


# activate

INDEPENDENT  
STUDENT NEWSPAPER

EDITION III APRIL 1999



THE COPS GET VICIOUS  
THE STUDENTS GET ANGRY  
ADMIN'S ON OUR SIDE

WHAT THE FUCK  
IS GOING ON ?

PICS:  
James Oatway  
Sam Reinders  
Krisanne Johnson

Inside - Pg. 7



## Editorial

VERY OFTEN in our so-called democratic society, the punishment we mete out to offenders is far in excess of the crime. So it seems with the recent case of police brutality reported in this issue.

The special detachment of police officers who have come to enforce a "zero tolerance" policy with regard to public drunkenness seem to have behaved little better than a bunch of thugs. Such incidents bring back unpleasant memories of the dark days of police brutality under Apartheid.

I WOULD LIKE to see a complete investigation of the incident, and the suspension of the officers involved while the investigation takes place. I also can't help wondering if the police don't have something better to do than round up drunks. Aren't crimes like murder, rape, assault and theft a problem any more?

IT HAS NOW become clear that the hysteria on the part of the SAP(S) has not stemmed from the anti-drinking campaign waged by Rhodes Admin earlier this year. In fact, Admin is among those calling for more restraint from the police.

There is a drinking problem at Rhodes, and in Grahamstown in general, but authoritarian panic reactions will do little to stop this trend. What we really need is a multi-media anti-drunkenness campaign supported by, and in consultation with, all sectors of the population.

THIS IS the first of two Activate editions coming out this term. Putting our leisure time and sanity to one side, the editorial collective decided to increase the frequency of publication this year to two editions every term. We also plan to increase the number of copies we print and improve distribution.

ANOTHER ADVANCE that we hope soon to have completed is the acquisition of permanent computer facilities. This would not be possible without the enthusiastic support of the SRC, who have put a great deal of time and money into the establishment of a society DTP room, of which Activate will be one of the beneficiaries. We look forward to the conclusion of this project, and would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Journalism Department, who have helped us out in the interim period.

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Spotted in the crowd at RMR party (L-R): Nichola Gray, Floyd Wood, Sorisha Naidoo and Nuelia De Abreau.

PIC: Hugh Ellis

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## International Student News

compiled by Greg Hacksley

### EDINBURGH

Equal opportunities campaigners at Edinburgh are outraged over a secret "Old Boys" society. Accused of cronyism and debauchery, the society, which includes world-renowned lawyers and the University Principal, is rumoured to meet "to get blind drunk and misbehave". Its influence in establishing networks for law students has left female undergraduates particularly outraged because they feel there are strong prejudices against women.

The society President, Gavin MacColl, defended the club, claiming it wasn't secret, and that they actually held debates and literary discussion, with people getting drunk only "if they feel the need to". The foundation of these rows appears to have stemmed from the fact that women simply can't join in.

### OXFORD

Posters have appeared on Oxford University campus criticising dons' drinking habits and urging them to drink less wine so that they could "lead their sinful students back to academic paradise" by being on top form. The posters were put up in protest to rumoured plans to close the JCR bar an hour early at St Catherine's College, Oxford.

Fellows at the college suggested the move after the college slipped down two places in the unofficial Oxford league tables. 250 outraged students attended a protest meeting and President of Catz JCR, Balveen Ajimal, said, "undergraduates will simply go to bars outside college". Ironically, Jesus College, which leads the unofficial table, has their bar open for half an hour longer than Catz's, so maybe closing bars earlier is not the sought after solution.

### RAU

Freedom Front leader Constand Viljoen told students at the Rand Afrikaans University recently that they should demand protection from affirmative action. Speaking at a campus meeting where he outlined his parties electoral stance, he went on to propose a moratorium on applying affirmative action to whites who were too young to vote in the 1994 election. Those who did not participate in the introduction and continuation of Apartheid should not be caused to suffer, said Viljoen.

### STELLENBOSCH

The University Council of Stellenbosch has suspended its decision to disband the University Choir following outraged responses from members of the choir and the community. The decision, taken by the council earlier in March, would have seen Choir disband at the end of the semester. Further negotiation between two appointed council members, the University management and the choir will continue, but the council has confirmed its intention to strengthen links with the Libertas Choir.



# Mr & Ms Rhodes Prize Hiccups

By Esau Mathope

There was a mixture of disbelief and confusion when the SRC notified the winners of the recent Mr & Ms Rhodes beauty pageant that it could not afford to provide the prizes that were initially advertised.

The prizes for the winners were a motivating factor for most of the entrants. The revelation comes as more of a shock when one considers that the big prize for the winners, the official beauty Queen and King of Rhodes, was to be an IBM-sponsored PC (a helpful tool as more and more departments insist that all work submitted must be neatly typed).

Besides the computer, winners had also been promised modelling courses with a Johannesburg-based agency.

The winners of the competition, Vaughn and Tanya, are both professional models and qualified modelling instructors. Consequently, a modelling course as a prize was not their primary incentive.

According to the SRC, negotiations with IBM for the computers did not yield any positive results.

"I am prepared to admit that the SRC committed a big blunder by announcing that the winners would get PCs before we could seal off the deal with IBM," confessed SRC president, Papi Mothibi. Due to the complications and desperate situation the SRC organised to meet the four winners on Thursday May 6. The SRC chairperson made it perfectly clear that no media people would be allowed to the meeting room.

According to one of the winners present at the meeting, it was all about compromising with the SRC.

Tanya and Vaughn were asked to relinquish their modelling course prizes to the First Princess and Prince.

The Second Prince and Princess were given R150-00 in cash prizes and a gift voucher to the value of R50-00.

To make it up to Ms Rhodes who lost her 'sentimental value' boots at the pageant, the SRC agreed to replace them and buy her a cell-phone.

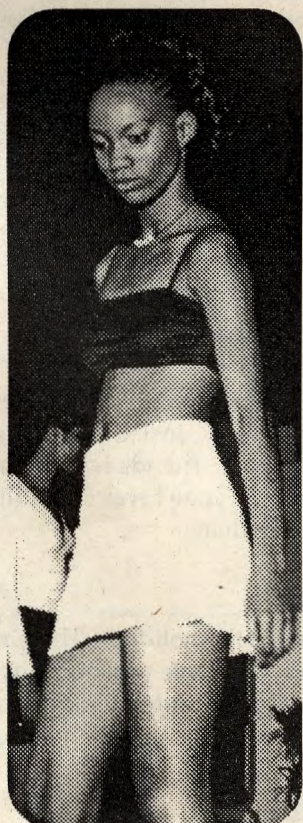
Vaughn, who it was agreed would receive R1500-00, pocketed R1100-00.

"I would like to thank our winners for understanding that the SRC could not afford

to buy two computers," added Papi.

TJ, as Ms Rhodes is popularly known, said that the mood during the competition was harmonious and not tense. She said that she was happy that the whole thing has been settled.

However one SRC councillor hinted that the whole PC business was merely a strategy to attract more entrants and that there was no negotiation with IBM at any stage.



Contestant Carol Adjai at Mr and Miss Rhodes

PIC: Floyd Wood

## Vice-Chancellor Forces the police to compromise

By Jana Barnard

Rhodes' Vice Chancellor, Dr David Woods, called a meeting with the SAPS to discuss recent harassment of university students by the police on May 3. The meeting was attended by SAPS Director Toba, Superintendent Kohl, Dean of Students, Dr Motara and SRC Chairperson, Papi Mothibi. It was called as a direct result of recent blitzes by the police, which resulted in one student, Moagi Bodibe, being badly bitten by a police dog.

