

activate

Independent Student Newspaper

4th Edition



PC - MONY 00024

UNDER FIRE

ANTI-SMOKING
LEGISLATION

RES-FOOD
REFORMS

PORN IN
MALE
RESIDENCES

SETTING THE RAMPS ALIGHT

RMR FASHION SHOW . STORM MODELLING SCOUTS

HELL HATH NO FURY

WOMEN'S DAY CENTRESPREAD

HEAT OF THE MOMENT REVIEWS

CAMPUS
COMICS

MALE
STRIPPERS

NEW SPORTS
BAR

Law student killed in car crash

Vasco Zama Ndebele

THREE RHODES STUDENTS were involved in a car accident which killed one of them, LLB student Arnold Mhlanga and left his friends Shingirai Kadenhe and Andrew Kawonza in a coma and with minor injuries respectively. The accident occurred at Beitbridge, a town bordering Zimbabwe and South Africa while the students were driving back to university after the July vacation. On Thursday August 6 students and staff attended a memorial service at St Peter's Chapel for Arnold organised by the university. There was solemn silence on the lawns outside the Chapel as students waited for the service to begin.

"I did not believe it when the news was broken to me. It was really shocking. At the memorial service I finally realised that he was gone for good".

SRC treasurer Farai Shenge, who witnessed the accident said it occurred around 6:30 am on Sunday 29 July. He said it initially appeared as if, "Arnold was in a much better

state than Shingi who could not talk". The injured were taken to Beitbridge Hospital where there was a lot of confusion "Basically they did not help us much," said Shenge. Arnold died around noon and Shingi was airlifted on a chartered plane to Harare for medical treatment.

"You could wake Arnold up at 12 midnight and he would drive you to the township to buy booze".

On campus, news of Arnold's untimely death was met with shock. "I did not believe it when the news was broken to me. It was really shocking. At the memorial service I finally realised that he was gone for real," said Gugu Mvemve, one of Arnold's friends. "He was so funny, a nice person to talk to, though at times he said dirty things, but all the same it was still fun," she added. Another friend, Panganai Sharawakanda said: "Arnold always had a plan. He was fun-loving but still focused on his studies." He remembered in depth the encounters they enjoyed and the lessons of good friendship. "We both finished our degrees in record time," he added.

But, Fourie said that political parties are not always representative of the entire student body. The student body is so apathetic that whether cultural or political societies were chosen as representatives, it still wouldn't be representative of the student body, said Mfenyana. According to Mfenyana, the political parties are those who got Transformation off the ground after looking at the campaigns against the deans of other universities and prevent what happened there. So if the plenary is supposed to consist of the masses and it is supposed to affect the students, why do so few students know about it? According to Bella Mfenyana, the student mass is segregated in terms of being politically orientated or not. Plenary discussions are advertised, however only those that are that way inclined notice the advertisements. Obviously they do not deal with petty things

Although this is a forum which is concerned with university affairs, it is politically based.

such as, "RMR wants to change their room," said Mfenyana. The results aimed for, as Fourie says, depends on whom you talk to. "I would like it to reach an agreement on what kind of university this is and how it is governed," said Fourie. According to Mfenyana, the SRC are concerned with moving the university towards a more holistic trend and a new democratic order, so that the university does not remain stagnant. However the process is moving slowly due to "predetermined well-strategised means," said Mfenyana, meaning that some play the political game better than others do.

Panganai's speech was met with giggles by some, while tears ran down the faces of many students. Tseko Moloi, also a friend, said after the service: "You could wake Arnold at 12 midnight and he would drive you to the township to buy booze. He was an organiser, a man who believed that everyone should have fun." Gugu agreed with Tseko and said



Arnold Mhlanga

Arnold was always willing to sacrifice for other people. "With the Tri-Varsity around, he could have come around to New House to ask us who wanted to go to UPE". The Mhlanga family suffered a tragic loss about two years ago when Arnold's mother died. "We must pray for his family who are going through a hard time with a

"He was so funny, a nice person to talk to..."

double loss within a short space of time. Let us also pray for Shingi who is still in hospital," Shenje appealed to the congregation. Arnold's death has robbed Rhodes University of a fun-loving peace-maker who enjoyed his life with fellow students and was always ready to sacrifice for others. Justice Nkolele, Senior Student at Adamson House, where Arnold lived said, "We will miss him. He was a good friend of ours at Adamson". The latest news is that Shingi is now out the hospital's Intensive Care ward and Andrew has returned to campus. We must all pray for Shingi's speedy recovery.

Disruptive behaviour at PE airport

Nadine Botha

ON 26 JULY, airport security and the police were alerted to deal with three disruptive Rhodes students creating problems for the Rhodes transport service, outside the Port Elizabeth Airport. The problem arose when there was not enough transport. As a result of students without bookings being allowed on the bus, two Zimbabwean students who had booked were refused transport. These students apparently created a scene when they were not allowed to board the bus. They were also, apparently, under the influence of alcohol. According to Colleen Schafer, the transport official present, one could smell it and they were still drinking out of small tot bottles. She warned them that they had to "behave if they wanted to get on". The regulations of the transport service explicitly state that no one carrying alcohol, no one inebriated and no one who is acting in a disruptive manner may board the bus. They were also not happy about the fact that they were sidelined while the ladies were being asked to board first, so as not to leave them alone at the airport. They surrounded the trailer, making it difficult for students to load their luggage. They became very abusive and swore at one of the drivers. They argued they were being discriminated against due to their race. Schafer said, "It was not the colour of their skin, but their behavior." Accusations were hurled and they threatened and intimidated Schafer, her daughter - who was helping her out - and the other students. One of the students climbed in to the bus and refused to budge for about half an hour, unless he was given a place on the bus. Airport security requested them to calm down, as they were making a scene although they could not interfere as it was out of their jurisdiction. The police were called in to remove the students. No charges were laid against them, at the request of Schafer. It is still unsure if Rhodes University is to take disciplinary action against the three students, although they are weighing up the situation surrounding Rhodes transport, said Mrs Schafer. The university is thinking about employing a private subcontractor, for which students will then have to pay. Currently, the transport department is in a R50 000 deficit. By employing a private company, they feel it will be more cost effective. Lately, the department is suffering with the amount of students they have to cater for, which a private company will be better equipped to deal with. This will also force students to be more responsible about booking places. Rhodes transport caters for about 20 people who do not book. On this particular occasion there were nine extra and Schafer called for Beeline Taxi to pick them up.

Is change near?

Nadine Botha

IS RHODES UNIVERSITY looking after its own country by admitting so many foreign students? Should Rhodes University change its name in the vein of the new South Africa? Is the admissions policy catering for a new developing South Africa with applicants from so many diverse backgrounds? Should the university council or the cross-representative Transformation Forum have more power in the university? These are just a few issues facing the Transformation Forum here at Rhodes University. According to the registrar, Dr Stephen Fourie, the Transformation Forum is an Executive Committee to steer transformation at Rhodes University. It includes representatives from management (Dr Fourie being one) senate, council, academic staff, non-academic staff, Naho Ntesu, the community, and students. The SRC and various political parties such as SASCO and Demsoc represent the students. The executive committee is then backed up by the plenary which consists of the masses, said Bella Mfenyana of the SRC. Although this is a forum which is concerned with university affairs, it is politically based. The fact that students are mostly represented by political parties is both beneficial and detrimental, according to Fourie. Many issues are political. "One can't put a lay person on to the forum", said Mfenyana, as people are very serious and there is a lot of political documentation.

Making money matter

Solomon Makgale

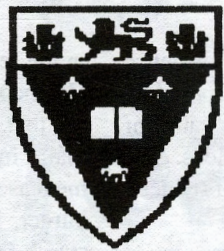
THE LACK OF central confidence by South Africans on the local market affects how foreigners invest in the country said South African Reserve Bank (SARB) Deputy Governor here recently. Addressing over 200 Grahamstown residents, students, business people and academics, SARB deputy governor Tim Thahane said, "foreigners don't invest in a country where the nationals don't invest themselves". He said: "SA's saving ratio is very low. It is about 14 per cent. We need a savings rate of 25 per cent to get the growth rate up and reduce unemployment by creating jobs." Thahane predicted a fall in interest rates, an increase in the economic growth and a stable rand by next year. However, he said this was dependent on SA's economic fundamentals remaining sound. Thahane said the recent decline in the value of the rand which led to an increase in interest rates, was caused by the withdrawal of short-term investments. He said: "This is a general global sentiment and not a fundamental misalignment of the SA economy. Those in control of large sums of money simply felt most emerging economies, including SA, had problems and would not give them the returns they needed. "Investors are not loyal to any one country. They don't hesitate to move funds away." Thahane said SA was powerless to change this. "You don't respond to such events by imposing a control

mechanism. The world moves on and we will be left standing." Thahane said SA had to become more attractive to foreign direct investment (FDI) in order to build its infrastructure and deliver long-term economic growth and to create jobs. "We have limited resources. We cannot, as a matter of policy, fight these people," he said.

Changing names

Marla de Gray Birch

THE HUMAN MOVEMENT Studies (HMS) Department recently changed its name to the Department of Human Kinetics and Ergonomics. This is in keeping with the Department's movement, over the past few years, towards an emphasis on the discipline of ergonomics. "Human Kinetics is a National acceptance of human movement studies. It really is just a name change and ergonomics is indicating our direction " says Head of Department Professor Pat Scott. Ergonomics, refers to the analysis of the human being in the working environment. With Rhodes placing probably the most emphasis on ergonomics out of all the South African universities, Professor Scott believes that, "we can offer something very, very substantial to South Africa at the moment".



