



Ichthyologists to influence legislation

A joint venture which is expected to have far-reaching benefit for the conservation and management of marine resources was launched recently at an international workshop held in Maputo.

Head of the Department of Ichthyology and Fisheries Science (DIFS) at Rhodes, Prof Tom Hecht attended the workshop with colleagues Prof C D Buxton, of DIFS, and Dr P C Heemstra and Dr A K Whitfield, from the JLB Smith Institute of Ichthyology.

Hecht attended in his capacity as Chairman of the South African Network for Coastal and Oceanic Research (SANCOR), to which all South African institutions and organisations associated with marine science belong. It was established in 1993 and has 58 members.

The new initiative came out of a realisation in Mozambique that urgent attention needed to be paid to the responsible management of its marine resource. Advice was sought from the European Union and the Mozambicans were referred to SANCOR.

"This was an intelligent move", says Hecht, "because anything which affects the state of health of marine life in Mozambique will, within a very short period of time, make its influence felt in South African waters, given the patterns of ocean currents and fish movements."

"We are talking here about what is very definitely a shared resource; it is thus important that management responsibility is also shared."

The workshop identified three main areas of urgent concern which require cooperation and joint research. These are the conservation and management of coastal and marine ecosystems, the shared fish and invertebrate stocks and the management of artisanal fisheries. The concept of a marine protected area in Southern Mozambique was discussed which could link up to existing areas of KwaZulu-Natal currently enjoying protected status. This will have beneficial effect to the extremely sensitive marine reef ecosystem, it is felt.

The two countries share many populations of marine animals and, with the dissipation of the political differences which have prevented the optimal utilisation in the past, there is opportunity to design and implement improved cooperative approaches to the management of harvesting the resource.

A particularly sensitive area is the

management of artisanal fisheries. It may be, Hecht believes, that this low-technology activity is the major source of food in Mozambique and it is of significant importance along the KwaZulu-Natal coastline. Large numbers of fisherman at hundreds of artisanal fishing sites make the activity difficult to quantify but it is obvious that innovative and effective management has to be put in place if the sustainability of the resource is to be entrenched without irreparable harm to the stocks.

'Sportsmen' are plundering reefs

Inevitably certain serious problems were highlighted at the workshop, the most pressing of which was identified as the extensive plundering of reef fish in Mozambique by ski-boat fishermen, mainly from South Africa. Certain ski-boaters make a mockery of the stated 'recreational' aspect of their sport by removing large numbers of fish from the ocean, placing them in large, mobile deep freezes and transporting them back to South Africa where many are, presumably, sold. The fish being removed, such as rock cods and other reef species, are very susceptible to overfishing due to their longevity and complex reproductive strategies which include changing sex. Sexually immature fish which would otherwise become parent stock supporting the South African fishery are being killed in large numbers.

Hecht sees Rhodes University as having a major role to play in building capacity and maintaining the health of the marine resource in the long term. He is particularly pleased that the situation is being viewed with the urgency which he feels is its due. "The Mozambicans are determined to do something about their stocks which have been ravaged in recent years. We have been asked to advise legislators on the drafting of new laws and regulations and are assisting in the development and direction of a new policy to be adopted. A leadership group has sourced funding for the new SANCOR research programme and liaises between the relevant governments and foreign donors. Prof Hecht is a member of this group and is thus able to bring the full benefit of Rhodes' expertise to bear on its deliberations. It is anticipated that the research programme will be submitted to the European Union for funding during the course of this month.

New Registrar appointed



Dr Steve Fourie, who has been appointed Registrar of Rhodes University in succession to Dr Keith Hunt. Dr Fourie was previously Director of Rhodes' East London Division.

He will be moving to Grahamstown on 15 May, although his formal appointment only takes effect in June.

Dr Fourie and his wife have a teenage son and daughter who will be continuing their schooling in Grahamstown.

Vice-Chancellor to stay on

At the request of the Rhodes University Council, which met in Grahamstown last week, the Vice-Chancellor, Dr Derek Henderson, has agreed to remain in office until his successor is appointed.

Dr Henderson had planned to retire at the end of September this year.

A Commission, appointed by the Council and Senate of the University and chaired by the Rt Revd David Russell, Bishop of Grahamstown, is working towards submitting a proposal on the procedures for the selection of a new Vice-Chancellor.

Letters to The Editor



Rhodos invites correspondence on matters of concern to the University community. It is hoped that the contents of such letters, which should, ideally, not exceed 200 words in length, will indicate the wide spectrum of views held and will promote further discussion.

A pseudonym is acceptable, but the writer must supply his or her full name and residential address to the editor, who will respect confidentiality.

A message for Rhodes?

The Editor,

The managing director of a large Eastern Cape manufacturer was concerned about the possible loss of productivity that would occur with the new holidays.

Not only had the holidays become meaningful to the majority of his work force, Thursday / Monday holiday combinations would increase the possibility of absenteeism and further aggravate efficiency.

The strategy he adopted was to offer all workers an additional on the Friday if the

monthly production target was met by Wednesday.

The results:

1. the production target was met
2. the level of productivity on old equipment was higher than that achieved by new equipment in other plants
3. satisfied workforce and
4. satisfied management.

I can't help think that somewhere in this success story is a message for us at Rhodes.

Billy Futter

Time to construct the big picture

The Editor

There is a spurt of activity around marketing Rhodes. But marketing means more than stepping up sales efforts. It requires knowing what we're selling, to whom and in what competitive market.

To embark on marketing without this is to put the cart before the horse. Or rather to choose a horse knowing neither the cart it will pull, nor the destination.

Similarly, in seeking a new Marketing Director, we need establish what we're marketing if we're to know what kind of person to choose.

Normally, marketing flows out of a strategy.

We have to turn this around, and grow the strategy from the marketing process:

- * Departmental marketing activity needs to start from the interests of the university as a whole.
- * Through research, as many views as possible should be fed into the discussion. (This also serves as an internal marketing process).

The welcome movement in marketing Rhodes presents an opportunity to construct the big picture. We should use it.

Yours faithfully

Guy Berger

New members of Council

At its meeting last month, the Rhodes University Council elected a new Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. The Chairperson is Mr Justic R J W Jones, senior judge of the Eastern Cape Division of the Supreme Court, and the Vice-Chairperson is Mr N E Woollgar, a partner in the firm of Hutton & Cook, King William's Town.

Several new members have also joined the Council. They are: Advocate L Mpati of Grahamstown (nominated by the Minister of Education),

Mr G E Nkwinti, Speaker of the Eastern Cape Parliament in Bisho (nominated by the Minister of Education),

Dr K H Moodley, a medical doctor (representing the Port Elizabeth Transitional Local Council (TLC)),

Mr W T Wait, an accountant (representing the Uitenhage TLC),

Mr M J Nkwinti, Circuit Inspector with the Department of Education and Training (representing the Grahamstown TLC), and Mrs J A Hartel, Manager of the Grahamstown branch of the Standard Bank and Mr C Murray, a stockbroker of Port Elizabeth (representing the University's donors).

Judge Jones is a past student of the University. He was admitted as an Advocate of the Supreme Court in 1964 and within a few years was appointed to the Bench of the Supreme Court. Since 1990 he has represented the Rhodes University Convocation on the Council and was recently re-elected by that constituency.