"I agree that drunken driving should be dealt with in accordance with the law, but for students walking home after spending an evening out and not disturbing the peace to be harassed is unacceptable," said Dr Woods. They also confirmed that they don't condone this behaviour by members of the SAPS and that any incident where a member of the public is bitten by a police dog will be investigated. A report on the incident affecting the Rhodes student will be released in the near future. The parties involved agreed that the police would be running a series of information sessions with students to create an awareness of the laws relating to alcohol-regulation laws in conjunction with the SRC and the Dean of Students.

Mr Mothibi suggested that the SAPS approach the Traffic Police and arrange for a demonstration on the effects of alcohol on student's driving abilities and the SAPS indicated their willingness.

Dr Woods cleared that although he dealt with a number of alcohol-related incidents on campus by instituting disciplinary procedures "at no stage did [he] call in the help of the SAPS to deal with these domestic problems". The Vice-Chancellor also appealed to students to engage in responsible drinking. "Please either get a taxi home or arrange for a designated driver in your group of friends who will not drink". Mr Mothibi expressed the need for students to behave in a civil manner when drunk. "It is important that as students we must try and be responsible so as to avoid unnecessary trouble.

## SRC CALLS FOR REVIVAL OF STUDENTS' PATRIOTISM

By THABSILE MHLONGO

What's new? Provocative electoral sloganeering has taken its toll in this campus which, in the past few weeks, has been transformed into a platform for political foes to contend for electoral support and victory. With most parties still touring, the SRC has decided in the last hour not to miss the boat, and is targeting its rather unresponsive, sceptical and dismissive constituency - students.

Amid accusations of inefficiency within domestic borders, the SRC has decided to focus its replenishing energy on a broader perspective of national politics. For the past few weeks the SRC has been in hot water with students, who complained that most SRC events have failed to live up to their expectations. The general meeting collapsed totally, and the recent SRC lunch caused complaints of its own.

Nonetheless, the SRC has

used what is left of its creativity on the political arena by calling for a revival of student patriotism, crucial to the impending elections. The SRC President, Papi Mothibi, has made a general call to the Rhodes constituency to cast their votes for the sake of the nation.

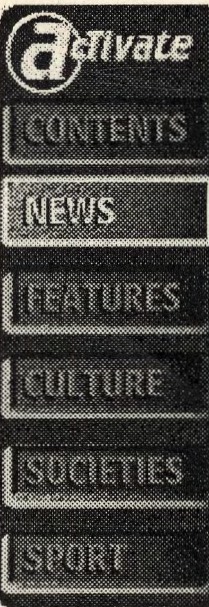
Mothibi highlighted the necessity for all students to vote, regardless of their political affiliations. "Students' votes will definitely make a decisive impact in determining the direction this country will take," said Mothibi. This, he believes, will also determine the direction of student politics in the next five years and will inevitably impact on the degree of institutional transformation on most campuses.

Mothibi has commended students for an impressively high turnout during the voter registration periods. He assured the students that their efforts will benefit all,

the rich and poverty-stricken alike. He urges students not to perceive their vote as an individual vote, but instead to consider it as one of a South African contributing to the future of all South Africans.

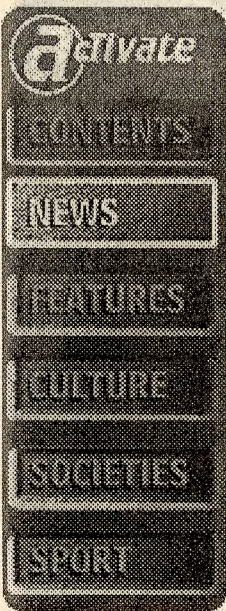
Mothibi has urged all academic, society and religious leaders on campus to be exemplary and take the initiative to encourage their members to vote.

While evoking patriotism among South African students, Mothibi also encouraged foreign students and academics to participate during the election. He said that these students should reflect the same spirit of brotherhood as that shown by their respective countries in the struggle against apartheid and the resulting liberation of the nation. As representatives, they have a moral and political obligation in ensuring that the evils of the past are not repeated.



Hilda Mupfurutsa, a Journ4 writing student, was awarded the Fox Strategic Scholarship worth R10 000  
PICS: Sam Reinders





# G on the G-spot

## Revenge of the Japanese Peasants

**SOMETIMES IT'S BETTER** not to be where the news is. Sometimes it's better not to be at the Prof Pickles - sitting in an ashtray, watching bad Bryan Adams impersonations and hoping for free cigs.

Sometimes it's better not to be at the library - or having climbed those blasted stairs - when the pre-exam mass floods in and you have vuja de: the sensation that you've never been there before. Sometimes it's better not to have entered Mr and Miss Rhodes and rather hear about the chaos, brawls and upstaging and rather watch RUTV to see people spewing their guts out.

Sometimes it's better not to drink and to carry dog biscuits for the police dogs. NOT!!

But perhaps, sometimes, it's better to read the news in Activate. A FLASH! Eveready Bunny arrested, charged with battery. Oh my gosh - someone actually reads Activate!? "G" actually reads Activate? A Captain! I sense a... PLOT DEVICE! ::insert dramatic drumroll here:: Could it be the H-man? Could there be higher forces dictating G's life?

Before another existential crisis could ensue, G buried zirselt in zir bed, wondered whether zir tutor had missed zir and reluctantly eyed the newspaper. G did not recognise anything in the newspaper. However, ze consoled zirselt by thinking that if ze remembered, ze hadn't been there.

On the other hand, G had been going through a winter hibernation period. It just seemed safer. At home one could scratch any place you wish. And winter clothes are so itchy. However, although one can flee temptation... there is always the forwarding address. Besides, in winter, one gets to wear all one's favourite clothing in one go!

Today G decided it was time to Break Out Of Jail and go to the Pop Goes the World party. And boy was it popping. G needed a zippo. Ze felt ze needed to light other people's free cigarettes - one had to be nice to smokers, they don't have long to live. Just like RMR.

Although, Wellies did close down - as did Dr Watson close down G's Comp Sci 101 Search practical. The only thing that G found was that computers make very fast, very accurate mistakes. As for the computer users, G was quite bemused to hear Offspring blasting from the Comp Sci Honours' ganghouse when ze emerged from the Calnet labs. Rather like RMR playing Radio Gagga. Or Pied Piper having a showing for adults. Or Empire Productions bringing over Kula Shaka. Or G actually being funny. Styling bra...

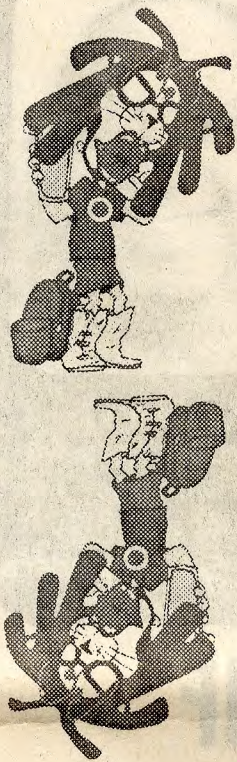
Will G survive mid-year exams?

Will G ever remember whether it was called Scrumpies or Grumpies?

Will that place next to the old Bassment ever get a unique identity?

Did Karma eat Henry?

Will G read Activate again?



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# Horrorscopes

## ARIES

As your exams draw closer, you will find that more and more minor disasters will plague your life. Eventually, the only way that you will be able to actually write the exams without having to sort out the conflict in Kosova is to disguise yourself as someone else.

## TAURUS

Computers suck... In fact, they suck so hard that when you are typing out your essay, you will be sucked into the computer screen. On the other side, you will find yourself being forced to listen to the intense whine of modems for the rest of your living days.

## GEMINI

You are very keen to vote (go on, admit it!). When you do actually make your mark, your vote will be disqualified, because "my mother said" doesn't make you a knowledgeable voter. Try "eenie meenie minie moe", it sounds more professional.

## CANCER

Be ecologically friendly! Don't bathe for the next seven or eight weeks. You'll save water, and somewhere there's a giant blue whale who will thank you for this courageous act. On the other hand, all your friends will shun you and you will lose whatever meagre social life you have.