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'Revolting' reaction to res food reforms

Karyn Maughan

RES FOOD. The words that send a compulsive shiver down the spine of the collectively health conscious. Bitching about it has become an accepted conversation topic, not unlike an arbitrary discussion of the weather. But does it really deserve its bad reputation? People who really have had cause to complain are those individuals who are required to fork out an additional R220 for the pleasure of eating Halaal, Hindu or medical meals. Fortunately, for this year at least, these additional charges have been reversed. This means that culturally or health specified dishes no longer demand an added cost, a cost which could be viewed as a form of religious discrimination.

So why the extra cost in the first place?

According to Warwick Heathcote, who is

responsible for housekeeping and residence food, Hindu and Halaal menus are prepared by separate caterers who charge more because of the expense of Halaal meat and spices. The cost is lower this year only because of reduced meat prices.

"... all meals incorporate every one of the main food groups."

However valid this may sound, there is still a feeling amongst students that alternative diets are secondary in quantity and quality to the "normal" one. Tina, a student, finds her mostly vegetarian meals to be "low in nutrition, bulky and not carefully prepared". She spends at least fifty Rand extra a month on snacks to supplement her three residence meals. She says that "although there is, to a certain extent, value for money", the food is not, as promised

in the res brochure, "nutritionally balanced". Heathcote counters this statement, maintaining that all meals incorporate every one of the main food groups. He uses the hamburger meal as an example: "If you examine the hamburger, it has meat, carbohydrate in the roll, starch from the chips, salad and you get fruit from the juice".

Heathcote is responsible for drawing up the menu, aided by the Halaal/Hindu caterer, and is emphatic that he ensures "a meat, starch, yellow vegetable and leafy green vegetable" in every meal.

"... students have heaped abuse on the catering staff."

When questioned about the relatively small size of the "healthy" salad platter option, Heathcote responded that he could only

address problems he was aware of. He likened the catering system to a "surrogate mother", who would be glad to provide an extra leafy green if asked to.

Concerning the recent cancellation of 'seconds' in all dining halls, Heathcote explained that it was a decision prompted by the bad behaviour of students, not a lack of resources. Apparently, incensed by a lack of extra food at the end of a meal and presumably maddened by hunger, students have heaped abuse on the catering staff. Staff have been accused of everything from racism to claims that they have eaten or hidden the food away. According to Heathcote, "it just got out of hand".

Perhaps the most conclusive comment on res food came from Sheila, a Hindu student, "I can see that they are trying," she says, "but it can't compare to the food I get at home".

X-RATING GUYS RESIDENCES

Nadine Botha and Boule Leuner

THE COMMON ROOM: a place in a girls' residence where movies are watched on Sundays and fights between Simunye and M-Net audiences take place every other day.

Why the gender discrimination in this definition? Well, because in guys' residences, the activities taking place in common rooms seem to be quite obscure - to put it mildly.

Next time you walk past a guy's common room - "day time, night time, anytime" - take a chance to find out what the blue flickers on the wall really are.

Catching on yet...? Well if you haven't already guessed it, the bottom line is that there seems to be an abundance of porn video screenings in guys' residences. Well perhaps, perhaps not. Some guys say they watch blue movies any day, any time, while others say they only watch occasionally. There are also those who are adamant that the closest they get to porn is the weekly *Red Shoe Diaries*.

"... it's better to fantasize about someone in a movie than someone on campus - especially if you have a girlfriend."

In a certain residence, it's considered not only to help cross cultural and social barriers, but also to be educational! Not only this, but it "keeps us honest," says one informant. He believes that it is better to fantasize about someone in a movie than someone on campus - especially if you have a girlfriend. (And the girlfriend?) According to other sources *ACTIVATE* spoke to, porn creates racial segregation. However this comment came only from residences where there aren't organised porn evenings, but rather groups of friends

who watch sporadically.

Most viewing takes place at the bewitching hour of 12 'o clock and some girls who have been around at this time have even had the fortune/misfortune of watching these movies, though generally it seems to be a guy bonding activity.

"The movies are so porno that they are porno."

Apparently porn viewing is at its peak during exam time when stress and tension manifests in sexual frustration - and chances are that the guys aren't getting any. The "ice dildo one" supposedly brags 100% attendance. The story lines are so ridiculous, and the sex is so blatant that most people just watch for amusement: "the movies are so porno that they are porno," said one informant.

Perhaps a more flourishing form of porn in guys' residences is the swapping and storing of pictures downloaded from the Internet. "At about two in the morning, I just go down there, and download while no one's around," said one guy. Another guy said that when he logged onto a computer next to his girlfriend's, the previous user's screen-saver of a splayed woman flashed on. His girlfriend wasn't very impressed!

According to guys interviewed, flipping through porn magazines is a popular past time among younger males: it's part of the growing up thing and doing something illegal. Yet there are supposedly magazine stashes in reses which guys can borrow from, provided they collect the magazines in a brown paper bag.

And now with all these questions answered, the guys seem to feel we owe them one and so they ask: "Is there porn in girls' residences?"

no smoking - no smoking - no smoking - no smoking

THESE ARE NOT sterling days for the tobacco industry. As the once untouchable cigarette empires come under fire from an ever-increasing number of social factions, they may now count the South African Government amongst their 'enemies'.

Though not yet passed, the 'Tobacco Products Control Amendment Bill' has snared a fair amount of public attention with its proposed new regulations regarding smoking in public places and tobacco advertising.

Ignore the rumours, cut the bullshit, roughly translated, this is what the Bill says: smoking is not permitted in any enclosed area, indoor space open to the public or anywhere in the workplace (this includes cafeterias, washrooms, elevators or any place where employees gather).

Offenders are liable for a fine of up to R200.

The truly contentious side of the Bill though, relates to its blanket ban on cigarette promotion. No advertising, no give-aways, and... here's the crunch... no sponsorship. Goodbye Grand Prix, farewell Winfield rugby, and just about everything else that even whispers cigarette promotion. On a local level, this includes RMR's Camel Campus countdown on Saturdays.

FOLLOWING THIS NATIONAL trend, Rhodes University has recently implemented its own policy on smoking which bans smoking in any University building other than the student Union complex. Residences are also not covered by this ban and have been allowed the discretion to impose their own rules on smoking. *ACTIVATE* interviewed staff and students on campus to find out what their opinions on this issue are.

Pics: Hugh Ellis



Brett Lock, Lecturer, Journ. Dept. : "It's fascist. I think it's unreasonable to expect people to carry on functioning under these conditions ...I think that a far more reasonable course of action would be to encourage responsible smoking."

Brenda Potgieter, reception, Admin: "I'm very happy because I'm allergic to smoke."

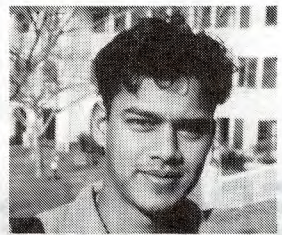


Gina Wilson, BJourn III: "I think it's the best thing they ever did ... a lot of people these days don't care about anybody else as long as they can smoke and keep themselves happy."

Sibs Solombela, BComm I: "I only smoke when I'm drunk but when I'm sober, I hate the smell of it!"

Wayne Thornley, BA III: "It's their choice [to smoke] but they can't force it on me, so I agree with it [the new rule] - whole heartedly."

Sanjay Parbhoo, BBS I: "I think that people should have the choice to smoke ... but then you also have to consider the fact that it's



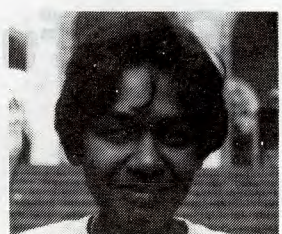
Dan Wylie, Lecturer, English Dept.: "Yes! Yes! Got them at last!"



Lineo "Dee" Leboela, BA I: "People are such hypocrites, they always diss us people who smoke - smoking causes lung disease, causes

throat whatever, whatever ... you never get those kinds of [warnings] on beer cans."

Donna Kipps, BJourn III: "I think that the University has very little choice about implementing this rule, all they're doing is keeping in line with National policy."



Joelene Gengan, BPharm I: "It doesn't really make a difference - everywhere else that you go... there are still people smoking."

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Editorial

IF INTERVARSITY was an animal it would've been a comatose, drunk monkey walking around wrapped in a map of the Eastern Cape. What I'm trying to say is that intervarsity, and we all know this, is a dangerous sport in itself. Rucks in bars, flying sticks in cars, accidents at the vending machine and low levels of concentration on the rim of a toilet can easily result in a good weekend turning bad-assed.

WHEN WE'RE drunk we're brave and clever and confident and superhuman and, ultimately, rather pathetically fucked up. For some people it happens after two ciders, for some after fourteen tequilas and for some after eating a vineyard, but it comes in a similar moment which for me materialises in the bottom of a glass when you can only see half the reflection of your face while the rest becomes a foaming sandcastle, a gaping frog-mouth and a eyeball fingerprint all at once. You catch my drift. You know when you've reached the point of no recollection, so give your keys to your mates, don't harass girls, don't punch people you don't like and go and pass out quietly in a corner.

IT WAS of course also Women's Day recently and besides the fact that it got us a day off varsity and every day is women's day in any case etc etc, women's rights still deserve our attention. The world is changing, but in some places it happens slowly, fighting against ancient traditions, customs and religion. This we also have to understand, or at least acknowledge - it finally all comes down to respect.

