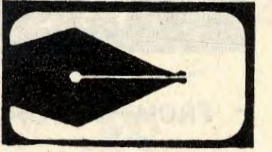


# RHODEO

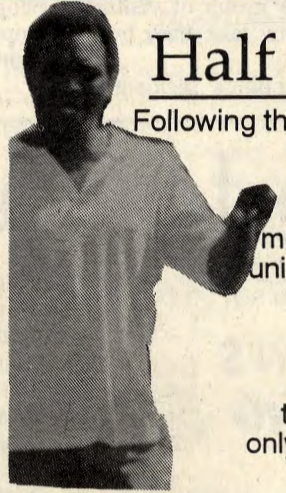


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## NEWS

### Half time ?



Following the tension and turmoil of the service staff strike last month, both the union and admin are quietly engaged in negotiations. Whether this truce will last, only time will tell.

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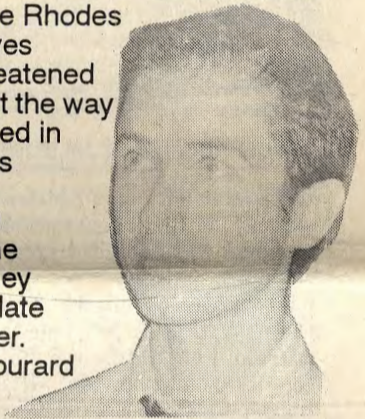
## FEATURE

### Looking at Aids

Not only are Rhodes students lives directly threatened by Aids, but the way it is portrayed in the media is having a detrimental effect on the way that they see and relate to each other.

- Pierre Brourard

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## CULTURE

### Rebel country



Despite the disappointing attendance, the Syndicate Sisters, Dr Victor and the Rasta Rebels proved that Grahamstown was still capable of having a good rave. Unfortunately their visit sent out a signal to other national artists that Grahamstown is not the ideal place to turn a good profit.

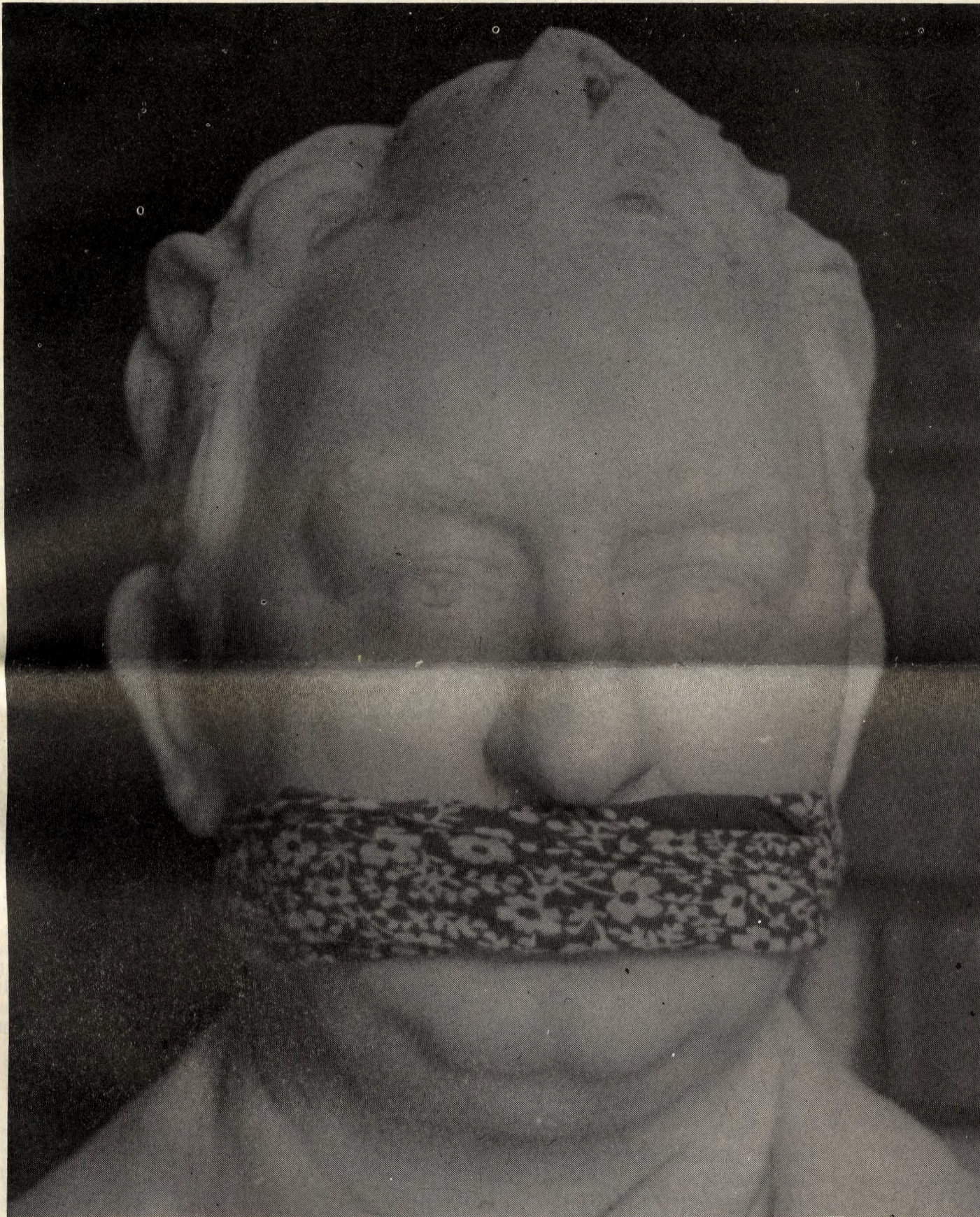
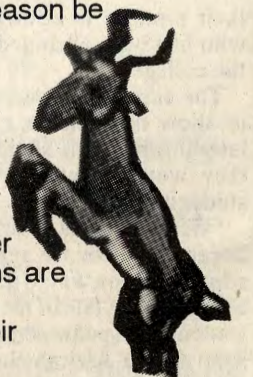
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## SPORT