## LEO

You will study industriously for the exams, but your long absense at the Union will mean that your friends will have you legally declared dead. When you reemerge after the exams, they will be over-joyed to see you and will shower you with kisses.

## VIRGO

Your quest for perfectionism and the ultimate Work Avoidance Programme will result in you repainting the walls of your room/digs/etc. with hot pink nailpolish. You won't succeed at the task, as half way through you will faint from the fumes.

## LIBRA

Live frantically.... The exams are nigh! Live on caffeine, sugar and insomnia. Study like you've never studied before! By the time you get through swot week, your frail and mortal body would have collapsed under the strain. You can be sure that you won't write your exams... You'll spend a nice, quiet seventeen years in Fort England.

## SCORPIO

You have to stop experimenting with high calibre rifles. Sooner or later, some one is going to figure out that you were responsible for assassinating JFK. Hide your gun, and keep posting conspiracy theories on the Internet. If you're smart, they won't catch up with you.

## SAGITTARIUS

Invest in shark-repelent. Pretty soon, you will be taking a cruise to the Caribbean, courtesy of the Mafia (yes, you've managed to piss them off totally, through some miracle). You'll learn what it's really like wearing cement boots (yes, they're terminably unfashionable), and will swim up close and personal with the sharks.

## CAPRICORN

A small fluffy dog with large soulful eyes will take to following you around. Instead of selling it to the Catering Office for mystery meat, make friends with it. You will gain an amazing love-life since everyone loves small fluffy dogs with large soulful eyes. No, not like that...

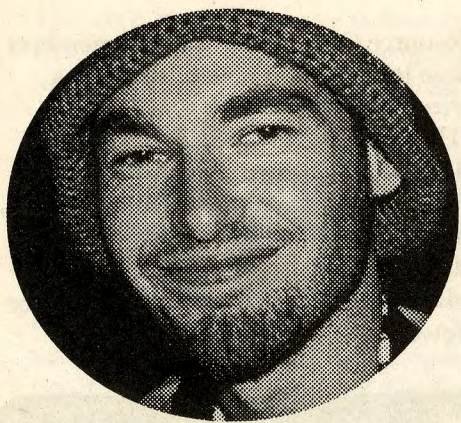
## AQUARIUS

Plan for the holidays. The Great Cosmic Vibrations tell me that you won't have to worry about the exams. You're going to fail flat on your backside no matter what you do, so why stress? Rather enjoy relaxing and spend your bursary money on booze.

## PISCES

While trying to find your socks in the morning, you will venture under your bed. This is where the dust-bunnies live, and you will be covered in dirt by the time you emerge. Everyone will run screaming from you, and you won't know why.





# Cultural heat, bull sperm and a mugging - some road movie

by Toast Coetzer

**LIGHT UP**, pop finger from ass, consider the hum of fridge, it went like this. Cast: four photojournal students (me, Sam, Gil, Krisanne). Route: Grahamstown-Oudtshoorn-Cape Town-Grahamstown. Soundtrack: Bran van 3000, John Lennon, Dire Straits, Cake, Suzanne Vega, selection of rap, range of fucked car tapes.

The road's being hit by a blue beetle - the Bloureier. American in the backseat, bandmember in shotgun, me with hands apparently wet on the wheel. The Buckfever Underground is on a propaganda trip. Posters stipulating very clearly that we're definitely not playing the Klein Karoo Arts Fest are going up on walls in Kareedouw, then Joubertina and then Oudtshoorn. The proletariat is taking the third world and little will stop them.

We masquerade as top dogs and do freelance shooting for the Arts Fest paper, we lie to the press office and get press passes, we somehow get to pitch a tent somewhere. Before you can say "gin", Sam's whipped out the neat wooden chest where 4 gin glasses beckon us to pour them something. The sunset's a winner and ginsipping, chiproll-eating we take stock: life is beautiful.

During the day we shoot our nuts blunt, by four the deadlines are met and by five the sun's taken its toll and the call comes: it's time. We hit the cheapest beer tent and take some down with us. To blunt the pain kind of thing, gather strength for the night.

Nights see us lurking from free wine party to free wine party. Several bottles later we drink into Koos Kombuis and discuss the end of common decency. It's deemed to be ok.

We inevitably take in some art and music. Kaktus op die Vlakte hosts the Voëlvy reunion. Gert Vlok Nel saunters in with his sorry songs, beautiful as the last glisten on whiskey in ice. Brasse Vannie Kaap stirs the shit firmly with wicked rap coupled with awesome dancemoves. Ready D behind the decks is a sight - plays the sliders like a piano, scratches vinyl with his heel, knee, cheek, nose. Whitey-boerecrowd bopping their heads, singing along: "ons is BVK, so wat gat jy maak?" One for the special drawer. Not a can in sight. Ras



Tamie licks a reggae line, the sun's going down and school kids are getting pissed all over the rugby field. Drunk poese in the front are shouting for Koos.

Kerkorrel comes, brilliantly, then Anton Goossen rises from the dead - the boy from the suburbs does good. Then Koos. Crowd delirious, the prophet is speaking. After first song he stops, bites some Tassies and says: "Is daar enige Engelse mense hier?" Lots of hands go up in 7000 strong crowd. "Nou wat de fok soek julle hier?"

Meet the okes from SABC's Geraas and sit in some caravan drinking and considering the low morals of Afrikanerdom. We deem it good.

Where the fuck is Gil? Panic takes me like an arm reaching out of the toilet. And Sam and Krisanne? I've lost the team, I'm batting alone against an all pace attack and the pitch is a bitch. Fuck, have to find them. Get hold of Gil, but it's too late, he's been out since about tea on the third day. He's walking around asking people for their email addresses to start a mailing list. Want to email Kerkorrel? We can help.

Taking in art we were. The entire Bloedlyn exhibition is a journey. Some pieces stray a bit, others take time to talk back to you, others hit immediately. Gil and I stumble into one of the participating artists, Veronique Malherbe. Strange girl. Puts pictures of pretty boys in test tubes and displays a video of herself drawing blood from her arm. The kind of thing you need to be alone with before it sinks in. De Kat's little houses in the mainstreet is another hit - every little house is another artwork. People point, wonder, touch. Some tannie walks past and I hear her say to her friend: "Ag en ek het nie eers tyd gehad om my hare te doen."



Yeah baby, you are what you own in this land. The sun is a daily fucker to contend with, the festival wide and mad, the people fun and full of shit. It's a kerkbasaar on acid, someone remarks. Not everybody's sure why they're there but they're all having some sort of fun. Someone said he saw Worsie Visser and Elvis having milkshakes in Calitzdorp. It's not true, I say, I saw Worsie getting down to BVK and Namaqua at the Jazz Fest. The Rhodes



Jazz band make their appearance - we're there, hooting. Brilliant stuff. The Kryspad cast is there - we're there, hooting. Everybody's their own star.

Last night at the fest, the Buckfever Underground, against the plan, gets a gig. Piet Botha from Jack Hammer gives us 20 minutes between their sets. Cunning man waits till everybody in the packed venue is pissed. By then we also are. The crowd probably couldn't give a fuck, we take Oudtshoorn after a 5 day siege. We walk home, sleep like the smelly shits we are, wake early enough to slip past the camp guards (we still owe them R150 camping money) and take the road out through to Calitzdorp - Cape Town beckons.

Breakfast is a chiproll and Coke on a breathtaking mountain pass. We wave at strangers. Close of play on day five and we're 789/2. The opposition is tired. "Our breaths are bad but our beers are stout, we've got nothing to complain about", Bran van 3000 is singing from the



rickety tapedeck on my backseat.