IF YOU didn't do the Intervarsity thing, you might have experienced the debauchery thing in any case, as I did at Oppikoppi. Lots of drunk people together is hardly a good idea, but most will remember it as glorious fun. Talking about Oppikoppi, well done to the threesome from iTolofiya who played a brilliant set while competing in the final of the national Battle of the Bands. Although beaten by Cape Town stowaways Blunt, iTolofiya stood head and shoulders above the other finalists as far as tightness and originality went. A magnificent way to close off a great first year for the band. If you see any of the band members around, ask nicely and they might sell you a demo tape. They'll become collector's items.

THIS IS the final edition of Activate under the current collective, so look out for some (possibly) exciting changes in the next edition. Third term, mmmm... now what was that about the bottom of a beer again?

Creditorial

Maria (I'm a moron and I don't like exercise), Geoff (I have 13 inches of manhood), Heather (Cut the crap Jak, just give it to me), Teresa (It's getting angry. Jak are you giving me eyes?), Bella (He had a nice scrotum. I was gushing), Jak (I have a pirate version, but it's circumcised), Hugh (They'd probably find me attractive), Glenda (I really must go), Andrew (What you got to do is unzip it), Toast (It's Coetzer with one E and a Fucking R), Nidaa (That was my first time), Celine, Sneha, Aaron, Sarah M, Semthamera, Karyn, Nadine, Boule, Vasco, Solomon, Elan-Sascha, Shelley Fielding, Natasha, Taryn, Andile Clive, Sarah W, Floyd, Julia, Pelagia, the Journ Department and especially Brett and Chris for all their help.

On the 23rd of August...

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Choose your Gurus. Ascend to positions of power.

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Target

T	B	M
R	S	I
E	A	N

HOW many words with four letters or more can you make from the letters shown here? In making a word each letter shown must be used once only and each word must include the letter in the middle. No plurals, verb forms ending with 's', or words with a hyphen or apostrophe are permitted.

CLASSIFIEDS

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This editions target is:

Good - 50 words
Very Good - 75 words
Excellent 90 words or more

Pelagla Bangure

RUNNING FOR COVER

HMM, JA OK, the cover picture is very Femina. Descending into the depths of mascara and funny dresses and pouting lips and whatever the fuck you have. Beginning of the year other throats on Activate reckoned I was sexist 'cause I only put pics of guys on the cover. Lately it's been girls, girls, girls. Now I'll still be a sexist, exploiting blah blah. Go figure. Pretty things are pretty, ugly things aren't.

Fact of the matter is that the RMR Fashion Show deserves some praise. Since when do some first years, for crying out in black

CAPS, actually get off their arses and organise something of this nature? While most first years and students in general, crawl around from lecture to beer to lunch to beer to bed to beer to girls or boys to beer to party to books to beer to computers, and finally, to beer, these guys did something rather special. By the way, if you think the cover design is shit, hit Jak with a backhand and forcibly take his pirated version of Corel Draw from him next time you spot him around. He's the man with the itchy fingers.

Toast Coetzer

Horror Scopes

BongBong the Omniscient was hectically stirring our bubbling cauldron the whole weekend trying to conjure up some answers to your future. Unfortunately, the know it all knocked the pot over, so we opted for the toilet bowl instead.

Taurus (April 21 - May 21)

Unless you are very careful two of your favourite items will go missing from your room, most likely the 500 ml bottle of pure C.K. One you just bought on special offer at the Duty Free Shop and the brand new cell-phone you are still paying for. As a result you will not have a date for the Hindu Soc ball.



Gemini (May 22 - June 21)

You will start to hear strange sounds emanating from your belly button. Do not ignore them. You have finally managed to connect with your true mental self and if you can successfully decode the noise, you will find that it provides a clear outline of your November exam questions. Stay close to a music student.

Cancer (June 22 - July 23)

You will receive a letter from your faculty officer saying due to a computer-generated error, you have registered for the wrong subjects this year and will need to repeat another year of varsity to get your degree. The good news is that due to the same computer error the catering department will give you free meals at Kimberley Hall for the rest of this year.

Leo (July 24 - August 23)

No one will sit next to you in lectures this week because you have not had a bath since you left home in July and can't squeeze anything else out of that toothpaste tube. It's time to buy some shower gel, wash behind your ears and throw out your tie-die underwear.

Virgo (Aug 24 - Sept 23)

There is so much static in your body from the free tequila shots you have been drinking. Take care. The fumes and drool from your hangover could cause the plug on your radio to short circuit. This means that the only thing you will be able to listen to is Paul "Viv" Lewellyn on RMR.

Libra (Sept 24 - October 23)

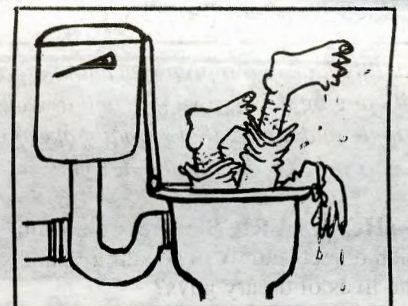
Don't go to the toilet alone this month. If you do, it is very likely that you will walk out of there with two ply toilet paper hanging out of your pants.

Scorpio (Oct 24 - Nov 22)

Your divorced landlady and her 39 year old daughter will both fall hopelessly in love with you and because you have just become a vegetarian they will start making peanut butter and cucumber sandwiches for you every morning. A technical oversight in your lease means you will not be able to move out.

Sagittarius (Nov 23 - Dec 22)

Your aspirations to become a high earning international model will fall through because of your toe nails. You should have worn closed shoes to the Confront fashion show, that way the Storm agent would not have noticed your bunions.



Capricorn (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

Make sure that you go to the library this term. There is a book in there on the third floor, which was last signed out in 1932. If you go to the 29th footnote on page 9267A of the Hebrew version, you will find the key to life.

Aquarius (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

You will have a recurring dream in which you meet an American exchange student who offers you a new brand of Bill Clinton endorsed "I didn't have sex with Monica Lewinsky" condoms. Don't accept them. You are being set up.

Pieces (Feb 20 - March 21)

Your lucky colour for this month is blue. Anything could happen to you while you are around water, so spend your free lecture periods walking anti-clockwise around the fountain saying your name backwards to the goldfish.

Aries (March 22 - April 20)

There is something in the air that makes you think you are an alien and you keep wanting to eat Jasmine sprigs, one at least three times a day, so make sure you take your multi-vitamins and drink plenty of water.

DOING IT - WITHOUT THE MEN

Natasha Mansour

EASING MYSELF from the bubble-brimmed bath (which I had wallowed in for a good amount of African time) I slink back to my room. As the last few bubbles tingle playfully along the rear of my neck, I procrastinate in front of my not-quite-Donna-Karan-but-almost wardrobe (which is relying heavily on Jo'burg to help ditch the "almost"). My eyes begin to hunt down the most appropriate outfit for the forthcoming occasion. I require something that will cry out with the arty parlance of Pauly Shore, radiate the strip-teasing panache of Ms. Moore whilst simultaneously maintaining that not-quite-pristine innocence of Kate Winslet. Naturally, to many of Adam's replicas, this desired combination might seem typically Eve:Rebellious, demanding but unavoidably tempting. It's a look that will give any

testosterone proprietor daunting genetic flashbacks of the Garden of Eden: "Have a bite, Adam" "NO, Eve" "HAVE A BITE, ADAM!" "NO EVE!" She flutters her eyelids, he waggles his fig (as in fig-leaf) and what does the male do... He bites her apple. Now tell me again, which sex dominates?

Unlike male earthlings, women subject themselves to an emotional existence which mirrors a bungi-cord.

After much fashion ado, I pick out the slinky purple-and-black number. If dresses were cars this would have to be a Lamborghini. There is nothing more appetising than a body-hugging cocktail dress that sports a tank of "I'll take you places" gasoline for a personality. It is a renowned fact that women around the globe depend on the success of their appearance to elevate their confidence when performing socially. There is a phenomenal amount of effort that is dedicated to female grooming. It is a legitimate form of sport...YES...SPORT! A game of tennis could not be any more graceful: Ms. W. O. Man vs. Reflection de Mirror. First service - an ace of base, followed by gentle ricochets of cosmetic colour...Fifteen-Luv. Her grip on the racquet of her beauty tools tightens as her petite physique shifts from angle to flattering angle. Meanwhile, her coach, Tommy Hilfiger, splashes her neck with scented kisses of encouragement. Game, set, match. One more nightly victory for womankind (but of course).

All this thanks to her sponsors - Revlon, Estee Lauder and Calvin Klein. Now I'd like to see

Andre compete with that. (Even if, like the tabloids say, he did deflower Brooke Shields.) There I was: like the Big Mac burger I had always dreamed of becoming: saucy, enticing and ready-to-go (minus the "cheap" factor). Already running 30 minutes late for my date. Hmm... I think I'll have to use "my cousin in Australia rang just as I was leaving" excuse... my partner has to believe me... after all I'm wearing a killer dress. I proceed cautiously down the stairwell, perfumed with pride. Pride to be me, pride to be... a woman.

Unlike male earthlings, women subject themselves to an emotional existence which mirrors a bungi-cord. These blow-outs usually happen somewhere on the love-life front. We can play the Marilyn Monroe seductress: "Why don't you come on up, all I have on is the radio". A moment later we can be an ignorant, selfish Brooke Logan: "Oh darling, let's just forget that my children are actually your siblings, but are calling you 'daddy' ". But if one chooses to fiddle with our "No entry" zone, we defensively transform into animal paragon: "Woof, woof, meoooo-www."