Mr Woollgar is also an Old Rhodian. He has been a member of the Rhodes Council, representing the municipality of King William's Town for a number of years and has been an active member of its Executive Committee.

ALU hosts Adult Education workshop

The Adult Literacy Unit (ALU) in the Institute for the Study of English in Africa (ISEA) recently hosted a regional workshop on Adult Basic Education and Training.

The focus of the workshop was on reading and reading levels in relation to proposed national standards for Adult Basic Education.

The opening session was led by Edward French, Director of Adult Examinations at the Independent Examinations Board (IEB). The facilitator for the second day was Shelly Said of the Natal ABE Support Agency (NASA) and she was followed by Beulah Thumbadoo, coordinator of the Easy Readers for Adults project in Johannesburg.

The workshop covered the history and development of the IEB, reading strategies and their appropriateness for newly literate South Africans, and methods in the selection and evaluation of reading materials for neoliterates.

During the three-day workshop delegates reported back on the pilot versions of the Nokhaya series developed by the ISEA's Adult Literacy Unit.

The author, Lindiwe Msengana-Ndlela, has written a series of Adult Readers focused on a fictional Eastern Cape character, Nokhaya, which deals with the way she and her family overcome challenges in their lives. The books are delightfully illustrated by Richard Kilpert, emphasising the Eastern Cape context in which the stories are situated. In the workshop delegates shared their opinions on ways in which these books relate to the proposed national qualifications framework. The series is published by Juta.

Delegates to the workshop included representatives from the Adult Basic Education Project/Zamani project in the former Transkei, from the East Cape Literacy Project in Port Elizabeth and Somerset East, from the Khanyisa Educational Project in King Williamstown, from SHARE in Uitenhage, from the New Life Literacy Project in Port Alfred and from Marcelle at Kenton-on-Sea.

Congress in Grahamstown for first time

The Theological Society of Southern Africa will be holding its Annual Congress at Rhodes University from the 16th to the 19th July.

The Divinity Department will be hosting the Congress, the theme for which is *The Theological Basis for Christian Ethics*. This is the first time that the Society will be holding its Congress in Grahamstown. Prof Brian Gaybba of the Divinity Department is the Society's current President.

International Studies for IWR

From international collaborative studies on flow regimes and the availability of water resources, to the status of streams in Grahamstown, the Institute for Water Research (IWR) is involved in a wide range of research projects into one of Southern Africa's most scarce resources.

"The factors that influence water quality and water availability are so vast that the research we do is, of necessity, painstaking", said Prof Jay O' Keffe, Director of the Institute.

"As a resource, water is vital to the growth and health of the country, but it must be properly managed if we are to develop it as a sustainable resource. People are only now becoming aware that rivers and water bodies cannot be used indiscriminately. When we talk about water users, we need to remember that rivers need a certain amount of good quality water to maintain their complex ecosystems in a healthy state", he said.

Prof Dennis Hughes, Senior Research Officer in the IWR, is an hydrologist working on an international project which aims to produce flow regimes and network data on the availability of water resources in southern

Africa. This is a long-term project which the researches hope will produce data for those planning future development and water use.

The IWR is also researching streams in the Grahamstown Transitional Local Council area to measure the rate of storm water run-off. This work will assist the Department of Water Affairs in assessing different types of sewerage management by producing a long-term database of run-off rates and the resulting effects on water quality in local streams.

"Water-borne sewerage may not be the most effective way of managing waste because water is expensive and even treated sewerage is a polluted effluent", said Prof O' Keffe.

The rivers of the Kruger National Park are another field of interest for researchers at the IWR.

"We are gathering the information that will allow us to define how much water should be left in the rivers in order to keep their ecosystems operating effectively", Prof O' Keffe said.

"The Department of Water Affairs has now recognized the necessity for maintaining a

healthy environment if users are to get sufficient water of a reasonable quality from our rivers and dams. If the resource is overused it becomes useless.

"Our research is concentrating on working out how drought, channel changes, vegetation changes and flood affect these rivers.

"The physical and biological processes that make a river what it is extend over millions of years and we need to know what effect human impact will have on these processes", he said.

The IWR has an artificial stream laboratory which is used to set water quality standards in the various rivers being researched.

"We study the effects of pollutants on the invertebrates which live in the rivers. Fish are not a good indicator because in most cases they can swim away.", Prof O' Keffe said.

"We use both controlled laboratory situations as well as smaller portable artificial stream systems. We need both for comparative purposes because conditions in real rivers are so complex and difficult to control", he said.

DSAE goes to print

The Dictionary of South African English on historical principles, (DSAE) which is ready for publishing, was sent electronically by E-mail to the Oxford University Press in England, via the USA, where it was converted into a special typesetting format. The text is expected to appear in late 1995 or early 1996.

"We began editing the dictionary in January 1991 and were in e-mail contact with lexicographers throughout the world, who gave us what may be seen as long distance training", said Mrs Penny Silva, editor and executive director of the Dictionary Unit.

The historical treatment of material means that the reader is able to follow the development of a word through the centuries and to comprehend the changing attitudes to the word, as new meanings develop. The DSAE reflects the vocabulary of all South Africans who speak English. "It shows the richness and creativity of South African English from the earliest times to the present day, and will increase awareness of the existence of a

truly South African culture", she added.

It is estimated that it will contain over one and a half million words (about 850 pages). The volume will be A4 in size and will include about 5 000 headwords. Citations from a wide variety of sources,

spoken, published and in manuscript, will be included.

The publications and manuscripts used date from the late 16th century to the present, and cover a variety of text types including personal letters and journals; history and biography; travel and exploration; novels; plays and poetry; political treatises; newspapers and periodicals; and specialised scientific publications.

The DSAE will be an exceptional resource for scholars in many disciplines and will provide a detailed overview of South Africa's social, cultural and political history. "The process of political change has greatly assisted the work of the unit. The lifting of restrictions, both on published works and on the statements of

'banned' people, means that a wide range of important material is easily accessible for the first time", said Mrs Silva.



DSAE staff watch the results of five years' work being transmitted to the United States – in less than two hours. From left they are Wendy Dore, Madeleine Wright, Penny Silva, Dotty Mentzel and Colin Muller.

On Occasion

A guest column written by invitation.

Our regular columnist, Justin Case, is on leave. His column this month has been contributed by his colleague, Bobby Jahn.

"They fought well...let them keep their weapons". These words, spoken by Marshal Foch in 1919, quoted by Churchill in '48, came vaguely to me as I listened to Dr Henderson's address at Friday night's graduation. (And I spent a pleasant half-hour tracking them down in my library the following morning: see Churchill's *History of the Second World War*, Volume 1, page 6.)

The universities have been doing their job for 900 years, said Dr Henderson. We know how to do it. Leave us alone. This, roughly, was his message, and as a senior member of the administration remarked to me afterwards, he said some things that badly needed saying. Clearly, and not unreasonably, Rhodes is worried about increasing State interference in what we're trying to do.