### Symbolism

Should open season be declared on the Springbok? Should the Rasta Rebels compose the next national anthem? These and other crucial questions are put to Rhodes students for their views.

Page 16



Rhodes admin remains silent on Honorary Degrees debacle ... page 3

## Nightmare on New Street

Get off the tables, you can't dance like a white girl, "Milner House Sub-Warden Pet Lumphongwann was told on Friday night by a Vic patron.

In the argument that ensued her friend Primrose Nqwana, who is the Head Student of Milner, was told by the manager to leave.

The argument began when Nqwana told the man who was harassing them to "piss off". When he grabbed her hand, her friends jumped to her defence.

"This is the New South Africa," one shouted, "everybody voted Yes!"

The man, a regular at the Vic, responded: "Not everybody, I voted No." The women told the man to "go back to Holland".

The Vic Manager, Mr Kenny van Niekerk then approached Primrose Nqwana and told her to leave. Hobson House Committee member Gillian Makura tried to explain the situation to him but Van Niekerk said he did not want to hear anything. "You people turn everything into a political issue," he said.

To Page Two

RHODEO has received a number of complaints from students over recent weeks that the Vic has increasingly lost its 'charm of old'. Kendal Claassens reports.

# Weekend of tension at The Vic - the story continued

## FROM PAGE ONE

Van Niekerk said the man who initiated the argument was not told to leave as he had only seen three women fighting. Makura said this was "rubbish" as they were not fighting among themselves, but were arguing with the man.

Aiesec president Anne Williamson who witnessed the incident thought it horrific. She said Aiesec, which was considering holding a party there for a group of visiting students, will now take their business elsewhere.

Since Friday night's incident, a

number of other complaints have surfaced about incidents at the Vic.

- A Dingemans resident complained that bouncers, who are a new addition to the Vic and are supposed to stop fights and protect customers, often become so involved in these fights that they do not concern themselves with customers' safety.

- A bouncer did not deny this but said: "People should move out of the way when there's a fight, so that people in charge can do their job and stop the trouble. When eight men are fighting, it's not easy to stop it."

- A student working at the Vic

said: "Bouncers are so busy watching and throwing certain groups out that they're never around to stop incidents like the one on Friday night."

- Other complaints about the Vic have centred around certain groups being asked for student ID. The manager, Van Niekerk, said the Vic is a student bar, and we therefore request ID from students to keep other undesirable people out.

The bouncer said: "There's a problem at the moment with blacks coming in from the townships, picking up unfinished drinks, getting drunk, bumming money and harass-

ing students.

"These problems can be stopped by imposing a cover charge or a dress code. Both of which would chase students away."

- Another student complained that Grahamstown locals victimised students at the Vic. The student related an incident where locals wearing AWB insignia assaulted three Jan Smuts men.

"If students had caused fights like that, they would have been beaten up by the bouncers," the student said. "The Vic has become a venue for racist, violent and anti-student activities."

The bouncer said the Smuts men

should lay charges if they felt they were assaulted.