At Barrydale things take a flip for the surreal. While Gil takes a shit at the petrol station and I brush my teeth (now think about that), this suspicious truck pulls up. Starts pouring liquid nitrogen into these big flasks which farmers bring randomly. We inquire. Bull sperm being frozen, amused farmer calmly replies and takes out some for me to see. We take photos of it. This other guy shows me the device (surreptitiously called a fake vagina) which they use to get the sperm out of mr bull's big hose. It's incredibly S&M-like. We take photos of it. Hey, what's this! The guy running the truck ends up being an old school mate of mine. His name's Saddam. Saddam, travelling bullsperm collector at your service. Stranger things come to you, pardon pun, but not many.

Somewhere near Caledon the Bloureier overheats conveniently next to a road-cafe. Coffee saves a life not for the first time. The shadesplitting sun follows us into Cape Town. Gil's asleep, Dire Straits

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are singing about heavy fuel on the backseat. For the first time in days we sleep on a mattress.

In CT we join the rest of our photojournal class for a field trip. These things always take about 24 hours to unhinge at the seams. This one took 24 for me, 48 for the

rest. On way back from a seminar, the Bloureier conks on the N2, slap bang between Gugulethu and Bonteheuwel. While waiting for the tow-in guy (his name was Zoltan, phone him, he's good), these strapping young fellows force me to part with my backseat tapedeck (newspeak: I was mugged while sitting in my car). I have the presence of mind to take out my Cake tape first. I hope the motherfuckers use deck A, 'cause it will fuck their tapes. To my rescue comes the highway police. The cop's tag says: Sgt Thompson - Traffic Cop of the Year 1997. I feel safe.

Next day I spend getting car fixed (R16 for the broken part, R160 for putting it in) while rest of class miss the boat to Robben Island. There goes one field trip. The team disbands, Gil's already flown home, Sam retreats to her mansion, Krisanne takes educational dagga trip to Transkei, the rest to their respective holes. The timeless test draws to a close. We are 1045/5 as the sun sets on day 9. I'm unbeaten on 398 after being dropped on 199.

I leave early, but it's Good Friday and traffic swallows me between Mossel Bay and Knysna. The Bloureier burns fuel at 85 miles an hour and Grahamstown's hit in time for supper. My car is dead, petrol finished, oil empty, lost one exhaust, money gone.

Close of play, day 10. The entire Cape sperm-belt is ours. The coach is happy.

PICS: Sam Reinders & Krisanne Johnson



# Black Noise

*by Khwezi Magwaza*

**IT'S SATURDAY NIGHT** and students are in the mood for a party. New Street is a hub of activity from the Union to the Vic. It's boozing, thumping bass and gyrating bodies all the way. It seems everyone is out having fun, but on closer inspection of the various pubs and bars something begins to look rather unusual. The lily-white face of the crowds tells you that something is awry. So where's the black noise at?

There's no question that black entertainment is in a slump. The only entertainment for the third week in a row is another tired R'n B night at the Union or, for the brave, a 2km walk to Take 5 for another, even more tired gig.

Okay, so it's not only black people that find the state of entertainment at Rhodes University quite dismal.

To be politically correct, we should call them the appreciators of hip-hop, kwaito and R'n B. So what's the problem anyway and whose problem is it?

The problem lies in three areas: the lack of a regular venue for black students, the lack of variety of facilities that cater for their music tastes, and the low standard of the entertainment available. The

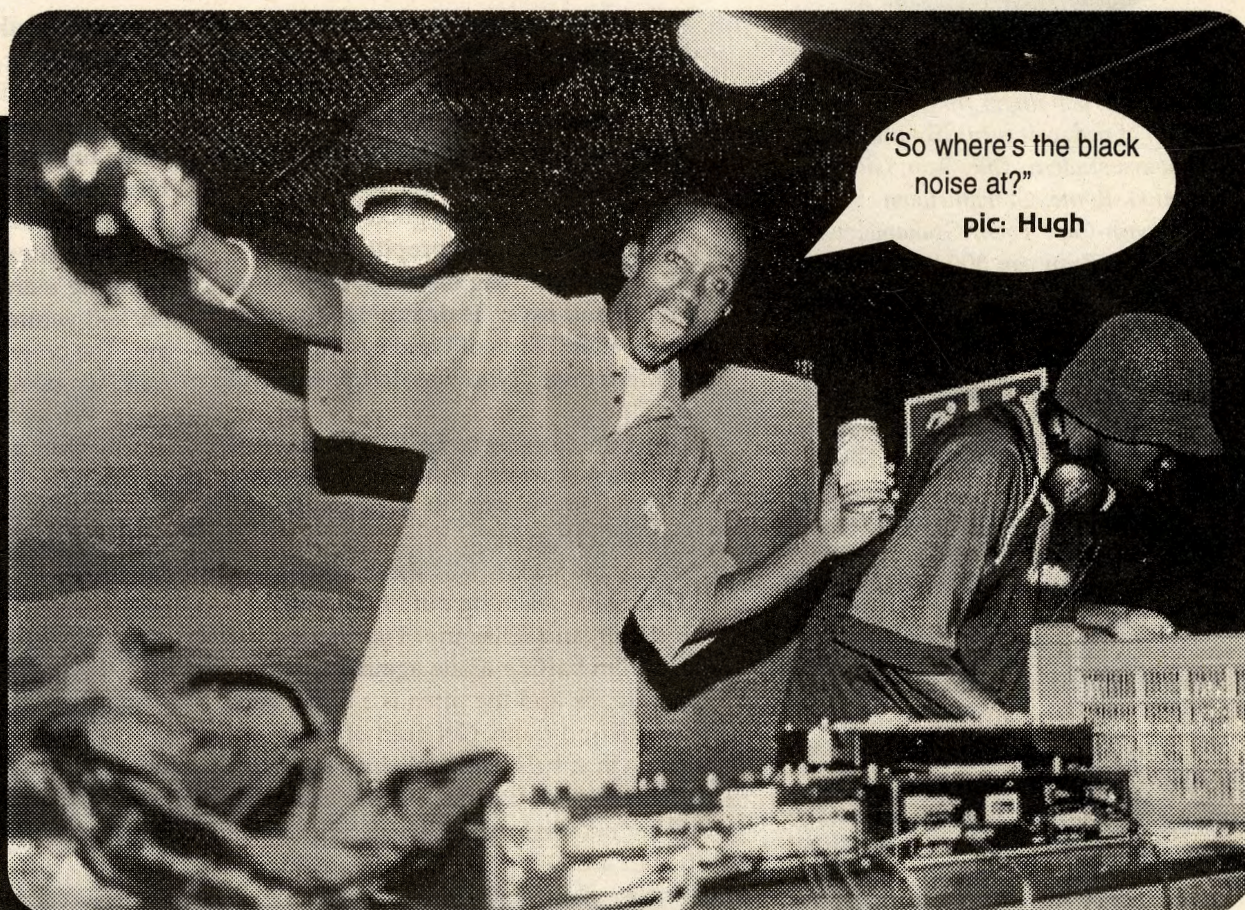
Union is an option, but is it worth paying the same price as a white student when the quality of the entertainment is so much lower? Who wants to go to the Union every week!

The clubs that cater for black students are far from campus in secluded areas. If you don't have a car, walking back to campus in the early hours of the morning can be a dangerous. These clubs are

Resource Centre. Non-society members have to wait until nine to get in at a price, and the party ends at twelve.

There is great business potential in black entertainment as the students are hungry for something new and exciting, but there's also a risk.

Many budding businesses find themselves running at a loss because of poor crowds.



"So where's the black noise at?"

pic: Hugh

usually run by student DJ outfits and this raises problems. Students have numerous commitments, so the clubs are often disorganised.

Of course there are the society parties usually held in the unventilated

So many independent club owners aren't willing to invest in black entertainment because it seems less profitable.

So I guess the only question left to ask is where's the black noise at?

