

RHODEO

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BY JON INGS

FOURTEEN DAYS IN THE LIFE

Nusas Executive discusses referendum

SRC President Andre Lamprecht was in Johannesburg on 13 March to discuss the coming Nusas National Executive. Present at the meeting, held in the Wits University SRC chamber, were the Presidents of the four affiliated SRC's, the Nusas National Directorate, and Executive members.

Lamprecht had to fly up to Johannesburg at very short notice and thus was unable to publicise his trip until he returned. Nusas paid his costs.

In an eight-point agenda, the meeting discussed the climate of opinion on the affiliated campuses. The structure of the campaign for the referendum was not discussed. Lamprecht told the meeting that there was a distinct lack of communication at Rhodes on the question of Nusas affiliation. He feels that unless this is overcome, Rhodes students will inevitably vote for disaffiliation.

UCT President Dirk Kemp feels confident of a vote for affiliation from his students. Wits President Jimmy Georgiades would not commit himself. UNP President Russell Knight felt that his campus was suffering from the same lack of communication that was being experienced by Rhodes. He said that the SAFESS campaign was picking up at Maritzburg, but unfortunately the SAFESS campaigners had been harping on the old Nusas.

The question of a national student bookshop was brought up at the meeting. Nusas believed it could either set up its own national bookshop, or else an agreement could be reached with the retailers. The object would be to supply universities with academic books at cheap rates. Nusas hopes to approach Dr Piet Koornhof in the near future on this matter.

Last weekend, Lamprecht was invited to a students benefit conference at the University of Pretoria. SRC Deputy-President Lynette Liebenberg accompanied him. The agenda for the conference included medical aid for students, the national bookshop, clothing discounts, vocational guidance, and consultation centres - all on a national level. Representatives from all the white universities except UPE were present.

Oppie newspaper

Oppidan students are to have a new publication. Boy Johnson, Oppie senior student and Ashley la Grange, intend producing a six to eight page newspaper to be called *The Oppiedan*. The paper will be published twice a year.

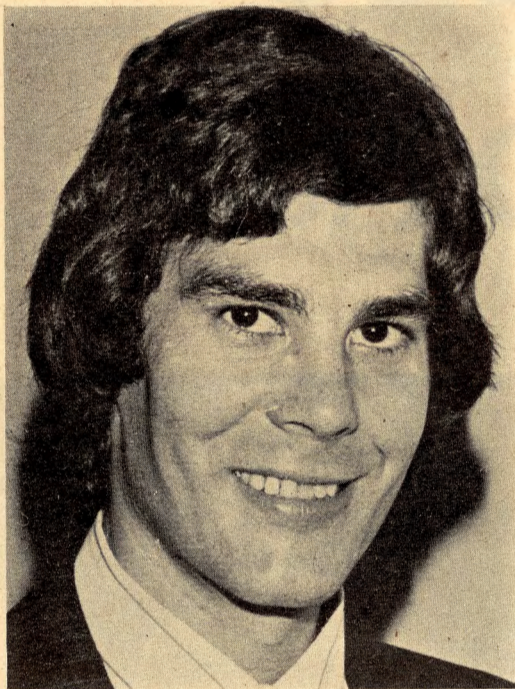
Issues concentrated on will be of interest to oppie students who will be posted free copies. The first issue is scheduled for the end of March and will be printed by the University print unit.

Admin moves on black workers

Rhodes is advertising for an administrative assistant, in effect a Black registrar, who will deal specifically with the university's black staff.

Candidates for the post may be from any race group and will have responsibility for the training of the workers.

The vice-chancellor Dr Henderson says there is a need to investigate many things with respect to the black staff and a need to communicate better. "We would like to centralise matters like appointments, advice on financial matters and the investigation of grievances."



SRC President Andre Lamprecht

The price of ignorance

Alan Paton is the new Nusas president. Jonas Savimbi is the leader of the Lesotho Bantustan. NATO is an Angolan liberation movement. America and France are members of the OAU. Mocambique has joined the Cod War.

These are some of the answers given to a questionnaire recently circulated to first-year journalism students at Rhodes. There were 25 questions related to recent major news events, and one question asking the students to discuss the differences between men and women.

An average of 28% of the students gave consistently correct answers. Apart from one joker who said that George Best had recently been conferred an honorary doctorate by Rhodes, and that Radio Five was the new name for Lourenco Marques, it seems that most of the answers were given in earnest. Like the student who thought SASO and the Black Sash were liberation movements of South African blacks in exile, or the other student who believed J.Nkrumah (sic) to be the African nationalist leader at present involved in constitutional talks with Ian Smith.

Seventy-three of the 83 first-year journalism students answered the questionnaire - 84% of them were South African. This type of questionnaire is distributed to new journalism students every year, primarily so the staff of the department can gauge the level of information achieved by arriving students.

Graham Watts, temporary junior lecturer in the department, who organised the questionnaire, made the following statement to RHODEO:

"I feel that these 73 students are by no means less informed than the average first-year student on this campus. It seems to display widespread, systematic, possibly wilful, ignorance of the major issues involved in a fluid, and in many senses frightening, southern African sub-continent.

"The fact that these students are most likely to be called up to fight in a war should South Africa once again see fit to involve itself in the conflicts of the sub-continent is perhaps the most tragic aspect of the findings."

Graham referred to the recent parading in Addis Ababa of two South African soldiers captured in Angola. When asked if he knew what he had been doing in Angola, one of the men replied "I don't know, but I think our officers did."

Campus Independent at Rhodes

Campus Independent has been hitting the Rhodes campus in a big way over the last two weeks. About 500 free copies have arrived for distribution by the SAFESS representatives at Rhodes.

Campus Independent was launched last year on the Wits campus as a counter to the official SRC publication, *Wits Student*, which takes a pro-Nusas line. With the formation this year of SAFESS, *Campus Independent* seems to be acting as a voice for the disaffiliationists. Because of its wide circulation on English-speaking campuses, the newspaper has in effect become national.

It is edited by Geoff Hemm, a Wits B.Sc student who is a member of the SAFESS steering committee. Informed sources at Rhodes estimate that the newspaper is costing about R18,000 to print for the year, and the last two issues have carried no advertising. The bulk of the financial support is coming from Rand businessmen who have asked specifically not to be named.

SAFESS at Rhodes

A local committee of the newly formed SAFESS is to be established at Rhodes. The branch will only be established when the organisation's constitution has been released.

Izak Smuts, a member of the steering committee, told RHODEO that there had been a pleasant response to the news of the new group and that he was satisfied with the progress made so far.

"A number of individuals have approached me wanting to find out more about our organisation and I think we have a base on which to build," Smuts said.

The president of the Afrikaanse Studente Bond, Marius Schalekamp, has welcomed the SAFESS as a hopeful indication of future co-operation between English and Afrikaans campuses. He said that Nusas had displayed "disloyalty towards South Africa" in the past, making co-operation difficult.

But he pointed out that SAFESS would have to prove itself representative before any real co-operation was possible.

Nusas condemns discretionary powers of past Exec.

Mike Stent and the four affiliated SRC Presidents released a press statement on 14 March condemning the manner in which Nusas handled its finances in the past.

On two occasions during 1974, Nusas made unauthorised donations to the Wits University SRC. It was found that the money had never reached the SRC, but had been spent by the then President Mr Glen Moss at his own discretion. Moss has since proved unwilling to account for the money.

The press release condemned the manner in which the financial transaction had been effected. Wits SRC President Jimmy Georgiades is to make a full report to Wits Vice-Chancellor Prof. Bozoli, who will decide what further action is necessary.

In the past the Nusas Executive has been able to donate money at its own discretion. The 53rd Congress in February resolved to amend the provisions relating to discretionary powers, and has since made it impossible for individuals to take on financial transactions.

THE SRC SO FAR...

BIRTHS: Rhodes: Born to Rhodes University of Grahamstown, a long-awaited SRC on 10 September 1975. Parents (voting students) excited at the event, but rather bewildered as most had never had to raise such a temperamental baby before. Parents now becoming dubious, wondering if the painful event was worth it. Baby SRC seems to be more trouble than it is worth.

Teething problems started early - trouble with baby's constitution. Baby suffered a great many headaches. Eventually the constitutional problem was shelved and baby got a new head. However, baby decided to try and prevent such a thing happening to its prospective younger siblings. It will call in a panel of doctors - known as a constitution's committee - to suggest a permanent remedy.

When baby was born, it made it clear that its parents should not expect miracles. After all, what baby can get up and run as soon as it is born? There is much to be tried and tested before the correct formula for its feed is found. Once this is done, the

baby will grow and grow. But until then parents should be patient with their frustrating offspring.

Actually, baby is growing a lot faster than it ever expected. Major baby ailments aside (a full case history will be provided below) baby is, among other things, managing to reconcile its parents and grandparents (senate). It has been suggested that alternate generations get on much better than successive generations. As far as this baby is concerned, the hypothesis appears to be true.

For many years parents have been complaining about their living conditions, yet grandparent did not take much notice. However, baby arrived, and grandparents being what they are, they could not resist listening to the baby's gurglings (baby, like all babies, imitating its parents). So grandparent has decided to meet baby and its parents half way (we hope) and has set up a committee to investigate complaints about living conditions (review the residence system and rules).

Other channels of communications have been opened up between baby and grandparent (and thus parents and grandparents) and so baby can start toddling (through official doors) to try and fulfill some of its parents' aims and wishes.

That is one thing. Baby is toddling, but it has had many falls and ailments since it tried to stand on its own feet. Even while its parents were

taking a well earned three-month holiday, baby continued to grow, but it met with a sad accident this year.

It lost three important parts of its anatomy and these had to be speedily replaced - a body cannot function properly if portions of it are missing. Hence baby appealed to its parents for replacements. This was a complicated operation - the time was wrong for such an undertaking - rag etc. etc. taking the parents' interests away from their baby's needs. However, parents cannot completely neglect their children, and three extremely satisfactory replacements were attached to the main body. (Welcome Lynette, Pete and Izak).

Quite a few parents have commented that this remarkable baby can't walk, but brother, can it talk! Well, it is the duty of all good parents to rap baby over the knuckles occasionally and to help it grow up properly so that it can do all the things parents expect their baby to. However, reasonable parents don't expect miracles - they are patient and understanding, sympathetic with teething problems and help pick baby up when it falls down.

Just so as you can know how your baby is getting on with its toddling lessons, RHODEO will print its nursery school report in the next issue. By the end of the year, we hope that baby will have graduated (with honours) from university.

- Marilyn Cohen.

RHODEO looks at Kaif prices

Kaif prices have been increased by an average of 50% this year.

We spoke to Union manager Mr Donaldson, and it seems that the changes in general are fair, and that Kaif remains as always the cheapest eating place in town. Judging by Mr Donaldson's conviction that he has never seen so many students packed into Kaif as in the first few weeks of this term, we must be getting full value for our money.

The bulletin distributed by the Rhodes Union Board at the beginning of the year explained the reasons for the new menu prices.

The principal reason is inflation. The Union pays R2,500 a month for meat alone.

The theft of condiments, cutlery, and ashtrays from Kaif adds greatly to the overall loss. In 1974 over R1,000 was spent on cutlery replacements, necessitating the introduction of plastic cutlery. Even so, Kaif can only rely on two-thirds of the plastic ware being returned to the kitchen each year. The cost of replacing the missing cutlery must be added to food price. Another factor is the damage to furniture, most recently the broken glass panels on the front doors to Kaif.

Kaif no longer receives any financial support from the Student Amenities Fund. It was thought unfair by the Board that university residents should have to contribute towards the maintenance of Kaif when, according to Mr Donaldson, oppidans make more use of Kaif than those living in residence.

Nevertheless, Mr Donaldson assured us that new measures have been adopted to combat rising prices. Kaif now buys foodstuff in bulk in co-operation with the residence halls and in conjunction with other establishments such as Kingswood. Greater discount is thus obtained. The number of Kaif staff has also been reduced, at no noticeable expense to students, as far as service is concerned, although unfortunately this adds to unemployment among black staff.

Kaif's turnover this year has been very great but, as usually happens when our pockets run dry and exams approach, a decrease in business is sure to come. Only then will the Union Board be able to determine to what extent the price increases have helped in reducing the huge monetary loss of the last year.

Rumours are circulating that the Rat Trap has been detrimental to Kaif profits. Does the Rat Trap run on the same account as Kaif and thus burden Kaif with its losses? The answer is no. The Rat Trap buys food from Kaif, but otherwise the two are not connected.

The liquor license for the Union is again in the pipeline. Rhodes was the first university in South Africa to apply for a liquor license.

As a result, the Liquor Board were dubious and subsequently refused the application. Technicalities in the second application caused yet another refusal. Since the Liquor Board only meets for the purpose of discussing such matters in January/February each year, we must wait until next year for the decision.

In the meanwhile, nobody is barred from membership of the Club. Only third-year students will have access to Rat Trap when the Liquor License is obtained, but temporary membership is open to first and second-year students.

Mr Donaldson recently toured Grahamstown restaurants and recorded the prices of items. On comparison he found that Kaif prices are still 30% lower on average than anywhere downtown. For example, egg-burgers now cost 35c in Kaif, whereas 50c is the lowest price you can pay for the same item off campus. He also thinks that the Kaif menu is more varied than anywhere else.

- Lynne Hancock
- Sue Dunningham

Border fund misses out

No allocation from Rag funds will go to the *Sunday Times Border Fund*, although Rag co-chairman Louise Peel admits it was considered.

This follows the decision by Wits Rag to give money to the fund - an issue which has caused a big controversy at Wits.

However the constitution under which the Rhodes Rag works only allows for funds to be distributed to local charities and this rules out the *Sunday Times Border Fund*.

"We feel there are more pressing needs in the area around us," said Louise Peel.

Campus party politics

In a significant move for the future of student government, the University has decided to allow political parties to organise on campus and form branches.

In the past a clause in the University's regulations did not allow this, but at a recent meeting of the University Council this clause was scrapped.

The branches will function as ordinary societies on campus but will not receive grants from the SRC. They may, however, get funds from the parties.



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New collection for Cory Library

There I was, see, paging through this big red book. It used to belong to the Lord Chief Justice of England, Baron Pollock. It's called "Regina vs Jameson and Others," and it's valuable. Very valuable. Besides the compilation of all the sworn statements and exhibits, there, in the margins, were all sorts of scribbled comments about the trial of those involved in the abortive Jameson Raid of 1895.

Why was I paging through this big red book? Because I had just asked the head of the Cory Library for Historical Research, Mr J. Berning, if it was possible to put a price on it. "No," he said. "It's impossible."

Mr Berning was showing me around the latest 'baby' to come to Rhodes. This is a collection of some 2 000 volumes of Africana - books, pictures, pamphlets and memorabilia of African history - recently donated by the Goldfields Company of Johannesburg. It's valuable. At least R25 000, would you believe?

Among the thousands of pictures of the social and economic life of the Transvaal at the turn of the century, and pictures of Kimberley and the 'Big Hole', are some which go back 100 years, giving a priceless record of life at that time. What was it like in the smaller, less well-known towns; how exactly did the people manage in those days? It's all there, written down, in black and white.