## STOP PRESS

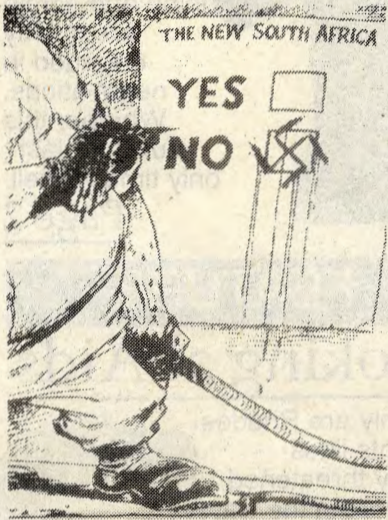
**TROUBLE** at the Vic continued on Saturday night.

Several people were arrested after two drunken men protested when they were asked to leave following complaints that they were harassing a woman.

The bouncer said the men got violent when they were asked to leave and had to be thrown out.

He said an argument subsequently started outside the premises and they called in the police to avoid getting involved.

# Rhodes says Yes



Vusi Khoza and Josie Menre

**THE** large turnout of Rhodes' white students in the recent national referendum was unprecedented in this university's history.

Of the 2 600 eligible voters on campus, about 2 375 voted - a 95 percent poll. Although no exact figures were available, all indications pointed to an overwhelming Yes majority.

For a campus deeply divided over the recent worker's strike, the response to the referendum was a sign of at least a degree of political consensus.

This display of political unity surpassed even the march of 2 000 students to the Grahamstown police station in the Defiance Campaign of 1989.

In the same year the SRC managed to collect over 1 100 signatures calling for the removal of SADF troops from the University of the North (Turffloep). Since then Rhodes has seen few similar instances of mass student political activity.

Until now that is.

Several reasons have been forwarded for the apparent unanimity.

# College boycott

Rhodeo Reporter

**STUDENTS** at the Cape Teachers Training College in Fort Beaufort returned to classes following a two day boycott last week.

Students embarked on the action when the administration reneged on their promise to allow 28 students who had been excluded to return to the college.

The administration had promised to allow the students to return, but later informed the student body that they would only allow 17 of the students back.

"We decided to return to classes, because the Rector agreed that the administration would negotiate with us around the fate of the 11 excluded students," a spokesperson for the the local South African Students Congress (Sasco) branch said.

The broadness of the question was the most likely factor. White Rhodes students have generally placed themselves within the 'middle' of the political spectrum - avoiding what is considered the radical fringe. When groups as politically diverse as the National Party, the African National Congress, the Democratic Party and the Inkatha Freedom Party urged a Yes vote, it was no surprise that Rhodes' white students responded in the affirmative.

The role of the business sector was no less significant. From the outset they launched an extensive, and no doubt expensive, media campaign to promote the Yes position. Through this they established the Yes position as the mainstream, and supposedly popular, position. The high profile role played by business was a clear sign that the government could rely on their support. Whether this support will be as evident in South Africa's first non-racial elections is a cause for much speculation.

The lack of any substantial opposition from black students to the whites-only vote avoided a possible split on campus. Many white students who had previously boycotted racist parliamentary elections, now voted - some for the first time. The South African Students Congress (Sasco) encouraged its white members to vote Yes. The Pan Africanist Students Organisation (Paso) did not see the referendum as significantly affecting its programme.

The SRC's position in particular was important for the campus vote. As a council which was elected by the majority of both black and white students, its attitude towards the referendum obviously had campus-wide implications. Its active campaigning for a Yes vote contributed to the sense that it was the popular position.

"We felt that a boycott was the only option. We decided to take this action at a mass meeting of students that was called by Sasco," she said.

"When we first learnt that over half the excluded students would not be allowed to come back, we approached the administration, but they would not consider allowing them to return.

"They are now willing to allow some of the 11 to return to the college. It is the fate of the others that we still have to discuss with the Rector.

"We feel that these exclusions show that the administration has not come to terms with the crisis in education. Students are not adequately prepared for tertiary education by 'bantus' high schools. The college must take this into account when determining an exclusions policy," she said.



# Working group on sexual harassment

Rhodeo Reporter

**ON** an attendance register handed to students in a lecture at Bentley College in the USA, one student scribbled sexual remarks addressed directly at the lecturer.

Would you agree this is an instance of sexual harassment?

A working group has been established to explore the functioning of a committee to monitor racism, sexism and sexual harassment. A key issue they are addressing is how to define these terms.

To promote discussion about how we at Rhodes should define the terms, the group is collecting definitions currently in use.

According to a definition taken from the American Political Science Association policy statement, sexual harassment includes "unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favours, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

(1) submission to such conduct is made either implicitly or explicitly

a term or condition of an individual's employment or academic achievement, or

(2) submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment decisions or academic decisions affecting such individuals, or

(3) such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive working or academic environment".

The incident at Bentley College was interpreted by some as falling within the above definition of sexual harassment. The professor herself, interpreted the incident as an instance of sexual harassment and, after tracing the student through his handwriting, called him before the Dean of the Faculty. She said it had contributed towards an embarrassing and hostile working environment for her, and to stop the remarks she had been forced to discuss the issue in front of the class (also an embarrassing task).