Compelling irony

For me, there will always be a compelling irony in this justifiably nervous and defensive attitude amongst old-school academics. South African universities have long resisted government restrictions on their doings. But they didn't object only on the grounds of infringement of their autonomy. They weren't averse to making statements and advocating sociopolitical principles of a far broader nature. The quasi-freedom that is now making itself felt at all levels carries with it precisely those dangers which the universities, on the basis of their 900-odd years of collective wisdom, might well have expected as a consequence of what they pushed for in South Africa (which country, of course, does not enjoy so extended a history of liberal thought and civilisation).

From the same podium, in the Great Hall some 20 years ago, Heribert Adam made the salient point that liberalism has been known to backfire, and produce results other than those which were intended. Nothing was made by the University of this profoundly important point at the time. (I would put it a little less cautiously: when has liberalism not been known to backfire? The poet T.S. Eliot noted that liberalism always accomplishes that which is its own negation. Eliot falls safely within the ambit of the last 900 years, but his scholium seems to have escaped our watching dons.) Perhaps we should have given a little more weight to something Goethe believed: that injustice is preferable to disorder.

Certainly justice, however perceived, is dependent on order, and it is disorder – the social equivalent of entropy increase – with which we are threatened.

All of which is digression: it isn't what I intended to say, though perhaps not entirely irrelevant to it. Forgive me.

Lack of confidence?

Contemporaneously with Dr Henderson's powerful words about our pedigree, and our ability to do things properly, the University is asking for advice and comment, from a broad public, on how it should appoint its new Vice-Chancellor. After 900 years it knows how to appoint its labourers, its artisans, its technicians, its administrators and its academic staff. It knows how to train young people so as to promote their personal growth and capacity to be useful to the community. It knows how to mount recruitment campaigns to attract bright youngsters to study here. It knows how to manage an annual budget of over 100 million Rands. But it is apparently less confident about its ability to appoint a personage who will give order and direction to all these junior employees and tasks, and will protect and maintain the prestige of a prestigious institution. When the matter of appointing a new V-C was recently discussed in Senate, one (temporary) member suggested that, at least, Senate should give direction to a small body appointed to look into the question of mechanism, by saying clearly what Senate perceived as a desirable end product. In spite of some nods and grunts of approval, this suggestion died very quickly. One (permanent) member made a remark to the effect that to do so would be letting some sort of cat out of the bag. That, I would have thought, was the whole point, but apparently I was wrong. (And in defense I must plead that I haven't been around for 900 years: I'm only 50-something.) At any rate, this remark, quickly desecrated as being the most masterfully irresolute, carried the day.

Cannot expect independence

If we are genuinely doubtful about how to choose a new V-C, or what sort of V-C we should have, we can hardly expect the State to give us that large independence we so earnestly want. (What would we do with it? Bicker and equivocate whenever an important matter arose, or simply let ourselves be

progressively hijacked by increasingly radical and militant students? There's also that disturbing old saying about giving someone enough rope. Presumably institutions aren't entirely immune to the danger.) And if instead of being in any real state of doubt we are tinkering with election mechanisms purely as a lip-service exercise in correctness, we would be far better advised to apply it to electing a new Chancellor in due course. The abilities and orientation of a Vice-Chancellor actually matter. (And of course I say this with no disrespect to the line of distinguished and very capable men who have acted as titular heads of Rhodes, up to and including the present one.)

Do we know what we want?

And what has all this to say about how we should react to the person finally elected as V-C? Should we accept him or her simply because a sufficient diversity of groups has had their polyglot, multi-cultural, 'disadvantaged' fingers in the procedural pie, or should we do so on the basis of attributes and experience embodied in the person chosen? And if the latter, why should we not be expected to acknowledge the importance of such disembodied attributes, and to identify them specifically, as a normal and honest prerequisite to finding the person who possesses them in sufficient measure? Unless we have a coherent and overt notion of what we want in a V-C, it is unlikely in the extreme that we will launch an electoral process, or assemble a selection committee, with any coherent goal. It is for the University's senior members to know what it wants, and to establish a selection committee accordingly. If we don't know what we want, or are too pusillanimous to put it on the line, the danger is that we'll get what we deserve.

As regards broader issues, there is indeed a danger that the State will intervene in our general operations, and that such intervention will be detrimental. But there is also the danger that we have allowed ourselves to be sufficiently weakened and seduced by the chimera of democracy and egalitarianism that we will accomplish the downfall of Rhodes all by ourselves, in spite of our long and exalted genealogy. If that should happen, we must resist the temptation to use the State as a scapegoat.

Bobby Jahn

Southern Cape Environmental Laboratory opened

Prof Alan Hodgson from the Department of Zoology and Entomology and the Institute of Water Research's Prof Jay O'Keefe and Mrs Lil Haigh recently attended the opening of the new Thesen Environmental Laboratory in Knysna.

The laboratory and research centre was commissioned by Prof Brian Allanson and will be of central importance to a large multi-disciplinary research programme - the Knysna Basin Project. This was initiated under the Outeniqualand Trust and is under the trusteeship of The Knysna Basin Project Association. Its affairs are directed by two former Rhodes biologists, Prof Brian Allanson and Dr Neil Grange.

The project is large and aims to study the magnitude of damage to the natural resources of the basin, to understand how resources should be managed, identify solutions to environmental problems and, ultimately to involve all sectors of the community in the management of the Knysna Basin.

Situated in the historic heart of Knysna, on Thesen's island, the laboratory was constructed through the generosity of Thesen & Co (Knysna). Furnishings and equipment were donated by Prof O'Keefe and the Institute of Water research respectively. It is already in use, as has been discovered by Marine Biology



Honours Students studying Marine Biology in the department of Zoology and Entomology take to the estuary while undertaking water analysis in Knysna recently.

Honours students during a recent field trip. While there they studied various physical and chemical characteristics of the estuary and recorded data. Miss Robyn Cretchley, a Masters student under the supervision of Profs Hodgson and Allanson, is now based at Knysna, studying the effects of local bait-collectors on the mud-prawn populations. She wants to establish whether or not the digging of this popular bait species is reducing the size or numbers of the mud prawns.

Interestingly, she has found neither suspicion or hostility; the bait collectors have been extremely cooperative, understanding well the threat to their livelihood posed by over-exploitation.

A further wish of Profs Hodgson and Allanson and Dr Grange is to expand estuarine research in the area. The Thesen Environmental Laboratory is ideally placed to facilitate research development of this nature.

School Science has entropy as theme

Rhodos incorrectly described the Convention in our last issue, omitting to refer to it, in full, as the Sasol National School Science Convention. We apologise to the organisers.

The Sasol National School Science Convention, to be held at Rhodes from June 27-29, is aimed at encouraging participation and active involvement in science by prospective young scientists.

The theme for this year's convention is *Entropy: order and disorder*. The convention includes keynote lectures by leading South African scientists on topical subjects, films, videos and demonstrations. Research institutes and museums will offer close to 30 workshop sessions where pupils will have hands-on experience in science. One of these workshops will be an introductory course in glass blowing.

The Grahamstown Regional Science Expo forms the first day of the Schools' Science Convention.

