all she's, one that would want to sleep with one male at a time, I laughed at him, and he at me. Not because I was cleaning and he was shitting. Quite the contrary.

Robin Kelly

The Cult of the Body Worshipers

There are those for whom exercise is almost a religion, a tribute of worship to the cult of the body beautiful. For them aerobics is part of a daily routine of keeping fit, eating healthy and staying trim. The day proceeding National No-Diet Day, May 6, Katie King investigated this mysterious gathering of endorphin-pumped addicts and posed the question: Just what is it that makes aerobics so popular on campus?

IT'S Tuesday, 5:15pm on a fresh autumn evening. Throngs of lycra-clad Bridget Fonda types group themselves outside the Alec Mullins Hall, their excited exchanges barely audible beneath the persistent bass resounding from the hi-fi system inside. Feet cushioned in Nike, Reebok and Adidas they enter the hall. Someone stops you at the turnstile to check your student card. Welcome to the Aerobics Society, possibly one of the largest exercise-oriented clubs at Rhodes University.

With more and more members joining, and the high attendance rate at most classes, aerobics can no longer be shrugged off as a fad of the Eighties. Women (as well as a number of men) take their daily aerobics sessions very seriously. Although Grahamstown has yet to boast its own Health and Racquet Club, the Rhodes Aerobics Society gives students the

the opportunity to improve their fitness levels under the auspicious eye of a trained aerobics instructor.

The sport's popularity is testimony to the high level most students credit it with. On the evening I attend, the class is full to capacity and I was advised beforehand to go early in order to secure my own set of weights and the all-important bench. Tonight Liezel leads the class, which is ominously classified as "Step-and-Run". Eager exercise junkies head for the front. The rest of us lurk in the far-flung realms of the hall. I look around and notice that the people here cannot be pigeon-holed according to any stereotyped notion of an aerobiciser. The one thing they have in common is the desire to get fit, and possibly to burn off all those extra kilojoules consumed in Kaif!

The music begins again. We stand at attention. "1, 2, 3, 4..." Liezel's voice cries over the opening strands of "It's a Beautiful Life" by Ace of Bass. I march on the spot, directing my gaze at the floor to avoid the embarrassment of spotting myself in the on-facing wall of mirror. Glancing up, I mentally note the time. Something tells me this is going to be a long class.

For only R55 a term or R150 a year, you too can find out the particular attraction of these hour long sessions of self-inflicted

body resculpting. Not that there is no enjoyment to be had from regularly attending aerobics classes. As most people will tell you, there definitely exists a social dimension to the activity. Perhaps it is an indictment of the supremely body-conscious age we live in that we seek recreation through hours of gruelling exercise.

I, however, appear to be coping less well under the strain of doing the can-can to a remixed version of Fifties' classics than most of the other people in the room. Luckily by this stage we've already started warming down, and the loudspeakers are oozing a pleasant, new age melody. I'm tempted to collapse and curl up on the floor through sheer exhaustion, but the instructor's voice reminds me that the class is not yet over. Finally the time arrives to breathe deeply, reach for the ceiling, and then, as if common understanding informs them, the class breaks into applause.

Class over, I eventually gather, and I couldn't be more relieved. I feel a glow of self-satisfaction radiate from my sweaty pores: at least I managed to stick the class out. Still relishing my minor triumph for the day, I overhear two of the more coordinated types near the front of the class.

"You staying on for body con?" the blonde causally enquires. "I don't see why not," the other replies. "That class did hardly anything for me at all."

Trying Times For Rhodes Soccer

Gunther Deutsch

IT IS rumoured that Rhodes soccer 1st team is not worth their honorable reputation because they play against opposition that could be beaten by just about anybody. This is nothing but a rumour however, and the facts are that the lads have been up against formidable sides in their division.

Teams like Manning Waters, Pioneers, Black Arrows and Young Stars are not push-overs. With victories like 15-1 and 3-1 against Black Arrows and Manning Waters respectively, as well as three consecutive victories over Pioneers, the lads deserve a round of applause. They have played six league matches with five victories and one draw, no defeats.