# Negotiations continue smoothly

Lisa Rumelin

**THE** negotiations that followed last month's service staff strike were progressing well last week, according to both the National Education, Health and Allied Workers Union (Nehawu) and the Rhodes University Administration.

Of the four demands delivered by the union one demand had been met, namely that all workers whose posts were downgraded return to their previous grading.

The other three demands were:

- Grade one be abolished
- All workers be upgraded
- The wage gap between residence and non-residence workers be bridged

Deputy Director of Personnel and Chairperson of the Negotiation Committee, Mr Davel, said the Administration had offered to upgrade all Grade one staff who had been working at Rhodes for over three years, and all residence workers would receive R50 additional pay across the board.

Nehawu spokesperson, Mr Elijah Mkhonzi, is positive about the negotiations although no compromises have been met regarding the three remaining demands. He said: "We want to assure everybody that we are prepared to negotiate." Mr Davel also expressed the Administration's eagerness to reach an agreement.

Discussions on the new proposals were to begin on April 2.

The Rhodes working group was set up in response to a motion passed at the 1991 Union of Democratic University Staff Associations congress. It was felt the establishment of such a committee would represent an important statement about behaviour appropriate to members of the University community.

The working group is currently collecting information relevant to the campaign - how other universities are dealing with defining the terms and what some of the possible solutions are for Rhodes. They will publish their findings in order to stimulate discussion and feedback.

It is hoped a clear set of guidelines around the establishment of the committee will emerge and be endorsed through wide discussion. The group will be organising a public meeting at which proposals for the formation of the committee can be discussed.

People interested in the matter are invited to respond, anonymously or otherwise, to RHODEO - or you can contact Jenny Roberts or Lucy Beard on the SRC.

## Controversial award taken to task

Jonathan Davis

**STUDENTS** and academics have reacted with dismay to the revelations that Rhodes University council has blocked the awarding of an honorary doctorate to Govan Mbeki and plans to award one to Dr Chester Crocker.

A task force initiated by the South African Student's Congress (Sasco) has been set up on campus to challenge the administration on the issue. The group includes representatives of the SRC, student bodies and staff and worker organisations.

The group claims the decision is not only academically unacceptable, but is typical of the university's centralised decision making structures. Mbeki has had an illustrious academic and political career while Crocker has only achieved political prominence.

The controversy about honorary doctorates has opened up a far broader issue, said Darryl McLean of the Union of Democratic University Staff Associations (Udusa). There is a need to challenge the democracy of university structures as well as the composition of council.

"Senate would have been far more circumspect about giving Crocker a doctorate and not giving one to Mbeki if they thought there was any possibility of council vetoing it," he said.

McLean pointed out that council is composed entirely of white males. Blacks, women and workers have no representation while students have only "observer status" in the forum. "What we're looking at is a campaign around the composition of council".

The task force plans to call a meeting at which students, staff and workers will address the undemocratic nature of the university. The meeting will examine the university's statute book and develop acceptable alternatives to outdated and undemocratic clauses.

## Resignation for UPE Pres?

Rhodes Reporter

**THE** University of Port Elizabeth's Council was to decide the fate of two SRC members who had been forced to resign, after failing last year's November exams.

The Council's refusal to reinstate Peter Gerber, SRC Chairperson, and Karel de Beer saw students holding placard protests and mass meetings in support of the two's return to their previous SRC duties.

Two other SRC members who had been ousted, have already been reinstated after the Law Department challenged vague wording in the constitution. The constitution stated that SRC members had to be "promoted", but the Department argued it was difficult to decide whether or not a student could be "promoted" after failing exams.

"The university is tampering with democracy," said UPE South African Students' Congress (Sasco) publicity officer, Roi Simpson.

### Stop Press Stop Press

The UPE Council has recently decided to re-instate SRC President, Peter Gerber to his position on the SRC.

# Mum's the word!

## ...Or maybe not

**TWO** prominent Rhodes academics have added their voices to the chorus of disapproval at the announcement that Rhodes was to award an honorary doctorate to former US Secretary of State for African Affairs, Chester Crocker.

In a recent edition of COMMENT, a journal published by the Philosophy department, Professor Roger Southall and Dr John Daniel of the Politics Department claimed the award showed "crassness" on the part of the administration.

They called for a "radical revision of the procedures whereby honorary graduates are selected". This, they said, "raises a series of questions about the overall direction and orientation of the university".

### Racist and sexist biases

Southall and Daniel attacked the racist and sexist biases they said existed within the university. They cited the university's statement of Values and Objectives:

"The University rejects discrimination on the grounds of race, gender, belief or nationality. It is committed to non-discrimination particularly in the constitution of its student body, and in the selection and promotion of its staff and its administration."