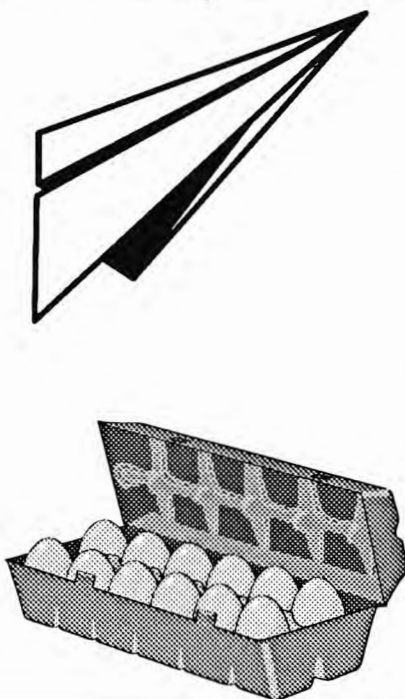
The convention also includes the science olympics. By constructing a scientific piece of apparatus or completing an experiment, pupils will compete in a scientific, practical and enjoyable way. This year's programme includes the Balsa Wood Strut, which involves designing a building or tower made of balsa wood which has to be 50cm high. Glue can only be used to join pieces of balsa wood and not as a load

bearing material. The tower must be free-standing and capable of being weighed. The total weight should not exceed 500g. The tower which can support the heaviest weight of water in a tin can will win the competition.

The Chemical Garden will see entrants produce chemical plants made from salts such as copper sulphate and manganese chloride which literally grow before one's eyes.

The objective of the 'egg drop', is to package an egg so that it falls from a specified height in the minimum time and still remain unbroken. "The science olympics always prove to be popular. We encourage all schools to try out these experiments before they come to the Convention", said Prof Roy Lubke, chairman of the convention organising committee.

This year, apart from the popular Chemistry magic show, there will also be a Physics magic show and a short story science fiction writing contest. There will be a shop at the convention where scientifically minded hobbyists will be able to purchase necessities not ordinarily obtainable.



Drama to present Toad of Toad Hall

The Department of Drama is to present *Toad of Toad Hall* by A.A. Milne, adapted from Kenneth Graham's well loved children's classic book *The Wind in the Willows*, as its 1995 children's production.

As *The Wind in the Willows* fans will know, the story is set in the countryside where a community of animals inhabit a riverbank. Toad Hall, the home of the hero, is the grandest of them all. In the nearby Wild Wood lives Mr Badger and some rather unpleasant weasels, ferrets and stoats. The story of the action-packed play centres on the antics of the sociable and genial Toad, who indulges in wild crazes and is constantly getting himself into trouble. The play ends happily with a big party at Toad Hall.

The production will be directed by Jane Osborne, who directed the production in Grahamstown 25 years ago with a cast of local townspeople. She will be assisted by a

graduate drama student, Lanon Prigge of First Physical Theatre Company fame, who also plays the title role, Toad. Deon van Niekerk, a Masters student, plays the old Badger and Toad's faithful friends Mole and Ratty are played by two third-year students Swapna Prakhakavan and Lisa Crick.

The remaining members of the large cast are first and second year students playing a wide variety of animals, including: Alfred, the Horse; Mr Pig; the Policeman; Mr Owl; the Judge and a selection of ferrets, stoats, weasels, rabbits and mice. The set has been lavishly designed by Lindy Roberts. She is assisted with the costumes by third-year design students. The lighting is being jointly designed by Guy Nelson and Martin Kerem.

This colourful play will delight children and adults of all ages, but is particularly suitable for those between 6 and 10. Eight performances are planned to cope with for the

expected high demand for seats. However, it is advisable to book early.

The performances will be on May 17, 18, and 19, in the Rhodes Theatre. Performances for schools will run at 9.00am and 11.00am. There will be two public performance, for parents to take their children, at 6.00pm on May 18 and 19. Tickets cost R 8,00 for adults and R 6,00 for children.

Block bookings for over 100 children will sell at a reduced rate of R 5,00 per ticket. To book for schools performances contact Guy Nelson on 0461 318542.

Booking for the public performances is at Grocott & Sherry, High Street Grahamstown.

As with all the Department of Drama shows this year, 50c from each ticket sold will go to the Grahamstown Foundation's Phoenix Fund.

Guy Nelson

Hugh Kelly Fellow for LIRI

A German research scientist, who recently arrived at the Leather Industries Research Institute (LIRI) will help to forge links between Germany and South Africa and contribute to the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP). He is Prof Claus Elle.

Prof Elle won the prestigious Hugh Kelly Fellowship award at Rhodes this year. The Hugh Kelly Fellowship foundation was established to bring prominent international scholars to the University to undertake research for the period of a year. Prof Elle was selected from amongst fifty applicants from all over the world.

He is from the Fachhochschule Fulda in Germany, where he is a Professor of Food Process Engineering. He arrived in February, accompanied by his wife, and will be on a research sabbatical at LIRI until September.

His arrival presents an opportunity for exploring further co-operation between Germany and South Africa. The Technical Universities of Freiberg and Dresden are likely to become involved in LIRI projects once the German government's support is realised.

Prof Elle has a specific interest in membrane technology. He is working with Prof Peter Rose, Director of LIRI, on a novel process for desalination of tannery wastes and will also conduct research on membrane distillation for the treatment of tannery waste water.

This process will be a component of the overall saline remediation technology strategy under evaluation at LIRI and incorporating the High Rate Algal Pond facilities. This novel technology will allow the Leather Industry to discharge clean water, one of the basic needs that the RDP plans to meet.

'Inform us of springhare sightings'

In an effort to learn more about springhares, a Rhodes academic has appealed for assistance. "We urge the public to inform us of springhare sightings", said Dr Chris Brown, a senior lecturer in the Department of Zoology and Entomology.

A springhare research project has been undertaken by Mr Dean Peinke, a Masters student. "We are interested in observing springhares to gain knowledge about their physiology, diet, and thermal and osmo-regulation to determine how this affects their behaviour.

Never been seen to drink

These are nocturnal creatures and are unusual because they have never been observed to drink water from pools. They acquire water through the food that they eat", said Mr Peinke.

Springhares feed on grass. "The type of grass they feed on is important to farmers who graze sheep and cattle. We are also interested in knowing if other farmers feel they are pests and if so, what are these farmers growing?", said Dr Brown. They appear to be confined to areas where the sandy soil they burrow in is found.

Dr Brown and Mr Peinke are hopeful that Rhodes staff members will join the public at large in continuing to inform them about springhare sightings and activity.

Reports may be telephoned to ext 8533 during working hours.

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'Arts an essential part of education'

The Rhodes Drama Department firmly established itself as one of the leading forces in arts education policy development last month when almost 400 delegates attended the Ilitha Arts Education Conference at Rhodes.

Hosted in association with the National Arts Coalition, this three-day gathering of artists, educators, government officials and members of NGO's aimed to devise an action plan for implementing arts education policies in South Africa.

Conference organisers were determined that the conference would not be an end in itself. The process is now being carried forward with the setting up of the Ilitha Arts Education Project, to try and implement many of the suggestions and resolutions from the conference.

The opening speaker, Minister of Education, Prof Sibusiso Bengu, publicly committed himself to introducing the arts to all levels of formal and non-formal education in South Africa when he said, "I wish to state publicly that we are committed to having arts education as an integral part of the national school curricula at primary, secondary and tertiary level, as well as in non-formal education."

