

activate

EDITION II - MARCH 1999



ABSOLUT CRACKDOWN

THE ZERO-TOLERANCE ALCOHOL POLICY IN SOBER REFLECTION

New Chancellor for Rhodes

Dara Kell

AFTER A RIGOROUS selection process lasting six weeks, Professor Jakes Gerwel has been elected as the new chancellor of Rhodes University.

Rhodes' Vice-Chancellor, Dr David Woods, expressed his delight at Professor Gerwel's acceptance of this position. "Professor Gerwel is a very experienced academic who has distinguished himself as Head of President Mandela's office and Secretary to the Cabinet. His appointment will bring great distinction to Rhodes and

I, in particular, will value his advice and guidance," he said.

The role of University Chancellor is to preside over all ceremonial and public occasions, especially the graduation ceremonies, as well as to be an objective source of advice and a symbol for the ideals of the university.

Professor Gerwel received his honorary Doctorate of Law from Rhodes University last year. In his speech at the ceremony, Gerwel pointed out that universities were both central agents

for change and steady beacons of continuity and tradition.

Gerwel was recently in the news for playing a pivotal role as a broker, on behalf of the United Nations, in the negotiations around the trial of the alleged Lockerbie bombers.

Professor Gerwel succeeds Dr Gavin Relly who sadly passed away in January.

His installation to office as the new Chancellor will take place at The Settler's Monument on Friday 9 April 1999.

Chipped Off

Krisanne Johnson

THE EXHILARATING buzz of the Rhodes' chip and the clank of the iron cattle turnstiles is back at the Union Club this year along with mixed feelings of glee and frustration.

"The chip is good and you don't have to pay every time you go in there," says fourth year Nuelia De Abreu. "The queue is a bit annoying but it keeps people who are just hanging out there waiting to go to the Vic, out. This way you have people there that want to be there." And out they may be with increased membership costs from R65 to R72 and stagnant queues; students may start their trek into town a little earlier in search of a drink.

Second year Botha House students Alan Slade and Steve Backhouse feel they couldn't be bothered with the queue.

"They didn't have it last year," says Slade. "It took a year to fix. I'm not mad about the price, just the queue."

But the queue is not going anywhere. "The chip policy is the most efficient way to monitor the Union strictly to club members," says Union Manager Peter Boshoff. "The man who ran the chip system last year died in an accident. It took us a while to get the system up and going

again in the Union."

A gentlemen's club back in the 1970s, the goal of the Rhodes Union Club is to provide entertainment and not a place to just get drunk, says Boshoff.

Membership fees go directly to a fund set aside by the university to improve entertainment facilities for students. Part of the fees paid goes towards general maintenance such as replacing carpets, fixing lights and other small damages.

Dean of Students Dr Motara is on a committee to discuss where these fees should be allocated.

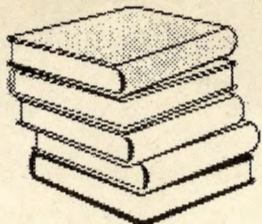
"We are now very seriously looking at the possibility of providing a new student centre," says Motara. "The student centre would provide such things as a coffee shop, maybe an ice cream parlour and a small theatre, all set off from the bar area. This way you don't have to just go and get drunk. The shops wouldn't have to pay rent, just make ends meet so that we could keep the prices down."

And first year Maswazi Kunene may be the first to take a seat at a new coffee shop.

"Yes, it is a pain to re-register your chip and the queues are ridiculous," says Kunene. "But I'm looking for more variety."

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Parking Problems

Nicholas Neveling

PARKING at The Monkey Puzzle and then having to walk to campus rather defeats the purpose of having a car. At least 3rd year BSc student Adrian Tiplady seems to think so and his sentiment is one shared by many.

The number of cars on campus gradually increases every year while the number of parking spaces remains at a minimum.

More and more students are finding that unless they get to campus by the crack of dawn they aren't going to find a parking spot.

There are no easy solutions to what has become a serious problem for car owners on campus. Several third and fourth year

students suggest that first years should not be allowed to register cars with the university.

While their claim may have some merit, it is unlikely that their suggestion will be adopted. The only other apparent solution would be to provide more parking bays.

However with space on campus already at a premium and admin's focus on the Eden Grove development, it seems unlikely that the university will have the resources to undertake a parking project.

So, for car owners its either be on campus when the cock crows or leave your machine parked at home.

the friendly face of science

Scifest '99 is happening from 17 - 23 March.
Look out for posters and flyers for more info.

SSC - here to serve you

Nadine Botha

"WE'RE TRYING to put a cracker up the backside of students," said Dr Motara, Dean of Students, about the Students Services Council (SSC).

The SSC is a council dedicated to ensuring that every student's life is as comfortable as possible, said Motara. However, they cannot act without students making suggestions.

Issues of concern to students include:

- different rules in male and female residences, in violation of the Constitution.
- an archaic rule from 1904 still prohibits any woman under the age of 21 from living in any accommodation with males.
- the quality of residence food.
- the fact that the SRC has a budget of almost R400 000, but are not held accountable for

these funds.

- the quality of the furniture in residence common rooms.
- the removal of supplementary exams.

"Any student can launch a complaint. One student or 30 students can sign the complaint," said Motara. The question to determine whether your complaint is valid or not is, according to Motara, "What conclusion would a reasonable person come to?" If you were paying R11000 for a hotel, would you accept the quality of the furniture in the common rooms?

The current reassessment of O-week is academically based, but as Mark Ranier, Student Adviser and in charge of the Academic aspect of the SSC, said, "The academic can only exist within the context of

a fuller university existence."

Ranier focused on workshops and foundations programmes to help breach the gap between school and university, also looking at how alcohol-based the activities were.

Motara suggests that problem arose partly from the overlap of supplementary exams and "Summer School" with O-week, meaning that there were too many seniors around prepared to teach and initiate the juniors. In the future, stricter control will be exercised over seniors moving into residence early, but Admin can't control the digs situation.

A committee has been formed to investigate Oppidan services, and is due to present suggestions to improve the structure on 31 March. Iain L'Ange, Vice-

Dean of students and member of the committee, forecasts an accommodation bureau on campus providing a list of available digs and ratings. The main concern, however, is to address the lack of unity and cohesion amongst the Oppies. He would also like to "revive the very strong Oppie soccer team."

Part of the SSC's function should perhaps be to activate apathetic students, yet Motara feels that this may make the SRC feel encroached upon. According to Ranier, "The student aspect is channelled through the SRC which does result in a breakdown."

One can't help wondering, in that case, if one should bring it to the SSC's attention that SRC is not fulfilling this function?



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Crime Wave

Karyn Maughan

PEOPLE in Grahamstown are living in ignorance of the high crime rate in this small and slightly backward dorpie.

Sashir Stadden, a third year law student, woke up two weeks ago to discover that her car was no longer parked outside her digs.

She contacted the police, who found the vehicle in Extension 8 soon afterwards.

The skeleton of the car was all that remained. Commenting on the incident, Stadden said "parts of my dashboard had been taken, my radio was gone and my tyres, rims, several engine parts and my mags were all gone. Luckily they (the thieves) couldn't get into the boot, so my CD shuttle wasn't stolen".

A spokesperson for the Grahamstown police said that Stadden had been "lucky" to still have an intact frame, as

thieves will often burn stolen cars once they have removed all valuable parts to ensure that their fingerprints are destroyed.

Jan, a second year Arts student, has already been robbed four times in her first term in digs. "The worst was when our clothes were stolen off the line. Not all of them, just items that he (the thief) liked", she said.

The prevalence of crime related incidences in Grahamstown is on the increase and the most vulnerable seem to be unsuspecting digs dwellers.

Apart from urging people to be extra careful as far as security matters go - there is little else one can do.

Be vigilant, be wary, be mean looking.

Paranoia and steering locks never hurt anybody.



Two Rhodes University students, Avinash Govindjee and Nicole Piaggese, will fly to Chicago in the U.S.A at the end of March to participate in the International Client Counseling Competition, after winning the National Competition at the School for Legal Practice in Pretoria on 1 March.
PIC: Chris Allan

Supps - Dare we refuse?

Eusebius McKaiser

TOWARDS THE END of 1998, the SRC called a general meeting informing students about an administrative proposition to scrap supplementary examinations.

In preparation for a meeting with Admin, the SRC sought student input so as to have a basis for opposing the proposition.

However, very little cooperation was forthcoming from the general student body and little constructive input was given by the handful of students who attended the meeting.

The rationale behind Administration's decision is that they seek to improve academic standards as supplementary exams, because they provide students with a second opportunity to pass, breed apathy and a lack of real effort the first time round.