What does this mean for Rhodes? Well if you're not historically minded, it won't worry you. If you are, then there's a mine of information on a wide range of topics. This collection now opens up whole new fields of research as far as Rhodes is concerned. Up to now we have concentrated on the Cape area, particularly the Eastern Cape. Now we have a wealth of material relating to other parts of the country. Post graduates, for example, can now take a look at the economic situation of the Southern Transvaal at the beginning of the century. Cecil Rhodes can be studied through nearly 50 biographies. And, of course, the more you think about it, the more ideas you get. It's all waiting to be used...

How did Mr Berning feel when he learnt that the collection would be donated to Rhodes? "It's very exciting," he said. But he's rather daunted by the five or six months it'll take him to catalogue it all. R25 000 worth of books is a lot of work - for everybody.

- Bob Heaton.

La Grange dismissed as oppie head

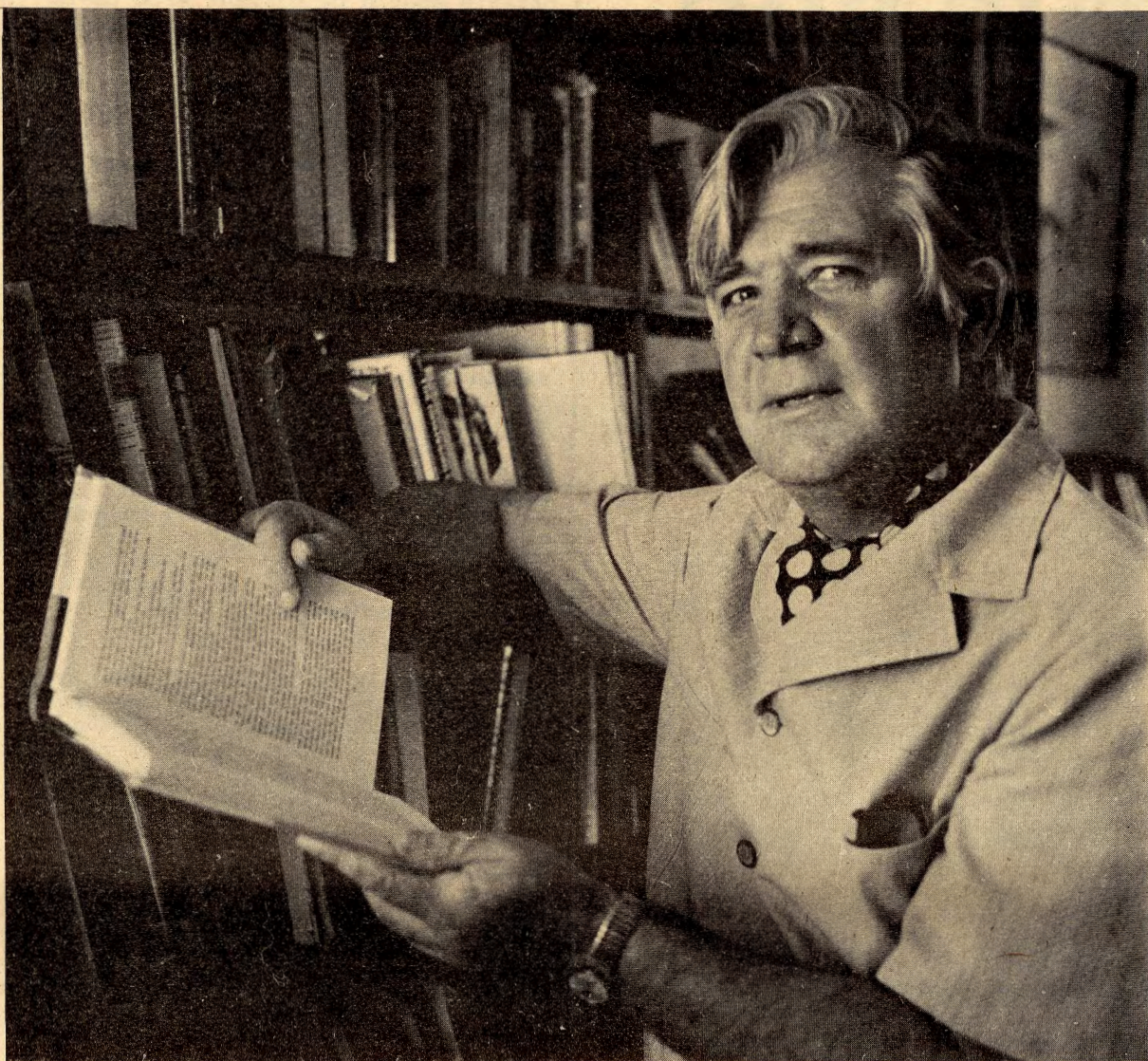
Ashley la Grange has again been the victim of a constitutional wrangle with the administration. This time over his election as oppie senior student last year.

La Grange was elected senior student last year, but only after his election realised that he had been unconstitutionally elected as he was a part time student and thus forbidden from holding the post.

A oppie house committee meeting was held and it was decided to attempt to change the constitution. However this was only to be done this year because of the pressure of the exams. They recommended that he stay on as senior student to facilitate a smooth change over into the new academic year.

However the day before the Wardens-Senior Students meeting this year he was called before the Vice Chancellor and told that as his election was unconstitutional he was not recognised as the oppie senior student.

La Grange explained to RHODEO that he was defined by the constitution governing the election of the house committee as an oppie and as such the house committee received a financial grant from the administration.



HEPBURN & JEANES

But this constitution does not allow part time students to hold a position on the committee.

"A point the committee took into consideration when asking me to remain as senior student was that this clause was at variance with the SRC constitution. In the SRC constitution part time students are regarded as full time students if they have paid their registration fees," la Grange said.

Last year la Grange was forbidden by Admin from standing for the presidency of the SRC as he was a full time employee of the university even though he is a part time student.

Boy Johnson is the new senior student.

Albert Heydenrych threatened

At least one student actively involved in working for Nusas in the coming referendum at Rhodes, Albert Heydenrych, has been threatened with violence because of his involvement with the organisation.

In a three day spat both he and his mother received more than a dozen calls warning him not to appear in public places at the risk of facing a "beating up."

"It was more than one person phoning from a private telephone," he said.

Heydenrych said that he had contacted the police but that they had been unable to assist him.

Nusas Local Comm Chairwoman, Monica Pike, thinks it is a pity that people are prepared to stoop to this level in order to scare Nusas workers. "It makes one sad that such methods are employed at a time when we are trying to establish Nusas as a credible organisation amongst students," she said.

"We hope the intimidators were not students as this sort of action does not level with what one would expect from someone at this sort of institution."

Apart from the phone calls, which were made at the beginning of March, Heydenrych has had no more threats.

ABOVE: Prof Guy Butler, head of the English department at Rhodes, who has just been awarded the 1975 CNA literary award. He shares it with Anna Louw, the Afrikaans novelist. Prof Butler won the prize for a volume of poetry - he is recognised as one of South Africa's most important poets.

Oppidan committee

The much maligned and much neglected Oppidan House has once more got its representative on the S.R.C., and the policy must now be full speed ahead. To this end an Oppidan sub-committee is to be established under the chairmanship of Pete Wilson to deal primarily with the Oppidan housing question, and with everything else pertaining to Oppies.

Any person, Oppy or otherwise, interested in being elected to this sub-committee, is asked to please submit his/her name and address to the S.R.C. permanent secretary, or to Pete, c/o Faculty of Law.

There is a great deal that has to be done in all spheres to better the lot of Rhodes oppidans and people with big ideas and bigger imaginations are asked to please come forward, so that oppidan potential can be fully realized.

By-election results

The results of the SRC by-election have now been officially released and the three new members have been given their various portfolios on the council.

Lynette Liebenberg won the Atherstone election, Pete Wilson is the Oppies representative and Izak Smuts the General representative. At the first meeting of the full SRC, Lynette was elected as Deputy-President. Pete now fills the portfolio of Oppidan Councillor.

Izak Smuts has been appointed co-Education Councillor along with George Euvrard. Marilyn Cohen now becomes SRC Hon. Secretary, so the Publicity Committee now only consists of Ivan Peden and John Rainier, with Publications councillor Albert Heydenrych assisting.



Now it came to pass, after much scratching of the belly-button and picking of the left nostril, that I, in all my wisdom, put pen to paper once again.

Under pressure of Rag festivities I caste my beady little orbs around and noted:

Spirits were somewhat dampened this Rag - in more ways than one. Apparently student drinking is going to be HENDLED harshly - alas and alack - a lack of booze that is.

Activating myself Saturday before last, I ambled down to the PA garden to viddy the Drag Queen elections. Instead I got an eyeful of yellow tigers and tabby cats being parked in public. Sis! First and foremost in the casting polls was that sloppy individual - granted it must have been that acid tummy what done it. At the other end of the scale was hewhowiggles-inpubic - fortunately no-one was browneyed off.

Somehow the most disappointing event of all this year was the Hot Beer Festival - ever had hot beers before? At three cans to the Rand? Those cases were stacked up in the sun at 5 o'clock to get the temperature right. After fighting my way into the tennis courts, I waded waist deep in empty beer cans to get me a hot beer and then swam through the beery fug towards the honeyed sounds of the brass band, cunningly concealed behind wire-netting (because last year certain persons poured beer down the tuba).

Suddenly this jute blared out of these hoooooge loudspeakers, and after finishing my now only luke warm beer, I decided I couldn't beer it any longer. Therefore I clambered through the canned and the cans, marvelling at the behaviour of the perennial Beer Stubbers.

Taking out my South Wester, I braved the elements last Wednesday and scaled the dizzy heights to the Monument to check out the Coca Cola Unspectacular. At interval I roared out to get my fair share of bubbly only to find little red and white paper cups.

I know 120 million cokes are sold every day, but this is taking it a bit too far. Mumbling when I should have been bubbling, I ambled back to my seat, ready for the climax of the show. Margaret came on and before you could say SIN she was GANaway again. So I promptly went to Charlie's and drowned my sorrows in a ping Steri.

Now to add insult to injury, running water was laid on for float building and the procession. The only thing not allowed to flow was booze, and as a result the number of cooldrinkers on campus proliferated. It's amazing how similar OBs and coke are in colour.

Kicking off my KKTs and putting on my waterwings, I floated around on Saturday morning, keeping my eyes skinned for the eagled-eyed little people jotting down the names of sinners. Mark my words Rag is going to lose its spirit and die a natural death if the law from on high is applied to the letter. Next thing we'll be having Saturday lectures to cut down on student drinking on Friday nights. Dring cane and be able.

Some say the drumies this year are not so bad even after being put through their paces by that dREDful fellow. Pity I left my box camera at home on Saturday morning.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir, I have just discovered the true meaning of democracy - an exciting discovery I feel compelled to share with you!

At the recent Nusas congress, the Durban delegation was granted three votes on behalf of 208 students, Rhodes nine votes on behalf of 2 300 students, and Wits 16 votes on behalf of about 10 000 students.

Thus the impression was gained by one Durban student that, had he been at Wits, he would have been ten people.

Down with the old totalitarian system of one man one vote! Up with democracy! Right up!

-Converted Democrat.

Sir, Ashley la Grange's concern as to how members of the Iconoclast Society might reconcile their constitution with the category of faith was quite touching. In fact for a philosophy honours student he excelled himself. Ashley, surely you've heard of the theistic proofs? If Anselm's formulation of the Ontological argument isn't satisfactory, how about a reinstatement of the cosmological argument along the lines of the second law of thermodynamics?

-A Disillusioned Admirer.

Sir, I would like to remark on your so-called sports editor. Either you've got him on the wrong page - political page more appropriate - or else he is unable to distinguish between politics and sport. From a sports fan I would expect a little more than political comment (Ref: 1st issue of RHODEO).

I note RHODEO now has "Son of Stoops Talk" - I hope it won't be a case of like father, like son. Here's hoping that you can sort out the problem of political comment, be it in a light or serious tone, on the sports pages of RHODEO.

Ian McLaren.

Sir, May I through your pages express my disgust and abhorrence of the intimidation to which my SRC colleague, Albert Heydenrych, has been subjected.

Although I am an upholder of the right of freedom of speech, I believe that the sending of anonymous telephone calls is an abuse of that right, and is a cowardly and sick action. I hope the culprit will soon be brought to justice.

In the meantime, may I convey my sympathy and best wishes to Bert and his family.

-Izak Smuts.

Sir, I would like to comment on "The ultimate loophole" that you referred to in your last editorial.

You maintained that should Lynette Liebenberg, an oppidan, be elected to the SRC as the Atherstone representative, she will have created "a precedent that is bound to be exploited in the future for the personal aims of the candidates!"

I think your objection to her standing is both unsound and paternalistic.

The basic idea behind having an SRC is that the students can elect those people whom they think are most capable of representing them. To limit the choice of prospective candidates will not be conducive to good representation.

The fact that Lynette was elected, shows the soundness of the constitutional clause allowing her to stand. The Atherstone students were able to decide for themselves that the advantages of having her as their representative outweighed the disadvantage of her not residing in Atherstone.

Ashley la Grange.

Sir, May I congratulate you on two excellent editions of RHODEO this year. For the first time in three years I have found it readable. The features and sports reports are most impressive and I am happy to note that your paper represents the views of all students on campus.

-No Longer Apathetic.

Sir, *Campus Independent* is published by Geoff Hemm and Frank Winder. Both are members of the nine-man steering committee responsible for establishing SAFESS. Their paper, which is not an official student newspaper as it has not been recognised by the Wits SRC, acts as a mouthpiece for SAFESS. It is distributed widely on the English-speaking campuses.

An editorial in the March 10 issue of *Campus Independent* made reference to my speech at the March 3 Nusas debate held at Rhodes. I would like to point out three inaccuracies.

The editorial began "At a recent Iconoclast Society debate..." The debate was in fact organised by the Freshers Reception Committee. The editorial went on to say that I "lashed out vehemently at whoever had incurred (my) wrath". I lashed out at no-one. I merely analysed certain inaccurate arguments and statements pertaining to Nusas.

I also objected to an article in the February 10 issue of *Campus Independent* which accused Nusas of being a political pressure group. The editorial went on, claiming to quote me, " 'This', (Lamprecht) said, 'is a malicious and blatant inaccuracy. Nusas upholds the principles of Free Enterprise and Liberal Tradition' ". The quote, as reported, is inaccurate.

The quote I read from *Campus Independent* was as follows: "In reality, Nusas is a South African political pressure group of extreme leftists". (Leftists had earlier been defined as socialists). "Nationally, and through its local committees, it exerts political pressure and tries to use the student mass on a base (sic) from which to operate. The presence of Nusas on any campus revolutionises and activates student politics. Perhaps the newcomer is now enlightened as to campus politics". The last sentence relates to other doubtful information in the same article).