Southall and Daniel called this assertion "nonsense". They pointed out that of the 27 members on Council (the highest decision making body on campus) all were male and all but one were white. Every member of the Board of Governors was male and white. Of Senate's 83 members, 82 were white and 79 male.

Only four percent of academic staff were black, and about 20 percent female, according to Union of Democratic Staff Associations (Udusa) figures.

## The dark side of March 17

*For many the build up to the referendum was a haze of posters, headlines and TV debates. On a recent trip to Alexandra township Steyn Speed found that March 17 wasn't all cricket and koeksisters.*

"WHEN the streets are empty like this, you know there's going to be shit." With these words journalist Wally Mbhele made a forecast for Alexandra that proved tragically accurate.

The day began like any other Saturday in Alex - quietly.

"We're just waiting," a nursing sister at the Alexandra Clinic commented.

"It could begin any minute now," she said, referring to the minibuses of armed Inkatha supporters driving past the clinic. The buses were followed by several police vehicles.

The Inkatha Freedom Party was to bury one of its members killed two weeks previously by "unknown" assailants. An ANC funeral was planned for the same day, but was postponed at the last minute.

The "mourners" congregated inside the fence of the Madala Hostel.

**SILENCE** is the only response Rhodes administration has had for challenges to the decision to award Dr Chester Crocker an honorary doctorate.

Admin has not responded to demands that the decision be explained, or accusations that the selection process is unfair.

It has failed also to address reports that Senate and Council voted against Dr Govan Mbeki as an honorary graduate. This would, one imagines, require that the senior administration compromise in some degree the confidentiality clause which restricts such discussions.

Admin employees are no longer allowed to speak directly to the student press. Reporters questions have to be submitted to the Vice Chancellor before, and are usually not promptly responded to.

These issues, and events such as the recent workers strike have raised fundamental questions about the governing structures of the university. How representative are the university's Council and Senate of the community they serve? How accountable are the university's officials to students, workers and staff?

The statement of Values and Objectives was "an enormous myth which no-one could possibly believe" said Southall and Daniel.

This pattern had not changed when it came to the awarding of honorary doctorates. Of the doctorates awarded, 89 percent were bestowed on males and 95,5 percent on whites.

"This is a disgraceful statistic for which there can be no other explanation than that of entrenched institutional sexism and racism" they said.

The article described the procedure of selecting honorary graduates. Nominations were invited from students and staff. These nominations were reduced without consultation to the four or five names submitted to Senate and Council. Senators and Councillors were apparently given summaries of each candidate's resume to read through

during a meeting before voting for or against each award. Successful candidates cannot be opposed by more than 25 percent of Council or Senate.

Southall and Daniel's main objection was to the decision to honour Dr Chester Crocker. Their article read "Our objection to his nomination is both a general political one, as well as a specific one relating to Dr Crocker's involvement with the politics of this region."

Crocker was a leading figure in the corrupt Reagan administration, which was responsible for the "Iran Contra arms scandal" and other contraventions of International Law said the article.

The Reagan administration worked against sanctions, and supported South Africa's regional policies. Here Crocker was instrumental in backing the Botha regimes destructive hold on Nami-



opened fire on the police and nearby onlookers. As the television crews scurried for cover, police returned the fire with automatic rifles. No one was hurt in the exchange.

The funeral had been postponed for a week. The marchers were quite willing to return home after the morning's activity.

While the army supervised IFP supporters boarding buses to leave the township, the Alexandra clinic was left to deal with the aftermath of the march.

Within the space of 15 minutes three people had been brought in with gunshot wounds - a fourth had stab wounds. The clinic staff dealt with patients in an obviously familiar routine. "It's what we are used to," commented a nurse.

bia, effectively prolonging the conflict in the region by a decade.

Southall and Daniels speculated on the reasons for the decision to honour Crocker. They called Crocker's credentials as an academic into question. On the basis of the citation provided by Admin, they claimed many academics at Rhodes would have been in line for honorary degrees.

It seemed politically shortsighted to honour "an ally of apartheid during the dying days of that despicable regime" they said. What then had Rhodes to gain from giving the award?

### A political failure

The two academics said they learnt that Crocker was appointed to the board of Minorco, which is the off-shore holding company of Anglo-American, during 1990. Rhodes University Chancellor Gavin Relly, a retired chair of Anglo-American, is still involved in Minorco. Is it possible some close reciprocal arrangement existed between Crocker and Rhodes?

Southall and Daniel believed the university deserved a more complete explanation of why the award was being given. "In particular we would like to know why this particular non-opponent of apartheid deserves to be honoured more than just one of the many distinguished South Africans, not excluding some from the Eastern Cape, who have spent a lifetime opposing apartheid."