The dominating ethos at the meeting was that this was a 'moral and political' issue! It

was even suggested that this was a ploy to distract students ahead of the year-end exams!

What the SRC fails to realize is that political dogma will not always yield results. The fact is that Admin has stated that this is an academic issue and they are likely to pay little attention to arguments outside this framework, be that fair or not.

Thus a more powerful approach would be to directly challenge their supposedly academic reasons for wanting to scrap supplementary exams.

Wanting to improve the University's academic standard naturally presupposes that the current academic standard is not of an acceptable level. However, the barometer used to arrive at this conclusion is the examination system. It is exactly at this point that I wish to disagree.

The examination system is not the best means of gauging a student's understanding or

OYET-OTIM SHOOTS DOWN ALLEGATIONS

Activate Reporter

SRC INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COUNCILLOR Paul Oyet-Otim has reacted angrily to allegations of hate-speech made against him.

He was accused of remarking that black South Africans were "stupid and incompetent," and that this was why so many of them got academically excluded.

The incident is said to have occurred on Saturday 20 February at Peppers Bar in New Street. During the same incident, Oyet-Otim is also alleged to have referred to Botswanans as being the "AIDS carriers of the continent".

Oyet-Otim takes a different view of these allegations. He

denies having made reference to Black South Africans in the discussion that took place at Peppers that night. However, he does admit that he became involved in an argument concerning the continental AIDS epidemic.

Oyet-Otim says that during the argument a student from Botswana had made remarks to the effect that Uganda, Oyet-Otim's home country, was the biggest carrier of AIDS in Africa. Oyet-Otim responded by saying that Botswana was also one of Africa's worst AIDS victims. He also claims that he did not start the argument.

Investigations to try to resolve the matter were recently

conducted by members of the South African Students Congress (SASCO) executive committee. SRC President Papi Mothbi, carried out an independent investigation.

Both these investigations cleared Oyet-Otim of "hate-speech". However, the SASCO report recommended that he apologize to the Botswanan student for having "hurt his feelings."

Sources indicate that Oyet-Otim's accusers have not fully accepted the SASCO report.

Activate has established that at least one witness to the event confirms Oyet-Otim's version of events.

RMR launches Open- Rhodes

Neil Clarence and Chandra Gajjar

ON THE 8TH MARCH, Rhodes Music Radio (RMR) saw the launch of the new venture called Open Rhodes. The new project aims to bring about a closer integration between Rhodes University and the community "out there," in Grahamstown.

The idea behind this new undertaking is to discard the barriers that have been created between the grandiose R120 million/year University and the community that has an unemployment rate of 70%.

Honored guests at the launch included the Mayor of Grahamstown, Noututhuzelo Faku, a member of the

Democratic Party, Les Reynolds, and members of Grahamstown Incorporation and the Grahamstown Tourism Board.

Mphikeleli Mnguni, a Masters student of Psychology, commented that the "idea will help facilitate a meaningful relationship between the township and Grahamstown."

He emphasized that this venture must go beyond the "tea room" and RMR, and reach out to members of the community. Many of us want to reach out, we want to help, but we don't know how. Rhodents who would like to reach out should

listen to RMR on Mondays from 3pm to 4pm.

Guest speakers will tackle various issues, and all your questions will be answered.

Show hosts Marisa and Rod eagerly await your response to their show, and to see the skills that Rhodents want to explore.

So come on Rhodents, show Grahamstown that we're not just the students they see walking about in town, but students with a willingness to help create changes and to sustain them.

After all, as Mother Theresa said, "to keep a lamp burning, you have to keep putting oil into it."

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SPAR

Fevering it up

THE BUCKFEVER UNDERGROUND has recently returned from countrywide fame and recognition after winning the Alternative section of the GERAAS Afrikaans song writing competition. **ACTIVATE** reporter **Nadine Botha** spoke to them.

Their return, at Fireside Jam, was met with masses of screaming fans and topless girls. "Everyone's going to be bucking with fever," said an enthusiastic fan. Although they started, "suddenly," according to dinful vernacular, Toast Coetzer, and "everything else happened the same way," agreed Gilad Hockman, random guitarist, no one can dispute their well-earned success. After "happening upon an entry form," explained Coetzer, they decided to kill a Saturday. "And we killed it," said Hockman. They would like to thank their producer, Rich "Steve Albini" Holmes, who "shaped our sound into a recordable package," said Coetzer.

The competition has brought them instant fame, fortune and success. Their music video was screened on national TV, twice, and they have signed a recording contract.

Neanderthals and cultural barbarians might argue that they have no talent, but as Coetzer explained, they are natural musicians who apply deconstructionist theory. That way, Hockman can disguise the fact that he is the best guitarist alive and Coetzer can refrain from revealing his indelible voice. Instead,



pic: Toast Coetzer

Bucking with fever...Buckfever Underground

they create white noise or "Shit in a turnstile," as Coetzer calls it. The team works on a basis in which they can look at each other and know, "Stop or I'll fuck you up."

Although they have people hounding them day and night to play, amongst others, the Klein Karoo Kunstefees, due to academic commitments they have had to decline. For this same reason, the recording of their CD has also been put on hold. However they are hoping to do it in April. They were also pretty unimpressed with Options magazine who, "wanted us to say that drugs make you go into music," said Hockman, "They were trying to put words in our mouths."

Although they have been influenced by everything from Bran Van 3000 to Fort Klapperkop, a strong influence is the Beef Curtains. These dynamic personalities are proud to say that they have never seen Titanic and also, "state on record that we are single but want girlfriends," said Coetzer. However, they warn that they are indecisivists, which means that they can deny anything they

Support Originality

Activate Reporter

THE FIRESIDE JAM has always been proud of Grahamstown's - perhaps meagre - musical talent and exploited it to its full alcoholic potential.

In the past it has literally been a bunch of equipment jammed together by musicians next to the Union fireplace. This year's organiser, Paul Llewellyn, has more ambitious plans.

"It's going through a complete revamp. We're going to change the name, change the image: less white cock-rock and more original music," said Llewellyn.

His main focus is to make it more pro-

fessional and more multi-cultural. A local MC, who was asked to perform, replied, "We ain't playing for those white okes." The new Fireside Jam is going to cater for all cultures and musical tastes and is aiming for a more diverse audience. As for the professional aspect, Llewellyn is aiming at making it more a gig than a jam.

He could not comment on the quality of the music as his only concern is the "aesthetic value - whether it looks glamorous and is more professional." However, he did promise that the quality of the sound would be improved.

G on the G-Spot

Desperately seeking yellow

G was perplexed. Why were they painting the speed bumps yellow? Yellow, of all colours? Perhaps it was to camouflage the student chunder. The sensation of walking over a speed bump hardly does the queasy stomach any good. Especially if you fall over the speed bump. But of course, they were cracking down on student drinking. Must be for all those drunken Hall Wardens after their hall braai or formal dinner. G was also perplexed that no students had made the faux pas of walking over the yellow paint and creating a stream of yellow footprints. What had happened to their student spirit? Of course certain students could always sit on the speed bumps, with their height of fashion, Rat and Parrot chairs or hide stolen number plates on them, while they stuck stolen bushes to themselves...

Still confused, G moseyed along, well tried - the sudden influx of enthusiastic lecture attending students on campus made the latter virtually impossible - to zir lecture only to find that the lecture hall was full. In vain ze tried to scale the 12 ft wall so that ze could sit in the window, but regretfully ze failed and was forced against zir will, to sit out the lecture in the computer room. G claimed a position suitable to eye out the hot first years. They must be the cause for the recent sweltering heat. After all, the second years were a bad crop.

Unfortunately no one had mailed G, apart from the 50 odd members of Activate sending excuses and apologies for not attending the meeting. Why were they sending it to G? Did they honestly think ze cared? Ze was tempted to mail-bomb members@activate for causing zir usually undisrupted pet horse, Pegasus, such distress. Ze was also disappointed that no mail had arrived from Mark Rainier yet. At least he wrote zir decent letters.

The previous night, G had been to Societies evening. Ze had come out looking like a paper clip. Avid pamphlet distributors had become so enthusiastic that ze had become worried that they would stick them up zir nostril. Well at least ze had a huge supply of material for gerricks. What with all those digs parties coming up, ze needed to start stocking up. It also marked the beginning of an endless

ream of debauched Cheese and Wines. G thought they should rather be honest and call them group piss-ups, at least then those who complained that there was never enough fruit juice would understand. G had been tempted to join OutRhodes, however due to zir confusion about gender ze decided not to add more strain to the situation by questioning zir sexuality.