In fact, my reply to this statement was as follows: "This statement is a blatant and malicious inaccuracy. Not because of my, or anybody else's, opinion but because both in theory and reality Nusas is the name for a structure, a system of democratic student government, and that the new constitution now rigidly forces itself to be. A structure cannot possibly be a leftist political group. Within this structure, because of the new constitutional provisions, the majority of the students' opinion must and will reign.

"For this second reason, it cannot possibly be said that Nusas is a political pressure group of extreme leftists, for the simple majority of students are simply not extreme leftists".

Geoff Hemm was present at the last congress - one not constituted under the New Deal. That congress rejected an educational policy report based on socialist principles. The majority accepted a report recognising the principles of free enterprise and one that is in the tradition of the liberal university.

This same man then publishes this blatantly inaccurate information with the remark: "Perhaps the newcomer is now somewhat enlightened as to campus politics."

Nusas as it existed before the February congress has ceased to be. A new structure of student government was erected in its place. Many fail to realise this. Accusations levelled at Nusas of the past (like the ones that appeared in *Campus Independent*) are now blindly projected onto the new Nusas. This is wrong and cannot be in the interest of the many thousands of students who shortly have to make an important decision on further close inter university co-operation. It would be very sad if decisions were made based on false information.

The confusions prompted me to expose these inaccuracies in my speech. However many people still persist in being confused as the February 10 issue of *Campus Independent* indicates. This then prompted me, one may hope not in vain, to write this letter.

Andre Lamprecht
SRC President

MCNAUGHT REVIEWS

In the last issue we started a column called PAGE 3 - Dave McNaught offered his journalistic services to students who wanted information on any subject relating to campus affairs. So far there have been three letters asking him to investigate the Rhodes Security Guards. He started work on this last week, but found that there was more to it than meets the eye, so he will follow the story up this week, and we will publish his findings in the next issue. In the meantime, keep the letters coming in. (The column is now called PAGE 6 and will be on this page in every issue).

Just to keep Dave busy, we sent him out to cover the forthcoming referendum. His story is printed below, together with a story on a student protest that took place when they really knew how to do things convincingly.

The public fights back

Last year, some may recall, a student demonstration was "staged" at Rhodes, apathy and all. It was quite an event. There was great excitement as the police charged and students hared across the lawns in hasty retreat. Cries and laments filled the air as some rather chalky-faced individuals were led off to dank cells and goodness-knows-what tortures.

You know, there must have been nearly 100 students there that memorable day!

One doesn't realize how careful one has to be about this sort of thing. Just imagine the residents of Grahamstown rising up in an anti-student protest. If you don't believe me, read on:

The most spectacular features of the student life of the Middle Ages were the bloody affrays, the pitched battles, the mayhems, rapes, and homicides which fill the records of the times with monotonous regularity. It seemed to be a maxim of university practice that the scholar or the Master, no matter what his offence, was always right. The lay courts had no jurisdiction over scholars, and the university or ecclesiastical courts were a farce.

The immunities conferred account very largely for the unremitting hatred felt by the townsfolk for the students in their midst, and also for the tendency of the students to ride roughshod over the lesser rights and privileges of the townsmen.

The most serious riot in the annals of Oxford was the battle of St Scholastica's Day in 1354. It originated, as did most of the university affairs, in a tavern quarrel. Certain scholars, having called for good red wine, suspected its goodness, and told mine host of their suspicions in no uncertain terms. The host retorted and the scholars emptied the lees of the disputed liquor on his head.

This was not an outrage to be borne, and the innkeeper's friends ran to ring the bell of St Martin's Church. A mob of citizens appeared as if by magic, each man with a cudgel, pike, knife, or bow. Meanwhile the befuddled clerks had discreetly disappeared.

The mob who were not to be balked of its prey, proceeded to attack every scholar who happened to be in the streets. The Chancellor of the university came out in splendid array, hoping to pour oil on the troubled waters. But the irreverent mob would have none of the dignity, and he saved his life only by a most uncanonical burst of speed. Gone were the thoughts of peace.

The university roused with a will, and the scholars, armed to the teeth, poured out of the university precincts to do battle. Scholars were expressly forbidden to carry arms of any kind, and it was the Chancellor's duty to enforce this law. But it does not seem that at this particular moment he was perturbed by the infringement of the prohibition.

All night the citizens from surrounding towns and villages poured into Oxford, thirsting to crush the hated clerics once and for all. For two days the mob rioted and pillaged and slew. The poor scholars were pulled out of their hiding places and ruthlessly butchered; the houses were literally torn down and the schools wrecked.

When the pillage was over, the university had vanished, seemingly never to return.

..... so, if you ever see a crowd of aged Grahamstown residents coming up High Street with a steely glint in their eyes, run like hell:

The hallowed halls of student politics

As one of the masses of uninformed and apathetic Rhodes' students, it was with a certain amount of reserve that I ascended the stairs to the upper confines of the Students' Union.

This is where it all happens apparently - all those demi-gods of the political circles. It makes one good to feel that we - poor mortals - put them there.

Anyway, there I am peering into the half-gloom of a long, long corridor. I had never really moved this far into politics before and the thought of it made my knees tremble as I got accustomed to the light and saw two endless rows of doors. On every door there is a name plaque with stern white letters revealing who is within - now I'm really worried.

Plucking up courage, I begin to move down the corridor, keeping as close to the walls as possible. My shoes squeaked! What can I do! I'm terrified that everyone of those doors is going to slide open and two long rows of scowls will appear.

After contemplating taking off my shoes, I decided it could be embarrassing so I pussy-foot my way to the secretary's door where I muster the last reserve of courage, pat my hair down, have a quick scratch, and knock!

Well, this was my introduction to student politics. They're not so bad once you get to know them. They use long words, but what can one expect from such leaders of men. They are so busy that it is often hard to find them.

To get down to business, why was I there? Well, it's 1 April, soon, and 1 April doesn't just mean April Fools Day, it also means voting day. For what? - affiliation or disaffiliation with Nusas (more long words - they mean join or disjoin). I decided that since I was of voting age I had better find out what the whole thing was about - and very complicated it is too.

As I see it, there are two sides of the matter (I'm doing my utmost to simplify it for you dumb clucks). The Iconoclasts want us to disaffiliate and so does USFEW. Iconoclasts were thugs who used to go round smashing icons or religious images in the 8th and 9th centuries. Anyway, they've managed to find a few of these hanging around and they're back to work. USFEW (Union for Student Freedom, Enlightenment and Welfare) - this one sounds a bit silly to me, in fact I'm not sure whether they didn't make the name fit the letters or whether it was just coincidence - very tricky these intellectual types, you never know quite where you stand with them. What is worse is that there are so many of them about that somehow it just doesn't seem like university anymore.

It really is quite a problem, and its one which we have to decide. All these societies are here to direct and help us in our momentous decisions. Iconoclasts and USFEW don't like Nusas as it is. They say that Nusas was to have undergone drastic constitutional (sorry about that one) change but hasn't. They say that if Nusas was to operate merely as a society with individual option to join, then only R500 would be allocated to it instead of the annual R3000 which Rhodes gives as a member university. They both want to see the SRC sovereign and uncommitted.

On the other side is RADSOC (Radical Society) - these are the ones who do like Nusas. RADSOC says that Nusas has done more than any other society. They claim that great changes have taken place in the Nusas constitution which gives all the power to the member SRCs, and that if all of the universities joined Nusas it could become very much right-wing.

What they all say is that the students have the power - this means us. They also say that we are APATHETIC - this sounds bad, but I looked it up (pocket Oxford) and it only means 'indifference' or 'mental indolence' which isn't quite as bad.

We are told that we are living an unnatural life-style and have nothing to worry about so we forget the problems of other people. This worries me and I feel bad. Perhaps its true, but its so nice here and when you're float-building, drinking beer etc., there's so little time left for the mundane things in life.

Come to think of it, one day we might be as apathetic as our parents and lead as unnatural a life-style as them - who are we to break the status quo upon which our great civilization is based.

But enough of philosophy and back to business. One has to weigh up the pros and cons, Nusas does have such a lovely T-shirt, and who knows, they may be better than nought. All that has happened is that Nusas has been turned into a stereo-typed monster on the rampage which no-one thinks they can control.

Then again I do feel that these people in their heavenly abodes at the top of the Union have somehow left us behind somewhere. They are from us but not of us anymore. A little less of the ego-thing please, and a bit more communication.

Anyhow thats the situation in the eyes of one of the apathetic unenlightened. Fools Day will decide - and I for one will drink to that.



RHODEO

(Established 1938)

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WINNING BOTHA FLOAT



RAG ROYALTY



SOPWITH CAMEL



RETIERS RUNNER-UP FLOAT

RAG

BY

JON INGGS



THE LEB CAME BACK



DRUMMIE-NAPPED

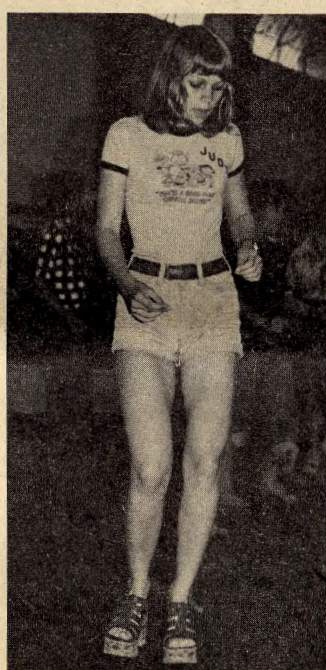


RAGS A DRAG!

CYRIL DALESKI



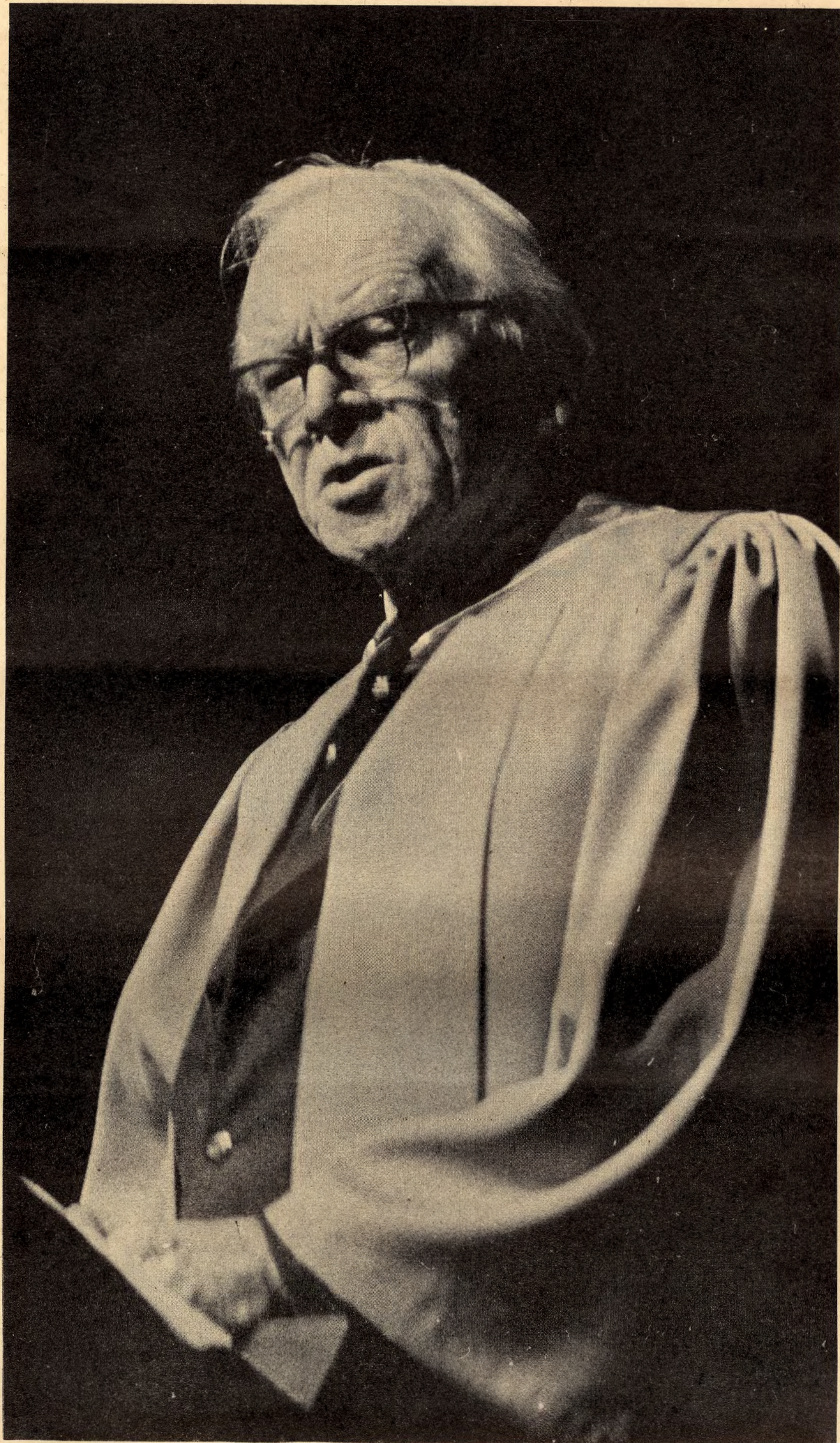
ANYTHING FLOATS



DRUMMIES IN THE RAIN



When Schreiner's 12 hour dance marathon ended, little did they realize that they were 3768 hours short of the world record which was set in 1933. During the 22 weeks of dancing the rest period per hour was 15 minutes, but this was cut to only three minutes for the last two weeks, while the final 52½ hours were continuous. The winning couple got married shortly afterwards.



Alan Paton talks to RHODEO

Alan Paton was at Rhodes a few weeks ago to address first-year students. RHODEO took the opportunity to interview Dr Paton. Here he speaks to John McCormick, Richard Humphries, and Bruce Hopwood.

You studied science at university. What did you have in mind at that stage?

I had in mind to become a schoolmaster teaching science and mathematics.

Did you take part in student politics?

Well, there was no political organisation in those days. Nusas came into existence in my last year. I would say we had almost no political ideas whatsoever. It was a different age - this was 1919. Nusas started I think in 1924. I knew Leo Marquard. Nusas held one of its first congresses in Natal, for the very purpose of interesting the Natal University College. I took part in that first congress although I was no longer a student at the College.

You joined Diepkloof in 1935. What did you do in the intervening years?

I taught at the Ixopo High School for 3½ years, then I went to Maritzburg College - I was there from 1928 to 1935. Then the Department of Prisons handed over all its reformatories to the Department of Education in 1934, and the posts were advertised. I wrote to Mr Hofmeyr, whom I knew, and said I wouldn't mind doing a reformatory job. He said I'd better apply for the whole lot. I wasn't very keen on getting a Black reformatory as a matter of fact. I was just interested in reformatory work. I applied, and I got the black one. It was the opening of a new life as far as I was concerned.

What you saw made you politically aware.