**AIDS Awareness week AIDS Awareness week**

> Date	> Time	> Venue	> Event
Monday 3 May:	11:00 - 11:45	Senior Common Room	Talk
Tuesday 4 May	To be advised	Aerobics Hall	Aids Aerobithon
Wednesday 5 May	7:00 - 8:30	HDE Main Lecture Theatre	Talk
Thursday 6 May	To be advised	Union	Red & Black Theme Party
Friday 7 May	18:30 - 19:30	To be advised	Mosakheke Youth Choir
Saturday 8 May	To be advised	Allen Gray House	Talk
Monday 11 May	To be advised	To be advised	HSS Candle Light Procession
Tuesday 12 May	-	Kaif Lawns	SRC Lunch
Wednesday 13 May	18:30 - 19:30	Beit house Common Room	Talk
Thursday 14 May	19:00 - 20:00	J K Common Room	Talk
* timetable subject to change			

\* timetable subject to change



This week, martial law came to New Street. Who were those guys and why were they arresting us? I mean, hell, we're just trying to have fun, baby. We were puzzled. The puzzle pieces we had were Admin cracking down on drinking, a whole bunch of cops with dogs, attitudes and big flashy light things, a guy with a mauled arm and a lawsuit pending. Activate talked, looked and nagged. We spent quality time with the Police PR guy's voicemail. We finally started get the picture. In the name of courageous journalism and, for once, DEFENDING Admin, we give you:

# Fear and Loathing in Grahamstown

By Donna Kipps and Jak Koseff  
Additional Reporting : Esau Mathope

FOR many students, this has been a term of fear and loathing. Admin got upset about student drinking, and suddenly all hell broke loose on New Street. The irony of it all is that - contrary to popular belief - the two are not connected.

Everyone knows about Admin's decision to take a stance on vandalism and disorderly behaviour (if you don't where've you been?). Believe it or not, Admin wasn't telling us not to drink, just not to indulge in criminal behaviour after indulging. It probably should have been made clearer that this and not drinking per se was the issue.

But Admin's initiative did not lead to the police sweeps that have been mar- rying our Friday nights. To clear up the facts: Admin didn't call the Special Task Force, the dogs, or the wrath of God down on us. The police blitzes up and down New Street are part of a national "zero-tolerance campaign" that aims to curb major offences by coming down heavily on the minor crimes that can lead to them. The police did not contact Admin about their plans at all. "The first we heard about it was when a student reported an incident to us," said Dr Motara.

"Zero tolerance" translates into busting a drunk before he starts a bar-fight, i.e. before a count of public drunkenness becomes a case of assault.

Strangely, the police did not feel the need to launch any kind of public aware- ness campaign about this so-called crisis of drunkenness. The principle of the SAP's "partnership policing" policy is that the police force operates in partner- ship with the community. This seemed forgotten as the police swooped on New Street without any warning or explana- tion for the students or the university Administration.

The police crackdown in Grahamstown-Rhini has been undertak- en by the Eastern Cape Traffic Special Unit. Target areas in the district were the N2, Raglan Road in Rhini, and New Street. Thus, it's not just students who have been swept up in the net.

But no-one can deny that when you tar- get New Street, you target students. It would seem there is a definite agenda to classing New Street as a hot-zone. Captain Moss of the Grahamstown Police Force denied that the operation was an attempt to scare off Rhodes stu- dents from indulging in substance abuse.

Rather, he insisted, "the aim of this rou- tine check-up was to gather statistics for minor cases (including crimes committed under the influence of alcohol) in order to compile a police scientific analysis".

Activate has since discovered that this is merely an initial step. Inspector Maleki of the Grahamstown Police Force informed us that as of Sunday 25th April, special duties were set in motion in order to deal with drunkenness and related crimes. A chilling thought con- sidering the level and nature of police activities so far.

When the arrests began, few students were even certain of what the crimes are supposed to be. Drunk driving and drug

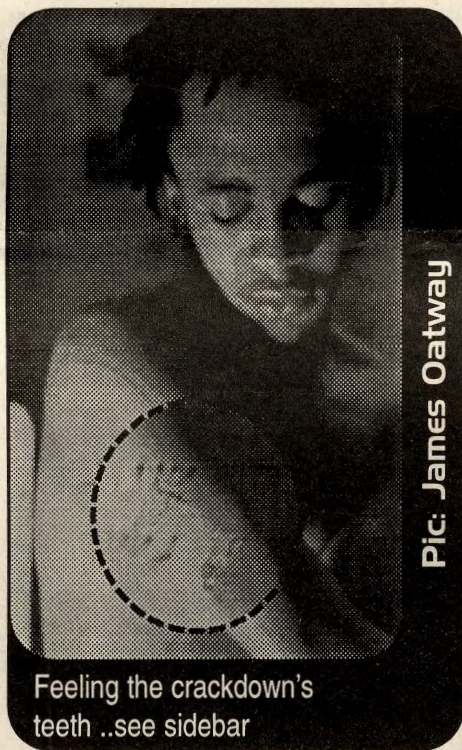
abuse are pretty obvious, but sitting on a street corner in the entertainment district vaguely drunk is also a criminal offence - public drunkenness.

It gets worse: when asked to define the terms of a charge of public drunkenness, Maleki explained that "is left to the dis- cretion of the arresting officer as to whether the offender is clearly drunk and a danger to himself or to others."

This is where the surprising factor comes in. As regards the recent police activity, Admin's on our side.

"We were as shocked as the students were," said Dr Motara, "and we con- demn the police action. The Vice Chancellor, myself and the President of the SRC are setting up a meeting with the Chief of Police to discuss the issue." Motara confirmed that the recent police action is part of a national zero-tolerance policy, but felt that the police misunder- stand student behaviour. "This is not a criminal environment and should not be treated as such."

Admin is concerned about student drinking, but feels that the police action is no solution to the problem. Motara



Pic: James Oatway

Feeling the crackdown's teeth...see sidebar

emphasises the fact that the problems we are confronting at Rhodes are not unique. "There is a national trend of young people starting to abuse alcohol at school level. We are a small university - the same drinking problem happens at other universities but Grahamstown, in a way, IS Rhodes. Hence the emphasis, the spotlight, falls on Rhodes."

Suggestions for better solutions are clearly needed. With this in mind, the SRC have established the Living Task Group, which deals with student social issues. SRC President Papi Moletsane says that the committee is working in consultation with Admin and various other sectors of Rhodes society, from Campus Security to the owners of popu- lar nightspots. The committee aims to come up with real solutions to the prob- lems at hand.

The SRC is pitching the rational line on this one. They identify the lack of enter- tainment options available to Rhodes students the main reason folks turn to the bottle. The notion of mass-hysteria

alcoholic indoctrination suggested by articles in the East Cape Weekend and Sunday Times are dismissed by the SRC. "First year students come here and they have the choice whether to drink or not," says Papi, "but they walk into the Union and see nothing but a crowded bar, a drunken dancefloor, and two over- crowded pool tables." Papi feels the answer is a wider variety of ways to keep students amused on campus itself.

Admin support the suggestions of the Living Task Group: "It makes sense," said Motara. "I have been talking about this for nine years - to every student government that there is - that there should be a student entertainment centre that is not dedicated to drinking. Students need a place where drinking is not the only way to have fun. I'll support any such project 100 percent"

Papi also suggests more leeway in clos- ing times for society events and the Union, so that students won't feel the need to slug back five beers at a shot in anticipation of "last call". Also in the works is a self-formulated, self-imposed student code of conduct by which we lay out the things we'll accept being nailed for.