That night, G decided to go to Professor Pickles. As ze stood in a queue to get in, G was amazed at how obviously people passed their chips to their friends through the bars without the bouncers noticing. G wondered if they would notice if ze squeezed under the turnstile to get in. What with the res food diet, ze was looking quite skinny. Inside, G was hardly surprised to find that all the jokes were about penises and was mortally offended by the song played, as zir brother had died that way. At least the atmosphere was suitable for the pornographic material. G had been to Fireside Jam only to find it wasn't a cosy Toast-eating session around the fireplace, but a pretentious stage with white males on it. Ze had tried really hard to hear the music only to decide that ze needed to Wash zir ears and remembered the days when one had to Mind Your Head when you went to the Fireside Jam.

Will the Pop Art crowd make it off the pavement into Pop Art?

Will Fig and Fag move gaily forward and actually play a song?

Will the Rhodes males find the urinal?

Will the Activate members go on a computer literacy course?

Will G finally get a copy of Activate this issue?



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Letters to the Editor

Don't Drown Your Career

BY NOW most students will be well aware of the letter released by the Vice Chancellor deploring drunken behaviour.

We as the group of students involved in one such incident, wish to state that our actions were totally unacceptable.

Actions of this nature are foolish and immature, unbecoming of anyone, irrespective of age.

Although we in no way wish to defer any blame from ourselves, the incident took place when we were all strongly under the influence of alcohol.

For this reason we would like to apologise to the university and grounds staff for our irresponsible behaviour. Over the past few days we have heard of other such incidents that were also alcohol induced, which will probably result in the removal from residence of the people

involved.

Incidents of this nature occur without care or concern for the people one affects, and the consequences that will result from them. It is only when it is too late that one realises the seriousness of their actions.

We are fully aware of the University's stand as regards any further actions of this nature. Looking back in hindsight at our behaviour on the night in question, we have come to realise how pointless it is to throw away a university career for a few minutes of 'fun'. In view of this we strongly appeal to all students not to follow the same path that we have.

As adults we should be responsible enough to enjoy ourselves without the abuse of alcohol.

Apologetically, embarrassed group of students.

Horrorscopes

Bongbong the Omniscient

ARIES (March 21 - April 19)

Recent events in America have led the FBI to assume that you are a key witness in the Microsoft trial. If you play your cards right, not only will you get to use the FBI expense account, but you will also put an iceberg in front of the Microsoft ship.

TAURUS (April 20 - May 20)

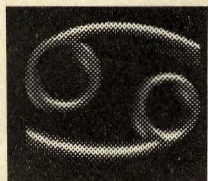
You will be visited by Calvin Klein later in the year. He will offer to redesign your entire wardrobe... FOR FREE! Once this happens, you will be the trendsetter for the Millenium. Soon you will have a hoard of loyal followers who will shout your name as you walk past (see GEMINI)

GEMINI (May 21 - June 21)

Your dual nature makes you the perfect groupie. Stalk a Bull (see TAURUS). Whenever you see them, shout out their name as loudly as you can. Eventually, a talent scout will find you and you will professionally shout out names for a living.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22)

The Great Cosmic Vibes weren't in the mood to give me the Cancer reading. Pick another star sign.



LEO (July 23 - Aug 22)

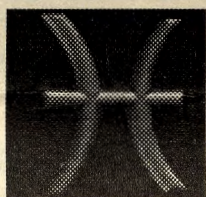
You will meet the man/woman/animal/alien of your dreams. Unfortunately, you will blow your chance because of your gigantic ego. You won't go to your wedding because you will be having a bad hair day.

VIRGO (Aug 23 - Sept 22)

Learn to do your essays at the very last minute. This way, you will be considered socially normal by your peers. If you don't, you will be hunted down by an angry mob of torch-wielding citizens, shouting: "Get the damn perfectionist!"

LIBRA (Sept 23 - Oct 23)

You will decide to get a psychological disorder, so try to think up something creative and unique. Then the Psychology Department will want you to visit them lots. Oh, and you might even be able to get a book deal out of it.



SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 21)

George Lucas will invite you to his place to watch the sneak preview of Star Wars Episode One. Put the plot out on the Internet. If I were you, I would make it a pay site and cash in on the mania.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

To your utter mortification, you will find out that you have been picked to become Ms/Mr Worst-dressed Rhodent '99. This will involve touring the country in your tacky clothes and waving at people. Don't worry, it will only last a year.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

The next time you're bored, paint yourself blue. The colour will bring out your eyes and highlight your hair. You will gain yourself the nickname of "Smurf". To this, you must simply answer: "Lah lah la la la la la, lah lah la la la!"

AQUARIUS (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

Out of the blue, you will find yourself turning into a cartoon character. You will grow four-fingered, white-gloved hands, large yellow shoes, red shorts, a squeaky voice and circular, black ears. Disney will pay you a fortune for being a Rhodent.

PISCES (Feb 19 - March 20)

You will discover the edge of the world, and fall off. Soon you will wind up in a magical place called Wonderland - but DON'T EAT THE MUSHROOMS.

Editorial

IN JUST A FEW MONTHS, South Africa's political scene could witness dramatic changes. On June 2, it will be up to voters to decide the country's direction for the next five years. The campaigns have already begun, with politicians travelling the 'length and breadth' of the land trying to win the 'hearts and minds' of the masses. Yet, at Rhodes, voter registration points have been among the quietest places on campus. In fact, registration had to be extended by the Independent Electoral Commission as a result of so few students turning up. This is, of course, just one aspect of the apathetic attitude that seems to dominate campus life.

And what are we as students doing instead of taking part in the affairs of the nation? Getting pissed??

THIS UNIVERSITY has never had a reputation for being teetotal, and we're not suggesting it should attempt to gain one. However, the drinking situation at Rhodes has now gone far beyond reasonable limits, and many of us need to reconsider our behavior.

Many students have accepted alcoholism as "normal" for far too long. Most of us don't think twice when the Union is packed every Wednesday and Friday night, but lectures and polling stations are deserted.

If you think that such behavior is sustainable, think again. Motara, Fourie and the boys are already busy shining their boots ready to kick the next irresponsible student out of this institution. And you know they will do it!

OF COURSE the political apathy on campus is caused by much more than excessive alcohol consumption - it is also a result of the mentality of the age which says: "I've made my stash, so now I don't give a fuck about anyone else".

All progressively minded students should play a role in educating our peers about what democracy really means. We should lead by example, no matter how small these examples may be (A good start might be to get involved in the activities of all those societies you joined, instead of just bagging the free T-shirt ...)

IN 1999, Activate challenges you to get off your ass and vote in the elections. We also challenge you to get involved in changing your immediate environment. Help this university to fulfil its slogan and truly become the place "where leaders learn".

a

Creditorial

Hugh (someone say something funny), Teresa (I don't want anything of yours), Bouie, Donna, Hilda, Karen, Sneha (Damn the mushrooms!), Jak, Tammy (I fucking left my fucking disk in the fucking computer), Gemma, Nadine, Glenda, Sam, Nikki, (the hardworking collective), Ish, Abdullah (thanks for helping with design), Katarzyna, Biff, Greg, Felix, Lailah, Dean, Nicholas, Dara, Krisanne, Karyn, Neil, Chandra, Eusebius, Barbara, (our hardworking reporters), Polyanna-on-speed, Bongbong the Omniscient, G, the mysterious "Activate Reporter", the Amazing FishCam, and the Journalism department for letting us use their DTP lab again.

Running for Cover

It's at times like these, when a chained-up vodka bottle stands alone on our cover as a symbol of the perennial clash of generational instincts between students and admin, that we have to realise how fundamentally student journalism has shifted from the grand battles that were waged on these very pages a decade ago. In the ideological twilight of the late 90's, the question of what defines freedom has become less about political efficacy, and more about the self-indulgent question of our own lifestyle parameters. Since a large part our generation has rammed lovingly into the conclusion that life is best taken with additives, the question of how much we have the right to damage ourselves, is fast becoming one of the few banners the apathy-addicts amongst us choose to fly. There are of course, those among us who feel that it all HAS gone too far. Thus, the chains are thrown at you to interpret at will. Just another fantastic way to confuse yourself and sound hip doing it.

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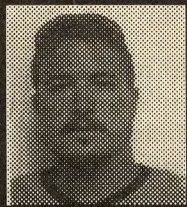
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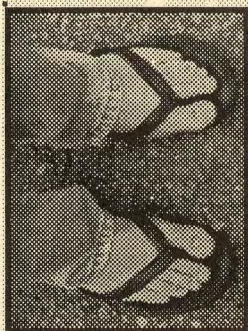
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Fad Fashion Fundi's



Elan "ish" Lohmann



FASHION has landed in slumbering G-town with a well dressed thud this summer.

They came in droves from the bright lights. They brought their fast cars and urban angst, they have rocked our rural bliss and finally - the first years have brought a measure of fashion to our haven of laid-back life.