Yes. I was 32 years of age. I was a Smuts-Hofmeyr man. I never took part in politics, but if I voted I would vote for the United Party. It was only when I went to Diepkloof that I began to realise what kind of society we had. I was there for 13 years and I learnt a great deal. It was while I was there that I wrote *Cry, The Beloved Country*. Then I decided I would become a full-time writer. Very stupid, but still.

Why do you say that?

Because I didn't realise then the struggle that would go on in me between what you might call the member of society concerned with society and the ivory tower life of a writer. For about five years I led an idyllic life. We lived on the south coast of Natal. Then in 1953 there was a liberal movement, and we started a new party. By that time we'd all become very disillusioned with the United Party. I gave up the idyllic life, and decided I'd live between Pietermaritzburg and Durban. I was in the political world until 1968 when we were outlawed.

We were believers in the common society. Thinking over things since 1968, I've realised that the only way we can achieve a unitary society in South Africa at the moment would be by revolution. The Afrikaner would never consent to a unitary society.

(CONTD)

When did you first become involved with Nusas?

About 1926 I would think.

Exactly what was Nusas when you first joined?

Nusas was essentially the creation of Leo Marquard. Leo was a great South African, and a great lover of his country. He determined that he was going to teach students about the country in which they lived. That was its original purpose. I would say that his idea in founding the national union of students was that it should be a body to stand for the rule of law, the elimination of poverty, the elimination of race discrimination and injustice. He wasn't an emotional man, but he felt deeply about these things.

So it was a social conscience from the start.

That's correct. It would leave a tremendous gap (if it died away). Who else would take such a stand? I would not like to see the only political voice being that of the extreme left. Nusas must try and hold the left and centre together, and such members of the right as will tolerate being members of such an organisation. I don't think there's any doubt that the leadership of Nusas over the past few years has been over-influenced by black students. I won't say that their sole motive was to win the approval of black students, but I do think that they kept on forgetting that they really are a white organisation.

What led to your reconciliation with Nusas?

Well, after you've been associated with an organisation for over 50 years, it's very difficult to break away from it. It's also difficult to break away from an organisation that's under the hammer. Although I was very critical indeed, I regretted that I had to be. And then there were people who said that one must not appear to support the Schlebusch Commission. Lionel Murray came out and said: "This chap Paton is saying exactly what we are saying on the Schlebusch Commission", namely that the leadership has got too far away from the membership, and that the leadership has got into the hands of a few people.

You've known South Africa throughout the Nationalist period. How does 1976 compare with the last 28 years?

I think this is a most crucial year, and I think the future looks bleak. I wonder to

myself whether the Afrikaner, who has adapted himself so well to his changed circumstances, is going to adapt equally well to the new circumstances - the independence of Mozambique, the independence of Angola, the independence of South West Africa. Certainly some great change is going to take place in Rhodesia very soon. Can the Afrikaner Nationalist adapt himself? I don't know.

What political system would you like to see, considering the diversity of nationalities in this country?

I would like to see, as the first step towards the common society that we must become eventually, some experiments of a federal nature.

So you feel the Progressive Reform Party has relevance?

I do, but I'll be honest with you - I don't think they will ever govern us. I think it's always important for a voice to be raised in protest against injustice, but I think their chances of being the government are nil. If there are changing circumstances, then the Nationalists will have to change too, so all these distinctions will fall away.

How do you think the independence of the Transkei will affect black politics?

I think that many black people are sceptical about the idea of being independent. Buthelezi doesn't want independence - he says there are many other things that are more important to have first. Matanzima? I think you must allow for his personality - he likes the idea of being monarch of all that he surveys. Altogether, I don't think it will affect black thinking at all.

Would you consider yourself principally a writer or a politician?

I'm a failed politician. I'm very glad that I am no longer a member of a party, because I can say things that I could not have said as a member of the Liberal Party. I wouldn't really like to call myself a politician. I wouldn't like to call myself a patriot because patriotism is a dubious word today. I would regard myself as a writer.

Which of your books would you say has given you the greatest satisfaction?

I don't read my books much. There's not one answer. Writing a book like *Cry, The Beloved*

Country gives a very strong emotional satisfaction. Writing a book like *The Life of Hofmeyr* makes you feel very virtuous about your industry. They were both very satisfying.

What do you feel when you read your books over again?

When you read something several times you begin to see the faults in it. As a matter of fact, I haven't read *Cry, The Beloved Country* since it was published. I've read *Too Late the Phalarope* since it was published. I had flu last year, and I thought I'd read it because someone had written to me about it. I was quite impressed by it! I was impressed by the structure.

*Were you happy with Korda's film adaptation of *Cry, The Beloved Country*?*

Well, I preferred Korda's film adaptation to Maxwell Anderson's stage adaptation. I learned one lesson - if you sell the rights of your book then you have no say whatsoever. The screenplay was attributed to me, but it was really Zoltan Korda and myself working together. He actually structured it.

What was the motivation behind the changes he made?

That's an interesting question, because most film-maker's don't really get very excited about the books they film. Occasionally you have a film-maker who falls in love with the book and tries to reproduce it. On the whole most authors are disappointed. The demands of a film are very different from the demands of the book. The demands of the viewer of a film are very different from the demands of the reader of the book.

Were the character's in the film anything like the characters as you visualised them in the book?

When I think of the priest Msimangu, immediately I can see Sidney Poitier. He was very successful, but then he's got a wonderful presence. But now if I thought of Kumalo, I wouldn't think of Canada Lee. The man who played the father Jarvis was a good actor, but I wouldn't think of him either. I had someone quite different in mind. I don't think I'd like to see (the film) again. I think I'd find it rather painful.

Has there been any one contemporary or historical figure that has had a lasting influence on you?

Contemporary, no. Historical - Lincoln, I would say. He was the most extraordinary man, certainly one of the greatest that ever lived. He had no desire for wealth. He was a humanitarian.

You have mentioned in the past your admiration for St Francis of Assisi. Has his philosophy of "Where there is hatred, let me so love" had any influence on your life?

Yes, very much. I won't say that I've followed it very well. I didn't come into contact with his works until I was in my thirties. I was already at Diepkloof by then. I'd already made up my mind what I wanted to do and what I wanted to use my life for. But then to find it all put in those magnificent words was a very great experience.

Have political pressures ever discouraged you?

I don't think so. I'm very stubborn. Bernard Levin, writing in *The Times* about a month ago, said that it was a waste of time on the part of the police to try and intimidate me. I wrote to him and said up to a point that's true, but I've never been in solitary confinement, I've never been interrogated, I've never been tortured. One doesn't know how one would stand up to those things.

Do you think the Government holds you up for the world to see - "Here's Alan Paton and he's alive and well"?

I don't think I go so far as to say that they hold me up. I don't think they'd be very keen on the outside world holding me up if I was banned. But you must remember that the gulf between white liberal thinking and Nationalist thinking is so wide that most Nats wouldn't even know who I was.



Richard Humphries, Bruce Hopwood and Alan Paton.

by John McCormick



KEN RUSSELL

A terrible genius

No-one speaks of Ken Russell in terms of moderation. By some he is labelled a publicist, a fraud, a muck-raker, a paranoid, and probably insane, while others readily regard him as the most important film-maker since D W Griffith.

He cannot be ignored. His films are totally involving, whether your reaction be disgust or admiration. He has a message. Some might find this difficult to appreciate from Ann-Margret's gyrations in a flood of baked beans and chocolate, or the sado-masochistic sexual habits of the incumbents of Loudun, but Russell doesn't bludgeon his audience purely for shock. He intends to convey a message, so he involves his audience. His brilliant control of the medium of cinema is undeniable.

Ken Russell was born in Southampton 49 years ago, into a lower middle class family. From school he went into naval college, where he made his first film with a borrowed camera. After a spell in the merchant navy, he joined the RAF in 1945.

It was at this time that he suddenly discovered classical music, since when it has played a major role in his thinking. As his RAF career came to a close, Russell contemplated becoming a ballet dancer. A few months with the International Ballet dampened his ardour. He took jobs with shabby touring companies, before deciding on photography as a career.

At Walthamstow Technical College he met Shirley Kingdom - they were married in 1957. Shirley Russell has since been costume designer on all her husband's major films.

At college, Russell made his first major amateur film, a fantasy called *Peepshow*, which failed to arouse the interest of the British Film Institute. One of the actors in the film converted Russell to Catholicism. Russell then made two short films based on Catholic themes, which he submitted to the BBC. They were seen by Huw Weldon (later BBC Director), who was starting a new arts programme called *Monitor*. One of his directors, John Schlesinger (*Midnight Cowboy*, *The Day of the Locust*), was leaving, and Russell was invited to fill the gap. It was 1959, and Russell was 32.

In the next three years, he made 17 films for *Monitor*, mostly on composers, writers, and dancers.

(CONTD)



JENNIE LINDEN AND ALAN BATES IN
WOMEN IN LOVE



RICHARD CHAMBERLAIN AND GLENDA JACKSON IN
THE MUSIC LOVERS



VANESSA REDGRAVE AND MICHAEL GOTHARD IN THE DEVILS.

FAR RIGHT: ERIC CLAPTON AND KEN RUSSELL ON THE SET OF TOMMY.

In 1962, he made *Elgar* for the BBC. It was his first major success. He followed this with films on Bartok, Debussy, Rousseau, Isadora Duncan, and Delius. "He seemed all set to become the Godfrey Winn of the television documentary," Colin Wilson wrote. "Old ladies would have hurried back from church to see his latest evocation of the English poets or musicians."

Instead Russell took a different line. In 1964 he made his first feature, *French Dressing* - a commercial flop but nevertheless an exceptional film. To all intents and purposes it is a straight comedy about the mayor of a small English seaside resort who is determined to put his town on the map. He arranges a film festival in the town, inviting the current sex goddess of the French screen, who resembles Brigitte Bardot, to be the guest of honour.

In the hands of a less ambitious director, *French Dressing* might have made a reasonably successful B film. Russell's treatment is unconventional, and perhaps England in 1964 was not ready for him. The film has a sinister undercurrent - the seaside resort in the film is not the comfortable Blackpool-in-summer type that the public might have expected. The streets are deserted, and the few characters in the film are made to feel uncomfortable in their environment.

In 1967, Harry Saltzman, co-producer of the James Bond series, asked Russell to direct the latest Harry Palmer film, *Billion Dollar Brain*. Palmer was played by Michael Caine - Saltzman was hoping that the Palmer cult would provide a successor to Bond, but by 1967 the public had had enough of spy films, and *Billion Dollar Brain* was a flop.

Then came *Women in Love* in 1969. Cinematically, I think this is one of the finest films ever made, and Russell certainly hasn't achieved such a high standard since. It was a classic of film construction. D H Lawrence's novel revolves around a four-way relationship between two men and two women. The screenplay is a jungle of excessive verbiage, but Russell has created a simple film through his mastery of editing and photography. *Women in Love* rivals anything that the Bergman/Nykqvist team ever produced.

This film made Russell. Cinema audiences began taking him seriously. In the wake of this success, Russell made *The Music Lovers* in 1970, based on two years in the life of Tchaikovsky. Russell is obsessed by the romantic artist, the man who wants to storm heaven. Most of the great romantic artists were defeated, dying either of discouragement or suicide. *The Music Lovers* is more than a straight biographical film - Russell is using Tchaikovsky as a vehicle through which to say something about the problems of the 19th century artist.

Later, when he wrote to Gustav Mahler's daughter to say he wanted to make a film about her father, she replied that she had disliked *The Music Lovers*, and would rather he left her father alone. Russell wrote back, explaining his intentions in *The Music Lovers*. Ms Mahler saw the film again, and wrote back giving Russell full permission to make a film about her father.

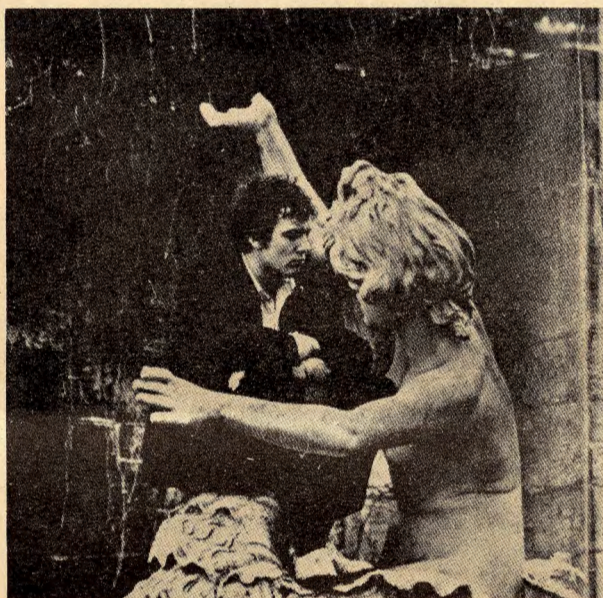
In 1971, Russell's Catholicism was expressed in *The Devils*, a film banned in this country. *The Devils* is a bizarre and horrific and powerful film. Father Urbain Grandier leads the people of Loudun in their struggle to maintain independence from the French crown in the 17th century. The crown exploited Grandier's indiscrete sexual habits, and eventually had him burned at the stake. On the surface, *The Devils* is an orgy of violence and depravity. In reality, it is the powerful and expressive study of a man's courage in the face of mounting opposition.

Russell likes working with the same actors in his films. This is most apparent with Oliver Reed, who appears in *Debussy*, *Dante's Inferno*, *Women in Love*, *The Devils*, and *Tommy*. Both Glenda Jackson and Christopher Gable played in *The Music Lovers*.

In 1971, both returned in Russell's sixth feature, *The Boyfriend*. Based on the musical by Sandy Wilson, *The Boyfriend* apparently didn't meet the expectations of the critics. Russell decided to make a show-within-a-show. The two principal characters, Twiggy and Christopher Gable, fall in love both off and on the stage. After the violence of *The Devils*, *The Boyfriend* was like a breath of fresh air.