There is, however, a major problem with both the 1st and 2nd teams. Discipline is lacking and this may prove to be disastrous for soccer at Rhodes. It seems that some players feel because they have acquired "Star Status" it is unnecessary for them to attend practice sessions.

attendance is at an all time low

As it is at the moment practice attendance is at an all time low. The problem is, however, being dealt with and disciplinary action is not out of the question. Coach Vince Basson made it clear that this type of behaviour will no longer be tolerated.

Rhodes soccer is also currently in search of sponsors.

A petition has also been drawn up for Sports Admin to provide soccer with a bona fide coach. In light of this it is vital for discipline to be made a top priority. Disappointment has also been expressed about the low number of supporters that turn up for matches. This obviously has strong influences on the overall team morale and will in the end have a negative effect on the ambitions set forth by the coach, who said "we definitely want to end this season at the top of our division. This goes for both the 1st and 2nd teams".

The main venue for matches has been moved from Upper Prospect to King Field in order to make it easier for fellow students to come and stand behind our Bafana.

Rowers Go To SA Champs



Rhodes 1st team Women's XVIII, fronted by Joey Simpson, come off the water at the South African Championships Rowing Regatta at Roodeplaat Dam in Pretoria.

pic: Marco Pedroncelli

AND THEN THERE WERE TWO...

Brigid Martin

VINCE Basson, one of three Sports Officers at Rhodes is leaving Sports Admin at the end of May after only 10 months in office. Having recently got married, Basson is moving to Jo'burg where his wife has been transferred.

While sad to leave Rhodes, Basson is pleased that he has achieved what he set out to do. He has been instrumental in getting Rhodes soccer back on its feet, joining them with the newly formed Grahamstown Football Association. He coached the soccer team and will be greatly missed by them.

He has also put athletics back on track, and with growing interest in the club, Basson feels that there is a lot of potential in the team. With 12 sports to oversee, Basson had his work cut out for him when he came to Rhodes, but he managed to get involved with each one at club level, and he feels that Rhodes has great potential as a sporting university. Ideally each Sports Officer should have about one to six clubs to oversee which would allow them to give greater

attention to each one, said Basson.

However, he feels that sport at Rhodes is moving in the right direction, with most clubs being involved with development sport. "Community involvement is a great plus" said Basson, who believes that development is extremely important, not only for the people being coached, but for the students who do the coaching too.

Basson has applied for a position as Sports Officer at Wits University, but if that falls through, he has been offered a job as deputy-headmaster of a Johannesburg school. Although he will "definitely miss the interaction with students at Rhodes", Basson points out that there is a bungee jumping association in Jo'burg which will keep him occupied. "Bungee jumping gives you the best adrenalin rush!"

Basson has enjoyed every minute of working at Sports Admin, and "we will be very sorry to see him go" said Pete Andrew, Head of Sports Administration at Rhodes. Sports Admin hopes to be able to fill Basson's post by the time he leaves, but will make do with only two Officers until it is occupied.

The Final Whistle

THE Rhodes Internal League season is off to a cracking start and playing for 'Oppie Rovers' has given me the opportunity of experiencing first hand the awesome destructive might of some of the favourites in the competition. After three first class thrashings, I think I now have some idea which team will be taking the first division title this year.

Zimsoc are the most impressive of the three. They are strong in all departments. Their players are fit and physically intimidating but have individual skills, and they play the passing game beautifully. Their defence and midfield are well organised and their forwards are fast and clinical.

If they have one weakness it is in their goalkeeper, Ephraim Longwe, who appears to have suspect hands, but I have been informed that he plays well on the big occasion. With a solid defence, and with Mike Denenga still running the show as the play maker in attack, they should have enough to retain their league title this year.

Ratanang are a team filled with skilful individuals who play an attractive dribbling game. Their strength certainly lies in their very fast, very nimble forwards, who when on song, should be able to obliterate any defence. If anyone is going to threaten Zimsoc for their title this year it could well be them. The only question however is whether they play the right sort of game to mount a sustained league challenge, though they would certainly be my bet to take the knockout cup competition this year.