As Motara points out, these alternatives need to be weighed against the rights of students who want a quiet campus envi- ronment. "What we cannot forget is that this is an academic environment. We're not opposed to student drinking. It is your democratic right to make your own choices. What we are opposed to and what is of concern to us is the behaviour related to drinking." The vandalism, noise disturbance and fights related to drinking are Admin's primary concern, and have become a major problem this year. If campus drinking holes stay open later, however, the disturbances on cam- pus may become even worse. There must be a compromise - Admin cannot condone debauchery every night. "Is that what students are here for? That is a question our students must answer for themselves".

The right to abuse ourselves (and how we do it) has been a youth issue for decades. Now, at the turn of the century, one thing is certain - we take our party- ing seriously. Admin's declarations should have made it clear that they are anti-hooliganism, not anti the odd beer. Police should have realised that "stu- dents" plus "alcohol" doesn't always equal "criminal behaviour" - before they swept through New Street. Students should know better than to resort to knee-jerk "Admin ! fascists!" reactions every time their free conduct is in any way questioned.

Our final call is to the students of Rhodes University : for years you have asked us what the 90's has left you to care about - well here it is. Get off your butts and prove to Admin and the SRC you can run your own damn lives, and get involved in their attempts to improve them. Don't let anyone tread on you in the process. See you in New Street.

## Crackdown Casualty

Kyle O'Donoghue

In a police crackdown this term, an attack dog was unleashed on Rhodes student, Moagi Bodibe, after he allegedly resisted arrest for drunken behaviour.

Moagi was outside the Pop Art Café at 3:30am when, according to a police report, a traffic policeman and a local policeman approached him. The local policeman was handling a dog. Moagi is reported as having kicked both of the officers in an attempt to resist arrest, after which time they deemed it neces- sary to use the dog to subdue him and it was unleashed.

Moagi disputed this, saying he was simply sitting outside Pop Art Café with two friends when he was approached and breathalysed for no apparent reason. The breathalyser test showed he was over the legal limit, and he admitted to having consumed four beers. The police started to take him away at which time he protested and called out to his friends. He denies having assaulted any of the officers. Having interviewed Moagi, I find it difficult to believe that he could use force that would call for trained policemen to use a dog, especial- ly unleashed.

The unleashed dog bit Moagi on his left arm, also biting an accompanying officer in its frenzy. Moagi maintains that there were eight police officers in four cars present. Eyewitnesses said the incident was very unpleasant and many thought it unnecessary force was used.

Moagi was taken to Settlers Hospital and treated for the dog bite. He was then taken to the police station and charged with public drunkenness, resisting arrest and assault on a police official. The max- imum penalty for these charges is six months in prison and a heavy fine.

Moagi believes that the situation was a clear instance of police brutality. He has consulted a lawyer and is intent on suing.

## Talk Back

Esau Mathope

Captain Moss of the Grahamstown Police Force invites anyone who feels that he/she was victimised by the police to lay charges or go directly to his office so he can take the matter further.

Alternatively, victims can refer the mat- ter to the Independent Complaints Directorate (ICD). "If the police commit- ted any acts of terror I would think that it was just an unfortunate and isolated occurrence" said Captain Moss. He could only confirm that a number of Rhodes students have been arrested and that the majority of them were charged with drunken driving and drinking in public places. He encouraged anyone with a complaint against the Eastern Cape Special Traffic Unit to direct their com- plaints to Mr Kulati on 083 759 4089.



# A Tough Act to Follow

presenting a rich and memorable production.

The script was written and developed to near precision for the dramatic theatre by Stephen Barkoff and Head of Department Gary Gordon. David Alcock did a wonderful job of compiling and mixing some really gory and intelligible dialogue with innovative and astonishing physical movement. The production began with a stroke of genius. Matthew Roberts' use of "still motion" tricked his audience in believing him to be perfectly still, while he advanced towards them. His mime sequences were extraordinary and convincingly humorous. The lighting scheme was truly remarkable, with blankets of shadow strewn about. The dancers flung and jumped to the mood it created. The climax was a bright light shone on the dying Ushers' faces to really reveal the agony that they felt in life. Varied colour was used to differentiate morning, afternoon and evening

along with sound effects for wind, rain, and thunder were all very realistic and enhanced the scenes and images they helped create. The atmosphere the light and shadow element put forth made me feel like a guest at the house that Poe made famous.



pic: Elsabe Van Tonder

The use of action and time sequence were interpreted differently to the classic, but they were carefully drawn out and weighed to bring about moments of theatrical magic. Details of the classic were somewhat betrayed but the theme and legend of the story remained intact. The audience re-echoed "oohs" and aahs" of excitement and even a few "eeks".

If you saw the opening scene of the play, you know what I'm talking about. The cast was dazzling and dreary with a touch of "melancholy". They created the perfect atmosphere. Poe's classic is a tough act to follow but this attempt not only interpreted the classic but transcended it.

by Felix-Seroalo Ralekhetho

>> Review: Fall of the House of Usher  
Starring: Rob Murray, Brink Scholtz  
Directed by David Alcock and Gary Gordon

ONE CAN ALMOST imagine the late Edgar Allen Poe being moved to tears by the Drama Department's vivid translation of *The Fall of the House of Usher*.

The remake of Poe's classic was a huge undertaking, but the fourth-year drama students rose to the challenge,

## MindSpeak

### THE MORNING AFTER

Shards of broken beer bottles  
Lie illuminated on the carpet,  
Like an image of the five continents.  
Intact but empty, like abandoned buildings,  
Other bottles line the tables  
Reflecting sunrays through tangential dust.  
The Union, Sunday, 9 AM.  
The morning after.  
The sunlight crosses the deserted room,  
Punctuates the silence of the SRC office,  
Bounces off Rhodes' ivory tower,  
And steals across sleeping suburbia.  
I do not know what I am doing here,  
Perhaps no one does.  
Like bayonets, the fence spikes,  
Hardened every minute by the light,  
Seem as immovable as ever.  
Shakespeare's verses, Beckett's lines,  
And Makaveli's rhymes,  
Echo in my mind:

I've shed so many tears  
But the essential doesn't change -  
The rest is left for silence, to re-arrange.

by the H-man

## Review this

[by Toast Coetzer]



Neon Ballroom  
Silverchair (Sony)

The ex-grunge kids are growing up, but not quite sure where exactly they're heading. So in the meantime they'll make perfectly decent rock albums like this one and they'll happily "be big" in America and Oz. "Emotion Sickness" and "Miss You Love" display their fine skills at honing a ballad, but their harder stuff seems strangely dated. Not that it's bad, but you can save your epiphanies for some other day.

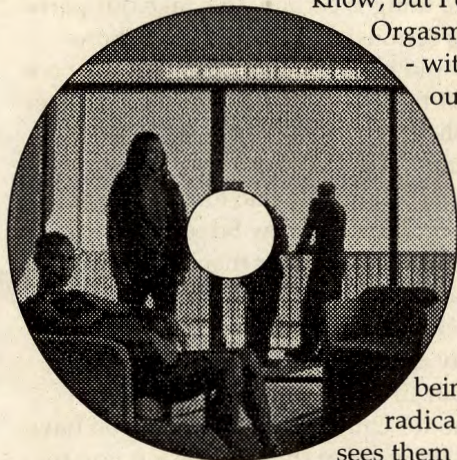
Defining lyric: "Sex, drugs and image is just enough to get you by in the real world".

Ho-hum.  
6/10.

Post Orgasmic Chill  
Skunk Anansie (Virgin)

It's good to see Skin's still pissed off with the world, also nice that the band can still kick up a real handsome no-mess-no-fuss-we'll-break-amps-if-we-feel-like-it kind of noise. "Charlie Big Potato" displays an awkward rhythm which somehow seems perfect for the hard, dense chorus with the most unusual bridge part. "We don't need who you think you are", "Secretly" and "You'll follow me down" are more like the Skunk we

know, but Post  
Orgasmic  
- with-  
out



being radical - sees them building on their already largish stature. Top pissed off black lesbian (that being Skin) moment is "On my hotel TV" which contains the defining lyric: "Skinny, kack, para, para, dutty dykie nigger, sell-out whitey liberals, who hang with blackie".  
7/10.