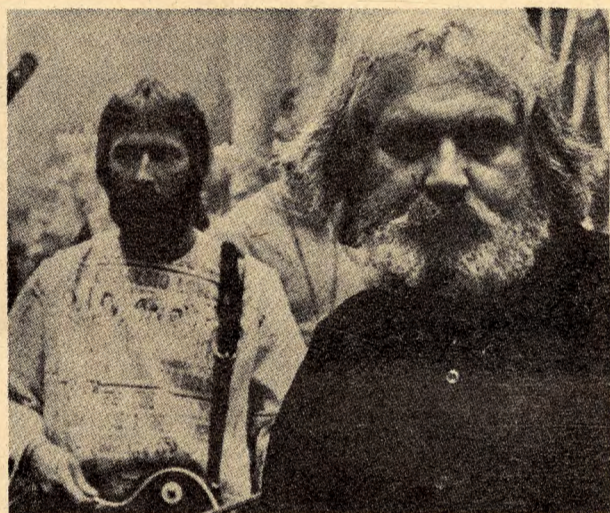
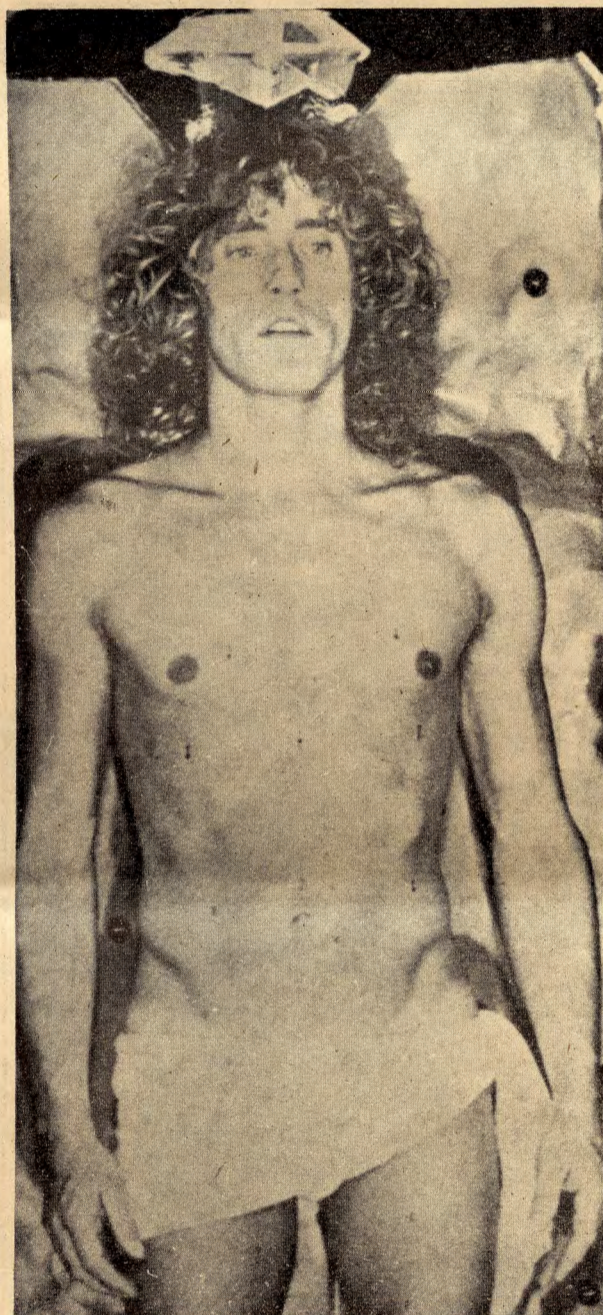


ABOVE: GABLE AND TWIGGY IN THE BOYFRIEND.



ABOVE: SCOT ANTONY IN SAVAGE MESSIAH.

BELOW: ROGER DALTREY AS TOMMY.



Savage Messiah (1972) is a simple reconstruction of the last years of sculptor Henri Gaudier-Brzeska's life. He was killed in France in 1915 at the age of 24. The film captures the spirit of the extrovert Gaudier. Russell did not turn to symbolism, but all the same managed to convey a forceful message. He trimmed the budget for *Savage Messiah* as much as possible - he has found that the smaller the cost of the film, the less likely the studio is to interfere with its production.

There was a two-year break before Russell made *Mahler* in 1974. It examines the influences on the life of Mahler rather than the man himself. Russell uses a conflict between visual images and soundtrack music to convey the fear's of Mahler's life.

Tommy and *Lisztomania* were both made in 1975. *Tommy* meets the popular definition of a Russell film in every way. It can possibly be seen as a culmination of Russell's expansive imagination and inventiveness. He has never really admired rock music, but he felt *Tommy*'s message to be important. It conveys the meaningless and unquestioning cult worship of stage idols by the masses.

This theme is followed up in *Lisztomania*, which examines commercialism so thoroughly that the film almost becomes commercial itself. Again banned in this country, *Lisztomania* exploits the amorous side to Franz Liszt's life. The phallic symbol is a recurring image. Richard Wagner is portrayed as a Dracula who attracts mass hysteria, and in the long run gives Nazism inspiration.

Like Kubrick, Russell believes that we can understand the present more easily by looking into another era. He says: "We can be much more dispassionate and objective, and therefore more truthful, in dealing with the past". Eight out of Russell's ten films have been historical - his next project is a film on Rudolph Valentino.

His first TV documentaries followed the accepted textbook idea of factual representation. Then he decided that examining the personal struggles out of which an artist's work grew would be a greater tribute to that artist than making believe he had led an easy life. Russell does not pretend to reconstruct an historical era in his films. He only reconstructs an idea - his concept of the forces that mould an artist.

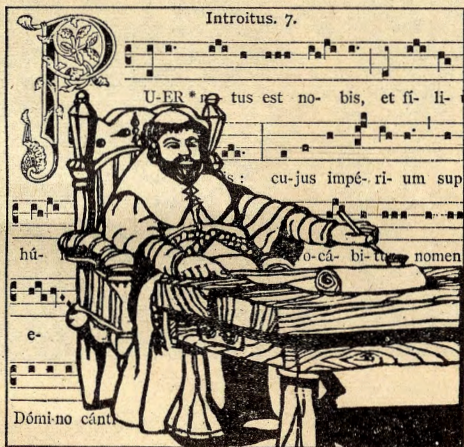
It is the images he uses that enrage cinema audiences. He does the unexpected. He messes up people's minds. His personal stamp on his films is all-pervasive. One critic wrote of *The Boyfriend*:

"Ken Russell consistently approaches his source material as a tattered poster upon which to scrawl those outsized and eye-catching graffiti that pass for an auteur's signature..... (I) reproach him for the relentless weight with which he imposes his all-effacing mark upon the most dispassionate material".

Russell had caught that critic unaware - she was unwilling to accept the tendency, created by the growing power of television, for the studios to give film directors greater artistic independence. Russell is one of the few directors that has been able to create his own definable personal style. This is a healthy trend amongst today's directors.

Audiences either intensely hate Russell's work, or else they worship him. Whether one hates or worships him, it cannot be denied that he is the most important film director of our time.

RECORD REVIEWS



Ritchie Blackmore's Rainbow (OYA 2001)

This is not just another of those musical-abortion Rainbow concerts. In fact Rainbow is the name of Ritchie's band on this album and I think he could have chosen better musicians to back him, because this is *his* album from start to finish. Ronnie James Dio does have a good voice, but the rhythm section doesn't generate any power worth writing home to mommy about. Not that she'd be interested anyway.

Blackmore is still the great inventive lead guitarist he always was, though I do not believe he could "wipe the floor" with other guitarists as he claims.

His Fender is ever-present between the lines, as playing the inevitable Blackmore riffs that constitute five or more minutes of a song that should not have been more than one verse and one chorus, let alone 35. My ears perceive too the strains of some bottleneck guitar behind Dio's Purplish-Heepish vocals (Creedencish).

I don't like to criticise Ritchie Blackmore - this album has been highly rated and he really is a very good guitarist - but I certainly can't say this is his best performance. I found it extremely difficult to hear out whole



RITCHIE BLACKMORE

by Ant Barby

songs - the first minute or so of each pleasant enough but none seem to have any definite direction, starting and ending nowhere.

Catch the Rainbow is however a very good song with some beautiful laid-back *When a blind man cries* lead from Ritchie's stratocaster. Mickey Lee Soule fills the gap with his string-sounding mellotron. Unfortunately this song is six minutes long - I'd lost interest after three minutes, finding myself thinking about the Angolan situation and how I'd have to put petrol in my car before Saturday midday.

None of the other songs have much to offer apart from some striking lead solos in the middle of each, and though none are offensive, they are easily forgettable.

Snake Charmer sounds like Great Funk could have done it five years ago, and I shudder to what induced Ritchie to print the words of *Sixteenth Century Greensleeves* on the back sleeve:

"Flames are getting higher
Make it leap unto the spire
Draw bridge down
Cut it to the ground
We shall dance around the fire."

What a brilliant rhyme-scheme and all that, and of course don't forget the hidden meaning. Read between the lines and it says that Ronnie James Dio is not a particularly talented lyricist.

Take Blackmore's guitar out and replace him with an average guitarist and the whole album would fall flat on its nether regions.

When he was with Deep Purple co-writing (with Gillan, Glover, Lord and Pace) songs like *Child in Time*, *Speed King* then we saw the Blackmore who was a legendary guitarist.

Come on Ritchie, get yourself into gear and so something positive again before your reputation fades. It's all very well sounding like Uriah Heep but then Uriah Heep sound more like themselves.

The Outlaws (Arista ALA 4042)

The Outlaws sport three electric guitars and the sleeve-notes boast "a rivetting guitar sound". I didn't think it was rivetting at all, nor as tight as double leads need to be to succeed. Individually the leads are very good, though the tone is far too harsh and biting.

On some songs, the Outlaws sound like 4th-rate Eagles, on others an imitation of CSN & Y. If these boys could sing, their harmonies could sound very good. They obviously derive their inspiration from rock'n'roll - a lot of these songs are based on the traditional 3-chord Berry-style 50's rock.

I find their overall sound irritating. There is a sad lack of bass, and far too much rasping guitar work which left an unnatural ringing in my ears. But then this is also partly due to their voices.

John David Souther, from the Souther Hillman Furay Band, contributes backing vocals on the really good *It follows from your heart*. This song is particularly good when the Outlaws' voices fall silent, though I must admit their lead vocals are fairly respectable. If only they'd tone down those guitars a bit and bring out more bass.

Most of the remaining songs are easily dismissable, but I think that the Outlaws, when they find the sound that is eluding them, will be big one day. Instrumentally they have great talent.

Maybe your ears are tuned differently to mine, and the Outlaws' sound will be more agreeable to you. Try them out.

THEATRE

Schreiner's Story of an African Farm

The work of the 19th century South African novelist and liberationist, Olive Schreiner, has, in the past few years, undergone a remarkable revival. Since its first appearance in 1883, *The Story of an African Farm*, her most famous novel, has seen in the region of 20 re-issues, and in 1975 her book on *Women and Labour* was republished to celebrate the Year of the Woman. Also in 1975, the Afrikaans playwright and novelist Andre P. Brink adapted *The Story of an African Farm* for theatre, and it was produced by PACT on Johannesburg and Pretoria stages.

The revival continues. At the end of this month the local Omni Theatre Players will stage their production of the adapted novel.

The Story of an African Farm is an introspective, autobiographical novel set in the Karoo in the late 19th century. Drawing on the influence of the vast, dreary African scene, the people who inhabit it, and on her own inner life, Olive Schreiner wrote this simple, quiet story in which she challenges the values of her time and situation, and asserts her moral and religious independence.

The difficulty in dramatizing a novel of this nature is that some complexities and subtleties in the prose version are inevitably lost in production. Dr. Brink's adaptation dips into the original text, and presents an unchronological series of recollections by the authoress, whom he has included as the central character in the play. Thus the setting is the fluid landscape of her memory.

Dr. Brink says of the adaptation: "To remain loyal to the novel, I had to include two distinct strands that exist in the story. To avoid consequent disunity or disintegration I have included Olive herself as a binding character, thus bringing the act of creation onto the stage. I have also dove-tailed the two strands by moving backwards and forwards in time and interweaving episodes from the two halves of the story.

"The quiet, unassertive spirit of the novel, and its intimation of the futility of man's yearning can be dramatised in production by sharp contrast with moments of conflict."

The difficulties facing a producer of this play include conveying the fluidity of Olive's thoughts, and capturing the pervading desolation of the African farm setting.

Director Beth Dickerson feels that the "Box", itself a black and barren space designed especially for experimental theatre, is ideal for this type of production. She hopes to solve the difficulties by the use of a multiple set with sky-cloth backing, that will double for every area. This arrangement will facilitate the many changes that are required by the frequent switches in Olive's thoughts. "Full set changes would appear too busy and fussy," said Miss Dickerson. "We will be using hand props, and semi-realistic costume. I want to concentrate on the characters and what is happening to them, not on the scene.

"What is important in the novel is the sense of barrenness and frustration of the farm, in tension with the yearning of the spirit to escape to something bigger than itself, as epitomized in Waldo and Lyndall. The story is basically serious, in spite of the comic relief provided by characters such as Blenkins and Tant San."

Beth Dickerson is a lecturer in Speech and Drama at Rhodes University, and a member of the Omni Theatre Group. Dr. Brink is Associate Professor of Afrikaans/Nederlands, and the Omni Players last year presented a play-reading of his *Hamer van die Hekse*, adapted from C. Louis Leipoldt's *Die Heks*.

The Story of an African Farm is due for production in the Box, Rhodes University Theatre, from March 31 - April 3. Bookings may be made at Grocotts.

- Lynette Liebenberg.

A BLAST FROM THE PAST

Milner is a mens' residence, there are 15 cars on campus, "Stage Coach" with John Wayne is showing at the Grand Theatre, and pure silk hosiery is in!

It is August 9, 1938 and the first edition of RHODEO goes on sale at one penny each. The editorial stated its purpose: "All social activity whether intellectual or animal shall be reported for public contemplation."

The first social activity reported was whether every alternate dance should be made into a 'Leap year' dance (this was to avoid the unchivalrous state of affairs with women sitting back at res without being invited).

But this is what a Ms Peggy Sutherns had to say about the entire affair: "As a firm believer of womens' privileges, I dare suggest, we should not encroach upon the traditional preserves that men have always enjoyed, their prerogative of asking certain favours of women..... Are men not shelving their responsibilities by denying their own privileges, sacrificing their own opportunities and encouraging women to climb yet one step higher on the ladder of pseudo-equality? Indeed we are running the risk of letting loose on a world of men and women, a gender of social hermaphrodites?"

In 1938 the Rhodes University College Rag was a big occasion and they raised a record amount of £181-8-4d. This was doubled as the government gave a pound for a pound. It was donated to Settlers Hospital.



In 1939 the College was rocked by another storm, - a letter to the editor brought it to RHODEO's attention. "There is a campus stir about 'pushing'. I should like to invite..... to dancing classes, but I don't want to 'push' her; if I take her she will expect me to take her to scope and Kaif too." However the writer 'Mere Male' had the solution to the problem, "Every woman at every dance should have a programme on which she books her dances. Her partner has to book dances he wants with her, for the rest he is free to book with anyone else, or sit out. It must be clearly understood that there is no pre-booking and the man may not book up their partner's programme for them."

The following edition of RHODEO had an editorial on the issue. "Once I say that we get out of this silly, romantic, trashy outlook and are prepared to look at each other as male and female then and only then will the ideal state of affairs assert itself at Kaif and Dancing class. But as things are today, where everybody suspects somebody else of being romantic because they would rather like to be romantic themselves, and as a result get complexes and talk, talk, talk - why there is a chance of a healthy combination of social affairs as there is of stamping out the institution of pushing altogether."

However, methinks there was a bit of sex at the Rhodes University College in 1938. Under the smalls column, this appeared: "Found: Between Great Hall and Bots, one pink shawl, parasol, and small lace gloves. We suspect owner to be a senior. Kindly claim at once. No stigma attached."