We laugh, we love, we hate, we cry, we hate, we shop and we hate.

The fact remains that a woman's mercurial temperament is uncontrollable, unstoppable, and cannot be reasoned with (and you boys thought it was a co-incidence that your ex-girlfriends sometimes sound like the terminator). We laugh, we love, we hate, we cry, we hate, we shop and we hate. Give it up boys, even Scully and Mulder could never get us down to scientific principles.

Nevertheless, to know a woman is to love a woman and whilst pondering on that I sauntered into the candlelit room. An impatient bottle of J.C. Le Roux chilled quietly on ice. The decor almost seems to hum in agreement to Eric Clapton's "Wonderful Tonight". As I sit myself down, I blush at the thought of this enticing threesome. I pour the champagne and toast to my honorary guests: me, myself and I. Somewhere in the backroom a calendar might have chanced to tell you that it was August 9th 1998. Yes, women's day had arrived.

... to know a woman is to love a woman...

My solo date commences and I sigh as I recall a feminist quote I heard sometime ago: "Yes, I am wise, but it's a wisdom full of pain. Yes I've paid the price, but look how much I've gained. I am wise... I am invincible... I am... a woman."

Cheers Ladies!



Tough Cookies

Shelley Fielding

Chantilly lace and a pretty face and a ponytail hanging down, a wiggle and a walk, a giggle and a talk, that's what makes the world go round, round, round.

DO THESE LYRICS express the truth? Are women objects purely to be admired and spice up the lives of dreary guys?

The attitude of this song is pretty much the same as the attitude of the organizers who named the GIRLIE party held at The Union. This party was to celebrate Woman's Day, a day devoted to reflecting on just how far women have traveled on the road of equality. Was that, however, the way in which the young women of Rhodes wanted to celebrate such a momentous occasion? Well, it certainly appeared that way but appearances are often deceiving.

What looked like vibrant, fun-loving girls turned out to be sexually confused boys coming out of the closet. Their dress displayed the typically stereotyped, trashy image that males continue to have of females.

To put the nipple on the bosom some GUY won the prize for the best dressed woman!

Males can try as hard as they want to be feminine but they won't succeed. Even if they grasp a woman's dress code and learn to pucker their lips without looking like bulldogs crossed with prostitutes, they will never be able to fathom the workings of a woman's mind.

Besides the name of the party, a picture of rather buxom breasts displayed on posters was used as an advertising gig.

While there are many 'cheesed off' lady Rhodents out there, I cannot deny that many of them have forgiven those guys involved in defacing Woman's Day - but they haven't forgotten. So sorry guys, no Men's Day for you, EVER!



"Women should be barefoot and pregnant... and in the kitchen": Still in the kitchen for Women's Day this year were the staff of Rhodes' dining halls who didn't get the day off. Pics: Hugh Ellis

Union Fee rip-off?

Taryn Hickson

AT THE BEGINNING of the year, like many other over-zealous first years, I joined the Union (and just about every other society on campus). After paying my R65 and going through the procedure of having my Dallas chip initialised, you can imagine how I felt when one Friday night I went to the Union, armed with my chip, only to discover that the gates were open and that anyone could get in - member or not!

It was at this point that I realised my mission, my calling in life: to be a crusader of justice for others like myself. Just think of me as RU's version of Isabel Jones - the truth was out there, and I would find it!

After being sent from one person to another, I finally found Kaif and Union manager, Peter Boshoff, who was able to shed some light on the situation. It turns out that the reason the Union gates aren't working is because someone pulled the connecting wires out some time ago. The person who originally installed the Union security gate and dining hall meal booking systems died in a car accident recently and the University has been unable to find someone else to repair the wiring. The good news is that someone from East London will be coming in to fix the gate system soon.

With that question answered, I enquired about where the R65 membership fee goes to. According to Boshoff, the fee goes to the maintenance and improvement of the club, as well as the liquor license. Boshoff then uses any money made from the sale of alcohol to hire DJs.

There you have it, it seems that there was no conspiracy on campus to scam us poor students out of our parents' hard earned cash. So until the gates are fixed, enjoy not having to flaunt your athletic (or not so athletic) skills when throwing your chips over the balcony to friends who can't get in!

Fashion spectacular a first for Rhodes

Julia Paterson

CONFRONT THE BEGINNING could easily be called the event of the year. This fashion show promised to provide viewers with a "visual orgasm", and it certainly did. When it came to the designs, we saw it all: Pulp Fiction meets black plastic bags, the Goth - priest - death look, and a very wicked angel.



First prize winner: Jane Breetzke and her model Nina walk down the catwalk in the grand finale.

Pic: Toast Coetzer

For many, the evening did not start off too well. The audience had to wait outside in sub-zero temperatures while a very disorganized front door management sorted themselves out. The organizers had obviously not expected such a crowd but a definite mob mentality was developing while tempers ran high.

Once seated, the atmosphere within the stark Great Hall became electric.

After waiting for forty minutes, the show got under way with a group of dancers under an Egyptian influence. We also had Zingi doing Michael Jackson (which included moonwalks and pelvic thrusts) and an appearance from

Miss Universe South Africa 1997, Mbali Gasa, with her beauty queen wave, sash and diamante earrings.

The hosts for the evening were Graunt Kruger and Sorisha Naidoo. Sorisha wore a Jono Hall original which caused whoops of admiration. The judges were Michelle Mackintosh and Caroline Molteno of Storm South Africa Model Management based in Cape Town, and Head of the Fine Art department, Professor Mark Haywood.

The opening piece was a design by Victoria Boucher which was modelled by Claire, our current Miss Rhodes. This silver creation started the show off with a bang and paved the way for a parade of funky designs.

The show stopper of the evening was Hercules Joubert's "transparent sculpture" which model Werner wore with such bravery. How would you feel if pandemonium broke out when you walked out on stage naked except for a transparent plastic skirt and platforms?

Finally, the winner was announced: Jane Breetzke, whose creation symbolized the four elements, won the R1000 prize. Her model, Nina, walked down the ramp to the sounds of crashing waves and didgery-doo and was accompanied by flame twirlers. Second prize went to Victoria Boucher's blend of Western and Eastern culture in which Sivuye sported a leopard print top, hotpants, top hat and crop. Vaughan Smuts's 90% bio-degradable, pre-millennium, 5th element type "return of the bra" design came third with model Enia waltzing down the cat-walk, orange hair extensions adding much splendour to the effect.

Everyone, including the judges, was very impressed. Michelle Mackintosh and Mark Haywood felt the show was "exciting and well done" and that it came off "very professionally". Let's hope this event carries on for years to come.

You never know, the next Calvin Klein may be right on our doorstep.



Starting the show with a bang: Claire, our current Miss Rhodes, wore one of Victoria Boucher's three entries.

Pic: Toast Coetzer



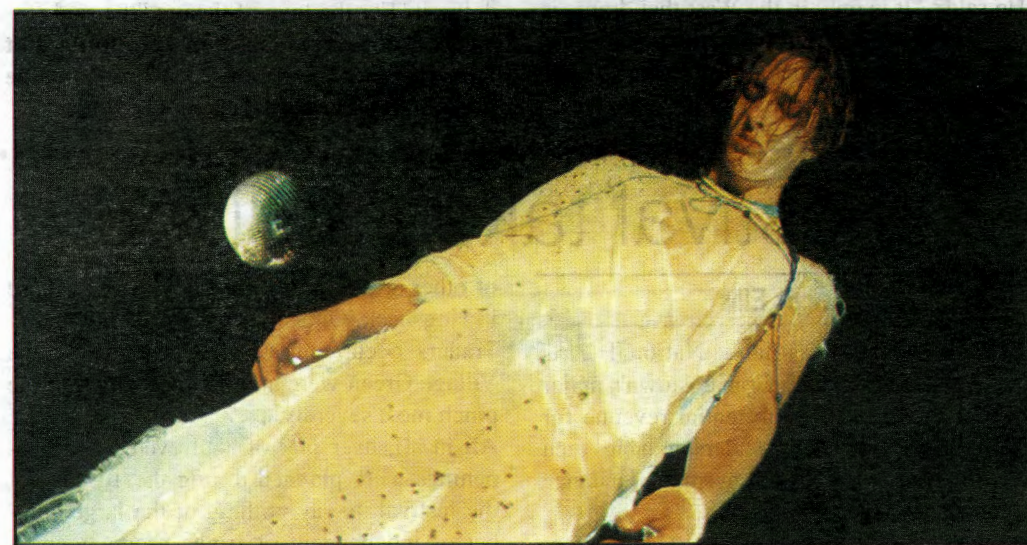
The wicked angel: Margo in Sam Wilson's creation - covering the vital statistics is REM on the left and the Stone Roses on the right.

Pic: Monty Cooper



From the Garden of Eden: Sashir, in Roselyn Kanyenze's design, takes a bite from the apple that she later threw into the crowd.

Pic: Monty Cooper



Wet in action: Model, Guy, shows off a Floyd Wood creation.

Pic: Toast Coetzer

RHODES TAKEN BY STORM

Floyd Wood

WHO WOULD have thought that the international modeling agency Storm would be searching for models on Rhodes University's Grahamstown campus? Well they were here, doing just that, on Saturday 15 August.