I was less impressed by HSS but they have strengthened their team since last season with the acquisition of two new strikers, one of those being pacey Rhodes first team player 'Lings' Sigamoney who played for New Generation last year. Although HSS might give the stronger teams a run for their money, they don't have the all-round quality of Zimsoc, Ratanang or New Generation.

And of course last years runners-up, New Gen, cannot be written off. The team has been together for a long time, and although they have had a quiet start to the season, once they get into their stride they should mount a serious title challenge. Their 5-1 rout of Goldfields suggests that the old spark is awakening and with South African students goalkeeper Puling Puling in goal they won't be an easy side to score against. But they seem not to have the strength in attack of the last few seasons.

My prediction for the final lineup when the season is over would be Zimsoc first, with Ratanang and New Gen fighting it out for a close second and third.

Marc Strydom

Volleyball



DYNAMITE COMES IN SMALL PACKAGES: Sharin Sweet, member of Rhodes' volleyball 1st team, in action. pic: Colette Mol

Activate Reporter

THE Rhodes men and women's volleyball teams played a lot of ball in East London on the weekend of the 27 and 28 April. The teams left way before the cock even thought of crowing so as to arrive on time at Turnbull Park for the first matches.

With time to spare between games, it was decided to check out the lodgings for that evening. Wow. Our host was a completely unhumorous little man who continuously pestered us for one of our t-shirts if we lost. After sussing out our sleeping quarters, we returned to continue to play. The Rhodes team were on a continuous winning streak.

After an evening out (as if we would stay home and get a good night's rest) it was again an early

start. But, the ladies lost to Turnbull 15-2, 15-1. The men lost to the Turnbull gents side. Both team still managed to reach the finals, coming up against these same teams. We vowed to take no prisoners and had minimal luck on our side. The ladies finished second in a nailbiting final which showed in the scores of 16-14, 15-9, 15-13. The men went one better, gaining victory in an amazing comeback final.

Once everyone had freshened up, eaten their full quota and stopped spading (hmm), it was time to return.

The volleyball club is hosting a social tournament on the 25 May on the Great Field. Teams are to consist of 4-6 players. Ask your sports rep for more details and watch the notice board outside kaif.

Grahamstown Open

Activate reporter

RHODES once again dominated the GBS Mutual Bank sponsored Grahamstown Open Tennis Tournament this year, with the men's, women's and mixed titles going to our players.

In the men's singles Chris Looock, Rhodes' tennis coach, won a straight set final against James Haydock, who was slightly of tune after his marathon semi-final against U18 star Arne Hansen. Looock had earlier beaten Steve Bedrick 6-3, 2-6, 7-5.

Rhodes' ladies number one and EP player Melanie Theck retained

her title without major opposition from Lynne Brotherton. She later teamed up with Looock, who had just won the men's double with Hansen, to clinch the mixed title. Di Smuts and Kim Nel prevented Theck from making a clean sweep of all three titles, beating her and her partner Cirstie Lewis in a tough three setter.

Although the tennis was of a high standard, which should be comforting for the upcoming SAU matches in Durban, it was disappointing to see the limited number of entrants received for this tournament. Let's hope this improves next year.

SPORTS EDITORIAL

FUNNY, how sometimes there is so much to talk about and then on other occasions there is an absolute blank. I have been thinking about this editorial for I don't know how long, but alas, I still don't know what to write about; that is until I watched the FA Cup Final this afternoon. I am not going to pick sides or reveal whom I supported. Personally, the game was one of the most boring finals I have ever seen but it still had a special feel to it.

Watching those guys come out of the tunnel and onto the grass at Wembley, I suddenly got goosebumps all over my body. Just imagine for a moment you are a one of those players, what a feeling it must be, all those years of training and this is it, adrenalin rushes through your body, the tension is virtually unbearable - 90 minutes between fame or despair. Well, this time round it took 86 minutes and along comes a Frenchman and everything is over. I don't think it is possible to put down in words how the Liverpool players must have felt after that golden shot. I suppose that is sport and that is why it is so exciting.