Peasants, Pigs and Astronauts  
Kula Shaker  
(Sony)

Devoted to their eastern trip, these guys stuck to their familiar guns and found them to be in mighty fine shape. A progression from their debut album K, this one should finally fix them as one of the finest on an otherwise shitflavoured England pop scene - and songs like "Mystical Machine Gun" is already bringing them the chart success they deserve. Other strong ones are the Doorsy "Sound of Drums", "Shower Your Love", the near-perfect "108 Battles of the Mind" and the more eccentric "Radhe Radhe". Quite a bloody top effort all around.

Defining lyric: "Sometimes I feel the world isn't ready for me".  
8/10.

### PERFECTION?

The grain of sand that forms the pearl.  
The scar that marks your hand.  
The wrong that's in a wrongful world.  
The harshness of the land.  
The crook that mars a twisted tail.  
The lazy eye that blinks.  
The life that mortals must endure.  
The thoughts a killer thinks.  
The silence broken by a scream.  
The Heaven and the Hell.  
The dark clouds on a sunlit day  
The place in which we dwell.  
The shattering of innocence.  
The danger round the bend.  
The blood of all the soldiers.  
The fun that has to end.  
The hardening of children's hearts.  
The hand that forms a fist.  
The names on all the gravestones.  
The shots that should have missed.  
The greedy and the rich ones.  
The poor left to the cold.  
The big league corporations.  
The frailty of the old.

All these imperfections in this necessary world.  
Are defended as perfection?  
When prejudice is hurled.

by Jordan Ross



# **FIGHT BACK**

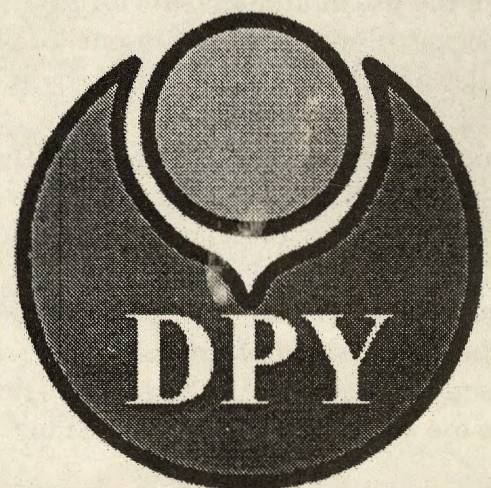
## **against**

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to  
National Youth  
Service!**

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Contact : Craig Webber  
Winchester House  
Rhodes University  
Grahamstown

Tel: 046-6224650





# SRC reins in expenditure

**Activate Reporter**

The SRC released a financial statement last Friday, the first time in several years that an SRC executive has published a full financial record. If the trend shown in the first months of the year continues, the SRC should record considerable savings at year-end.

At the end of March this year, the SRC had a surplus of R 79 198 in the bank. By contrast the previous SRC finished 1998 with a deficit of R 36 033. Rhodes administrative accountant Rentia Hamilton said the main reason for the deficit last year was the loss made on the much-criticised Bongo Maffin concert.

The biggest expenditures in the first three months of this year were on Vehicle Maintenance, General Expenses, Telephone, and Light and Water accounts. Last year the biggest expen-

ditures were on Entertainment, General Expenses, Travel and Telephone accounts. The SRC elections also proved to be very costly, leaving the SRC at least R 9 500 poorer.

The SRC ended Orientation week '99 with a surplus of R 2 541, compared to R 1 434 last year, although both income and expenditure during O-week were higher this year.

A total of R 94 280 was granted to various student societies for 1999. R 77 720 was given to other SRC-related projects and committees, including Activate, which received R 27 200 of this amount.

Activate Editor Hugh Ellis said the majority of this money will go towards printing costs, with administration costs and capital equipment purchases also featuring strongly in the budget.

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

INCOME	First 3 months of 99	Year 98
Income from Council	259 600.00	320 000.00
Interest	11 975.96	19 455.00
Other income		565.30
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>271 575.96</b>	<b>340 020.30</b>
EXPENDITURE	First 3 months of 99	Year 98
Elections		9 523.83
Entertainment	273.10	22 986.28
Light and Water	1 888.99	7 941.69
Vehicle Maintenance	5 581.36	-678.25
General Expenses	4 552.58	13 367.84
Telephone	3 672.57	13 818.46
Travel	884.75	13 665.05
Other expenses	3 524.52	21 680.97
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>20 377.87</b>	<b>102 305.87</b>
Grants to sub divisions	First 3 months of 99	Year 98
Student Societies	94 280.00	115 298.47
SRC Committees/Projects	77 720.00	158 488.27
<b>TOTAL GRANTS</b>	<b>172 000.00</b>	<b>273 747.74</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS/ DEFICIT</b>	<b>79 198.09</b>	<b>- 36 033.31</b>

### Attention all Societies!

If you would like to submit articles, please e-mail them to **activate@rucus.ru.ac.za**, or drop them in the **Activate** box, upstairs in the Union building. Please make sure that all articles are no longer than 250 words, have a title and a byline

## Maureen Pyott Memorial Essay Prize 1999

In recognition of a bequest by Maureen Pyott, the Department of English offers an annual prize of R400 for an essay on poetry. Maureen Pyott was a severely disabled mature student who completed her Honours degree and an MA in the Department. Her thesis was on the poetry of John Clare and she had a particular interest in the relationship between religion and poetry.

The topic this year will be:

"Over that art, which you say adds to nature, is an art  
 That nature makes."  
 - Shakespeare, Twelfth Night

Write an essay exploring some aspect of the way in which poetry can express the connections between humanity and the natural environment.

(Any number of approaches are possible; it is recommended that you focus, for instance, on the work of a particular poet, on a clearly definable theme or idea, or on treatments of a particular image. You might take an ecologically-orientated approach; examine certain connections between the numinous or religious and nature; take an exo-feminist perspective on some treatments of landscape; explore the use of animals, trees, or other natural symbols in chosen poets; explore poetic treatments of Nature at a particular juncture in history; and so on.)

Essays should not be longer than 2000 words. The closing date for submissions is Monday, 13 September 1999. The competition is open to all Rhodes University undergraduates, and graduates of no more than two years' standing.

Use a pseudonym on your essay, which should be submitted to the secretary of the Department of English. Attach a sealed envelope with the pseudonym on the outside and a note with your name and student number inside.

# Freedom of Preach

**Activate Correspondent**

*Dodging demonic taxi-drivers, suburbia-bound Merc's and erratically-driven student cars, a crowd of singing Grahamstonians poured out of the City Hall last Friday night and onto the street, filling the evening air with shouting and ululation. The reason for their merriment was the conclusion of a rousing debate between top speakers of political parties from across the spectrum, which culminated in a question-and-answer session where the floor was given the opportunity to bounce their views off the speakers, and the hall at large.*

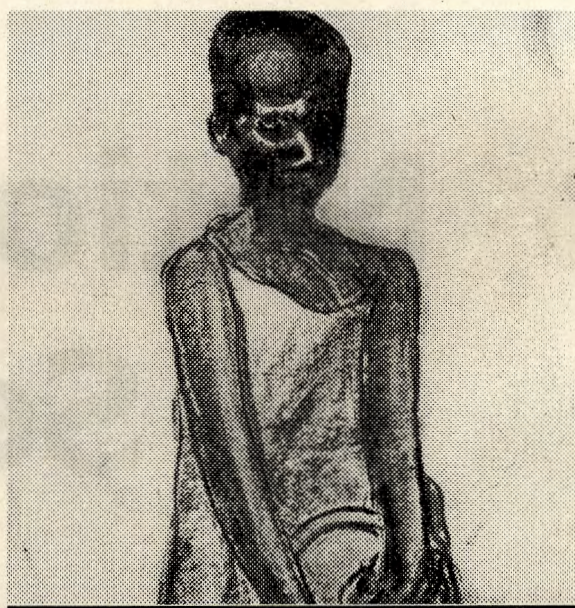
The gathering was like a large, gaudy allegory for the political situation in a South Africa bracing itself for the June 2 elections. Supporters of the PAC and AZAPO were few, but made enough noise to compensate for their small number. DP supporters were reserved, aged, and smartly dressed, while the ACDP's sole devotee muttered solemn prayers from the second row. Most racially representative was the UDM crowd, which seemed a little con-

fused at times as to whether to cheer for the ANC, the NNP, or their own speaker. The NNP relied heavily on the UDM for loud approvals, as it seemed unlikely that anyone else would openly cheer for them. The largest group of

spectators was from the ANC, bedecked with the usual regalia, including posters which they plastered to the wooden panels of the hall, and flags which were waved quite discreetly every time something agreeable took place. One noted, however, that they did not manage to fill more than one third of the house...