The agency's Managing Director, Michelle Mackintosh, along with Head Women's Booker, Caroline Molteno, were invited to co-judge the RMR Designer Fashion Show. In return, they requested that they be allowed to conduct a model search on campus.

Just to fill you in ... Storm's South African branch is based in Cape Town. It was established by multi-millionaire Richard Bransen and caters for both photographic and ramp models. On their international books are the likes of top-models Kate Moss, Kylie Bax, and "Wonderbra" model Eva Herzigova.

The agents were scouting for potential female models of over 5ft8" and male models of over 6ft in height. A long list was crammed with the names of hopeful students.

Among those selected were Sivuye, Amma and her brother Kwesi.



Show stopper: Brave model Werner, wearing a very transparent Hercules Joubert creation, made the *Confront the beginning...* fashion show a night that won't be forgotten!

Pic: Toast Coetzer

The Drum, The Witch, And The Coffin

Brett Bailey's theatre provokes, angers, excites and possesses audiences. He is South Africa's master of ritual drama. When his drum beats its hypnotic pull draws people to something haunting and unforgettable. Solomon Makgale reports.

IPI ZOMBI? hit this year's Grahamstown Festival with a crash of thunder and lightning. A mind boggling, extremely disturbing piece of art that is proving to be one of this country's most talked about works in years.

The play is based on a kombi crash in which 12 black Kokstad schoolboys were killed three years ago. Survivors claimed to have seen 50 naked women at the side of the road just before the crash. It is believed that these

It's like an arrow released to strike...our souls

women were novice witches hungry for human blood necessary for the ukuthwasa (graduation) ceremony.

The story aroused much controversy and was covered extensively by the media. Many school kids were convinced that their school friends were turned into zombies by a woman known as Mrs Mogudu. The school boys believed that she had kept them in her wardrobe and therefore did not want the crash victims to be buried. Sangomas tried, unsuccessfully, to resurrect the bodies and to tell whom the witches were.

The intriguing play involves all five senses. It's like an arrow released to strike one of the most vulnerable, the core part of our beings: our souls.

Brett Bailey, producer and director, cleverly utilizes the powerful tool of drama to get people thinking, deeply involved spiritually and to alter perceptions. Never mind the black coffin outside the venue, witches and zombies or the red 'deliver us from evil' sign up on the stage, it is the hypnotic pounding of a gigantic drum with funeral chants and the wailing in the background that disturbs more. It creates a peculiar presence: powerful, spiritual. The ambience makes the body stiffen as the

immediate aura causes your spine to freeze. The play might be regarded by some as a perpetuation of black stereotypes, nevertheless it forces certain truths to the fore. IpiZombi? reinforces the power inherent in African spirituality, redefines drama and clears people's perception of that power.

Ipi Zombi? conjures up strange memories for me as an African. As young boys, a friend and I stole sugar from his house and ate it. Later

"I feel like I am the most powerful witch doctor alive."

that evening, I fell ill and lost consciousness. I was taken to an inyanga. When I woke up, he showed me a frog that had come out of my stomach after purgation.

Ipi Zombi? is not fictitious, it is figurative, an authentic reflection of the power of African spirituality. It is a ritual in which the audience is not just observing but participating. Cast member, Nomfundo Dubula, who acts as a witch doctor says when she is on stage, the distinction between herself and the character gets blurred, "I feel like I am the most powerful witch doctor alive. A spirit wells up inside my belly making me powerful and capable of anything," she says. Another member, Andile Bonga, agrees, saying he literally feels like an izombie when performing. Just how is this possible? The cast spent two weeks in a cave with witch doctors, sangomas, diviners and all kinds of worshippers in

"I want this whole fuckin' place up in flames."

the Free State. Each person prayed to his or her own divine power; whether they be the Christian God or ancestors or combination of both. Afterwards the cast got together to pray to the ancestors, "so that we could catch the spirit of the play," says Bonga. Bailey also inseminates the spirit on the cast through meditation and yoga. From high-ranking sangomas, who dance for over four hours daily, he claims to have learnt that the dance, "allows their bodies to be possessed by spirits easily," he says.

And this is what Bailey regards as being powerful and healed. "We meditate on the spirit of fire during rehearsals and before each performance. It makes these people very strong. It heals them as well," he says.



Pic: Andile Clive Ntingi

Before the meditation rites, the cast and Bailey dance and sing around the fire. He then tells them to imagine red coals emanating from the belly to their fingertips. "I push them really hard. I turn their bodies into flames. I tell their blood and their veins to run orange in fire and let that fire go through their eyes to the audience. I want this whole fuckin' place up in flames," he says.

The mystery regarding the blurring of the distinction between actor and character lies here: it refers to Shama - a priest who is believed to be able to influence and control good and evil spirits. Through rituals, meditation, trance and 'possession' priests would have other worldly spiritual experience that they would then share with the community.

It is this kind of spirit which redefines drama. Actor-character distinction is blurred and the relationship between the actors and the audience is altered. The audience is not merely observing but is participating.

However, this is nothing new. According to Professor Andrew Buckland, of the Drama Department, centuries ago theatre was used as a medium through which a community organized itself politically, socially and spiritually. He said: "It is only in the West that drama is compartmentalized into entertainment, religion and politics. Bailey taps into the strong spiritual aspect of theatre."

Western influence on our culture, customs and tradition has popularized the perception that traditional healers, witchcraft, sangomas and amaghirah are non-existent and impotent. This is because western play writers and critics have always portrayed African customs as exotic, savage and barbaric or reduce it to mysticism. People believe it to be, like a Kokstad farmer who said of the kombi crash on which the play is based: "A load of kaffir bullshit".

Ipi Zombi? displays the contrary. Professor Buckland points out that the truth about African spirituality "hits you right in the face, you cannot deny it".

However good Ipi Zombi? might be, it is potentially destructive. Already its foundations are beginning to shake. A certain woman jerked and manifested spirits during a performance. Actors also complain of having strange dreams, sometimes the spirit that possesses them while on stage comes back to them. And what does Bailey have to say about that? "I look after them. After a heavy session we relax and talk about our feelings". But will this help especially if he wants 'his guys' to be "completely tranced out of their heads for future shows"?



Pic: Andile Clive Ntingi

Some actors like Silulami Lwana whose only income is working for Bailey, said they do not like the idea of actor-character distinction being blurred. Why does Bailey continue doing it, "For the love of theatre," he said.

There will be two shows of Ipi Zombi ? at 3pm on Sat 22 and Sun 23 August outside the Rhodes Theatre. Tickets are R10.

Hipper's Naked Canvas

Semthamera Dhaver

MARK HIPPER'S exhibition, Viscera, was about human emotions and feeling. A visceral reaction is not rational, but one based purely on raw emotion. The exhibition exposed the human emotions and personal pain that the artist felt at different periods in his life. Hipper's work offered us a window into his private world.

It is a pity that some narrow-minded people who fail to comprehend the meaning behind his work call it 'child pornography'. There was a huge, unnecessary fuss kicked up about the nudity that was prevalent in the pictures and all sorts of wild assumptions about the artist and his work were spread all over the place.

Some media organisations even resorted to reporting negatively about the exhibition without having seen it - perhaps a case of petty journalistic sensationalism.

It's shocking and almost amusing to note that a certain individual found a charcoal drawing of a child's face offensive because she claimed



Pic: Sarah Wylie

the child was having an orgasm. How can a person who is so concerned about the protection of children claim to have the ability to detect that a child is climaxing sexually by just looking at a drawing of a face?

It is disturbing that some people cannot tell the difference between art and pornography, two things that are vastly different. There was nothing pornographic about Viscera. There are no depictions of violence against children and there is no indication that pornographic material was used to create any of the pieces in the exhibition.

Instead, it mirrored what the artist felt and experienced: pain, confusion and the discovery of his sexuality as a child.

Everything about the exhibition was meaningful. It exposed emotions that all human beings have but are too afraid to express.

Instead of bombarding him with trivial negativity we should applaud Hipper for his artistic talent, thank him for sharing his views and memories with us and be glad that he is a symbol that indicates that artistic freedom is now alive in this country.

Festival takes a dive

Hugh Ellis

THE STANDARD Bank National Arts Festival is undoubtedly Grahamstown's major annual event, raising substantial revenue for local businesses. It is understandable then that this year's lower-than-normal attendance figures caused some concern.

Festival committee chairperson Alan Crump, quoted in local newspaper reports, said that ticket sales were about 20 per cent lower than last year. He indicated, however, that initial predictions were of an even lower turnout and that ticket sales picked up significantly during the Festival's mid-week period.

Officials at the Grahamstown Foundation confirmed that ticket sales were lower, and that more and more people were opting to stay for only part of the Festival.

Other trends organisers have observed include the fact that more and more guests are avoiding using the advance booking system, but rather choosing shows at the last minute, based on word-of-mouth and local media reports.

The overall decline in numbers has been attributed to a general decline in disposable income, as well as the increasing prominence

of other arts or music festivals, such as those in Hogsback, Oudtshoorn and Bloemfontein. Traders occupying Church Square and the Village Green were among those who felt the pinch most severely.

All in all, over 600 official events and happenings were planned during the 10 days of the festival, to say nothing of the large number of independent or fringe productions. A major challenge for those planning the "official" festival was to ensure a balance between black and white entertainment.

This year's official programme tried to combine both, but was criticised from some quarters for being "too white". While shows focusing on the black South African experience were included, some commentators said they were not its central focus. It is also worth pointing out that only four out of over 40 venues were in the township area of Rhini.