But in August 1939, a year after it was founded, RHODEO suddenly becomes serious. There was talk of war. "War seems inevitable" the editorial said, "we must fight, not in bitterness or hatred, but for something that will survive wars. The dilemma is intense, and it can only be solved by each individual himself. Whether we carry arms, or become stretcher bearers or conscientious objectors, we will all be fighting for something which we know to be of enduring value to Humanity."

NUSAS was also an issue that raised eyebrows in 1939. A certain B.B. Burnett had this to say in his report back from the NUSAS Convention held in July of that year.

"I reported as required by this house, that Rhodes was profoundly dissatisfied with NUSAS; that a new NUSAS committee had been constituted to rectify this deficiency, and that if after a years trial Rhodes was still dissatisfied with NUSAS, having done everything to make it a success, it would seriously consider its withdrawal from the organisation." - Indeed?

Rag in 1939 took place on Founders Day. Entertainment for the day was a donkey-polo match, a 'scope night, a beer-race, a scavenger-hunt and various forms of mixed sport. "It has also been suggested that two local orchestras be engaged for the Ball to supply practically continuous music as is done at many dances in Durban and Johannesburg.

College rules were just as ridiculous in 1939 as they are now. Women in residence were not allowed to go to dances outside Grahamstown, nor were they allowed to attend dances held on licensed premises unless they were under the chaperonage of their parents. "Inks" were barred from entering hotels. Owning a car required Senate permission.

There were 15 cars on campus, (College house had three of these cars, Milner four, Phelps three, Struben had four, Jameson and Oriel had one.) In 1940 the wearing of academic dress to lectures was abolished. Sunday sport was banned for a year but this rule was deleted in 1940.

In a letter to the editor, 'Annoyed' asked, quite rightly, "Who are rules made for? How can we poor people keep rules when the House Committee break them? To give an example - the other day I went down town at about 3 o'clock, hat and all. I was about halfway down High St. when I happened to gaze across the street. Imagine my horror when I saw none other than, well er - a House Committee member and a super senior and neither was wearing a hat!"

By 1940 the world was at war - but Rhodes University College did not seem to notice, except that the price of RHODEO had increased by sixpence a year. An editorial in June said: "In every barber shop, at every cafe, at every street corner, in fact wherever Grahamstownians foregather, the same inevitable topic of conversation is the apathy, nay the irresponsibility of Rhodes regarding the Allied war effort."

But in September of that year RHODEO published two poems to show that they did care about the war.

Little Herr Goering
sat on his mooring
fondling his medals so bright.
Down came a fighter,
machine-gunned the blighter,
and the squadron fled home at the sight.

Adolf, Adolf, have you any spies?
Yes sir, yes sir, all that money buys.
One for Herr Hertzog
One for the Greeks,
And one for the BBC to stop them telling lies.



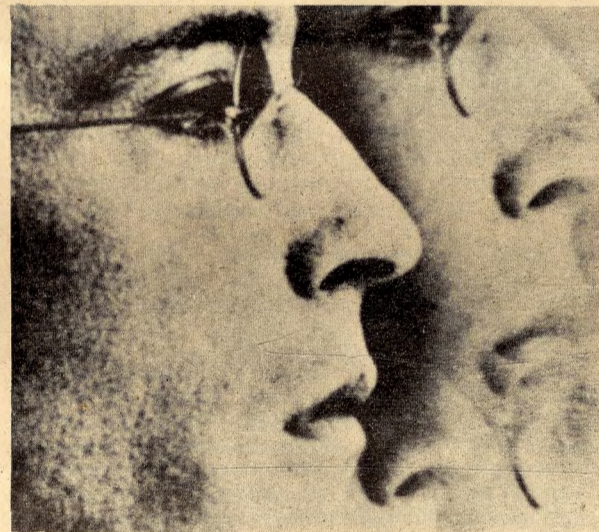
CINEMA

Thurs 25 Mar	LIGHTS OF VARIETY (Fellini)
Sun 28 Mar	THE GO-BETWEEN (Losey)
Thurs 1 Apr	THIS HAPPY BREED (Lean)
Sun 4 Apr	MAHLER (Russell)

Joseph Losey made *The Go-Between* in 1971. Losey was a victim of McCarthy's House Un-American Activities Committee of the early fifties. He left the United States at the age of 43 to settle in England in 1952. Since then he has become possibly more English than the English directors, making such classics as *The Servant*, *King and Country*, and his most recent film, *The Romantic Englishwoman*. *The Go-Between* is based on the book by L.P. Hartley, and tells the story of a tragic love affair at the turn of the century between an upper middle-class girl and the local tenant farmer.

This Happy Breed was made in 1944 by David Lean. It was his first film as director, from where he went on to epics such as *Lawrence of Arabia* and *Dr Zhivago*. *This Happy Breed* is based on a Noel Coward play, and was intended as something of a morale-booster for the English people at the end of World War 2.

Ken Russell made *Mahler*, his eighth feature, in 1974. It is Russell's unique interpretation of the forces working on the composer Gustav Mahler (see feature).

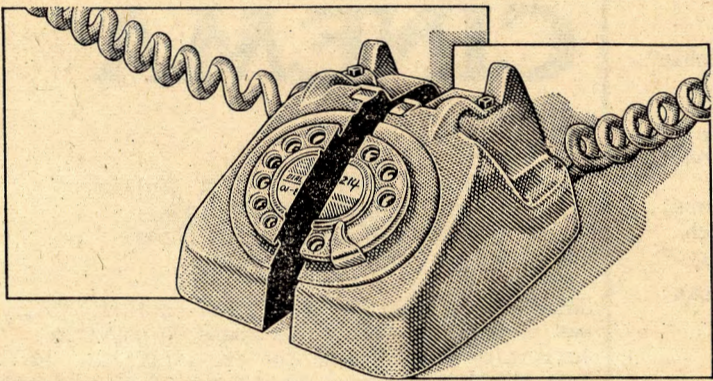


Filmsoc's experiment of having two Sunday shows was unsuccessful. The takings for the first show of *Little Big Man* did not indicate that students wanted two Sunday shows. So Filmsoc now goes back to one Sunday show at 7.30. We will be warning you in each issue of RHODEO which films are likely to be popular. We expect *The Go-Between* to be in moderate demand, but *Mahler* will probably be busy. The GLT takes at most only 300 people now. If you want to see the film in comfort we advise you to get there early.

Filmsoc would also like to make it clear that Thursday films are not normally intended for mass consumption. Thursday films are usually minority demand films, ordered specifically for those students interested in cinema as cinema. To avoid students wasting their own time and annoying those who wish to watch these films by walking out during the film, Filmsoc advises that unless you see Thursday films for cinema appreciation, you should think twice before going.

This is the first of a regular feature in which RHODEO will take a look at the past highlights of this university as reported in past issues of RHODEO. The photographs show scenes from Rag in the 1940's (methinks there was a bit of drinking in those days, too!) The photographs were taken by B.B.K. Mullin.

-B.H.



— closing the communication gap

◦ NUSAS REFERENDUM : PART 2 ◦

Following on from our last issue, we print here the second and final series of reports concerning the coming Nusas referendum. We have made every effort to present all sides of the story. Unfortunately, several people who were offered space in this section were unable to take up the offer. It has not been our intention to give preferential treatment to either side.

Albert Heydenrych on Nusas constitution

When one looks at the history of Nusas one can see that the union has always been true to the beliefs and ideals embodied in the preamble to its constitution, and in the Declaration of Human rights as accepted by the United Nations. That declaration was signed by all U.N. members except the then Union of South Africa and the Soviet Union.

Nusas believes in the equality of all people and the obligation of all to the society of which they form a part. The Nationalist government, despite its claims cannot boast a similar belief. In its structure, Nusas has always provided scope for free and equal debate, discussion and participation for all groups. It has always worked towards a free and equal society. As a consequence it has become the victim of a Nationalist government bent on entrenching its own ethnic will on the majority of South Africans. Nusas has been turned into a scapegoat to be smeared, slandered and abused.

One never reads in the national press about Nusas projects undertaken for the benefit of its members and their society. One never hears about the community projects, literacy campaigns or environmental projects undertaken by the union. However, let it take a stand on certain issues, with a political flavour and the news is spread across the front pages of the newspapers. The confederation has been termed a political pressure group by those parties and groups which wish to further their own political ideologies, based on oppression, suppression and the destruction of the culture, religion and rights of the vast majority of people in this country. But Nusas is not a political pressure group. It is a body concerned with providing scope for the expression of views and aspirations under the conditions laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Nusas has been accused of not communicating with the students of affiliated campuses. I will agree that this applies to Rhodes in the absence of an S.R.C. But at Rhodes a group of involved students isolated themselves from the majority on campus and maintained the Nusas presence, working largely in a void. They paid the price for doing so. However, where were those who now cry out for disaffiliation, and what were they doing?

At the 53rd Congress of Nusas, held in Cape Town during February, a new constitution was accepted by an overwhelming majority of the delegates present. Nusas has always been a democratic body. This new constitution further entrenches the principles of democracy, and the powers of the S.R.C.s that constitute the confederation. The new leaders of Nusas are not the Executive, but the affiliated S.R.C.'s.

In this new system, the S.R.C.'s ensure that the majority opinion is reflected. The S.R.C. is elected by the students and therefore is representative of the students.

Should an SRC oppose a policy or resolution taken at Congress, it has the right to disassociate itself from that policy or resolution. Thus again the majority opinion of the student body is respected. Should it decide to do so, the SRC will deny itself a platform in the wider student community - the same platform that serves to disseminate the views of the student body.

Accusations have been made in the past that the Executive misleads members of the union. The new constitution effectively eliminates this. The SRCs now form the leadership. The Executive cannot take any decisions without the approval of the SRCs.

In the election of office-bearers on the Executive, the SRC has the majority say. At least half of a congress delegation must now consist of SRC members, or else half the SRC must comprise the delegation, whichever is the greater. In other words, where Rhodes has nine votes at Congress, eight of those voters must be SRC members. Furthermore, when it comes to the election of the office-bearers, each SRC member has a double vote as against the single vote of a non-SRC member.

In this new system, the SRC has a duty to perform to the National Union. It has a duty to direct the activities of the union, and participate in them. The SRC is responsible for the implementation of Nusas projects, and the implementation of Nusas policy. This policy is decided upon by the SRC, and, as it is representative of the students, it reflects the majority opinion.

A further measure catering for full student participation in the affairs of the National Union is the introduction of the Deferred Resolution. Should a stand be taken at Congress which is regarded as controversial, the matter, through the Deferred Resolution, is taken back to the campuses. There it is put to the student body, discussed and debated, and only if accepted by the students does it become the policy of the National Union.

It is quite clear that the power to make decisions rests with the SRCs and the students they represent.

At campus level, the will of the students and the power of the SRC is firmly established. The constitution says that the chairman of the local committee must be a member of the SRC. Therefore the SRC shall appoint as chairman/woman whoever it deems fit to fill this portfolio. Even members of the local committee must be appointed by the SRC.

The SRC is now also responsible for the content of projects and actions undertaken by the Nusas local committee - all these projects must be ratified by the SRC before they can be implemented.

The most recent attacks on Nusas come at a time when the credibility of South Africa and its people is at its lowest ebb for some time. These attacks, usually based on inaccurate information or wilful distortions, are aimed at destroying a body that is vital to students in South Africa.

It is easy to destroy, but to rebuild what has been destroyed is another matter. To disaffiliate is easy - you merely put a cross on a piece of paper. But what will replace Nusas if we disaffiliate?

Nusas presents the English-speaking student community with a vehicle for involvement in their society. Its projects are there for the education of all, no matter what race, creed, or religion.

But Nusas shall not accept those laws and institutions aimed at stunting the free will and actions of the people of South Africa. We are the students of this country, and we should stand together and work towards peace for every single member of the community.

We must take a stand now - tomorrow will be too late. The new Nusas wants peace. It wants peaceful change and peaceful co-existence in this country. Our times are troubled and the outlook for the future looks bleak. Unless we can keep an open mind to the problems of our society and acknowledge those who are willing to work towards a solution, we can only sink further into the darkness we are at present so rapidly approaching.

Monica Pike - SRC Nusas councillor

If the coming Nusas referendum is to be effective at all, it should be seen as a challenge, not only for Nusas but for every student on this campus. Rhodes is under a moral obligation to avail itself of the information put out by Nusas, USFEW, and the Iconoclast Society.

Nusas must be seen as a dynamic body, constantly changing and being changed as students see fit. In fact the changes in the constitution were brought about by the demands from interested students that all students could become more fully involved, and, through greater SRC control, could act as a watchdog over our rights and interests.

The constitution should not be rejected before it has stood the test of time. It should be borne in mind that we cannot build upon that which we have destroyed. An organisation such as SAFESS has grown out of resentment towards Nusas, and at the outset is prejudiced towards students who support Nusas. Is it a viable alternative to support a body which has little more to offer its members than the self-righteous hysteria of its leaders?

Can one support an organisation whose mouthpiece, *Campus Independent*, (10 March issue) states that SAFESS is a "spontaneous movement" and that "the organization is founded on solid planning"? Here Mr Paul Sarbutt seems to make a glaring contradiction - this exposes an attempt to mislead students.

Nusas has been criticised many times in the past for its "involvement in politics". I support this involvement - there is no plausible reason why students should not become, or remain, critical of the society in which they live. One need only inspect the results of a questionnaire put to first year B.Journ students by Graham Watts to appreciate the importance of active student participation in the seminars and symposiums arranged by Nusas.

Finally, Nusas should not be supported blindly for its long and remarkable history. Nor should it be rejected through ignorance. Nusas has now reached the stage where students can use it to contribute meaningfully towards their own well-being and that of the community.

Izak Smuts – USFEW Chairman

Izak Smuts, USFEW Chairman, examines the pros and cons of affiliation.

What does affiliation mean to Rhodes?

■ Close on R3000 of our SRC budget will be allocated to expenses incurred by affiliation. Rhodes has an SRC grant of R6 per student, in comparison with (for example) R10 per student at Maritzburg. We therefore spend a far greater proportion of our grant on Nusas affiliation expenses, and the return is minimal – a poor investment.

■ The unjust system of centre affiliation will continue to be imposed on students on this campus. It is a basic human right, recorded in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, that no-one may be compelled to belong to an organisation. The Universal Declaration makes no exception of Nusas, yet Nusas denies students at affiliated campuses this right. Affiliation in this manner will continue to appall those of us who believe in democracy and freedom of association.

■ Affiliation will mean the continuation of the present Nusas grip on the SRC. At a recent SRC meeting, most of the time available was taken up discussing Nusas motions that had been proposed at other centres or deferred from the Nusas congress. These included the ridiculous motion proposed by Nusas President Mike Stent calling upon the Minister of Defence to resign. Thus while our campus cries out for student government in the many spheres that suffered in the absence of an SRC, affiliation will mean that our SRC will be occupied with irrelevant and time-consuming capers which hamper the council's work on this campus.