[Pods, platforms, Pinstripes & peddle pushers !!]

The big city mall rats have descended and the only weapon is to get all dressed up! - but do we really have anywhere to go?

Our first years have left the coffee aromas of the 'Picasso's' of Johannesburg

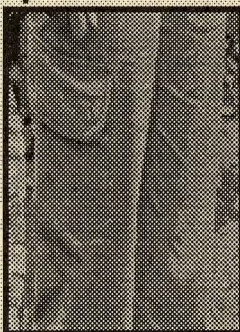
and the stylin' beats of the La Meds of Cape Town to find a town blessed by Spur cuisine and beer-stenched bars, the only saving virtue to be found in the smooth grooves of the Pop Art Cafe.

Let no woman try to convince me that she enjoys traipsing through town in six inch platforms displaying a swaying

wibbly wobble) Or that peddle pushers actually look good (maybe on our grannies!)

Yet I am sure that this summer the Zimbabwean 'buggers' (also known as "chums") will be unmoved - sticking to their cool mix of Judron rugby shorts and a tucked in Peter's T-shirt (collared), tastelessly rounded off by the finest in footwear - the economy slip-slop or upgraded strop.

Joining them in this male paradigm is



the Rat crowd, 'Founders boy', appeal of the Khaki shorts, jockey briefs and a white T-shirt displaying a schools sports tournament or beer brand - often complimented by sockless white takkies. - Scores high on the practicality and comfort scale. Grahamstown's relaxed jeans and T-shirt vibe has certainly been turned inside out in a revolutionary fashion this year with the United Colours of Benetton arriving and hopefully with



the social conscience to boot.

It is no longer that the trendoids of campus are limited to a posse of power-dressing RMR preppies (which includes me). Neither are labels now restricted to the domain of Nike advertising 'home-boys' and the rare Donna Karran wannabees.

So, will local business respond to

trends, or will they maintain their usual retarded ability not to notice money making opportunities? Or will we need to survive this year among the tasteless racks of our local clothing outlets? Will it finally be revealed where our

Bungis buy their authentic garb. Will it be a discovery of stoned grannies selling surreal jumble at the site of the forgotten Cosmic Cafe?

Whatever your taste or lack thereof, this Grahamstown summer promises to be fad, fashion and fun-filled. Dress to be free, but remember that if you follow the fashion you simply follow, cos only God is truly original.

-Summer '99 vocab - board shorts, camo's, cargo's, pinstripes, platforms, pinstripes, v-necks, buttoned collars, sneakers, sports labels, stripes, nylon and soft silky shiny fabrics.

PICS: Sam Reinders and Krisanne Johnson

R U Drithinking?

Felix-Servalo Ralekhetho

RHODES UNIVERSITY has the highest alcohol consumption per head of any University in South Africa and comes only second to UCLA worldwide.

Although academically Rhodes has a reputation of being one of the top tertiary institutions in the country, its reputation for high alcohol consumption is said to be an effect of "manipulative advertising" on both old and new students.

New students have been feeling the "peer pressure" since orientation week.

"Old students are teaching young students to drink," said one BSc chemistry student in his first year.

T-shirts that have printed phrases such as "TAKE ME DRUNK, I AM HOME" and "Absolut Rhodes", with the bottle replica are amongst a few revealing the extent of the drinking

mania at Rhodes.

Some students are of the opinion that these are examples of "Our freedom of expression" [Our constitutional right]. Others argue that these forms of advertisement are not to be commended and, as quoted by Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Woods, are "wrong" and are detrimental to the image of Rhodes as a respectable and noteworthy institution.

Regarding the extent of alcohol consumption at Rhodes, Dr. Woods had this to say: "Alcohol abuse is a South African problem as a whole."

Grahamstown is a small town with a high concentration of non-working youth with very little in the form of entertainment. Why so many youthful people look to alcoholism for "kicks" is, as one third year Law student said,

"for social acceptance".

Societies get membership that way. Parties make invitations offering low priced beer and all this serves to encourage alcohol consumption.

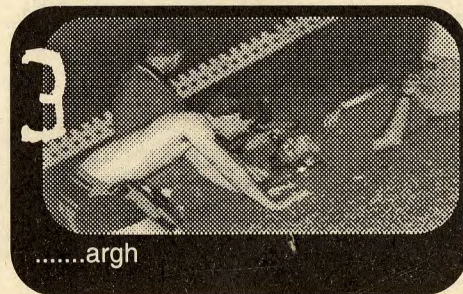
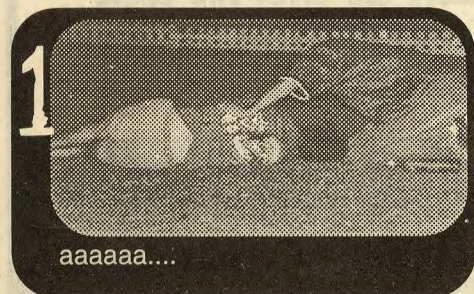
One such society of rather infamous reputation is Zimsoc. On Friday 6 March, they held one of their popular parties where 240 litres of alcoholic punch was kindly offered to the 390 paid-up members. Altogether, about 600 students attended the gathering.

Responding to the issue of societies advertising free alcohol to lure members, Thabani Mlilo, sub-warden of College House said, "The issue here is what the society stands for. They get students to join them by any means necessary". Mlilo also questioned what these societies stood for and what they were trying to accomplish.

Zimsoc's treasurer, however, denied that the society was promoting alcoholism. She said that their parties were popular not only because of the alcohol, but also because of other reasons such as the double dance floor and good music.

She added that Zimsoc's social events had helped to unite Zimbabwean students, and that a proportion of the profits were donated to charity.

On 26 February, Dr Woods issued a statement condemning the excessive drinking of alcohol, particularly during the first two weeks of the term. He warned that "drunkenness will not be tolerated" and that students involved would be severely disciplined.



PICS: Sam Reinders

To Vote or not to Vote?

Daniel Leshope

A YOUNG MAN was recently killed in a small town called Postmansburg in the Northern Cape.

The deceased had been conducting an investigation of corruption in the Town Clerk's Office. Coincidentally the deceased was killed by the Town Clerk's brother.

This is only one of many stories that emerge in the papers every day involving high ranking political figures who have been involved in unscrupulous deeds.

This raises the question of whether the government cares about the youth of the country. At the same time it also explains why not even half of the youth population has registered to vote.

Every day, politicians stress that the youth are the future of the country. But as soon as they strive for truth and justice, they become the enemy of the state.

This leads to further questions such as, "which political party represents the people's ideal of an African dream?" Could it be the one with a leader who uses the notion of an African Renaissance as a political tool for international recognition - regardless of whether the uneducated majority that vote for him understand the term or not?

Even though Africa needs a rebirth, is it so important that it comes before a South African rebirth? Surely before you clean someone else's eyes, you should start with your own.

On the other hand we could vote for a 'reborn' party whose former president was incompetent in managing his love affairs - let alone the affairs of an entire nation!

Or perhaps a former rugby union boss, who through ignorance believes he has a chance at a Parliamentary seat. Never mind the fact that he has made racist remarks about black people, who happen to constitute the majority of voters.

Is it so difficult for Africans to find a symbol of hope? Who puts economic stability, job creation and an improved standard of living for rural inhabitants above their quest for political power?

When questions like these arise, it makes one consider Plato's utopian vision: "What if all the world was ruled by philosopher kings who strive for the common good of humanity?"

But an even more puzzling question is, "What of South Africa's future after June 2?"

"Will our voting or non voting con-

tribute to the downfall of South Africa?"

Perhaps as we stumble over the question of to vote or not to vote, one prayer should be on the lips of all South Africans who strive for the upliftment of their country :

Our politicians
who art in Parliament
honored be thy game,
thy constitution come,
thy will be done
in South Africa as it is
in the rest of the world.
Give us today
our daily wages and
erase our debts
as you erase those
who debt against you.
And lead us not into starvation,
but deliver us from poverty,
for thine is thy money,
thy bickering and thy greed
that destroy South Africa
day by day
forever and ever



Erection back in Election



As part of her personal act of atonement, Evita Bezuidenhout's Evita's People's party is travelling South Africa encouraging apathetic citizens to use their vote in the 1999 Elections.

The former South African Ambassador to the Homeland of Bapediksweti is visiting more than 60 towns and cities in her gravy-free Ballot Bus.

Her free Election Ingabas presented at each town hall, are aimed at enthusing fearful South Africans to believe that their vote can make a difference, as well as entertaining them with the facts of democracy.