He added that arts education (drama, dance, music and visual arts) must be made an "integral component of every school core-curriculum, as essential to a holistic approach to learning", and that "urgent attention should be given to the creation of relevant arts curricula, teacher training, and the provision of facilities for the arts within all schools".

"I feel that the conference was an overwhelming success," said convenor, Michael Carlin. "We had delegates from every single province in the country who all committed themselves to working towards the implementation of arts education policies."

"It is important to realise that what we are talking about goes way beyond the training of artists. We see the arts as an essential part of general formative education which helps to build life skills in people, and contributes to emotional and cognitive development."

This view was emphasised by keynote speaker, President of the NAC and Vice-Chancellor of the University of the North, Prof Njabulo Ndebele.

"Creativity is not something specific only to the writing of a poem, or the composition of music or sculpture," he said. "It is also the inventing of a new technology, a new theory of management, or the reconfiguring of the entire society."

"If a major objective of a school curriculum can be to stimulate the creative imagination of the next generation, then I know of no other discipline that can best enable us to do this than the creative arts."

"The intention here is not to make everyone a



Minister of Education, Prof Sibusiso Bengu, speaking at the Ilitha Arts Conference at Rhodes last month.

Pic: Dror Eyal

poet, but rather to let everyone participate in the activity of stimulating the imagination. The creative arts teach us to walk on uncharted avenues. They teach us to be open minded. They teach us to find possibilities and beauty in the most unlikely places, and by challenging orthodoxies, they tell us when old solutions become problems. Seen in this way, the creative arts are not a peripheral activity, but at the heart of our new society," Prof Ndebele said.

The conference was officially opened by the Eastern Cape MEC for Education and Culture, Mrs Nosimo Balindlela who emphasised the importance of arts education in preserving, revitalising and promoting our cultural heritage.

"We need to develop principles guiding our curriculum into presenting our cultural past in a way that restores our children's pride in their roots," she said.

Mrs Balindlela asserted that children should be given the chance to "develop all of their cognitive skills", but that they must be "more than thinking beings. They must be 'feeling' beings – emotional and spiritual beings." She feels that the holistic approach of the arts in education can contribute to this kind of development.

In addition to the presentation of formal papers and panel discussions, delegates were able to attend practical workshops, ranging from creative movement for the classroom and the use of drama as a teaching methodology, to integrating all the art forms around music.

"It is very important that teachers are able to share ideas or gain new insights into the possibilities for the arts on a practical level," Carlin said.

"I found it very interesting that a lot of the teachers who participated were science and

geography teachers. They recognise the value of using the creative arts as an effective teaching medium."

Carlin also pointed out that the conference allowed a number of departments at Rhodes to collaborate in ensuring a successful and enriching programme. "The Departments of Music, Fine Art, English and Education were all represented on the organising committee," he said.

The Ilitha Project will now start to address issues such as in-service teacher training, the setting up of pilot projects and resource centres and curriculum development for the arts.

Delegates have joined various working groups to ensure that there is full participation in the implementation of this project.

Commission on V-C selection procedures meets

The first meeting of the Commission established by the Senate and Council to advise the University on the procedures to be followed for the appointment of a new Vice-Chancellor was held on Monday, March 27.

It was agreed that the Commission should advertise for submissions to be made to it on any matter relating to these procedures. The closing date for these submissions was Monday, May 1.

Rhodes Professor honoured

"It's a boost for South Africa!", said Prof Pat Scott of the Department of Human Movement Studies, who has been invited to serve as a member of the International Scientific Advisory Board for the 13th Triennial Congress of the International Ergonomics Association (IEA). These conferences are attended by over a thousand delegates.

The congress will be held in Tampere, Finland from June 29 to July 4, 1997. An international network is being created to make the congress known worldwide and to make the information distribution effective.

"This is an honour one must take advantage of", said Prof Scott. The first meeting of the international body will be held at a South American ergonomics conference in Rio de Janeiro in October this year. "Here we will set the parameters and standards, establish a formal theme, and discuss the acceptance of papers", she said.

The congress chairman, Mr Markku Mattila from Finland, will visit South Africa on a project from the International Labour Organisation (ILO) next year. The immediate past president of the IEA, Dr Hal Hendrick from the United States, will also visit South Africa soon. All this helps towards establishing important two-way international contact. "Everyone is reaching out to South Africa and this is the way to strengthen the link", said Prof Scott.

"South African ergonomists can only gain from this experience and South Africa industry as a whole will benefit", she said.

Freshwater man heads JLB Smith Institute

Dr Paul Skelton has been appointed Director of the JLB Smith Institute of Ichthyology in succession to Prof Mike Bruton.

Dr Skelton has been Curator of Freshwater Fishes at the Institute since 1984 and was previously on the staff of the Albany Museum. A leading authority on African freshwater fishes his recently published work, *A guide to the Freshwater Fishes of Southern Africa* is already known as a particularly authoritative work on the subject.

Dr Skelton is married to Anne, who teaches at Victoria Primary School and the couple have two sons and a daughter.

More SA students should study in Holland

"We want an increasing number of students from South Africa to study at universities in Holland", said Dr Eep Franken, lecturer at the University of Leiden, Holland who delivered a lecture when he visited the Department of Afrikaans en Nederlands last week.

Dr Franken is a guest lecturer at the University of Cape Town. "The University of Leiden has an agreement with South African Universities which started two years ago", said Dr Franken.

These include the University of Cape Town, the University of the Western Cape, the University of Pretoria, the University of Stellenbosch and the University of Potchefstroom.

There are three students from the University of Leiden studying at the University of Stellenbosch and two students from the University of Stellenbosch studying at the University of Leiden.

"We want the programme to grow and hope that more lecturers would consider going to Holland", he said. "These exchange programmes extend for a period of six to twelve months", Dr Franken advised.

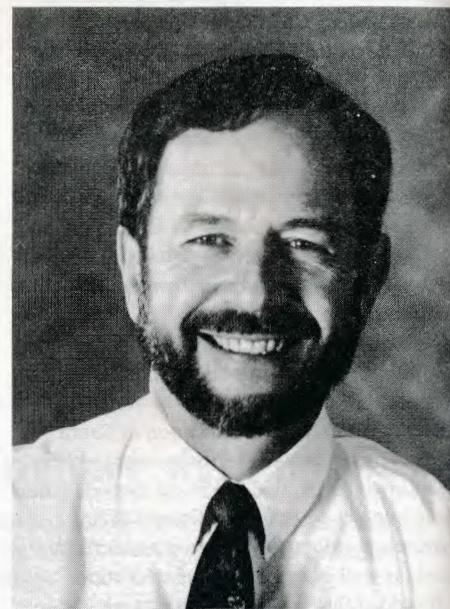
OBITUARY: Peter Humphry Greenwood, DSc. DSc (Honoris Causa), FRS

It is with regret that *Rhodos* acknowledges the death of Humphry Greenwood, in London on March 3rd.

Dr Greenwood, was "more than just an outstanding ichthyologist; he was a warm person of generous spirit with a puckish sense of humour and a quick wit", wrote Dr Alan Ribbink in an obituary published shortly after his death.

Dr Greenwood was an Honorary Associate of the JLB Smith Institute of Ichthyology at the time of his death. A well-attended memorial service for him was held in the Chapel of St Mary and All the Angels at the same time as his funeral in London.