■ It appears that affiliation will continue to mean that discussions involving SRC office-bearers will be conducted in an atmosphere of veiled secrecy, bearing out the argument that the head of Nusas has drifted away from the body, with no real intention of returning. The weekend before last, Rhodes SRC President Andre Lamprecht was summoned to a meeting of the Nusas hierarchy in Johannesburg. Items on the agenda included the anti-affiliation moves. Andre did not inform the SRC, or even the Executive of the SRC, that he was leaving to attend the meeting in his capacity of SRC President.

■ Affiliation will mean that we will continue to struggle in our attempts to establish meaningful contact with Afrikaans and black universities. Nusas has succeeded in estranging these campuses, and they will continue to be hesitant in their relations with our campuses as long as the dark cloud of Nusas hangs above us. The fact that Pretoria University could organise a successful benefits congress with delegates from a number of campuses (see news story), the kind of congress that could and should be organised by a national student organisation, shows that inter-university contact is by no means impossible. Within Nusas, however it is extremely difficult.

■ Affiliation will mean that Rhodes will be part of a wider student structure, albeit an extremely small one, which is riveted to the undemocratic Nusas structure. By making it extremely difficult to change the Nusas constitution, delegates at the 53rd Nusas congress practically entrenched this constitution. This constitution contains incredible provisions such as those giving students at one centre effectively ten times more representation than students at another centre. It is within this structure that Rhodes will have to function.

■ Affiliation will mean that Rhodes will be tied to an organisation of which the financial affairs are downright depressing, to say the least. We will be inheriting a financial liability, and it is through our money that the organisation will be kept alive (admittedly artificially).

■ Affiliation will mean that Rhodes will be entitled to the few meagre benefits which accrue to students, limited on this campus to overseas travel (for the privileged minority who can afford such travel). Should Rhodes vote against affiliation, these benefits would still be available to those who joined Nusas voluntarily.

What then if we vote against affiliation?

■ Financially, this campus would be far better off as the vast sum of money which leaves the campus as a result of affiliation would remain with us, and this could be ploughed back into local student affairs.

■ A vote against affiliation will mean a vote in favour of democracy. If Rhodes is not affiliated to Nusas, we will not automatically become a part of that organisation. This does not mean that we will be unable to join Nusas at all or that Nusas will not be able to function on this campus. At Durban, a disaffiliated campus, the local branch claimed at the beginning of this year to have 208 signed-up members.

■ An unaffiliated SRC would be able to devote all its time and energy to Rhodes itself, instead of being subjected to a barrage of external duties and interference. Rhodes needs an SRC working on campus, not one dabbling in national politics. Non-affiliation should mean that the student body is more aware of the decisions taken about its welfare, as these will be taken on campus and not in some far-off and unannounced gathering of the Nusas hierarchy. We should be allowed to know what our leaders are doing.

■ A vote against affiliation will remove the final stumbling block in inter-university contact and clear the way for meaningful contact between English, Afrikaans and black campuses. Such contact is essential, and any obstacle which prevents it must be removed immediately.

■ An unaffiliated Rhodes campus will not be part of an undemocratic, unrepresentative and inflexible national union. As far as possible, we must all have an equal say in our student government – in Nusas, those who are not on the SRC or Nusas local committees may be effectively excluded from having a say at all. If Nusas is truly a student organisation, all students should have an equal say in the organisation. What makes an SRC member more of a student than a non-member of the SRC.

■ An unaffiliated Rhodes campus will not be used as a crutch by a financially crippled Nusas. It may be said that we should help Nusas in its hour of need, but by paying in R3000 we may well be crippling ourselves in an effort to sustain an organisation which makes little or no valid contribution in return.

■ An unaffiliated Rhodes campus will still have room for a local Nusas committee, which will be able to function freely and will be entitled to a financial grant from the SRC. All who are eager and willing to join the organisation will be able to do so, while those who are involuntarily dragged into the organisation will be freed from a yoke which should not be imposed on anyone.

■ Much has been said about the principle of centre affiliation, and in conclusion I would like to pose the question: Can Nusas survive without centre affiliation? If it can, Rhodes should vote against affiliation. If it cannot, it has no right to continued existence.

Referendum day voting information

As a service to the Oppidan House Committee, we are publishing the following details regarding the forthcoming Nusas referendum.

The matter of the forthcoming referendum is one that none of us as Rhodes students can neglect. We all have our opinions on this matter, one way or the other. If you neglect to cast your vote, the referendum could go against the way you wish.

The referendum will be held on 1 April.

Oppidan polling stations will be at:

- 1) The library (9am till 5pm)
- 2) Kaif foyer (9am till 8.30pm)
- 3) Pharmacy dept (9am till 4pm)
- 4) Old Training College (9am till 4pm)

As a service to the residences, we are publishing the following details regarding arrangements for voting in the halls.

The Hall Senior Student is the chief scrutineer, responsible for the voting in his/her hall.

Independent invigilators will be appointed to each polling station to ensure fairness.

The Senior Student must appoint scrutineers in each hall.

There will be a meeting for all scrutineers on Thursday 25 at 7.30pm in the Rob Antonissen room.

On completion of voting, the Hall Senior Student must take the student lists, ballot boxes, and voting books to the SRC offices, or else delegate this function to one of the scrutineers. This person will remain in the SRC offices to help with the counting of votes.

Two separate tables must be provided at each polling station to ensure absolute secrecy.

House Senior Students must make it clear to the house at what times the polling booths will be open.

Scrutineers should collect student lists, voting books and ballot boxes from the SRC offices on 31 March.

Spoilt papers: illegible signatures, blank papers, voting by proxy, and any papers deemed by the scrutineers to be spoilt.

I ask you to give us your sincere and full co-operation so that this referendum may run smoothly and efficiently.

John Rainier
CHAIRMAN – REFERENDUM COMMITTEE.



If you want to subscribe to RHODEO 1976, fill in the form below and give R1 to your RHODEO house representative – the full list is on page 6. If you are an oppidan and wish to subscribe fill in the form and post it and R1,20 (it includes postage) into the RHODEO post box at the end of the passage on the first floor of the Students Union.

NAME
(block letters please)

ADDRESS
(residence eg. Jan Smuts, or oppidan address)

SIGNED

Malcolm Davidson – Iconoclast Society

Malcolm Davidson is a member of the Iconoclast Society, which opposes continued affiliation with Nusas. In his argument here, he replies to comments made by Ashley la Grange in the last issue of RHODEO.

■ On Societies Evening, 134 members of this university indicated their willingness to support and become involved in the Iconoclast Society - 19% of these students were first-years, 31% were second-years, 31% were third-years and 19% were in their fourth year. 81%, therefore, are senior students. If Nusas claims these people are uninformed or misinformed, then they have onle themselves to blame.

■ According to Monica Pike, Nusas councillor, some 70 students put their names down on the Nusas mailing list during the course of the same evening. Add to this 140 persons already involved in Nusas.

■ Ashley attacked the Iconoclast Society for advertising our "names and assorted qualifications", claiming that he did "not see why it was necessary to print the list at all" along with the society's constitution. I think he will agree with me when I say that a majority of Rhodes students are conservative, and thus sensitive to joining something they know little about. We are a new society this year. We felt it important to inform students of the make up of the Iconoclast Society, and what we had achieved personally, so enabling them to decide whether or not we were serious in our stand, and therefore worthy of their support.

■ Ashley labelled us a right-wing group. He did this without having approached any of us, and without having made any attempt to engage us in a discussion of our personal beliefs. He pointed out that 3 of the 5 members are "enthusiastic Christians". Surely, in the light of this, he cannot honestly believe we are right-wingers. If he was not being derogatory in calling us "enthusiastic Christians", he must appreciate just how fully we support the Declaration of Human Rights, and perhaps in the light of Christian principles he can understand why we uphold the dignity and equality of all men.

■ I agreed with Ashley when he attacked us for using the word "chaotic" to describe the state of student politics. It would have been more appropriate for us to have used the word "unsettled". The launching of SAFESS, the formation of opposition groups to Nusas, the recent changes in the Nusas constitution, the proposed referendums to be held on various campuses - all these indicate the state of flux and uncertainty in student politics.

■ I believe the last two years have seen a breakdown in communication between Nusas and the students (who were referred to as "the herd" eleven times at last year's Local Comm elections). Last year I urged Mike Stent to prompt the Rhodes Local Comm into improving the quality of these communications.

On 14 Novemeber last year, after most students had left for the vacation, Nusas organised a seminar on the "Rhodes student controversy". What did we learn? Graham Watts said "Let's face facts - most of the Nusas leadership is socialist". Do you think this is what the majority of students want?

Also last year, a number of Nusas members were asked why Nusas did not start community development projects in the location, on the grounds that this would create something positive to enable students to experience for themselves the harsh realities of the terrible scar on the other side of the valley. The reply was that such an approach would be equivalent to that of an "English liberal".

■ The aim of Nusas is to educate the people. What is the purpose of telling an African his rights when the system does not permit him to exercise them? Does this not only serve to increase his bitterness? Surely it is better to alter the views of those who are in a position to change the system?

■ I hope our opposition to Nusas is reasonable. It is certainly not based on ignorance. We have studied the new constitution, read congress reports and related newspaper coverage, we have studied the history of Nusas, and we have experienced it personally for a number of years.

■ I believe disaffiliation will once and for all force Nusas to prove its worth, to prove it is more than a political pressure group, and force it to come back to the students it ignored on the way up and is now meeting on the way down.

■ We support individual student affiliation.

To quote from Paul Sarbutt's address on 2 March, "If Nusas is not prepared to settle for existence under a system of individual membership, then it has no right to exist any longer".

In ending, I can only endorse what the Nusas Local Comm chairwoman at Wits, Erica Emdon, said in her address to first-year students: "We should be free as students to decide where our allegiances lie."

I challenge Nusas to practise what it preaches as a cure to the habit of promising mountains and failing to produce even molehills.

A short history of Nusas

Leo Marquard founded Nusas in 1924. He wanted South African students to become aware of their social environment. The initial members were the four English-speaking universities and the four Afrikaans-speaking universities.

Nusas had much in common with the worldwide concept of the role that a students' union should play. Basically, it was felt that students from a common society should share their common interests, irrespective of religions or cultural affiliations. In the same way as the SCA brought together Christians, and the SJA brought together Jews, so Nusas was to bring together students.

But we do not live in a common society. Hardly six years had passed before the Afrikaans centres accused Nusas of being too English, too imperialistic, and too negrophilistic. In 1933, Grey University College (now UOFS), Potchefstroom University College, and Pretoria University all left Nusas. Stellenbosch remained, conceding that a national union was necessary. But by 1936, even Stellenbosch could no longer find a use for Nusas, and it disaffiliated.

As early as 1933, suggestions had been put to the organisation that black universities be admitted. It was not until 1945 that Fort Hare was finally admitted.

Meanwhile the disaffiliated Afrikaans centres founded the Afrikaanse Nasionale Studentebond (ANSB). The first congress was held in 1934 under the chairmanship of Nico Diedrichs (now State President).

The Second World War accentuated the differences between Nusas and the ANSB. The ANSB became openly Nazi, involving itself closely with the Ossewa Brandwag. Nusas vehemently opposed this stand, writing into its constitution clauses which included the defence of democracy, the right to freedom of expression, and the encouragement of educational and economic opportunity.

In 1948 Dr D.F. Malan's Nationalist party took over the government of the country. In the same year, the Afrikaanse Studentebond (ASB) was formed to replace the ANSB, which had gone into decline following the defeat of Nazism.

Immediately the government made threats to segregate Nusas. Wits and UCT had been, in theory, open universities ie. open to black and white students. The 1950's saw repeated attempts by Nusas to re-open contacts with Afrikaans universities, while at the same time vociferously expressing opposition to the impending segregation of the universities.

The ASB refused to co-operate with Nusas as long as Nusas was open to black students. ASB President Jan Loubser wrote in 1955 "We are not for any co-operation at all with an organisation which lays the basic truths of living together on the altar before the idol of universality. We are not prepared to sacrifice our national ideals, the straight lines for healthy and peaceful development of all culture groups in our fatherland, for

the dubious, pompous ideals of 'tolerance, goodwill, and genuine co-operation'".

As the radicalism of Nusas increased in the early sixties, so did the Government's attacks. By 1963, Nusas had realised that there was no chance of interesting the ASB in co-operation. The ASB does not see itself as a national student union.

In 1969, the black universities formed SASO, and left Nusas *en bloc*. Since then it made it clear that it will have no contact with white univers - ities as long as Nusas is involved. Neither Nusas the ASB, nor SASO can now claim to be student unions - Each identifies with a seperate cultural and racial group.

- John McCormick

Durban SRC falls

On 11 March, 800 students, headed by SAFESS vice-president Kevin Malone, passed a vote of no confidence in the Durban SRC.

The motion read: "That this student body, noting the present deficiencies in the SRC structure, and noting our dissatisfaction with the present SRC, calls on the SRC to hold another SRC election, provided that at all elections there is a minimum percentage poll of 50%, and that the new SRC immediately begins restructuring the SRC."

Vice-president Keith Mathee said that past SRC's had been characterised by a dichotomy between "Nusas heavies" and "right-wing fascists." The only difference from the past was that the defeated SRC had for the last year been controlled by the latter.

Mathee warned that the motion was a last ditch stand "...if it fails through lack of support we are not prepared to have another go."

Price survey

As promised in the first issue, RHODEO has been taking a look at the prices in the principal Grahamstown stationers and bookshops. Bob Heaton made up a comparative list of some of the more common student requirements. UPB and Modern Stationers are the two main suppliers of stationery in town, but he also looked at OK Bazaars, CNA, and Grocotts.

As we expected, UPB comes out as the most expensive. It is also the busiest as far as students are concerned. Modern Stationers stocks most student requirements, and comes out much cheaper in the long run.

	UPB	MS	OK	CNA	Gr
A4 typewriting pad	43c	43c	34c	-	48c
A4 scribbling book	16c	16c	12c	20c	-
72-page scrap book	1.15	75c	-	-	-
Lever-arch file	1.55	1.50	1.60	-	1.50
Quinck (super)	40c	30c	-	30c	40c
Staedtler crayons:					
small	43c	40c	55c	60c	55c
large	94c	55c	85c	1.00	90c
100 reinforcements	22c	19c	-	-	18c
Prit glue	46c	42c	41c	39c	40c
Large sellotape	50c	50c	35c	-	50c
Ring file	75c	75c	79c	-	75c
40cm plastic ruler	46c	46c	-	39c	43c
Three Candlesticks					
letter pad- large	56c	50c	-	70c	50c
Paper clips	10c	10c	-	15c	18c
Clipboard	95c	90c	-	-	75c
A4 paper - 1/4 ream	3.60	1.00	-	-	95c

UPB is the acknowledged supplier of academic books for Rhodes, but we have heard of some students who order their books through some of the other publishers in town. We would however advise you to shop around for stationery this year - the cheaper stationers might be further from campus but in the long run you will save considerably.

This week, by a gentle process of elimination, the most outrageous column in RHODEO goes cultural. There are some top class films on this month, there are also some top class seven singles on the market but none of them feature life at a university - an integral part of the national community. And thus Stoopstalk presents a hopeful Campus Cultural preview.