The 1998 Festival has, despite all these difficulties, achieved some successes. Not least among them is Cue TV, which became the first community TV station in South Africa. Next year will see an enlarged 25th anniversary Fest, running over two weeks. According to Crump, this will be one of the biggest events to ever hit the City of Saints.

The road to Oppikoppi passes the road to nirvana

Toast Coetzer

IF YOU'RE ONE of those fuckwits who stole the Oppikoppi posters hours after I put them up, read this. If you felt obliged to go to intervarsity 'cause your mates went but felt you belonged elsewhere, read this.

Travel several hundred (twelve) kilometers vaguely north-northeast from Grahamstown and you'll hit the badlands bushveld town of Northam, travel on and after passing the aptly named Beer River you'll take a right and then a left and you'll be there. Oppikoppi, the country's biggest music festival, more than 10 000 like-minded and similarly pissed people, close on 100 acts, four stages predictably sponsored by renowned liquor brand names and...

camping under thorn trees fighting for a good spot to pitch your tent free of thorns and close to the shithouse and shower and in the shade dust red dust that gets into your tent your beer your teeth your eyes your nose but who cares about showering or shitting or brushing your teeth anyway when showers are cold or only vaguely warm and that red dust sticks in your toothbrush and bog roll anyway

and while the sun beats down upon people with beers in hand because they've been shit-faced since eight in the morning or maybe the entire day the suntans get worse and the mood gradually stirs itself up into the punkly delivered folk of *Chris Letcher* and *Matthew van der Want* who sing about domestic sighs and life at the whim of a strange obsession and girls followed by *Valiant Swart* and *Anton L'Amour* who sing about Bloemfontein and girls who wear too much eye shadow and then *Piet Botha* and *Jonathan Martin* who sing about *Whitey wat faktap geskiet is in die oorlog* and girls and then *Gert Vlok Nel* whistles the melancholy of railway tracks and Beaufort West and Timotei shampoo and well girls

and while the sun slithers down in the west towards flat horizons of trees it turns red and huge in the dust of the flatness and *Albert Frost* looks into *Louis Mhlanga's* eyes and somehow two strangers find the same soul in their blues guitars with pangs of stringbound ecstasy so effortlessly unbound by fingers the same kind of fingers tapping the keys of *Paul Hanmer's* piano and *Ian Herman's* drums and

Gito Baloi's bass fusing along the same recurrent thick ridge of heart and method of *Vusi Mahlasela* and *Bheki Khoza* and the tapping beating foot of *Joe Blu* and I suppose then there was also *Wendy Oldfield's* belly button

and while the full moon lifts the east up higher and cracks the canopy of twigs there's something ridiculously stupid happening on the Black Label campus stage you have no idea how cool free backstage drinks are but why o why is Marc from *Metalmorphosis* taking over the mc-duties and why is he getting people to chant after him *jou ma se poes jou ma se poes jou pa se piel* and ladies and gentlemen here's *Blunt* who spits it out hard and fast and retain coolness while doing it and here's *Anarchy* who seem to do it all wrong but end up being organized disruption and doing a really cool anarchistic thing by breaking a guitar's neck and here's *Plum* who rap it in trilogy triplets triple confusion with the beat a hard groove speckling the night with little rocks and hidden thorns

'...any lead guitarist who is that short and that exceptional and any drummer who is that precise and any bassist who is that pretty and wears boots that well and sings that well must be a gift from some nice god'

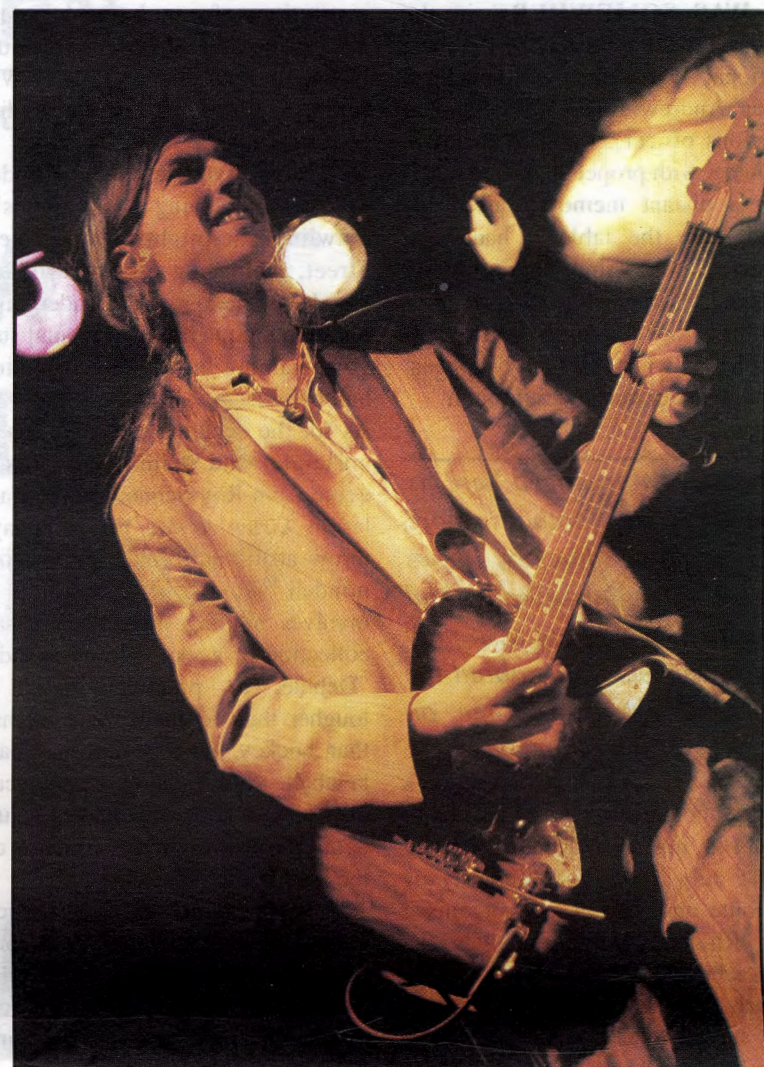
and here's *Blind* who ain't walking around with sticks but beating people with it and roasting the dog and not being led around by it and here's *Seed* who twist and turn and that mad lead singer rips up his vocal chords and drinks honey during song breaks and there's this silly guy in the front row that reckons we have our own *Rage Against The Machine* but he's got it all wrong 'cause we've got our own *Seed Plum Blunt bluntyfuckas Blind Anarchy* and people sit up and listen and wonder how *iTolofiya* can be that cool and still wear silly hats

the moon hides when *Voice of Destruction* spread blackness all over the stage but fuckit that lead singer isn't pretty but man are they hard hide all ye *Henry Ate* fans also when *The Awakening* preaches humor as white as coal and tragedy as black as snow and the technol-

ogy twiddlers like *Anti-Gravity* with a lead singer that jumps and a bassist we know to be a legend and *Stagepig* with head bopping raps with a chubby singer with sideburns like burnt cornfields and an orange overall and not a pretty keyboardist and *Meldt* who strangely raps and strangely pulls it off in good style and *Fuzi Gish* carrying the punk flame and a dusty farewell from *No Friends Of Harry* who despite being old still churn out segmented hard even catchy tunes and with a girl yes a girl on drums they get extra bonus points and then there was *Supernature* who carry around hype like rising hair on the back of your neck and you reckon

this is how people felt when they first saw *Radiohead* or someone because any lead guitarist who is that short and that exceptional with strings and any drummer who is that precise and any bassist who is that pretty and wears boots that well and sings that well must be a gift from some nice god and that final guitar destruction of theirs induces spontaneous orgasms in the crowd in the cities in the towns and everywhere south of the Tropic of Capricorn and backstage the sound guys and Marc from *Metalmorphosis* are simulating a fucking scene shit these guys are odd but maybe they're onto something and then later Marc takes the mic from Dave Owens from *Lithium* and while he's fixing an axe-string he screams for five minutes while the rest of the band goes into the-roof-is-on-fire mode would someone please check whether this man is normal

and while the night slowly wraps the massive motorbike helmet main stage the pouting lads from *Boo!* continue to twist the arm of punk while laughing at the balls of pop and *Wonderboom* end their set by smashing their drum set and breaking their guitar in two and *Battery 9* clanging up a mechanic's wetdream and some new tool arrangements too and *Koos Kombuis* playing *Johnny is nie dood nie Johnny was 'n genius Johnny was 'n fokop* and *Colorfields* raking out trance beats out of nothing and the *Nude Girls* gritting it out with an uncompromising set of pretty solidified glycerin and why don't people know how brilliant *Lithium* is have you ever heard them play *Bogey* and *Sugardrive* well you know sand man sky and dust crowd fly is a rhyming couplet and that girl Kaolin from *Naked* isn't just



Albert Frost from the Blues Brothers played a memorable gig with Louis Mhlanga on the Jazz and Blues stage. Pic: Toast Coetzer

pretty but she can sing too and play the flute and some other stuff and why and how and since when can someone like *David Kramer* get onto a stage and somehow he's the coolest and the oldest rocker and sings about the Weskus and the Boland and every single person in a crowd of 10 000 sings along to *hier sit die manne in die royal hotel jy ken mos vir almal jy's almal se pel* and *Morph Attack* shouldn't be allowed to have that many rappers operating at the same time and certainly not at one in the morning

when the moon is forgotten and the sky a camouflage net and riddled with tunes by the lads from *206* and it's only the sips from your drink and the girl in your hammock oops that keeps you warm and then you struggle down the hill or was that up the flat to your tent for two hours of sleep when either the farts of your tent mates or your own lion breath or the sun creating a greenhouse effect in your tent or noisy people outside who are already or still drunk and will later throw an egg on your windshield and pap on your bonnet yes fok julle almal will wake you and while you eat chiprolls and Label for breakfast and the sun burns your head you'll be thinking why the hell can't I do this every weekend

and while you travel down in a smelly car with smelly people and a Blunt Colorfields *Boo!* Concentrators *Chris & Matthew* and Jane's Mix tape in the car stereo stuck to the dashboard you'll pass a turnoff to the road to Nirvana just after the Gariiep Dam and just before Venterstad and you'll smile take a sip of Fanta Eggplant knock back some Ghost Pops and wonder: how was intervarsity in any case?