Former Rhodes lecturer back in town



A former lecturer in Rhodes University's Department of English, Mr Chris Mann (above), has been appointed Director of Operations of the Grahamstown Foundation. He will be responsible for finance, administration and projects development.

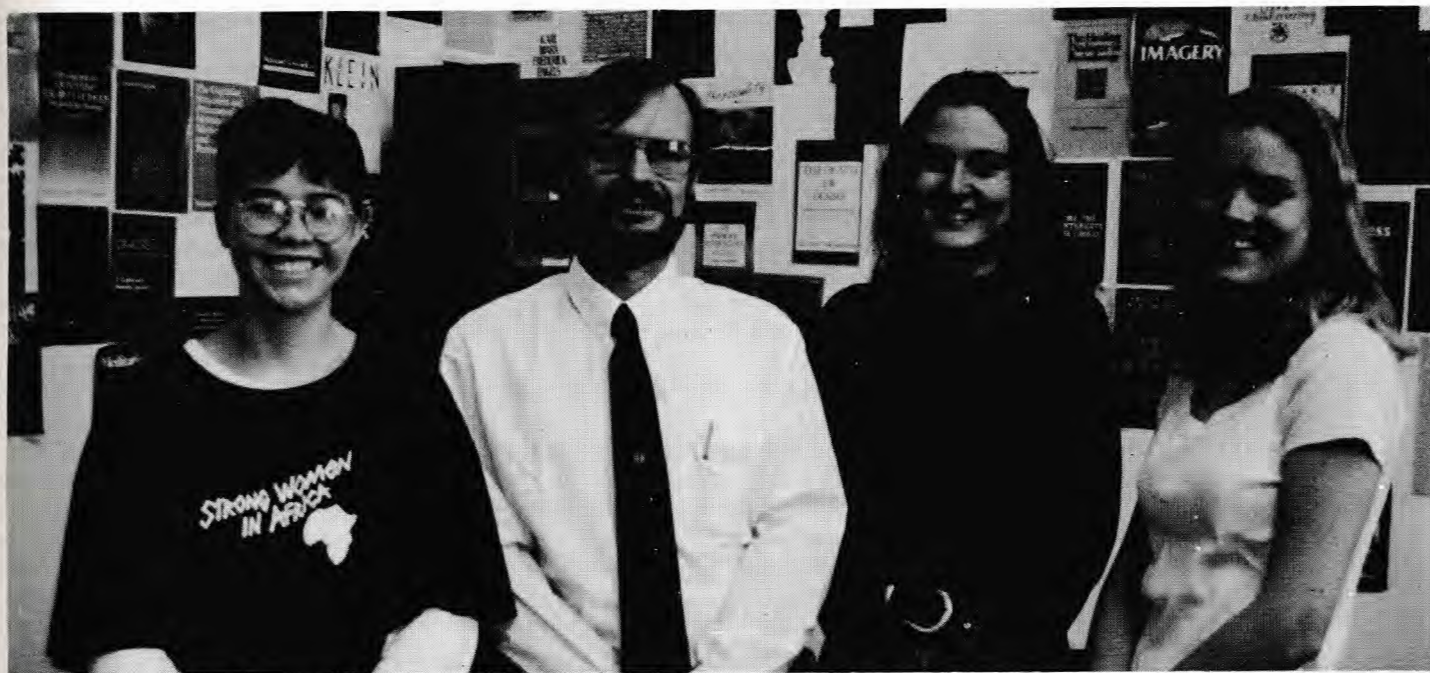
Formerly with the Valley and Vuleka Trusts, Mr Mann had previously graduated from Wits with a BA degree with a distinction in English. He went up to Oxford on a Rhodes scholarship to study for an MA and won the prestigious Newdigate Prize for Poetry.

He has a second Master's degree from London's School of Oriental and African studies and is a recipient of the Olive Schreiner Prize. He has published three volumes of poetry and he co-edited the *New South African Book of Verse* with Prof Guy Butler.

Mr Mann has performed a programme of sung and recited poetry entitled *Mann Alive* over the past few years at many venues in South Africa.

He founded, and was Chairman of, the Teacher Development Foundation in Durban and was awarded the degree of D Litt (honoris Causa) by the University of Durban-Westville. He is married to artist Julia Skeen and the couple have two young children.

Certificates awarded with prizes for first time



The sought after annual prizes, the John O'Meara and Ernest Wilde Memorial Awards have been won this year by three women.

The prizes, awarded to Psychology students, were presented at a function held in the Department of Psychology recently.

The two Ernest Wilde prizes which enable the recipients to purchase books are awarded to the best Psychology II and Psychology III students. They were won this year by Laura Russell and Lauren Netto respectively.

The John O'Meara Memorial Award, made in cash, was won by Sandra Carrington.

The winners of the three prizes with Prof Chris Stones, Head of the Department of Psychology, after he had presented them with their certificates. From left, they are Lauren Netto, Laura Russell and Sandra Carrington.

Ernest Wilde was at Rhodes from 1927 until 1964 and was the first Head of the Department. The prizes, initiated by his widow, were first awarded in 1965.

John O'Meara was the first registered industrial psychologist on the staff of the Department. His widow endowed the award, which was first awarded in 1991, in his memory. It is presented to the top student in

Industrial Psychology III each year.

This was the first time that certificates have been awarded together with the prizes. This enabled him to present the awards at a function where the winners were joined by their peers and Departmental staff members, said Prof Chris Stones, Head of the Department of Psychology

Schönland herbarium an important resource

The Selmar Schönland Herbarium, housed in the Albany Museum, holds just under 200 000 specimens from algae to flowering plants and is an extremely valuable botanical resource for both professional and amateur botanists.

An herbarium is a museum of plant specimens arranged according to an easily accessible system. The Selmar Schönland Herbarium was formed by the amalgamation of the Albany Museum Herbarium and the Rhodes University Herbarium in 1993 and is managed jointly by the Department of Botany, the Albany Museum and a section of the Agricultural Research Council known as the Rooideplaat Grasslands Institute.

"Pressing and drying the plants is the only way of sampling and ensures that the plants still retain their character. It is a means of studying diversity and variation", said Mr Peter Phillipson, curator of the herbarium and a lecturer in the Department of Botany at Rhodes.

The Herbarium plays an important educational role for Rhodes students as well

as the local schools, the farming community, nature conservation bodies and the general public. It is an invaluable research tool to many science disciplines, both at Rhodes and the museum. Research projects using of the herbarium include taxonomy, ecology, anthropology, remote sensing, entomology, biochemistry and ichthyology.

"Plants have a variety of uses. If we don't improve their classification, we cannot use them so efficiently pharmaceutically and this important research will not advance so quickly", Mr Phillipson said. An important archival collection of specimens, literature, manuscripts and botanical art is housed in the herbarium which maintains a small library supported by the libraries of the Albany Museum, Rhodes University and the National Botanical Institute (NBI).

A computer database of botanical data and specimen records is being developed, available online to any registered user through the Rhodes University computer network system. Mr Phillipson said, "It might be easy

to find a particular plant species if filed under the scientific name but if one requires information of a different nature, such as plants occurring in a particular area, it is unrealistic to go through 200 000 specimens. With a database it is possible to search for specific localities, habitats and medicinal uses."