BOOKS

First up a review of the NUSANS 1976 National Congress. "S.I.N.U.S." (Some Idiotic Nuts' Useless State-ments) available at R1 and, in another edition with textual notes by Randy Lampreach, 50c. Published by MAD magazine.

Also in the political vein, a book of outstanding humour. . . "WHERE I GET THE INSPIRATION FOR MY SPEECHES" by Andrew Limpretch. (Please note that this book is significantly sponsored by the sewerage board). Published by Beginners Books in English.

Two books of special campus interest are the following: "HOW TO FAIL SPECIAL ENGLISH WITHOUT REALLY TRYING" by Oz Nelson. This has the shortest introduction in literary history, just three words: "It were eazi."

"HOW TO BOOST YOUR EGO (WITH 93 OCTANE FUEL)," a book of essays by Guy Murray (foreword by Guy Murray, edited by Guy Murray, printed by Guy Murray, first copy reserved for Guy Murray).

The other book soon to be released reveals the practices of the shopkeepers in Grahamstown. "THE NOBLE ART OF GRAND LARCENY (OR HOW TO SQUEEZE 2,400 PEOPLE FOR R1 MILLION)" by the University Publishers and Booksellers.

FILMS

CONDUCTOR ONE IS COMING - starring Kevin "Spider" Brewis as the conductor. The film is a review of the SAR and H vac job situation in Natal.

BANTAM OF THE PARADISE - starring Denny Sterley as the poultry farmer in charge of a chicken outfit.

TRINITY IS STILL OUR GAME - based on the aforementioned book S.I.N.U.S. This movie features The Good, (NUSANS rightwingers), The Bad (The left wingers), and The Ugly (Centre group) in mortal combat.

TUMMY - a gastro-musical starring Alan "Bertie" Tarr. He's not deaf, he's not blind and we won't say anything about dumbness but he has an insatiable appetite. Heart-rending scenes include the porridge sequence in The Battle of Breakfastvlei and the very touching Last Supper.

Not to be missed is "GROWLERBALL" featuring the world's most vicious and dangerous sport - tiger tweeting. The star here is Neil "The Boep" Rex. How could three hundred students be so sick after a university dance? Was it food poisoning? Was it alcoholic poisoning? A film that will make your stomach turn.

SINGLES

I'M A TIGER (THEME FROM "GROWLERBALL") - The Barry Duncan Band.
JUBBIE'S FARM - Casey and the Moonshine Band.
BOTTLE OF WINE - BCR (Blots Concert Revellers).
TONY, REMEMBER ME - Stoopstalk Superfans.
I LOVE ONIONS (THEME FROM "TUMMY") - Rolling Gallstones.
SEASON OF THE WITCH - Lilies Club.
IF YOU DON'T KNOW ME BY NOW - Acrylic Ari and the Sweat Band.
SOMEDAY WE'LL BE TOGETHER (GUESS WHERE) - Breyten Breytenbach and Randy Limprecht.
THAT'S THE WAY, AH HAH, UM HUM, MMM, AAAH! - Karen Heftner and the P.A. system.
FLY-HIGH - The Midgets (featuring Horace White)
I'M A RELIEVER - P.Pot and the Urinals.
MONEY, HONEY - Chris Peel's Ragtime Band.
GOLDEN BEERS - Stube-ular Bellies.
SEE ME, FEEL ME - Pete Botha and the Boogaloots
ZING WENT THE STRINGS OF MY BRA - LB Lib Movement.



STOOPS TALK

Smuts/Founders cricket

In an interhall cricket match on 14 March Smuts convincingly trounced Founders by 116 runs.

Smuts batted first against a Founders side which had been hit by 2nd XI and 3rd XI call-up, and scored 174/3. Fischer hit 90 in short time and opener Leverton scored 57 not out.

Founders started slowly but progressed to 53/4 thanks to John Cowan (20) and Jeff Bunn (12). Spinner Collocot entered the fray at this stage. Thirteen balls later he had ended the innings with 5/2.

All matches were cancelled last Sunday due to waterlogged pitches.

Golf club news

Among the newcomers to Golf Club this year is Cliff Scholz from Rhodesia, who is at present playing to a four handicap.

The new committee is headed by Prof Rivett with K Vaughan (vice-president), Pat Hifmeyer (captain), Luke Baisley (vice-captain), Trevor Batchelor (secretary), Alan Thurley and Alex James.

In order to raise funds for the club, the committee have decided to screen films at the golf club twice a month. Glen and Gloria Emslie run the golf course and they have decided that there will be special green fees for students, for which are very grateful. In the same vein, I would like to ask all golfers not to buy second hand balls from the caddies as they can be obtained from the bar.

Every Saturday morning the club will be running a competition out at the club. Support so far has been good, and we urge all people, whether regular golfers or not to enter.

The Rhodes championships will be held during the second term this year as the course is going to be heavily worked during the third term. The date has been set for the 9 May. There will be three sections - A, B and C. The C section is entirely for beginners.

Two weeks ago five out of eight of the Grahams-town A team were from Rhodes and three out of six were in the B side. The A team members were Pat Hofmeyer, Trevor Batchelor, Cliff Scholz and Alex James. The B team members were Ian Massan, Guy Murray and Luke Baisley.

In conclusion I would like to wish all golfers everything of the best in the coming year and may all your putts drop.

- Luke Baisley

A message from Bruce Smith

All sports clubs at Rhodes are affiliated to the Sports Union, which has its office on the first floor of the Rhodes Union. The Sports Union Executive is elected by the affiliated Clubs on campus. The office bearers for 1976 are as follows:

Chairman	Mr D. Coghlan
Vice-Chairman	Prof. D. Woods
Treasurer	Dr I. Kanfer
Sports Officer	Mr B. Smith
Secretary	Miss P. Evans
Assistant Secretary	Mr D. Urwin
Halls Representative	Mr R. McLean

Staff members on the Executive Committee are elected for a period of two years, student members are elected annually.

The committee meets every two to three weeks during the academic session, while the body as a whole has a General Meeting once a term, with its Annual General Meeting taking place during the last term of the year. At these meetings, all affiliated clubs are entitled to be represented by three of their members, while each House on campus is entitled to have one member present.

The policy of the Sports Union is to cater for all its members, be they competitive sportsmen/women, or merely those who enjoy using the facilities for recreational purposes. We aim to encourage our clubs to enter league teams, but unfortunately, due to the geographical isolation of Rhodes, this is not always possible. For this reason, and because Rhodes is residential by nature, a large number of intra-mural competitions, played on a hall or house basis, have developed. These leagues are designed to cater for those students wishing to participate in competitive sport of a somewhat lower standard. However, it is not the intention that our university teams should be weakened because players only want to participate in the intra-mural programme. Please bear this in mind and make yourselves available to the clubs so that when a Rhodes team takes the field, they are in fact the best we have to offer.

May I take this opportunity of welcoming you to the sports clubs at Rhodes and at the same time appeal to you to support your club by making a positive contribution - they need you, as an active member in order to survive and flourish.

By now most of the new Rhodes students will have an opportunity to acquaint themselves with the sports clubs and facilities on campus. I am sure you will agree that although not extravagant, they are certainly top class. Few SA universities can boast of being able to cater for some thirty different activities. Being part of a small community has forced our authorities to provide these basic facilities, as we cannot rely on making use of Municipal fields or courts or swimming pools - they do not exist.

As part of the Freshers' Reception programme, a Societies' Evening was held. The aim of this was for you to attend and choose which societies or clubs you would like to join. No doubt, the vast majority of the student body have done this but I am sure that there are many who would still like to become affiliated to a club now that they have had the opportunity of talking to others and have seen what facilities exist.

Birch Cup clash

The two Grahamstown-based Border league sides have started their 1976 season already. On Rag Day, Albany lost to Uitenhage Swifts 7-23 and on Monday Rhodes played Adelaide under floodlights. This Saturday 27 March the two sides meet for the annual Birch Cup clash.

The Rhodes first XV looks extremely strong on paper with nine first XV regulars from 1975 and three from the second team.

At full back we have lion-hearted Rich Burmeister who gave a particularly fine display in the corresponding match last year. Although small, he never lacks the courage to go in for a tackle.

On the wings are Pete Wilson, a very fast sprinter and extremely powerful runner, and Dave Musto, who played EP hockey last year and restricted himself to sterling rugby displays for Cory-Mathews in the house league. At centre we have Les Green, last years Under 20 captain who had one Border senior outing on the wing vs Natal but had to withdraw due to injury. The other centre is Matt Guiney, a 1975 Collegian, a sound player on all phases.

Guy Murray will be pairing up with with Kenny Ball at half back. Both played first year although Guy Murray played at centre. It will be interesting to see how these two combine.

We have a very good front row with two very powerful props in Graeme Bell (1975 1st XV) and Kev Purcell (1975 2nd XV), with quick-striking Denny Sterley at hooker. Denny played for Oppidans, champion house side last year.

At lock there is Derek Barter, an outstanding player who captained Border through to Sport Pienaar Trophy victory. Derek was also amongst the leading try scorers in the 1st XV. The other lock is Joubert Rabie, who captained the Collegians at intervarsity last year. Another lock pushing for recognition is Laurence Beadon, who played several games for Border Under-20 last year.

Our loose trio remains two-thirds intact from 1975 with tigerish Ali Weakley (captain) and Mark Kleinenberg (a Border senior regular from 1975 and 1974 SA Schools player). New man is Trevor Jennings who represented EP some time back and has registered this year for a BA Phys. Ed.

The Albany side is also much the same as last year with 11 regulars in the first team.

Fullback is Neil Smuts, a fairly sound player with a particularly effective clearance kick. The wings are the same as last year too. They are Rod Allen, who scored Albany's only try last Saturday and missed two more and Leon Coetzee, a lightning-fast player with an elusive ability to change direction. The centres will be chosen from Charlie Challis, Howard Edge and Rob Edkins. Challis played for Rhodes in 1973 and 1974 and Edkins played for us in 1974 and 1975 including an outing for the Border side. Edkins has been suffering from acute tonsillitis just recently and may not be considered for the big match, in which case local boy Howard Edge, whose defence is a bit weak, will most likely retain his place from last week.

The halves are Keith Gradwell, who played for Victorians of Stellenbosch for several seasons, and Croc Coetzer, a young scrumhalf who showed great promise last year.

The front row will most likely be Ked Jones, a newcomer who hasn't played big rugby for 3 years star hooker Spencer Hill, and Philip Berriman, although Rob Moss should be in contention fairly shortly. The locks are Brian Carlson, the captain and an Albany veteran by now, and Gideon Botha. Another lock likely to make an impression this season is Piet van Vuuren, who has only been able to start training recently. Albany have a problem in that their tight forwards do not get adequate possession from lineouts and with flanker Brian Shone having moved away from the district, this could be their downfall.

The Albany loose trio should consist of flankers Charlie Pascoe, a 1st XV player for some years now, and Graham Samuels, with Rob Fincham, who captained Natal Under 20 a few years ago at No8. Louis van Vuuren, at present on holiday, will most certainly vie for a position at the side of the scrum.

We would like to wish both sides a good, clean game on Saturday and all the best for a successful season. Watch RHODEO for reports on both sides' progress.



A SCENE FROM LAST YEAR'S BIRCH CUP MATCH



Attempt at records

Within a fortnight the Athletics club will be holding a meeting with a difference. There will be only four events on the programme and in each event a top Rhodes athlete will attempt to break the Border record for that event.

The meeting will start with the 100m. Michael Agathaglou, Rhodes' new sprint star, will attempt to break Peter Lucas' record of 10,8 secs. Michael has a personal best of 10,4 secs for the event.

The next two events will be the 5 000m for men and the Under 19 hammer throw.

In the 5 000m Ashley la Grange, with a personal best of 14 mins 39 secs will try to break the Border record of 15 mins 5,8 secs.

Roger Swart will try to better his own as yet unratified Under 19 record in the hammer. He has been improving with every outing and he should be successful in his attempt.

The last event will be the 4x400m relay for men. The Rhodes team is Michael Agathaglou, Pete Wilson, Kevin Crawford, with the fourth member still to be selected. The present record stands at 3 mins 32 secs.

All four records should be broken and the meeting promises to be entertaining for the spectators and rewarding for the athletes.

Karate club

The Karate Club lives under a misconception. Members will not develop into strapping Amazons capable of breaking bricks and tiles with one blinding blow, they will learn the rudiments of self-defence.

Like most Rhodes clubs, the Karate club has had its ups and downs. A small hard-core band of dedicated members struggle to maintain the running of the club. Their efforts might be rewarded this year - a large number of keen Karateka have joined the club. Some are so keen that they turn out five times a week to train when all that is required is a twice weekly attendance.

We will participate in two main competitions this year - the annual intervarsity against UPE (we hope to surprise the Uppies this year with a much changed team), and the SA Universities meeting at UCT in July. There will also be the usual inter-club competitions. The Rhodes Karate club is affiliated to the Karate Centre in PE and receives instruction from Sensei Vernon Wille, Chairman of the EP Karate Association and a Second Dan.

In these competitions, each side has five members. Each member is required to do a kata. There are a number of katas of varying difficulty, the choice of which one to do being left to the individual. The kata is a stylized set form of movements interded for use in certain hypothetical combat situations. The Karateka is then judged on the form and presentation of movements.

The other section in the competition is Kumite. It is here that the basics are tested in a real fighting situation. Self-control is of course necessary.

We hope to grade at least once a term this year. Theoretically this means a beginner can have his green belt by the end of the year. The ranking of belts is as follows: white (beginner), yellow, orange, green, blue, purple, three brown, and black.

At present we are struggling with a lack of equipment and practice space, and a financial deficit.

The Karate club not only offers karate, it also offers training sessions in the fresh air, in which participants build up stamina and speed.

Underwater Club

The Underwater Club has been going for five years but only now is it beginning to pick up membership. Membership has doubled to 34. There is ample scope for the inexperienced who wishes to join one of the club's three sections - underwater hockey, scuba or spearfishing.

Anyone interested should contact Ron Cawood (Livingstone). A practical course on scuba-diving is held every Saturday morning, hopefully helping beginners to attain their 3rd Class Certificate. This certificate is essential if one wishes to dive alone. A series of lectures on scuba-diving is being organized for the near future.

Only one member of last year's spearfishing team is still at Rhodes. The club has a good record-out of the eight universities competing in the annual inter-varsity, Rhodes came second, being beaten only by UPE. Andy Marais, the captain of the spearfishing team, was chosen for the Protea team. He also represented Border with Rob Tarr and Rod Potgieter. The two main competitive events this year will be the December inter-varsity, and the meeting with UPE, which is being held at Rhodes this week.

Underwater hockey has evoked much interest this year and at the moment has some very talented players. The game is played by teams of six players who use underwater hockey sticks to push a puck along the bottom of the pool. The game is strenuous and is played for only 8-10 minutes each way. Open Underwater Hockey meeting takes place on 27 March - teams competing will be Wild Coast, Border and UPE.