"...in honouring Dr Crocker, we are not only rewarding a political failure but one who in the eyes of most South Africans has the blood of thousands of Southern Africans on his hands" said the article. "And to add insult to injury, we are giving him an honorary degree in law. We might as well start giving bank robbers degrees in economics."

One man had been shot in the throat. He died in the parking lot of the clinic awaiting transfer to hospital. Within five minutes his body had been removed and his stretcher stripped and cleaned for the next patient.

"Since De Klerk called the referendum over 230 people have been killed like this in township violence," said Canadian priest Stewart Gillan. "It seems like a clearly designed campaign. The violence in Alex has been turned on and off like a tap," he said.

At the end of the day the official count was three dead, 11 injured. By the standards of the SAP it was a marked improvement. For the people of Alexandra it was just another weekend in the "new" South Africa.

# Briefs

## Czechs out Aiesec hosts study tour

**AIESEC** Rhodes is bringing a delegation of 15 Czechoslovakian students to South Africa to form possible trade links and exchange technical information between South African and Czechoslovakian companies.

The three-week study tour, which started on March 24, represents the culmination of many months of negotiations between Czech students and AIESEC's International Committee.

The visiting delegation plans to meet with student representatives from Rhodes, as well as lecturers, the mayor and the Grahamstown Chamber of Commerce.

Each student has been sponsored by a company in Czechoslovakia. South African companies which have expressed an interest in the tour include Sappi Paper Mills, National Lamps, ALTECH and various clothing franchises.

The tour has also generated interest within the Czechoslovakian community in Johannesburg. The community has organised various social functions in Johannesburg, which include a tour of the city, a trip to the Czechoslovakian embassy, as well as functions at the various homes.

The students will be accommodated by AIESEC local committees around the country, and members of AIESEC Rhodes will accompany them on their tour.

At present AIESEC Rhodes is raising money to sponsor all transport, food, accommodation and entertainment while the students are in the country.

In December 1992, 15 students from Rhodes University will be hosted by Czechoslovakia on a similar study tour.

## Good sports

**FOR** the past term, RAG has provided children from the St Mary's Day Care Centre with a wide variety of sports activities.

These have included tennis set, rounders, aerobics, dancing and ball skills.

Louise Barnes, the organiser, and other students have been coaching the children, aged 6 to 17 years, every Monday to Thursday from 2:30 to 4:00pm.

Louise has appealed to students to assist in next term's activities which include soccer, rugby, hockey, aerobics and dancing. "Volunteers need only coach one day per week," she said.

Equipment in particular is needed. Donations can be handed in at the RAG office.

"Student support would be greatly appreciated," she said. "The children look forward to seeing the students every week and a lot of fun is had by all."

# Rusco pulls together

Paddy Hozack

**THE** Rhodes University Student Community Organisation (Rusco) organised a fun-filled olympics day for underprivileged kids from St Mary's day-care clinic at Bots Fields on Rag Saturday.

Approximately 70 children between the ages of five and seven participated in activities such as wheelbarrow races, tug of war, soccer and other innovative games. Afterwards, exhausted kids indulged in the juice and biscuits served to them by Rag Ambassadors, and donated by Checkers customers.

The Muslim Students Association also contributed refreshments, and assisted in running the olympics.

Rusco's aim in organising this, aside from providing the kids with an enjoyable afternoon, was to give students an alternative to getting hopelessly drunk at Rag. Students were given the opportunity of becoming actively involved in community work.

## Tests you don't have to learn for

**RUMOURS** of drug tests may conjure up images of sadistic scientists or rooms full of spaced out students pumped full of "recreational pharmaceuticals". Having decided to investigate these rumours, RHODEO spoke to Prof Kanfer, Director of the Biopharmaceutics Research Institute (BRI).

The Institute tests drugs on voluntary students, said Prof Kanfer, but only products that have been on the market for about 15 years and are certainly proven safe. Companies frequently bring out the same product in a slightly different formulation for example in tablet instead of capsule form. This "new" product may be cheaper or more effective or it could have different side effects or not work effectively, which is where the BRI comes in. They test the standard product against the new product with respect to its rate of release into the blood. Only if the two are equivalent is the "new" product allowed onto the market.

You may wonder what the risks are in taking part in one of these studies. They are, according to Prof Kanfer, minimal and all tests are done in accordance with international standards and are kept as safe as possible. One of the students who had participated did say that the regular blood tests left him feeling weak. But the volunteers (and they are strictly volunteers) are informed as to what "ordeal" they are going to go through and may stop when they want to. What's more, they get fed too.