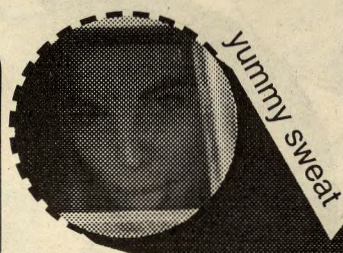
Mrs Bezuidenhout performed in Grahamstown on Thursday, February 18 at the Rhodes Theatre and Albany Road Recreational Hall.

Evita's People's Party, which started in Cape Town on February 21, will end in Cape Town on the March 26.

THE RETURN OF THE

Abigail Higgs

For our defense we can at least boast of our well fed "too-much-of-mummy's-apple-pie" students



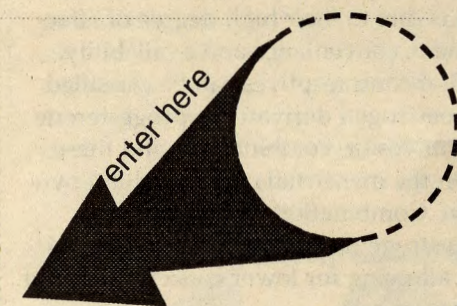
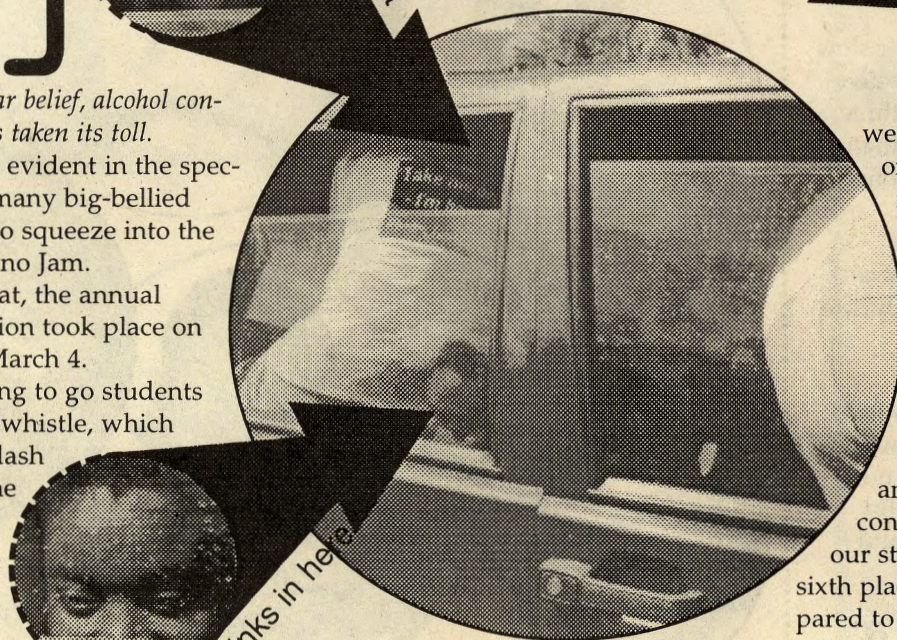
CONTRARY to popular belief, alcohol consumption at Rhodes has taken its toll.

This year it was evident in the spectacular image of the many big-bellied students attempting to squeeze into the box-like Uno at the Uno Jam.

In the blistering heat, the annual countywide competition took place on the Kaif Lawns, on March 4.

Lines of eager, raring to go students stood waiting for the whistle, which announced the mad dash to the car, whereby the horde piled in, one after the other, with a time limit of two and a half minutes.

Thereafter, all doors



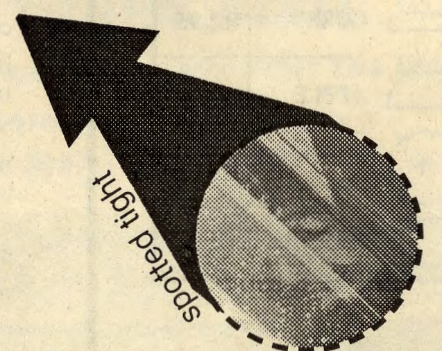
were tightly closed for a five-second countdown, and were reopened to stricken-faced students, who had experienced a frightfully uncomfortable period of time, caught under the steering wheel, squeezed under the front seat, and pressed obscurely up against the dashboard.

Without much pre-planning and mathematical measurement concerning the precise packaging of our students, Rhodes came out in sixth place with a mere 27 people compared to RAU's 41.

For our defense, we can at least boast

jam

of our well fed "too-much-of-mummy's-apple-pie" students in comparison to the evident underground midget society at RAU.



pics Sam Reinders

Healthy Info.

CONTRACEPTION

The primary aim of contraception is to prevent unwanted pregnancy.

There are a number of contraceptive methods that can be used, but some may not be 100% effective.

The choice of contraceptive methods depends on one's age, sexual habits, degree of protection required, personality etc.

The contraceptive needs of a teenager differ from those of a woman who has completed her family.

There also are male and female contraception methods.

FEMALE METHODS

- 1) Abstinence
- 2) Conventional methods
 - a) Natural methods
 - calender method
 - b) Barrier methods
 - diaphragm
 - female condom
- 3) Hormonal methods
 - Oral hormones (the pill)
 - Injectable hormones
- 4) Intra uterine devices (IUD)

MALE METHODS

- 1) Abstinence
- 2) coitus interruptus
- 3) The condom

Condoms are a reliable form of contraception if used properly and handled in the correct way. A condom should only be used once and disposed of in the correct manner. Condoms are a good form of emergency contraception - always keep some.

Coitus interruptus is the method whereby the penis is withdrawn prior to ejaculation. It is a method that requires concentration and a high degree of self control. It is not reliable and does not protect against HIV.

The calender method involves the keeping of a record of the menstrual cycle and possible cycle length variations during one year. This method is unreliable and unsafe.

Barrier forms of contraception for women are meant to physically prevent the sperm from coming into contact with the ovule therefore preventing fertilization.

The diaphragm is a circular dome shaped device that is placed over the cervix preventing sperm from passing into the cervical canal.

The correct size of the diaphragm must be determined by a health-care professional and can be used with spermicide to improve effectiveness. If used in the prescribed way, there is a low margin of error.

The IUD is a T-shaped device that is inserted into the uterus via the vagina where it sits for the period that contraception is required. It acts via various complex mechanisms to make the uterus unsuitable for implantation and to avoid fertilization.

It can remain effective for a long time if undisturbed. Regular check-ups are recommended to check the position of the device and correctional measures can be taken if necessary.

Hormonal contraceptives are the most widely used form of birth control. This is due to their high degree of effectiveness, convenience and availability.

Oral contraceptives can be classified into oestrogen derivatives, progesterone derivatives or combinations and these act on the menstrual cycle to inhibit ovulation. Combination pills have both progesterogenic and oestrogenic activity thus allowing for lower concentrations of the hormones.

Injectables are generally used for slow release or depot effect. Their protective function will last between two to three months. These are more effective than the pill in terms of compliance as one could easily forget to take the pill.

However, it must be noted that nobody should take hormonal contraception without consulting a health-care professional as this may lead to unforeseen complications.

Abstinence is undoubtedly the safest method of contraception. There have been no record of side-effects and nuns and monks live have normal healthy lives. It also protects against HIV and sexually transmitted diseases.

Recreational Substances

Karen Maughn

IT'S CLEAR FROM the name chosen by Nikolai Viedge, Duncan Boyd, Matthew Angus, Jacqueline Lund and Daniel Machet for the online publication that they first produced in October last year, that they want to grab some attention.

The disclaimer that precedes their site also ensures that the reader feels slightly apprehensive about the content of the web page created by the group of second year journalism students. But "Rec Subs", as its creator Nikolai Viedge calls it, is not on every addict's Internet shopping list and is far from the ranks of the sick and sleazy.

Rather, it is devoted to giving young writers something that they will not find in real newsrooms - a chance to express their uncensored opinions to the world (and their mothers).

"Anyone who can write well is welcome to write for us. We try to be as unlimited as possible," says Viedge.

The Recreational Substances group consists entirely of white, middle-class English speakers -- so how do they avoid the trap of merely reflecting their own perspectives?

"We do write about what we enjoy, so there is a certain amount of bias, but it

can be overcome. We don't have a political or social agenda and I personally hope that we will have a more varied publication in the future," added Viedge.

Articles published on the site have ranged from pieces on tattoos to a hypothesis on the uses of toilet paper. The site averages about 500 hits a week.

Viedge is excited about the upcoming edition. "We have pieces on pedal pushers, waiting and Wicca, so it should be very cool," he said.

And the name? Is there a drug focus on the web page? "Not at all. We just recognize that there is a strong drug culture among the youth and we exploit that awareness."

"Recreational Substances is the phrase that directs us. Anything weird, interesting and entertaining is what we seek to represent," said Viedge.

