

EXTRA

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The Rhodéo

STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF RHODES UNIVERSITY

RAG
SUPPLEMENT

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THIS YEAR'S RAG AS SUCCESSFUL AS EVER

For over five weeks 35 of Rhodes' most shapely girls have been drilling from the unearthly hour of 6.30 a.m. in preparation for Rag. Heading them is, brown-eyed Florence Ramsay (Jameson) whose smooth confident strut and fine figure make her outstanding among the others, especially when wearing her resplendent gold and white uniform. Also very eye-catching were the longlegged Murray twins who headed the troop behind Florence.

Credit for their training goes to John Gous, helped by Roley Rogers, who put in a tremendous amount of time and patience in turning such a gaggle into the well-disciplined troop who dazzled spectators in the Rag Procession and at Campus Carnival with their smoothly co-ordinated counter-marching.

PIPE BAND

Making a fine spectacle in the Rag Procession and adding somewhat to the general din with the stirring skirl of the bagpipes, was the First City Regiment Pipe Band. Inaugurated at the beginning of the year at present the 18 man band, with the exception of two St. Andrew's boys, is all Rhodian.

Twirling the mace was Drum Major Ray Palframan, but the real moving spirit behind the band is Pipe Major Rob Ross, responsible for training the pipers. Sergeant Barry Whitfield and Sergeant Kelvin Henry trained the drummers.

As the band has only been issued with instruments for a month, it shows just how much effort has gone into it to get the band to such a high standard by Rag.

A LETTER OF PROTEST

Dear Mr. Editor,

I am writing on behalf of the majority of women students at Rhodes. In short I want to have a heart to heart talk with the Rhodes men.

First of all though I want to assure you that I'm no prude, but I do think that most of you are incapable of holding your liquor.

Friday night proves my point.

The women enjoy your serenading and your wise cracks, but is it necessary to belittle yourselves by shouting obscenities to the rooftops? You spoil the whole effect by this display of ill-breeding.

Your chums might think you daring, but you only disgusted us.

We suggest you save your rude remarks and songs for your own enjoyment — and give us "Perfidia" anytime.

ANNOYED.

Dale College Centenary

The Dale College Centenary is being celebrated in King William's Town this week-end.

Rhodes University joins with the rest of the country in wishing Dale "many happy returns" and good luck for another 100 years.

Behind the scenes of Scope-Nite

Interviewing a tired and nervous Colin Rendell-Green and Myra Clemens between rehearsals in a Great Hall strewn with empty coffee cups and cigarette ends, one saw the difficulty of producing a fast-moving show which, in 1½ hours playing time, had 15 scenes. To change the sets and get over 50 props ready is no small job.

The show has 68 parts in it, so several members had to play more than one part which meant the arranging of a tremendous number of costume changes. The lighting, too, was of great complexity and every circuit in the great switchboards was used up.

Still the owner of the familiar pipe had all that side under control. 1962 Scope Nite, then, is certainly the most complex and ambitious one ever to be staged.

Facts about Figures

Rag 1962 might well be a record as far as fund-raising goes, and if it is not, then it will come pretty close. These figures are approximate as full details were not available at the time of going to press:

Campus Carnival and Kitchen R600 gross.

Rag Ball, 450 tickets sold: R368 gross.

Scope Nite: R639 gross.

Mock Trial, to date, a record: R1,600.

Street Collection: R745.

Matt Eddy and his Rag Committee deserve our warmest congratulations on doing a really magnificent job. He said that he could not have asked for a more enthusiastic and efficient committee.

He was particularly sorry though that owing to the weather all the work done by Doug Sutherland and his helpers on Campus Carnival did not bring its full reward. For all of them though is the satisfaction of a job really well done.



Trim drum-majorettes lead the procession on this year's Rag Day

"Profligate Jones" gets mixed reception

Scope nite this year suffered two major drawbacks. The first was that it came after Rag Ball and at the height of Rag activity. The cast were obviously exhausted and the audience apathetic.

The second handicap faced by the cast was in the script which was too ambitious for Rhodes audiences; but Mr. Rendall Green tackled the task he set himself admirably.

The result was that the plot was at its worst disjointed and lacking in continuity, though its best was a subtle sophistication which was not always appreciated by the unreceptive audience.

MUSIC EXCELLENT

Perhaps it seems unjust to begin criticism of a completely student production so severely. I feel however, that the total effect of the production of "Profligate Jones" was strong enough to stand up to such criticism.

The music was good — in fact at times, it would not be too much to describe it as brilliant, and the Geoff Woods Combo did full justice to Myra Clemens' tunes, effectively arranged by Arthur Lieberthal.

The chorus scenes with their colourful costumes and catchy song and dance sequences, were well executed.

The very good lighting effects added greatly to the total result. It was a pity that the make up in many cases was plainly amateur.

Of individual performers Robert Anderson and Steve Godwin deserve first mention. Eugene Rackoff is obviously an actor of merit and experience and had the sympathy of the audience though he did not seem to always take the importance of his role with sufficient seriousness.

Paddy McClelland and Alan

Dashwood both won the audience with their respective songs. Their diction was clear and they sang with vim, verve and vigour. Mike Chapman and Ian MacDonald gave highly popular performances and managed to stir the lethargic audience to raise a laugh with the Clubmans Song.

SHOW STOPPERS

The Conservative, Communist and Anarchists scenes were show stoppers, Basil Moore and Louis Verschuur both showing good stage presence. The T.V. scene was brilliantly carried by Rob Anderson. Peter Trengrove Jones and Peter Landau both gave a satisfying performance.

LOIS.