MY DRESS! MY DRESS! MY DRESS IS ON FIRE! Fire jugglers on the main stage.

Pic: Toast Coetzer

Rhodes hosts three days of oral stimulation

Jak Koseff

IT WAS SOMEWHERE in the vicinity of the third day of the third National Debating championships, when Andrew Rae (official public relations officer), running on much caffeine, with proper sleep and nutrition a distant memory, raised his head from the table it had been slumped on, and perceptively quipped: "Organising this championship is like childbirth: you're heluva happy when it actually happens, but you never wanna go through it again."

"Debate, as practiced here, is tougher than football, more intense than hockey, more skilful than basketball. And because women can also play at it ... makes it just about the downright dirtiest game on the face of the planet."

In just about every respect the championship, hosted by Rhodes from 12 to 15 July, sponsored primarily by Deloitte and Touche and organised by Rhodes Debating, was an unprecedented smash hit. Nearly 100 delegates wined, dined and argued their way through three days of immune-system meltdown activity. With most of the major varsities in the country represented,

along with technikons and, for the first time in championship history, institutions from beyond South Africa's borders along for the ride, Nationals was, in the words of Will Smith, "Tuned into some higher level shit, man". Delegates lived out the Rhodes experience - living it up in res's, crawling the nightspots of New Street, slurping down Monkey Puzzle potjiekos, even undergoing our own unique brand of mental survival training in the form of dining hall breakfasts. As for the debating, there's a really nostalgic and admittably kitsch quote from Roy Schneider's character in *Listen to Me* that I always throw at the uniformed and narrow minded sods who still think it involves nothing more than a sad collection of geeks with an agenda. "Debate, as practiced here, is tougher than football, more intense than hockey, more skillful than basketball. And because women can also play at it ... that makes it just about the downright dirtiest game on the face of the planet." This is what nearly 1000 unsuspecting schoolkids discovered as they witnessed the grand final, officially included as part of the School's Fest programme and presented in grand style at the Monument theatre. As two Stellenbosch teams, one Rhodes team (Donna Kipps and Eusebius

McKaiser) and one Wits team tore into each other, with the insults flying, the reasoning sharp and the flow dynamic, a whole chunk of people were struck by the sudden realisation that debating doesn't have to be about dry and tired rhetoric. This was interpersonal communication with an attitude. The winning Stellenbosch A side (veterans Conrad Kemp and Timothy Schulz) got almost as many laughs out of their audience as they got nods of thoughtful agreement. Participating institutions totalled nine. Delegates included English second language speakers, who participated in separate finals held at the City Hall. The event plainly showed that the art of eloquent dispute in this country has come a long damn way. It was only in the mid 1990s that South African universities got hip to the magnitude of British Parliamentary style debating worldwide. The World championships is consid-



COOL UNDER FIRE: Rhodes A speaker, Esebus Makaiser lays it on the line in this year's National Debating finals hosted by Rhodes in July. Pic: Dave Newton

ered the largest non-athletic student event in the world. In the three years since Stellenbosch hosted the first Nationals in preparation for their hosting of Worlds two years ago, SA varsity debating has found its feet. Nationals proved it. And on the sidelines stood the weary, caffeine-driven, sleep-deprived, executive organising committee, still concealing it all beneath the requisite sheen of stylish detachment. We had somehow pulled it off, pool-

ing the resources of Rhodes University, Deloitte and Touche, prominent local sponsors such as Graham Hotel and Peppergrove Spar, as well as a host of other contributors. As it stood, six months of planning, arguing, screaming, re-planning, re-arguing, shouting at various people, being nice to others and generally working our butts off, paid off. Good luck to the poor sods at Wits who will be doing it all next year.

Jazzing up the Mother City

Sarah MacGillivray

RHODES UNIVERSITY'S JAZZ Band returned from their five-day tour to Cape Town very pleased, a little exhausted, and confident that it had been a great success. "We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves, and so did our audiences by the sound of things," band-master, Mike Skipper said. He has already had positive feedback on the tour. "The management of the Green Dolphin Restaurant on the V&A Waterfront was very happy. They had a full restaurant for two nights in a row, which is apparently unheard of in Cape Town in winter," he said. "We've played a few gigs in the Student Union, cut our own CD and performed at the Standard Bank National Arts Festival for the third year now."

Richard Poole, a third year BComm student who plays trumpet in the band, said the tour had been really

successful. "It was also ideal because we got to play at one of the most prestigious Jazz Clubs in the country. And we really pulled it off, taking out the Green Dolphin both nights!" he said. The tour was also good exposure for the university, especially due to the performances at two Cape Town schools and at UCT. "Lots of long term benefits for us and for Rhodes will come out of it I'm sure, because of its PR potential," Poole said. One of the schools the band visited was Heathfield High on the Cape Flats. "For me this was the best, and the most important part of the whole tour," Skipper said. "Their music teacher, Felicia Lesch and I organized a workshop involving the Rhodes students, a few pupils of the school and even some of the parents. We all learnt from each other, and it was absolutely fantastic," he said. And the band has had a fantastic year. "We've played a few gigs in the Student Union, cut our own CD and performed at the Standard Bank National Arts Festival for the third year now. We also recently played at the VC's concert. The tour was yet

another success and we are certainly looking forward to the next one!" said Teri Roberts, who is studying BSc and plays alto saxophone. Skipper, who is also the Music Director of local Grahamstown girl's school DSG, said the idea of a tour came from the desire to show the

band off, while giving the students a "fabulous experience". Gareth Walwyn, who plays trombone and is studying BSc and Music, was the other organizer of the tour. "I suppose you could say I was the builder and Mike was the architect!" he said.

The planning started in the third week of November last year, and was finalized only 20 days before the band left. Originally planned for the week of the April vacation, it was decided to push the tour forward to before the start of the third term.

A celebration of Hindu, Jewish, Christian and Reggae culture

Semthamera Dhaver

THE HINDU STUDENTS Society (HSS) will be hosting their Annual Cultural Show at the Monument on August 22. The show features a variety of performances by members of the Rhodes HSS as well as members of various other Hindu Student organizations and Hindu communities throughout the Eastern and Western Cape. The show will be held on the last day of Hinduism Week which commences on 16 August. The HSS has

planned to hold many activities during Hinduism Week including debates on certain relevant issues and talks by experts in the field of religion and religious studies. Cultural Indian rituals and practices will also form part of the Hinduism week program. The Hindu Students Society's theme for this year is 'Unity in Diversity' and in keeping with that theme they have invited four other cultural organizations on campus to perform together at the Cultural Show. HSS will perform, together with the Reggae Society, His People

Christian Church, SAUJS (South African Union Of Jewish Students) and the Hellenistic Students Society (Greek Society). It will be the first time that so many different societies will be involved in a joint effort. The HSS hopes that by organizing an event like this they will help promote unity among different cultures, something they believe is an integral part of human society and development. They also hope that people will attend the show in support of its theme and to learn more about Hindu culture.

SATURATED SOLIDARITY

Memories of Triversity 1998

Elan-Sacha "Ish" Lohmann

Wrecking Port Alfred at last year's Boat Races was impressive, but the anal bastards have taken that away from us now. So- the advanced Rhodent logic, driven by a lust for the 'lekker-life', targeted Triversity as 1998's 3rd term bash. Thankfully, I didn't see any evidence of grievous bodily harm to the Friendly City but some distinctive trails of puke and mirth let everyone

know that the Rhodents had landed. Streams of convoyed cars like army ants trailed into PE on the Friday and Saturday to mobilize forces of support on the enemy territory. (I saw a few drunken Rhodes Rats on the side of the main road proudly letting their "Willis in die Wind Waai" and marking it for us!)

So - picture plenty pissed purple-haired people stuffing themselves at the Steers, KFC and the Kasbar and washing it down with copious contents of beer, wine and some nasty concoctions floating around in energade and gymbottles. But still with enough slurred and blurred vision to recognise other distorted purple people. Solidarity was solid and saturated! From the parties to dodgy accommodation to the slap chips you just dropped into your lap. To find yourself in a euphoric

Women Win

Vasco Zama Ndebele

They went to Tri-varsity without the blessing of Sports Administration who do not recognise their status. They were given a R700 grant by the SRC to represent Rhodes University. They won 5-1 against University of Port Elizabeth. Rhodes Women Soccer team has brought pride and dignity to the institution whose established disciplines like Rugby and Basketball failed to salvage our pride as Rhodes.

Rhodes dominated the game with Phumeza "Zinedine" Mnini doing the damage in midfield with her creative passing and control of the ball. Scorers for Rhodes were, Unathi Nkai(1), Barry Molepo(2), Donna D'Aloisio(2).