Recreational Substances can be found at <http://www.journ.ru.ac.za/recreationalsubstances/index.htm> and can be emailed at recsubs@journ.ru.ac.za



KING PIE
119 High Street
Tel. No.: 046-6226562

	STEAK & ONION	R3,45
	CHICKEN	R3,25
	CORNISH	R2,95
	CHEESE & HAM	R3,25
	PEPPER STEAK	R3,45
	SAUSAGE ROLL	R3,25
	CHEESE & SPINACH	R3,25
	STEAK & KIDNEY	R3,25
	Cocktail Sausage	R12,50/Doz
	CURRY	R2,95
	APPLE	R3,25
	BURGER PIE	R3,95
	RUSSIAN	R3,95

Remeberance of O-week



PICS:
Hugh Ellis
Krisanne Johnson
Sam Reinders

MindSpeak

ACTIVATE has started a new section which includes original student poetry. This is an attempt to allow students the opportunity to be heard, and have their work appreciated by others.

RHODES IS LIKE...

Rhodes is like the resurrection of the mind's perfection,
Breaking from convention.
From Drama students satirizing life as we perceive it, from eating
Fronts of muraled faces, reflecting what receive.
My thirst for knowledge makes my sight inside my eyes,
See this.
Or 89 to seven hearing mediated news-ness.
The blueness of one room on top of the world.
I can't regret but seeing Rhodes as imagery unswirl and twirl
Endlessly disguised as a drunkard up in a maze.

You see, they never mean to me the one and only Shady M.C.
Create a world you'd want to live in at the top of it all
Imagine people at the peak of life
And they about to fall.

'Cause once we leave the space we occupy,
I'm wondering why,
We start to realise the institution's lie
That youthful life always lasts forever.
Drowning alcohol's pleasure and sexual consumption,
Has no repercussion much later.

Felix

UNTITLED

Infant child
Now as a man.
Awake, sleeping warrior.
Arise.
Give birth to yourself.
Slip out of your harsh reality,
Into your enduring need for beauty,
And sip the ocean as you taste a mouthful of sand.

Meet the new day,
Greet the sunrise.
Embrace the very sun,
Which burns your eyes.
Dance amongst colour filled waves,
On with them wild and naked dressed.
The flaming colours of Morning Blessed.

Dean Jackson

UNTITLED

wording words wordlessly,
Silent in a whispering,
Quiet humming, blocks the sounds,
Shouting quiet
Creeps around.

listening careful to the heard
-hearing all without a word -
in a sound, dumb and deaf
without breathing
I am left

Lailah Orrie

If you write poetry or want to speak your mind and express your soul, e-mail your poems to g99R3209@campus.ru.ac.za or culture@activate.soc.ru.ac.za

Counter-Culture

ONE OF THE many reasons that I came to Varsity - and Rhodes specifically - was to explore, not only my academic, but intellectual and emotional self as well.

I took some of the 'generally accepted' Bugger All courses like Drama, English and Philosophy, only to find that I still lacked a creative outlet.

Try as they might, the Departments have little time available to encourage the production of original works, be they poetry, plays or paintings. It is therefore up to the students to make their own way.

Recently, various student groups have attempted to get themselves heard. Rhodes Audio Theatre (RAT) is comprised of radio plays written, performed, produced and broadcast by students.

According to Sam Wilson, the RAT coordinator, "this is the most technically complex show on RMR" as it requires three to four hours of recording time for every 15 minute show.

RAT has been pressurized by various people, including the Drama Department, to perform works by notable artists like Pinter and Beckett instead of using the students' own pieces. In response to this, Sam is planning to create a "splinter" group which fulfills this need.

Sam realizes that nothing would be "possible without major enthusiasm from its writers and actors." RAT is trying to keep the creative doors open to all students who are interested in having their own works performed on air. As very few of the writers and actors have any real radio, and especially radio play, experience, this venture is both exciting and frightening to the RAT team. But as proclaimed by Sam: "shock-jocks have been done to death - this is something new."

RAT can be heard on RMR, Tuesdays at 9 p.m. Be sure to tune in for some real live artistic works.

Pollyanna-on-Speed

The Fall of the House of Usher

Barbara Price

THE RHODES UNIVERSITY Drama Department Graduation production this year (1999) will be Steven Berkoff's adaptation of Edgar Allan Poe's gothic short story, *The Fall of the House of Usher*.

"The tale of the impossible A house with its own soul. A death! A resurrection. A moors' pestilential environment. A house that outwardly manifests the crumbling nature of Roderick Usher's inner decay. A febrile fantastical story .." (Steven Berkoff, Notes to the Play)

E.A. Poe wrote the story when he was 30 in the spring of 1839 in Philadelphia. Steven Berkoff's stage adaptation (1974/75) puts enormous challenges before the production team. The performance style lies somewhere between mime, dance and conventional acting styles. The performers are "stretched"

physically and vocally. Every utterance, gesture, eye focus and movement is choreographed and yet must be infused with the emotional and psychological textures of Poe's story. The result is a production which is likely to present the unexpected, to excite ...

The production is co-directed by David Alcock and Gary Gordon. Design is by Tamara Guhrs who also teams up with Jacques de Kock and the senior design students to create the lighting.

Tickets for the graduation performance (Friday, 9 April and Saturday, 10 April) may be booked by contacting the Drama department secretary, Barbara Price, on telephone 6038538 or e-mail: sdbp@warthog.ru.ac.za. The production begins promptly at 8p.m. and runs for approximately an hour and a half.

RMR DJ Roster

For Funky sounds and lively talk shows, tune in to RMR 89.7 FM, and catch your favourite DJs at the following times...

	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI		SAT	SUN
1-4am	Liam	Liberty	Tendai	Gavin & Vaughn	Sam & Regan	1-4am	Ward	Lerato C.
4-6am	Liberty	Avi	Shelley	Felix	Mpumi	4-6am	Silumko	Charles
6-9am	Andrew	Jono	Jen	Andrew	Andrew	6-9am	Radio Ght	Ricky
9-11pm	Duke	Iain	Chris A.	Mojo & Selkis	Helene D.	9-11am	Crimson/Abbey	Greg
11-1pm	Gil	Salah	Pierre	Jon Savage	Abbey	11-1pm	Temba	Andrew B.
1-4pm	Kytie Koekblik	GK Impulse (1:30-2)	Selkis	Juus Impulse (1:30-2)	Zuhz Oddbods (1:30-2)	1-3pm	Donald-camel countdown	Jo Scott
3-4pm	The Open Rhodes	x	Radio Ght(3-4)	x	x	3-4pm		Globetrotter's Guide(3-4)
4-7pm	Crimson	Mojo	Jo Alves	Sorisha	Ricky	4-6pm	Ace (3-6pm)	Colin (4-6)
7-8pm	Pulse	Focal Point	Soul Time	Bandscan	Manhole	6-8pm	RU Game	HeadSpace
8pm-10pm	Phi	Rich & Jon/Nic & Nats	Lerato	Paul & Helen B.	Iain	8-10am	Resident President	Jono
10-1am	Thin Ice	Bizarre Blue	Chris L-R	Gayly Forward	Che & Salah	10-1am	Kakes	Toast

Shocking Storie

Jason Krupp

IF THE ALLURE of bright lights and the stage grabs you, and you have an aversion to acting, why not shake your ass down with the Electrosoct posse.

Electrosoct, one of the new societies to rear its head this year, are a group of DJ's, MC's and design artists who have started the



PIC: Sam Reinders

(not just drunkenness). An eclectic ensemble of hip hop, drum 'n' bass, house and other underground grooves are fronted by this society, with DJ's in each genre.

Electrosoct also boasts some of Grahamstown's (and arguably the Eastern Cape's) finest MC's (rappers in laymans terms), featuring many of the solo outshoots from the Camouflage Squad and the Def Boys. These lyrical talents include Double E, Salah Black, Eight Rock, MC Elvis and many, many more talented lyricists.

Design talents also abound in the society, with the integration of photography, DTP (desk top publishing) and heaps of elbow grease. Fliers, posters and venue design are just a few of the talents about to explode on our sleepy hermit village. But that's just the face of the organisation. The real role of the society is to provide a platform where DJ's, MC's and design artists of any stature can teach new-comers, while brushing up on their skills at the same time.

Workshops for new hands are about to leap off the drawing board and onto campus in the near future, with the hopes of sparking a new fire in the tired G'spot social scene.

With a successful first evening under their belt, despite many set-backs on the night, only bigger and better things can be expected from Electrosoct.

Religion is the Opium of the Masses

Aamera Jiwaji & Akmat Nasoorillah

THE MUSLIM STUDENTS

ASSOCIATION (MSA) of Rhodes

University is a society formed to address the needs and aspirations of the Muslims studying at Rhodes, and to create an awareness of Islam on this campus.