Closer to home and what do we have - similar situation. Here are some guys, and I mean guys all you gender junkies out there, who have acquired a status far beyond their abilities. Soccer has always been the under-supported sport in this country, financially speaking, with big brother rugby always in the foreground. Finally, someone comes along to help out with the dire problems of soccer at Rhodes and what does he inherit. Morons! Guys who are simply too cool to pitch up to practises or to give it their all. I admit, King Field is not Wembley, but don't we play the sport because we love it and because we enjoy it? If you want to make a statement, there are plenty of opportunities at Rhodes to do this as we speak. But don't take away the spirit and unity that sport has brought with it just because you got up on the wrong side of the bed in the morning.

The dedication is simply not there. And this is not only directed at soccer but also at other sports. Often have I gone out and found first team members, both sexes, completely pissed, and worst of all, they have to participate in their respective sports the next day. No wonder our results are so indifferent. Fines meetings are good fun but dedication, especially when on a bursary, should be a priority.

Next point of grievance - where is the support for sport at Rhodes? The excuse, "I did not know" is not valid anymore.

All sports have made an effort to inform Rhodents about their playing times and the extra convenience of having all sport so close is even more reason for going to games.

My next problem concerns my personal Sunday afternoons. When is the SABC going to wake up and install a transmitter so that I can watch my beloved Grand Prix. Schumacher has proven that he is fast but all I ever hear are results. I want to see it for myself.

Now that I have got rid of my personal frustrations and anger, I must apologise for an incorrect fact printed in the last issue. Intervarsity will not be taking place this term but on the 9 and 10 of August, third term, party term.

Unfortunately, there is not much more from my side. I hope that all of you sportspeople are working hard and more importantly studying hard. Remember, we are here to learn and not to party on a permanent basis. Till next term and Intervarsity. Good Luck!

SPORT

Activate supports
Rhodes sport

Submitted details of all
match fixtures and
resulting scores will
be appreciated.

Haw makes his Mark

Garth Theunissen

TRIATHLON may not be the most popular sport at Rhodes but a promising young athlete by the name of Mark Haw seems determined to change this.

Haw is probably Rhodes' best chance at an Olympic medal, but his immediate thoughts are centred around whether he will be selected to represent South Africa at the world championships in Cleveland, Ohio later this year. Last term Mark attended the SA Championships at Sun City and is confident of his chances. "The race went according to plan," he says. "Although I struggled a bit with the altitude".

Triathlon consists of three disciplines: a 1,5 kilometre swim, followed by a 40 kilometre cycle and finally a 10 kilometre road run. It is a particularly gruelling sport since it measures an athlete's ability to compete in three consecutive events. However, the uniqueness of this event also manifests itself in the extreme physical and mental pressure which the athletes must endure. Mark admits that physically he is able to cope but the mental strain of having to continually produce good results

can sometimes take its toll.

This is where the experience and advice of seasoned triathletes such as Keith Anderson, a fellow trainer and captain of the South African triathlon team, is invaluable. "Keith did wonders for my triathlon," says Haw. "He gave me background knowledge of the sport and showed me all the shortcuts in training". Lipi Sinnot has been another strong influence on Mark's progress by helping him train over the winter season, as well as assisting him with certain mental aspects of the sport. His parents too have been very supportive.

In peak season Mark spends up to five hours a day training for a race and has been forced to complete his studies (BA. HMS) over four years because of this added pressure. Training too has presented its own problems because of the lack of adequate training facilities in Grahamstown. But despite these difficulties Mark has managed to produce consistent results and this can only serve to testify to the strength of his character.

For the moment, however, Mark is biding his time, waiting to realise his dream, for out on the horizon looms Sydney... the Olympics...and possibly a medal.

FNB 60KM ULTRA

Ilija Graulich

The 17 annual First National Bank (60km) Ultra Marathon from Port Alfred to Grahamstown took place on the first weekend of this month.

The race lived up to its reputation as one of the premier ultra marathons in the Eastern Cape with 363 entries received this year. This represents the third highest number since its inception by Rhodes alumni student Humphrey Power in 1980.