The Herbarium has an active collecting programme focusing on undercollected areas of the Eastern Cape. Botanical exploration is also undertaken in other areas. On a worldwide basis, the Selmar Schönland Herbarium operates collaboratively. "We send duplicates of our specimens to other collections and they do the same for us. Through these efforts we build up our collections. We also loan specimens to herbaria all over the world", he said.

Mr Phillipson has written a chapter on his explorations in Madagascar in a book entitled *Centres of plant diversity* which has recently become available. The book covers Europe, Africa, South West Asia and the Middle East.



Thursday, 11 May

Informal Seminar

Dr Rehema White on *Room 216,*
What turns on a mouse?: Biological Sciences
Rodent reproduction in *Building*
South Africa.

Saturday, 13 May

Rugby

Rhodes 1st XV (leaguGreat Field from 13h10
fixture), 1st reserves and
2nd XV are at home to
Patensie. Main match
kicks off at 15h30.

Wednesday, 17 May

Rugby

Rhodes 1st XV, 1st *Great Field - evening*
reserves and 2nd XV play
Despatch. The 1st's game
is a league fixture.

Wednesday 17 May to Friday, 19 May

Toad of Toad Hall 09h00, 11h00 and
directed by Jane Osborne. 18h00;
Kenneth Graham's *Rhodes Theatre*
classic tale with Mole,
Rat and Badger. Booking
at Grocott and Sherry.

Wednesday, 24 May

Public Lecture: *On being* *Arts Major*
a teacher, by Dr George 20h00
Euvard, 1993 recipient
of the Vice-Chancellor's
Award for Distinguished
Teaching. All who are
interested are invited.

24th - 27th May

Vinegar Tom by Caryl *Rhodes Theatre,*
Churchill, directed by 19h30
Reeza de Wet Reardon.

Thursday, 1 June

Informal Seminar hosted *Room 216,*
by Zoology and *Biological Sciences*
Entomology: *Building*
Osmoregulation and 16h00 - 16h45
water balance. How
springhares meet their
water requirements
without drinking. By Mr
Dean Peinke.

Safety and adequacy of blood for transfusion

Rhodes University anthropologists are liaising with the Border Blood Transfusion Services in an effort to ensure a safe and adequate blood supply.

"The Blood Transfusion Services need to collect an increasing amount of blood because medical procedures are becoming more heavily dependent on blood than they were in the past. More people now have access to medical care but demand is increasing without an increase in supply", said Prof Michael Whisson, Head of the Department of Anthropology.

"The most important element is to persuade people to donate blood but to exclude themselves if they have engaged in high risk activity in the past few months because this is the period during which testing does not pick up the active virus", he said. This is commonly referred to as the "window period", during which infected persons don't show any symptoms and tests cannot pick up the virus.

The main goal is to promote behaviour which minimises the probability of further

transmission. "Primary Health Care (PHC) is a possible solution", he suggested. "It involves elements of education, nutrition, contraception and hygiene, all of which are relevant to the creation and maintenance of healthy communities. However, these programmes are underfunded and require sponsorships and provincial government support."

An additional component of PHC priorities is the targeting of unmarried women and girls for sex education and strategies for evading dependence on men. "Lacking sex education, the girls readily fall victim to passion, peer-pressure, the lust of authority figures, such as teachers, and the material temptation offered by returning migrants and other older men who can reward them generously for sexual services."

Prof Whisson feels confident that the overall health of target communities would improve. "If this sort of model works and HIV can be stabilised or reduced, then the programme can be replicated to other communities", he said.

IWR making full use of stream laboratory

If water requirements of the natural environment are not met, the capacity of rivers to meet the needs of other users is threatened, says Dr Carolyn Palmer, Research Officer in the Institute for Water Research.

She said, "One of the most sensitive requirements of riverine invertebrates is flowing water and specific hydraulic conditions. If we have to work experimentally, we have to do so in a flowing water system. This entails the development of artificial streams." Artificial stream research is well established world-wide. The streams range in size from small bench-top channels to huge outdoor systems where rivers are partially diverted to experimental channels.

"Naturally functioning rivers have a self cleansing and purification capacity", she explained. "They provide water for supply and recreation and habitats for microbial communities algae, higher plants, invertebrates, fish, birds and mammals. However, if rivers don't have a water supply which adequately approximates to the pattern of quality and quantity, to which flora and fauna are adapted, natural processes are interrupted and functions are impaired", said Dr Palmer.

During a workshop in 1989 it became apparent that rivers that flow through the Kruger National Park (KNP) are threatened by the huge demand for water supply and efficient disposal capacity in their upper reaches. The rivers of the KNP have a

generally accepted conservation status and the definition of their water requirements is urgently required.

Methods for estimating water quality requirements are being developed by the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAF) and other research centres country-wide. "One of the methods of determining water quality tolerances is ecotoxicology where organisms are experimentally subjected to a range of concentrations of selected variables, for defined periods of time, under controlled conditions", she said.

Researchers from the IWR visited artificial stream facilities in England, Canada the United States and Australia in 1992 and began a Water Research Commission-funded project to build an artificial stream laboratory with the first objective of investigating water quality tolerances of South African riverine invertebrates.

"We have a flexible, well replicated artificial stream laboratory with huge potential for investigating a wide range of responses of natural stream fauna to changing conditions in terms of water quality and quantity. The facility provides a unique opportunity for co-operative, multi-disciplinary research in collaboration with water managers, industry and other water user sectors", Dr Palmer concluded.

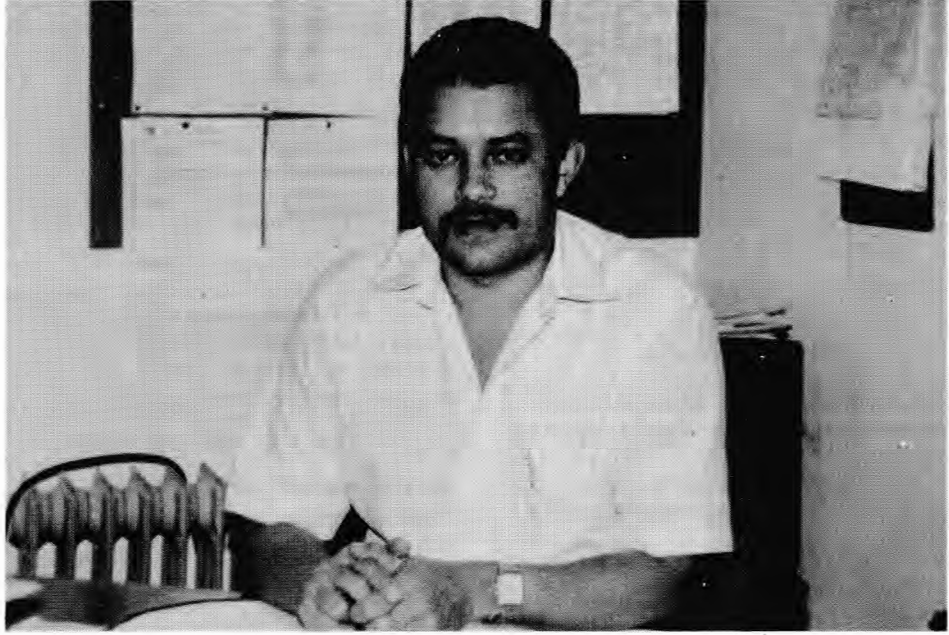
New 'Postmaster-General' on campus

Mr Rodney Bridger (*right*), the new mailroom supervisor says, "We are going to give people exactly what they expect of us!"