It achieves this through the gatherings of Muslims at occasions such as Eid (a religious festival), Halquas, Beach Braais, and the invitation of Muslim academics from around the country for talks. Past topics have included the influence of Westernization on Islam, the changing roles of women in an Islamic society and Islamic fundamentalism.

The following provisions have been made to advance the essence of Islam:

- a Jamaat Khana for the men to pray salaah
- weekly halquas for women at which

the word of the Lord and the Prophet (peace be upon him) is preached - a Madressah to educate the Muslim children of the Grahamstown community

- and an annual Jalsa(religious event) at which the children perform plays related to Islam and praise the Lord.

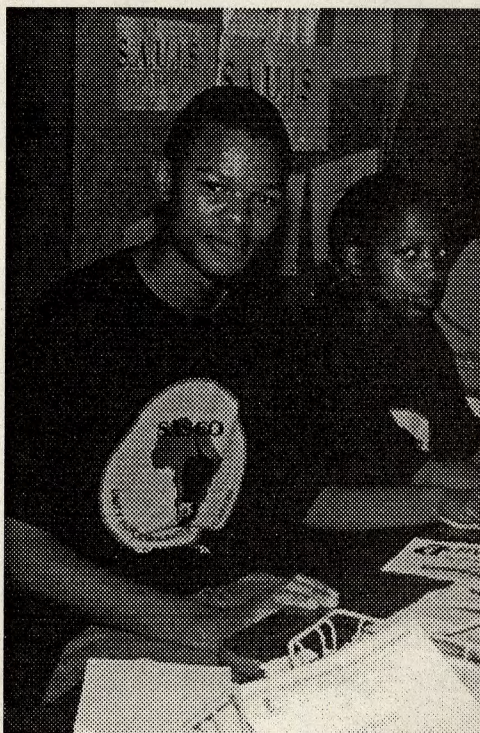
The MSA is an organisation created to alert everyone, both Muslims and non-Muslims, to the virtues of embracing Islam. It is also created to appease apprehensions or answer questions that any person may have about Islam and Muslims.

Its goal is ultimately to create a society in which Islam is practiced and preached as was revealed in the Holy Quran and in the actions, sayings and approvals of the Prophet (peace be upon him).

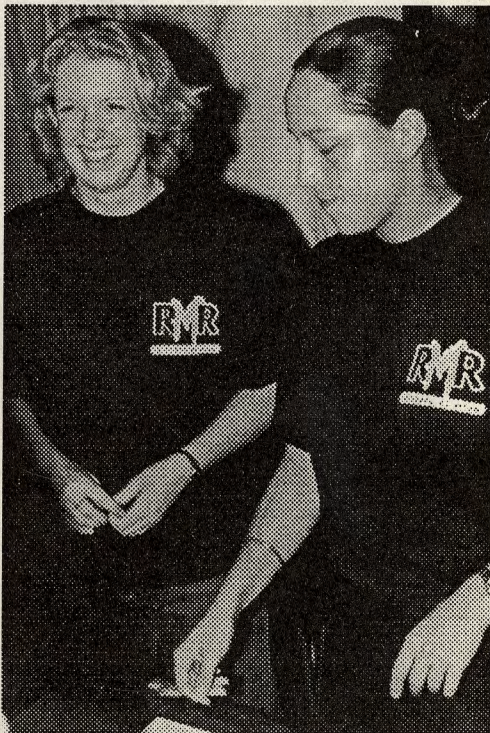
Societies Evening



Rhodes University Computer User Society (RUCUS)



South African Students Congress (SASCO)



Rhodes Music Radio (RMR)

PICS: Hugh Ellis

Galaxy Cinema

1820 Settlers Monument. Lucas Avenue. P.O. Box 142. Grahamstown. Cell: 083 4855 340

Programme subject to change without notice.

Enemy of the state

Friday 19th to Thursday 15 April @8:30pm

An exhilarating thriller starring Will Smith and Gene Hackman.

The Truman Show

Friday 9th to Thursday 15th April @6:00pm

Truman Burbank has the feeling that he is being watched. He doesn't know how right he is.

Witness the most popular documentary-soap opera in history starring Jim Carrey.

You've got mail

Friday 16th to Thursday 22nd April @6:00pm

Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan play business adversaries, but they're having an online romance.

Ever After

Friday 16th to Thursday 22nd April @ 8:30pm

An old fashioned love story that is well written, well performed and has great images.

Starring Drew Barrymore.

The Thin Red Line

Friday 23rd to Thursday 29th April@8:30pm

"is an intelligent film about the World War II battle at Guadalcanal. It brilliantly reconstructs the horror and disorder of war. The film received several Oscar nominations including Best Picture." (Mail and Gaurdian) starring Nick Nolte and Sean Penn.

The Prince of Egypt

Friday 23rd to Thursday 29th @6:00pm

An animated gem.

Shakespeare in love

Friday 30th to Thursday 6th May @8:30pm

"The year's best and most original comedy" (New York Newsday). Several Oscar Nominations. Starring Gwyneth Paltrow.

Elizabeth

Friday 30th to Thursday 6 May @ 8:30pm

A Jacobean-like soap opera filled with intrigue, romance, betrayal and murder.

Starring Cake Blanchett.

Q & A - Arne Hansen

Greg Hacksley

6-3, 6-1, 6-0. Match Hansen. (Applause) "and the man from Port Shepstone does it again" Arne Hansen started playing tennis when he was about eight and has never looked back.

Natal Schools from Std. 8, top four doubles and singles in South Africa in Matric, the offer of a tennis bursary from the University of Florida, the 1997 World Student Games in Italy and Sicily ... the list of achievements goes on and on.

The Rhodes Geology Honours student is currently the number two seeded, No. 2 student in the country and at No. 1 in the Eastern Cape.

Now, with the next World Student Games looming, again on clay courts but this time in Spain, Arne has again been selected to play for South Africa, and he is looking forward to the challenge.

Activate: Who encouraged you to start playing tennis?

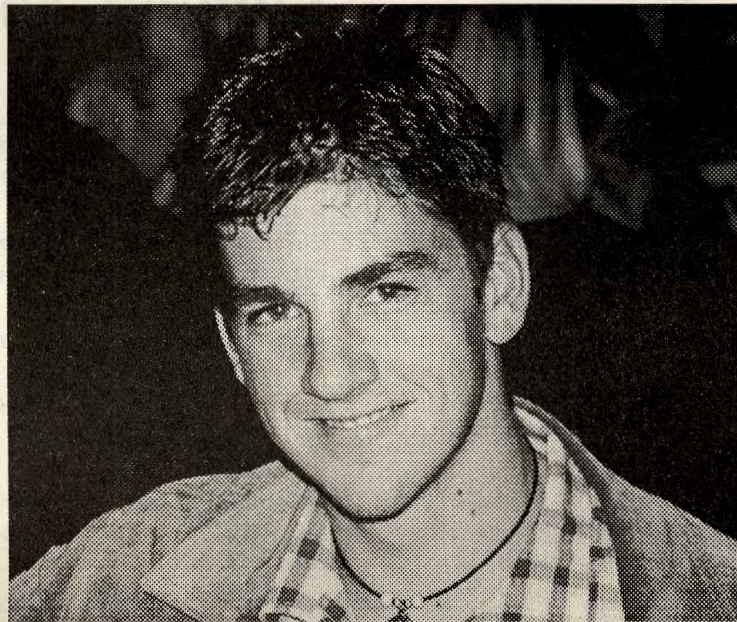
Hansen: My folks asked me if I wanted to go to coaching. At the time I was playing lots of little sports, but I said yes and haven't stopped since.

A: What are some of your earliest personal memories of tennis?

H: When I was 8 and a half all I remember doing was learning

to be able to bounce the ball on my racket without allowing the ball to hit the ground and that was the biggest thing for me to be able to do.

A: What is your opinion of Tennis at Rhodes?



Rhodes student, Arne Hansen, has been selected to represent South Africa in the tennis World Student Games in Spain.

Pic courtesy of Arne

H: So far, in the PE Premier league this year, Rhodes is unbeaten, and with only one more fixture left it looks like we're on course to win the Summer league again. Here at Rhodes I'm very fortunate to have really good fellow players.

A: What do you think South Africa's chances are at the World Student Games?

H: It's difficult to predict. Tennis is a funny game, but South Africa has proved itself in the past and hopefully this

time we can bring back a medal. People like Chris Loock, Warren van Rooyen and Graham Glover have given me an outstanding opportunity to maintain a high standard of tennis while I've been here. They're great players in their own right, and their record in the league speaks for itself.

time we can bring back a medal.