The event was hosted by the Rhodes

University Debating Society, quite notorious on campus for shit-stirring, beer debates, and the hard line they take on apathy and indifference in the community. The evening was enjoyed by all those who were not made too much fun of, and the crowds dispersed peacefully. Thank heavens elections take place only once every five years.



This charcoal sketch was used to symbolise unemployment in the pre-debate advertising

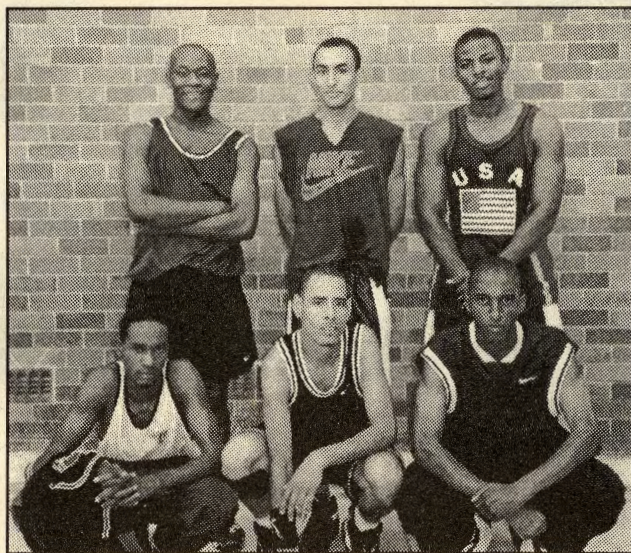


# Sports Editorial

SOME EVIL, not-so-intelligent higher power has plotted to have the Cricket World Cup way to close to (dare I mention it so soon) exams. I am not amused. Mind you, I don't think this biannual hiccup in my usually stress-free existence will affect my viewing too radically. Now I just need to find someone with DSTV.

LETS JUST HOPE the blows to squad selection - Ntini being left out, Hudson being included (okay that was a little harsh) - will not affect our boys' performance. It's time that trophy came to its rightful home. And I still want to know how Britain managed to swing hosting the rugby too.

THIS EDITION includes a table of the inter-res sports so ignorance is no longer an excuse. Neither is, as I have been trying to explain, apathy. Keep your eyes open for the sign-up boards at res. Of course those out of res should get involved too - the Oppies are usually the team to beat.



PIC: Sports Admin

## Rhodes University Basketball

(Back L-R) Kenneth, Rieyaadt and Kwesi beat

(Front L-R) Sash, Zahir and Nyasha to win a Rhodes 3-on-3 competition

# Girls can handle their balls

By Kirsten Bennett

*FIVE YEARS or so ago,  
A bunch of girls who weren't too slow  
Got involved in Touch,  
And it began to grow.  
A revelation for Rhodes,  
For Ladies were in something  
other than drinking modes.  
They met during the week,  
Yet often, only to speak,  
To them it was simply an  
excuse to run a ton,  
And have some fun.  
Today it's big and girls are  
serious:  
There are teams to beat so get  
involved or miss the feat.*



PIC: Sam Reinders

1999 Ladies Touch has taken off nicely. There are many women at Rhodes who have shown great ball skills and determination. We practice twice a week, 6:15pm Tuesdays and Sundays at 4pm. We will be having trials soon to organise teams so if you are interested GET IN TOUCH!

# Inter-Res Programme

May	1	Basketball: 5 on 5 tournament
	2	Squash
	4	Tennis
	15-16	Badminton: Round Two
	10	Mountain Club: Boulderling competition
	23	Golf
July	21	Rifle Club Shoot
	23-25	Inter-res soccer begins
	24	Rugby begins
	25	Netball: Round 1
	31	Ladies Hockey
August	1	Ladies Hockey
		Netball: Round 2
	8	Netball: Round 3
	10	Men's Hockey starts
	20	Inter-res Finals Around the Block
	28-29	Inter-res Finals Weekend
	28	Chess
		Hockey
		Table Tennis
	29	Soccer
September		Rugby
		Cricket



**ACTIVATE SUPPORTS  
RHODES SPORT**

PLEASE SUBMIT DETAILS OF  
SPORTS FIXTURES AND RESULTS  
TO ACTIVATE BOX IN UNION  
BUILDINGS.

# Sport

PIC: Tarryn Davidson



The Ladies water polo teams showed that Rhodes was a force to be reckoned with at the Alexandria Roads High School Tournament held on March 12 and 13. Rounding up the troops on Friday afternoon, the team raced to Port Elizabeth to arrive one minute before the start of their first game. This did not deter them and both teams played a brilliant tournament. The First team won eight of their eleven matches. The Seconds, some of whom were playing for the first time ever, put up a great fight against other First team sides.

## Women's Soccer

### Rhodes 1:0 UPE

by **Liesle Barrath**

*RHODES Women's Soccer started Eastern Cape Selection process on a good foot, winning their first game against UPE 1-0.*

Despite having a team of nine members and a goalkeeper recruited from the UPE spectators, all nine players were selected for the Western District team.

Midfielders Fisher, Futuse, Conroy and Khuthala did a great job of keeping the ball in the UPE half while strikers Fox and Hendricks kept the UPE goalkeeper busy. The team's next game will be on the 8th of May.

Players selected from Rhodes were :

Helen Fox  
Tanyan Hendricks  
Elmarie Fisher  
Linda Futuse  
Nadipna Khuthala  
Jen Conroy  
Nicole Veloso  
Siyabulelo Vanda  
Liesle Barrath

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**Activate's next newsgathering will be at 7 PM on Tuesday 4 May at our Offices on the first floor of the Rhodes Union**

## DRAGON PEARL

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## Rhodes Rowing in Trouble?

by **Christelle du Toit**

*RHODES rowing seems to be in serious trouble after poor performances at the recent South African Universities regatta.*

At the regatta on weekend of 23 March, Rhodes came second to UCT, breaking a winning streak of 10 years.

Team confidence suffered a heavy blow as the female rowers failed to win a single race throughout Saturday morning. The men, especially the A-crew, managed to save the day for Rhodes with

some good small boat racing, but they too had their problems. At the Gauteng Champs on the weekend of 10 April the men's crews did not look good at all.

Rhodes has a reputation for being a top rowing university. In the rowing club itself the general expectation is that every possible race should be won. Serious questions are therefore being asked to why the club is performing so poorly.

The teams are currently training extensively for the South Africa Championships, to be held on the weekend of 24 April, but one can't help but wonder if this is not a little too late.

It took a humiliating loss at the South African Universities regatta to see that the talent in the club is not realising its full potential. It remains to be seen whether Rhodes will manage to redeem itself at S.A.Champs.