Power, who ran the route no less than 36 times as part of his Comrades preparation, incepted the race with the help of the Rhodes Sport Union and then Barclays Bank Grahamstown in August 1979, after coming up with the idea of turning his training route into a race while on his way to yet another Comrades. After deciding on the only name possible, "The Barclays Settlers Marathon", 98 runners were part of the first race from Market Square in Grahamstown to Port Alfred, Selwyn Welcome being the inaugural winner. Richard Jourdain, who this year ran his 17th Settlers, finished only eight seconds behind.

Rhodes Sport, the organisers of the race since 1980, had to wait till 1986 for their first winner, when Professor Chris Whitely, from the department of Biochemistry won the down run in a remarkable time of 3:41:05. In comparison, this year's winner Colin Thomas needed 19 minutes more.

Runners agree that this is one of the hardest races on the annual calendar, especially as the altitude gained from Port Alfred to Grahamstown is more than 600 metres. With its ideal timing between the Two Oceans marathon and Comrades and situated equidistantly from East London, PE and Grahamstown, this race should continue well into the future.

Bernie bowls 'em over



Bernard Pswarayi, the Rhodes cricketer who was selected to represent Zimbabwe at the MRF Pace Foundation fastbowling cricket clinic in India. pic: Kerry Irish

Brigid Martin

In March this year, Bernard Pswarayi, a Rhodes cricketer, was selected by the Zimbabwe Cricket Board to attend the Dennis Lillee cricket clinic in India.

Pswarayi spent three weeks of intensive training with Lillee - "one of the greatest fast bowlers of all time", and Neil Foster, an ex-England player. The first two weeks were spent on fitness training and working with the cricket psychologist, and after that it was exclusive bowling with various world renowned cricketers.

The clinic is held three times a year, and with only twelve cricketers on this particular course, Pswarayi was able to spend quality time with some of the best cricketers in the world.

An all round sportsman, Pswarayi played cricket, rugby, hockey and athletics at school, although he gave up hockey to concentrate on rugby, because he "got more girls that way." In 1993, he was voted Sportsman of the Year at Peterhouse Boys Senior School.

Pswarayi's cricket career has been moving upwards since he became the first black captain of the Zimbabwe Partridges - a national under 12 side.

At 16, Pswarayi was picked for

the Zimbabwe Schools side where he played until he left school.

From there, he was selected to play for the Zimbabwe B team, and has played for them on and off since then.

Pswarayi's ambition is to play for the Zimbabwe National side when he graduates in 1997, and for now he is concentrating on building himself up, as he is "still at the development stage" he says.

"I have one more year here and then there is nothing to stop me from having a fair crack at playing for Zim" said Pswarayi, who is fairly disillusioned with cricket at Rhodes. His performance has been disappointing because he has been shuttled back and forth between the 1st and 2nd teams, making it "hard to keep up a level of consistency".

Both at Rhodes and at home in Zimbabwe, Pswarayi feels that as a black player, he has to work much harder to prove himself because "people have no confidence in black players".

Another ambition Pswarayi has is to become a role model for young black cricketers who are becoming interested in what was previously seen as a "white" sport. With great support from his parents, relatives and friends, Pswarayi can only continue to do well, as his track record already proves.

Sports Results

Athletics: Duathlon

- 1 Elite - Barrie Knox- Davies
- 1 Junior - Gary Rabie (5 overall)
- 2 Junior - Ian McGregor (7 overall)
- 3 Junior - Brin Hodkiss (13 overall)

Basketball: South Eastern Cape Team

Women: Martha Banda
Julie Dennison
Liesl Williams

Men: Peter Menezes
Zama Mtembu
Mac Goduka
Hector Chidiya

Hockey: 5 May

RUM 1 vs Cavaliers 6 - 0, (Shimmin 4 hattrick in a row)

Rowing: SA Champs, Roodeplaat Dam

Raced 18, won 7, second 7, third 1, fourth 2, ninth 1

Tennis: Dunlop Indoor Open

Melanie Theck Ladies Champion, 2 years running

Volleyball: League

RUW vs SAP 3 - 0