Mr Bridger who has been working at the PERM for the past three years said, "I am getting to know the rest of my staff." Mr Bridger said that he had received a number of complaints regarding delays and mix-ups where circulation of internal mail was concerned. "We know its not going to be easy, but we are setting goals and intend meeting them", he said.

Mr Bridger does not intend making any serious changes with regard to the mailroom. "I just want to get it organised and running smoothly", he said. Mr Bridger who is an avid reader, also enjoys watching sport. He was also a member of the church council of the St Clement's Parish for three years.

Yashica Haribhai



M Net Bursary awarded for 1995

The M-Net Bursary for Creative Writing has drawn another bright student to Rhodes. The 1995 bursary has been awarded to Ms Clarinda Steenhuizen (23).

This prestigious bursary, valued at R 12 000,00, enables her to study creative writing as one of her honours subjects. The course is offered by Prof Etienne van Heerden of the Department of Afrikaans en Nederlands.

Ms Steenhuizen, who is reading towards an Honours degree in Drama Studies at Rhodes, studied Drama and Languages at the University of Stellenbosch and graduated *cum laude* as the best student in her class in 1994.

She writes in both English and Afrikaans. Ms Steenhuizen has a wide range of interests. As an early achiever, she excelled in debating competitions, and took second place in the countrywide Senior Bilingual Exams of the South African 'Taalbond', passing with distinction.

She was awarded the prize for Innovative Directing at the Stellenbosch Theatre Festival in 1991 and furthered her theatrical interests by writing a literary cabaret which was successfully staged at the Arts Festival in Grahamstown in 1992.

She was a student journalist on *Die Matie* and founding editorial member of *Voelvry*, a newsletter on gender issues published on the Stellenbosch campus. She was also committee member of an organisation called Students for Human Rights and launched a women's rights week, which led to the establishment of LOST, the Launching Committee for the Investigation of Sexual Harassment on campus.

Apart from taking contemporary dance classes and working as a freelance tour guide at the Stellenbosch Tourist Offices, she attended classes on the teaching of Street Law, acquired a diploma in computer

proficiency at the Stellenbosch Technikon and travelled extensively overseas.

She was a member of the English Society, the French Society and the Film Society.

She concentrates on the writing of fiction and literary cabarets.

The 1994 recipient of the M-Net bursary, Ms Sonja Loots, graduated with distinction, obtaining her honours in Afrikaans and Nederlands at Rhodes at the end of last year. The novel which she completed as a major part of her Creative Writing course, will be published by Tafelberg Publishers in July this year, making her the youngest Afrikaans novelist to make it into print.

Ms Loots is registering for an Masters degree in the Department of Afrikaans en Nederlands, the route also followed by the previous M-Net bursary holder, Mr Izak de Vries.

Preferential interest rates on home loans

The University has entered into a suretyship scheme with the Standard Bank.

As a result of this, the Standard Bank is able to offer all *qualifying* staff members preferential interest rates on their home loans.

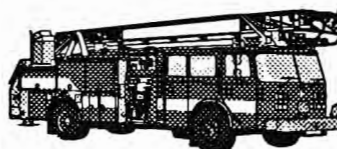
For further details contact Mr R N Smuts, in the Finance Division (ext 8162) or the Standard Bank's home loans section.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

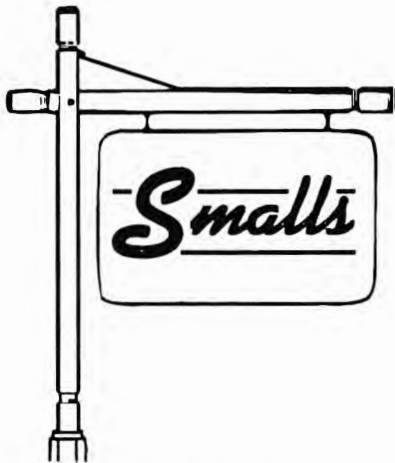
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Display ads: R 2,50 per column centimetre; double for front and back pages.

Classifieds: 10 cents per word unless a bona fide staff member is advertising in his or her personal capacity, in which case no charge is levied. Advertising is run strictly on a cash basis.

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FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT SALE

A sale of redundant and obsolete furniture and equipment will be held on Friday, 26 May at 14h00 at the Prince Alfred stores next to King Field on Prince Alfred Street. All goods will be sold Voetstoets and may be viewed on the day of the sale from 12h00 noon. Contact Mrs Deidre Sutton for further details.

Hockey players sought for staff teams

The Rhodes University Staff hockey Association is once again recruiting players for the 1995 hockey season.

Rhodes Staff has a hockey team which plays in the Grahamstown men's hockey league during the winter months. The season is reasonably short and no games are scheduled away or in the vacations. The hockey played in this league is of a social yet

competitive nature, the emphasis being on enjoyment. We have a fairly rapid turnover of members, and as a result are always looking for new faces to fill our ranks. Any member of staff or senior students who are interested in playing hockey for RUSHA can contact Gary Barkhuizen in Linguistics on Ext. 8105/6, or by e-mail at ligb@giraffe.ru.ac.za.

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RHODOS is produced monthly by the Public Relations and Development Division of Rhodes University, Grahamstown.

The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor, Rhodos staff, or the University.

The Editor welcomes all contributions but reserves the right to edit these.

UPE win Intervarsity events

As if on cue, driving rain brought a predictive mood of gloom to the Rhodes Great Field as the ball was kicked off to start the Intervarsity highlight, the 1st XV rugby match between Rhodes and the University of Port Elizabeth last week end.

The home team trailed by 20 points to 3 at half time and conceded defeat to the visitors by 26 points to 15 at the final whistle.

Rhodes lost two key players; flyhalf Mark Valentine mere minutes into the match and hooker Pete Goodyer as the second half began.

Each side scored two tries; for UPE Riaan van Jaarsveld and Jonathan Staples in the first half and for Rhodes captain Andy Milne in the first half and Grant Rothman in the second.

The rest of Rhodes' points all came from Rothman's boot, through a conversion and two penalties.

For UPE with flyhalf Steven Hayidakis converted both his team's tries and added four penalties.

Rhodes, while never giving up, were trapped into making handling errors which turned into penalties too often.

The four earlier rugby matches, 1st Reserves, 2nds and U-21 A and B were all won by UPE, as was the overall intervarsity programme.

After the results from 14 sports were tallied on Saturday evening, UPE were ten points ahead, at 43, of Rhodes' 33.

Rhodos invites contributions from staff members and other readers. Articles should be forwarded to the Editor, at the Public Relations and Development Division.

Articles are preferred on diskette in any of several common word processing formats, including ASCII, Word Perfect, WordStar, Xywrite and Multimate.

Text may also be e-mailed to adjw@warthog.ru.ac.za. Photographs and line art