Potential participants, who have to be 21 or older, are assessed on specific criteria laid down by the World Health Organisation i.e. they must be normal, healthy and human (What? At Rhodes?!). The groups are usually standardised on the basis of gender, weight, age and other physical characteristics for purely medical reasons, said Prof Kanfer.

Originally a sub-committee of Rag, Rusco became an independent organisation after a conflict over the principles. The only remaining link is a financial one, since Rusco is still dependent on Rag for funds.

However, of the R102 000 that Rag made this year, Rusco was given R2000.

Despite this, the organisation has a number of exciting projects planned for the year.

These include the Settler's Hospital, Street Children, Good Shepherd Sports, the Service Centre for Coloured Aged and Day Outings. All of these projects, however, depend on student participation.

Rusco is hoping to promote student awareness of conditions in the community and to get students involved in everything, from painting halls to teaching drama. They are concentrating on helping people help themselves and are running a number of educational programmes, all of which need student support to make it another successful year for Rusco.



# Syria's forgotten ghetto

Ross Edwards

**IN** a nationwide expression of solidarity the South African Union of Jewish Students (Saujs) has joined a three-stage campaign aimed at creating empathy for the plight of Syrian Jews - a move initiated internationally by the World Union of Jewish Students (Wujs), in December last year.

The first stage called for the sensitisation of Jewish youth and the conscientisation of their community to the need for 'Action For Syrian Jewry'.

Under the leadership of Dayan Gross, a fourth year BA student, Rhodes Saujs has been distributing pamphlets and began a one-student-per-day fast that will run for 45 days.

It included a talk on Syrian Jewry given by Professor Aubrey Levine on March 23.

The issue focuses on the oppression of the 4500 Syrian Jews living in Damascus, Aleppo and Kamishli, who have been living under almost constant military occupation for over 40 years.

Since 1969 Syria has been a signatory to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights but is still "constantly and methodically violating" this agreement, according to a Saujs pamphlet.

Today, Jews are treated like hostages by an openly-stated government policy described by Amnesty International as a "form of spite". Official restrictions forbid the emigration of Jews and confine them to a ghetto which foreigners can visit



Saujs joins worldwide campaign urging "action for Syrian Jewry".

only by escort. Restrictions also include constant surveillance of synagogues by a special police force called the *Mukhabarat*, censorship of letters and phone calls and the frequent detention of Jews without trial.

The Syrian government's reply is simple: Syrian Jewry is an internal affair. Previously, it defended its restrictions on specifically Jewish emigration saying it did not want to supply the "Zionist Enemy" with troops. Now in the environment of

Middle East peace talks, Assad's government persistently denies placing restrictions on Jews.

On December 29, 1991, 2000 Jews demonstrated in favour of Assad in Damascus in what might be interpreted as a distinct message, showing the world that "Syria's Jews are happy".

Prof Levine disagrees: "The collapse of Communist Russia forced Syria to look for an alternative arms supplier... Syria, now looking towards the West for assistance, is at its most vulnerable stage for the swaying of its position on Jews."

Stage two of the SAUJScampaign called for nationwide demonstrations and picketing on March 24, aimed at demanding South African government attention through a petition signed during phase one and delivered to the Foreign Ministry in Pretoria.

The final stage is to involve Parliamentary lobbying of MPs to circulate a petition calling for recognition of the Syrian crisis. The Syrian campaign follows a similar one which contributed to freedom for Russian Refuseniks. Wujs International hopes to get the issue of Syrian Jewry onto the world agenda in order to effect concrete discussion with Syria at the United Nations.

Gross said: "It is not directed at the Syrian government as such but at the denial of human rights to its Jewish community. This is a campaign that I hope students will take time and effort to reflect on with a conscience, because the Syrian Jews should be let free."

Kathryn Carr

**THE** Group for Environmental Action at Rhodes (Gear) is looking forward to an action-packed 1992, according to SRC Environmental Councillor Karen Kallmann.

On March 29 they plan to hold a "green" shopping day to advise people on what's "green" and what's not. The group was working with Earth Life Africa, an international organisation with offices in Grahamstown.

Gear will be descending upon the local township, Rhini, in the second of their four 'litter days' on April 25.

The group has also planned an animal rights campaign, with one of their major concerns to distribute

donkey mouth-bits in the township.

Gear will launch a media campaign to educate campus on significant "green" issues and how students can contribute to environmental conservation. Pamphlets and posters will be distributed as part of the campaign.

Kallmann said Gear's emphasis would definitely be on action.

She called upon students to continue using the SRC paper-recycling boxes and the glass-recycling container opposite Wellingtons.



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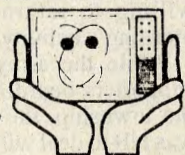
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## More than they budgetted for

By Waldemar Budeli

RHODES workers and students joined hands in budget demonstrations by in town last week.