A: Do you have any heroes in tennis or otherwise?

H: I really enjoy Rafter, not necessarily for his ability, but for the charisma he brings into to the game. The game is so mental and all the top players are so focussed, controlled and reserved that tennis actually lacks a bit of spark. He is another Jimmy Connor who uses the crowd to lift his game, which is great for tennis.

A: Is there anyone you would like to thank?

H: I really have lots of people to thank. My manager Bruce Davidson, who took me under his wing at 10 years old, and who arranges my sponsors, tournaments, you name it. Dunlop/Slazenger for their six years of investment in me with tennis equipment. K-Swiss footwear for their supply of shoes, which is a great expense now a days, Ashaway strings for my string sponsor. At Rhodes, Sue Powers and Chris Loock, in particular, have really worked hard to make tennis something at this university and to help me personally with my game. Those many long hours with Chris sorting out things and ironing out problems are really appreciated.

THE PAST FEW months have been fantastic viewing for sport fans, what with the Super Twelve, Five Nations and the South Africa - New Zealand series.

But don't forget the diverse viewing opportunities right on your doorstep.

This edition carries a list of sporting 'when and wheres' so now you have no excuse not to seek out a favourite sport. Even if you are not a sport fan, why not just go and watch a game. You may find your niche in the sporting world. After all, university life is about diverse experiences.

When I talk about diversifying your university experience I don't mean trying out all the different vodka flavours you can find.

Contrary to popular belief, drinking is NOT a sport, subject, career or any thing else along those lines. There has been a lot of flack about the drinking going on at Rhodes. I haven't done even Psych 101, but based on personal experience I know a lot of drinking goes on out of sheer boredom. Let's face it, G-town is not the most happening place on earth!

Now I am not suggesting that going to watch Rhodes rugby or soccer is going to revolutionise your life, but as a little ol' Sports Editor, I feel it is my duty to at least remind you that sports are being played at Rhodes.

Sports Timetable

Saturday
20 March

Hockey

KFC RUW1 vs Pirates 15h00 (Home)

Rugby

RU1 vs Winter Rose (Away)
RU2 vs Winter Rose (Away)

Shooting

50m Cradock Senior Champs (Away)

Sunday
21 March

Cricket

RU1 vs Kwt 15h00 Prospect

Hockey

RUM1 vs Old Grey 10h30 (Home)
RUW1 vs Paterson (Away)

Saturday
27 March

Hockey

RUW1 vs Technikon 15h00 (Home)
RUM1 vs Hume Park 13h15 (Away)

Rugby

RU1 vs United (Away)
RU2 vs United (Away)

Sunday
28 March

Cricket

RU1 vs Cambridge (Away)
KFC RUM1 vs UPE (Away)
RUW1 vs Technikon (Away)

Saturday
3 April

Shooting

50m British Schools vs Local teams (Home)

Tuesday-Friday
6-9 April

Shooting

50m National Champs (Away)

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Sport

The Agony of it All

Activate Reporter

PARTICIPATING in a world championship must be the pinnacle of any sports person's career. When that opportunity is coupled with travel to exotic destinations, it becomes a heady mix. You live your sport. You dream, eat, talk sport. And in one instant, it can all be taken away.

Unathi Nkayi is a bright, friendly, second year drama student whose eyes light up when she starts to talk about hockey.

She was one of three Rhodians chosen to represent the South African student hockey team in the World Student Games held in Sydney Australia. But she never got there.

It was during the second team practice in the last five minutes of the game, when disaster struck.

Unathi turned to tackle the Captain, Paris Edward, when her knee clicked out of position. It was an old injury, usually

made better by pushing the knee back into place.

But, after half an hour of trying to straighten her leg Unathi knew it was more serious than usual.

She was taken to a clinic, where the oestropedian called in was brutally blunt. If she could not walk now, she was told, she would not be able to play the intensive hockey needed for the next two weeks.

A camera was used to assess the damage inside the knee. Her outside cartilage had split in half, wedging between the tibia and fibula.

An operation was necessary and Australia was out. "At first I was very emotional", says Unathi. "I asked why me, why this?"

However, she no longer feels bitter. She shrugs and says simply, "everything happens for a reason".

Although Unathi will not be able to play until the end of

March or early April she is determined to be fit for the winter season.

She swims and cycles to keep up fitness levels. It is the kind of determination, dedication and drive that must serve her well on the hockey field and what, no doubt, got her into the South African team in the first place.

Unathi balances out the disappointment of not going to Australia with the knowledge that she did her family, friends and University proud by getting so far.

"I still look at my uniform, it's under my bed, and think 'wow!'" she admits

Congratulations to Austin Kriel and Warren Potts, the other two Rhodes students who were in Australia. Both South African men and women student hockey teams were placed third, an outstanding achievement.

Campus Sport Renovations

Activate Reporter

THE RIFLE and Soccer Clubs have benefited from early renovations around campus.

The rifle club will be looking forward to showing off their upgraded rifle range when the British Schools shooting team arrive here in April.

The old system of cable tires and wire to hold up target frames will be replaced by cement and pins, enabling frames holding the targets to be slid in and out.

Instead of frames being fixed into position they can now be taken into the clubhouse, preventing rusting and theft.

Gavin Frayne of the rifle club praised the renovations. "It's the perfect system," he said, "It will save us a whole lot of trouble"

The new target system is staggered, slopping up on the left-hand side to enable shooters on the higher left side to get a bet-

ter view of the targets.

The university is also looking into turning the old 100m range into a clubhouse, using the cement range as a floor.

Soccer has been allocated a new clubhouse. An old storage building by King Field, near the old clubhouse, is presently being renovated for the club, keeping in line with the Universities policy of 'renovate rather than rebuild.'

Rob Benyon of Sports Administration described the new clubhouse as an "absolutely stunning facility".

The club will have a grand opening of the house, with exhibition games, early next term.

The old soccer clubhouse has been given over to a delighted Chess Society who have, up to now, had to share clubhouse facilities with the Aerobics Club.

Sports Supporters @ Rhodes

Biff McDoo

ANYONE who has ever been to Loftus Versveld will tell you that there's nothing like a Blue Bulls supporter. One of those guys with the khaki shorts and rugby socks, and whose abdomen shows the effects of many a cold lager. You know, the type who screams 'Vat hom fluffy' at least 10 times every half.

Mind you that's changed now that Sundowns are also playing their home games at the Versveld. The light blue making way for the canary yellow of the 'Brazilians' makes quite a change, with Chukwu-trains and not Just-Joost bringing the crowds to their feet.

But one must have doubts about the ability of any Blue Bull or Brazilian to keep pace with those individuals who find their calling in lurking at Rhodes sports fixtures.

The second cricket side, no

doubt, appreciated the ceremonial breaking of the tree on Great Field, in the recent night-series semi-final, as an ancient custom to bring luck to the team. The streakers (in traditional dress) also added their 'bit' to the festivities.

The astro-turf has also been drawing its fair share of crowds lately. Whether such crowds are there to enjoy the cost of beers at the sports bar, the (lack of) length of those purple skirts, or the antics of the opposition, one can be fairly sure that the hockey itself is very little more than an added extra.

Because the Rhodes sports supporter will always be a special kind of individual. The type of person who will never be in doubt of the cost of an ale at the nearest outlet, although the intricacies of the final score are often a bit lost on them.

The Problem with Inter-Res Sports

Katarzyna Zniemska

SIGN-UP SHEETS on residence notice boards remain empty, as very few students are willing to participate in inter-res sports.

Further, inter-res tournaments struggle to gain the support they need to warrant themselves an important place on the university's social calendar.

Due to lack of interest, many residences aren't able to enter teams into tournaments simply because they do not have the numbers to make up a team. This is more of a problem in girls' residences, where the common belief is that you have to have colours in a sport or play first team, to enter these competitions.

According to Rob Benyon, Rhodes Sports Officer, the residence system provides an ideal atmosphere for tournaments, as Grahamstown lacks a competitive sports league.

Inter-res tournaments are not organised for competition, but mainly for their fun and social

atmosphere, so that everyone can take part.

However some people feel embarrassed to be seen playing sport in public because they feel they are not good enough.

"People don't realize it's a fun thing," says Sarah McWilliam, Sports Rep of Walker House.

Sports Admin provides the facilities for sports tournaments and encourage the 31 sports clubs on campus to organise inter-res events.

Benyon feels that the success

of inter-res sport depend on the efficiency of the sports reps and their communication with the various clubs.

More advertising on the part of the clubs and sports admin is needed to motivate students to take part in inter-res sports.

"Sport is fantastic," says Benyon. "It promotes fitness, social skills and comes with perks such as fines meetings. Inter-res promotes res spirit and interaction. You have nothing to lose, even if you do come last."

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