Pule Phakedi who stood between

embrace with the Purple People who had never given you a second look on campus had an uninhibited charm. If memories were not too clouded I think many new buddies must have been made. Even if they were only for that one night!

I must admit that I always thought that Intervarsity (now Triversity of course) was a drunken hype for Founders Hall type people and the useless groupie - chicks who follow them around. I apologize for not

porters witnessed our numerous defeats through goggled eyes and that it's unlikely anyone knew the final scores anyway and probably didn't see the penalty shootout.(I didn't see the streakers but I'm convinced I was there!)

But , at the end of the day Rhodes's spirited unity put that sad UPE bunch to shame as far as knowing how to party goes. We dominated those PE buggers at their own parties , pillaged their venues and spad-



Triversity: "Drunken hype for Founders Hall types" ? pic: Pia Marangoni

being entirely correct. It was almost the drunken trip that I had imagined but , in fact , Rhodents of all shapes and sizes turned out wearing proud purple painted 'RU's' on their flushed cheeks .

It may be true that most of our sup-

ported their women. Conquering PE that weekend left a glint in my eye while I peered into the rearview mirror of my overloaded car. We may have been beaten at the sport but we won overall. At the end of the day:

Rhodes 1-UPE 0



Rooting for Rhodes or just chillin'? Triversity '98 pic: Pia Marangoni

goals did a good job of keeping the opposition at bay except for their consolation goal scored towards end of first half.

Neuma Ramacwana who braved the cold and watched the whole match said: "I love the team. They are so good."

Chiko Chitsike, assistant coach said: "It was fulfilling to get such a good

result. The important thing is that players played in the true spirit of the game and enjoyed themselves."

With players like D'Aloisio, Nkai, Molepo, Elmarie Fisher, Ndundu Sithole, Pule Phakedi and Mnini Rhodes Women Soccer can have a serious chance of producing future national and international stars.

"Halala Bravehearts" of soccer.

Sports Editorial

Why does the rugby team play after the soccer team at Tri-Varsity? Is it a hangover from the rugby=white=good/ soccer=black=bad days? Is it a tradition that is too deeply steeped in the varsity psyche to change? Without trying to bring down the rugby team, who made their typical ballsy effort, and played with the guts and determination that I have always seen, the soccer game was more exciting. It had all the elements of a great sports game: an early lead by the pumped-up home players, a comeback from near defeat, a climatic finish and controversial administration decisions after the game. The stuff those classics are made of. Unless I was too pissed by the time the rugby came along, the game was a little one-sided to say the least. As the EP Herald said, when you are losing so badly, there is nothing better to do than streak. I am told by the wise old sages that last year's thriller of a match was an exception to the norm, i.e. Rhodes taking a carrot from the boys from the "friendly city". It seems that is a regular affair to lose to them. Would it therefore be such a tragic change to watch a really thrilling game of soccer (that Rhodes had a chance of winning) and let the crowd appreciate a decent game of sport? Although I love rugby and am definitely not much of a soccer fan (the extent of World Cup viewing was a few penalty shoot-outs and the final) I still think the soccer guys have a better chance of producing a cracker than the rugby guys. Let's show them they are just as important to us as the rugby team.

This brings us back to the state of rugby at this varsity. Pretty shitty. That a varsity of over 4 500 struggles to put together three teams (about 63 players) is a little pitiful. That is a student-player conversion rate of about 1.4 per cent. Considering that the internal league sees at least six teams competing weekly, without those from the first fifteen not even playing, one can see that the game is popular at varsity. It's just that no-one wants to play for the varsity. Where have things gone wrong? Obviously, there is more of an incentive to play for the res and oppie sides than for Rhodes. The club desperately needs to create a more favourable environment for the players. The only way that they are going to do this is by offering money to the students who play. A more extensive sponsorship plan must be made. At the moment, players are paid subsistence food money for away matches (R15) and recompensed for petrol that they use. Players at the moment feel that it is not worth their while to play because they have to use their own limited pocket money to buy essential kit and accessories. This is an obvious drain on their already taxed pocket. On top of this they find themselves drinking excessive amounts of beer because, as we all know, rugby players handle the most liquor. If the club could find money that would cover the players' expenses for their necessities throughout the season, it would make it all the better for them and provide some concrete rewards for their efforts.

STOP DIETING!!

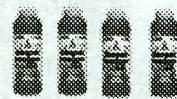
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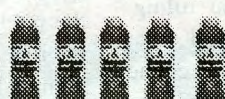
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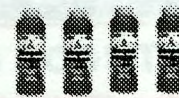
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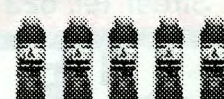
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Activate supports Rhodes sport

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

MENS SOCCER: And the Rugby? HONOURS SHARED

Vasco Zama Ndebele

RHODES SOCCER TEAM played two games in a row at Tri-varsity. On Friday evening they walloped Fort Hare 5-1 to qualify for the finals against UPE who, as hosts, automatically qualified. On Saturday afternoon, Rhodes demonstrated character by holding UPE to a 2-2 draw.

In the first match Rhodes scored an early goal to go 1-0 up by half time. Early in the second half Fort Hare levelled the score and both teams seemed evenly matched. Rhodes Coach, Geoff Budaza, then made tactical changes by bringing in Dino "Lethal Weapon" Leondios for Thabo "TKZEE" Takalani, and Duke Motlanthe for Chiko Chitsike. Rhodes then rung up four goals late in the second half, courtesy of a brace from Leondios and Mike "Pele"

Denenga and one from Lingeraj Sigamore. One excited Rhodian, Thandisa Pupuma captured the mood, saying, "Rhodes have got skills, they deserved to win."

Rhodes was playing under pressure as they were told just before the match that their subsistence food money was not available. "I told the players to be focused and not let the subsistence money trouble them. Our duty with or without money was to play and prove Fort Hare that we were prepared to defend our title," said coach Budaza. The matter was resolved when Rob Benyon from Sports Administration arranged with the team captain, John Motloegelwa to provide the money.

On Saturday, Rhodes played UPE at 2:00pm in front of a capacity crowd. UPE played with early determination, as

they did not want to disappoint their home fans. This resulted in two first half goals. This left Rhodes the daunting task of entering the second with three goals needed for a win. They were still confident because they had come from behind before. "After beating UPE twice in the league after coming back from one goal down on both occasions, we knew that we can come back and nail them," said Vuayani "Baggio" Somatika.

In the second half Rhodes demonstrated that they were warriors ready to die in the field for the pride of their team. After unrelenting pressure, a penalty was conceded by UPE and was converted by "Baggio" to the wild applause of the fans. After the goal Rhodes played like true champions. Denenga dribbled past three UPE defenders and scored the goal, which levelled the score. Chiko Chitsike, who was the man of the match, ran down the left flank like an injured buffalo. Our defence was strong as "Japan" Puling, Rhodes' goalkeeper made some

daring saves which left the crowds breathless. This left the score tied at 2-2 on the final whistle. A penalty shootout was held which UPE won 5-4. This was later found to be illegal and declared null and void.

Zwelethu Mhope, Rhodes Soccer Chairperson said: "UPE has failed to beat Rhodes this year. The penalty shoot out is illegal and therefore the official final score is a draw." Micky Mkefe, coach of 2nd team said: "Rhodes soccer has a good future. The players showed class by playing two games in a row and not losing." Oblivious to the ruling, the crowd cheered what they thought were the defeated team off the pitch.



Gary Rabie stretches in vain for lineout ball during the match against UPE. Rhodes' efforts were in vain too, as they lost 37-10
pic: Pia Marangoni

Rugby Feud Diffused

Solomon Makgale

STRAINED RELATIONS BETWEEN

Rhodes and the notorious Winter Rose rugby teams have been ironed out. Secretary to the administration manager of Border Rugby Football Union, Ms Dawn Elliott said last week the two teams have dealt with their problems and reconciled. She said: "Both teams decided to bury the past and the matter has been settled. There was no need for the Union to take any disciplinary action."

The relationship between the two teams turned sour after eight Rhodes rugby students were punched and had their eyes badly scratched and gouged in a premier league match by Winter Rose players earlier last term. Rhodes coach and team captain Graham Carlson said after the match that this was the dirtiest match he had ever played in. "Our players were screaming during the mauls as they were scratched and gouged by the Winter Rose players. It is extremely dangerous and players could lose an eye - all for the fun of a rugby match. I am very hesitant to lead the team on to the pitch in Mdantsane because of the poor track record of Winter Rose and their supporters."

Rhodes University sports officer Rob Benyon said he complained to the Border Rugby Union and sent photographs of gouged and scratched players to the Union. Rhodes also alleged that some Winter Rose players made death threats and racial remarks against them.

Last week, however, Benyon said his team decided to end the feud with Winter Rose by extending an arm of friendship to ensure that "the spirit of the game does not deteriorate". This came after the realisation that the Border Union was reluctant to do anything to sort out the matter.

He said: "Realising the enormous problems Winter Rose have we decided to play against them on their home ground in Mdantsane next year. We shall participate in any after match activities even if it means going to the shebeen for beers."

Benyon said Winter Rose officials eventually apologized for their players' behavior. Benyon said the Rhodes University rugby team would also make resources such as playing fields and scrum machines available to Winter Rose when the two teams play at Rhodes. Winter Rose lack these facilities and resources. Winter Rose officials could not be reached for comment at the time of going to press.

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