INTERVARSITY MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR OF RHODES UNIVERSITY, DR D S HENDERSON

It is a sad reflection on our civilisation, which has attained such great heights in technological communication, that it has failed so dismally at the level of human communication. The Olympic Games once brought wars to a halt, but now finds itself the instrument of propaganda. Re-born this century to promote healthy competition in an atmosphere of peace, it is ironical that the Games is being used to block communication.

The challenges of human contact are never easy, especially with a clash of ideologies. Despite the difficulties we have no option but to do all in our power to bridge the gaps. The world and history will judge our maturity by the way in which we respond to such challenges.

Intervarsities are likewise often drawn into the political arena but no one should readily scorn those who call for genuine goodwill and honest cooperation in sport. Contact is communication, and fruitful communication the key to better understanding between people. To break contact, is to fail in one of our essentially human attributes, communication. It is my hope that, no matter what differences may arise between the youth and students of this land, they will continue to meet and talk - and in what better way than in an atmosphere of peace, healthy competition and in the spirit of intervarsity.

In welcoming our visitors, I wish everyone the best of luck and hope that the flame of intervarsity will forge stronger links between us all.

Derek S. Henderson

VICE-CHANCELLOR 29 July 1980