If music be the food of Rag, the annual Ball was a success. Geoff Wood Combo, though their repertoire is as yet limited, contributed greatly to the Ball with their strict tempo arrangements of dance tunes. The lighting of the hall was most effective.

The highlight of Rag Ball was the crowning of our queen, Dimitra Philactou, who wore her breathtakingly beautiful gown with serenity and poise.

The dress — designed by Dimitra herself — was a white full length sheath dress and was covered by a full overskirt of tulle which flowed from two Dior roses at either side of her waist. Her hair was piled high on her head and added to the regal and gracious impression she gave as she swept gracefully down the hall.

Her two princesses, Eve Gray and Gill Williams were in gold slipper satin dresses. The skirts were softly pleated and the bodices were draped at the back to form a low V. They, together with our attractive drum-majorettes, formed a fitting compliment to Dimitra.

DURING THE EVENING

During the evening the engagement was announced of Miss Mary Fysh, at present lecturing at the Port Elizabeth Branch of Rhodes University, to Mr. Arthur Hammond-Tooke.

Mary wore a dynamic black evening coat over a form-fitting green jersey cloth cocktail dress. This was a typical Rag romance. Arthur says that last year he asked Mary out, having been on friendly terms for some while, hoping to get invited to Rag.

Hugo Snykers and Anita Rousseau, also announced their engagement during the evening.

Our best wishes to both lucky couples.

Uninspiring but Enjoyable

Colin Rendell-Green's production was not a spectacle that either enraptured the audience or reached heights of dramatic excellence.

The producer set himself a near-impossible task from the start—a script as flimsy as Hollywood underwear. With a few exceptions his material was wooden.

The diction and the vocals were generally poor. The songs lacked zest and polish.

MEMORABLE FEATURES

But certain features stand out and linger in the memory. Nobody could fail to delight in Rob Anderson's scintillating performance as the T.V. Interviewer Willie.

Steve Godwin was highly amusing and effective as Sidney. Mike Chapman just missed top quality. Graham Miller's burps were unmelodiously delightful.

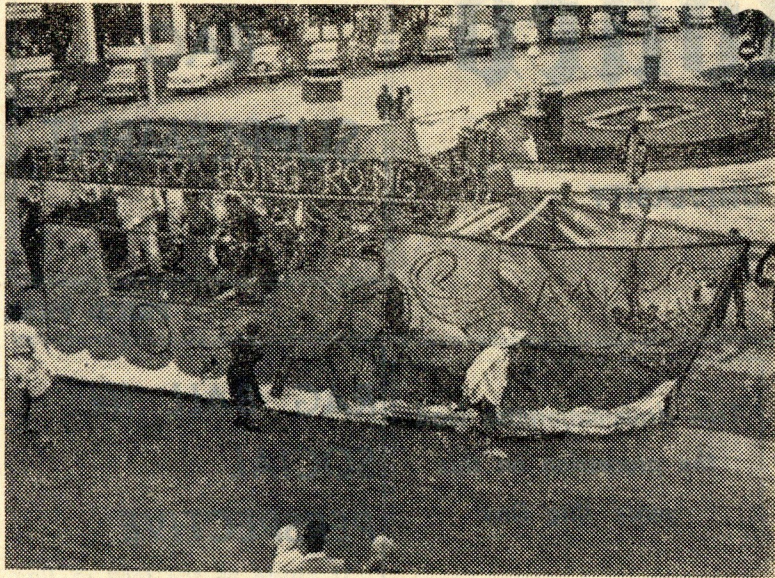
A most pleasing contrast could be drawn between the latest virile and uninhibited hit—the Twist—and the undeniable magic of Keith Hall's drums.

LITTLE FOUND

Those who expected much found little. Those who were prepared to take what comes were enjoyably entertained.

But perhaps the production can best be judged by the fact that none of the songs are being whistled or sung round the varsity now.

J. RICHARDS.



ONE OF THE FLOATS . . .



. . . AND SOME ANARCHISTS PREPARE



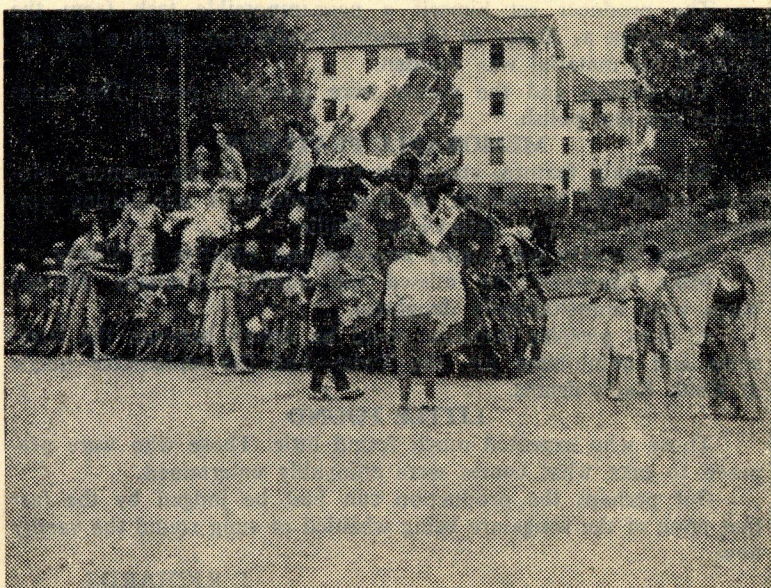
RAG QUEEN

and

WINNING FLOAT



TWO GIANTS SURVEY THE SCENE



. . . AND WHO WOULD BLAME THEM