As part of Cosatu's call, a lunch time march started from Drostdy Arch to High Street in town.

The protest action was meant to coincide with government announcement of the 1992 budget speech.

RHODEO spoke to Cosatu's representative on campus, Elijah Ntente, who said no list of demands was handed to the government official on that day.

Mr Ntente said the picketing was aiming at highlighting the organisation's dissatisfaction with VAT on basic foodstuffs, and reiterating the demand for installing interim government without delay.

"Workers have to fight for these demands at all costs," he said.

The protestors went down High Street wielding conspicuous placards with determined messages: 'Away with Hunger', 'No VAT on basics' and 'Jobs for all'.

While the marchers were coming back to campus, members of the South African Police force joined the procession, not as participants but as monitors. However, they kept a low profile throughout the proceedings.

Nevertheless, the marchers were not intimidated. They dared singing freedom songs accompanied by toying-toying.

Duffing the march some bystanders and motorists, who were passing by, greeted the protestors with clenched fists as a gesture of moral support.

## All together now

Grahamstown's previously fragmented communities come together in a display of united action.

## Peace accord

Loyiso Nonqane

AN interim Grahamstown Local Dispute Resolutions Committee of five people was formed almost six months after the National Peace Accord was signed.

The committee was an outcome of a meeting initiated by the Albany Council of Churches and facilitated by Reg Mason and Thoman Smit from the Border Regional Dispute Resolution Committee. This was according to the statement released by the interim committee.

The statement said the mandate of the committee was to convene a gathering where a permanent committee would be elected.

Each organisation and political party, including those not present in the initial meeting, would send five people to this gathering, of which two would stand for elections. The SAP and the SADF would also be present in the meeting.

"It is a remarkable sign of these changing times that so diverse a group of people could meet together for a common purpose," committee convenor, Dr Bob Clarke said.

He said a dispute resolution committee should not be seen as a fire brigade but as a body to pre-empt crises like the cut-off of water and lights to the township.

According to plan a meeting to elect a permanent local dispute resolutions committee for Grahamstown would be held on April 8 at the Settlers Monument.

## Electric cash

Ingrid Salgado

RESIDENTS in Grahamstown's township may benefit from Eskom's electricity policy after it invested R10 million in a project to install meters in Rhini residents' homes.

Although residents would pay an initial connection fee of R33 for the meters, the cost of electricity per unit would decrease. The Rhini Town Council, which previously administered Rhini's electricity, charged over 30c per unit - now the cost is 22c.

The Rhini Council will no longer be able to charge an administration fee as electricity would be supplied directly to the consumer, said Town Clerk, Mr Muller.

In effect, one third of residents' previous electricity costs were for the sole use of the Rhini Council and not for consumption or connection services.

The new "Budget Energy Controller" system will enable residents to budget for electricity consumption, said Eskom's district manager, Mr Muirhead. It also means residents will buy electricity before they use it.

Residents wishing to use a Ready Board, consisting of one light and three plugs, can avoid the cost of having their entire house wired. This cost could be as high as R2000, Mr Muirhead said.

Mr Muller said the Council "would not like to see people deprived of having electricity".

Although electricity is no longer being administered by the Council, water is still their responsibility.

Mr Muller said the price of water would rise and this will apply to all Grahamstown residents.

In effect, an electricity cut-off similar to the crisis that occurred in February could be avoided by introducing the meter system. However, no such guarantee for avoiding a water cut-off could be given to residents.

# Secrets of success ?

## What Journ students do after deadline

Sanja Goehre & Sarita Ranchod

IF you think a Rhodes Journalism degree is your passport to success, think again! Rhodes is the only English-medium university offering a journalism degree but has it made its mark on the South African media industry?

Several commercial press news editors told RHODEO that although not a handicap, a Bachelor of Journalism degree is not a necessary requirement. According to them, the Journalism Department does not equip its students with the basic tools needed to enter this highly competitive field.

The news editor of South Africa's largest daily, The Sowetan, said: "The Journ Department doesn't teach sufficient writing skills. We feel what students learn at university is totally different to what we are looking for - they have to be re-trained. It is therefore easier to employ a technikon graduate, who has better practical training."

Ex-Rhodians, among them the Cosmopolitan assistant editor, Shona Bagley believes that the Journalism course "taught me the responsibilities which lie behind being a good journalist. But when I entered the real world of journalism, I was thrown in at the deep end. I would have preferred more technical training rather than so much theory. My suggestion would be for the Journalism Department to create a four week course aimed at educating students about the exact conditions of the newsroom."

Chris van Zyl, working in the field of Desk Top Publishing, specialised in TV and Film at Rhodes. When he applied for a job at the SABC, he was asked in which area of TV and Film he had specialised - lighting or sound techniques. He could only reply: "TV and Film." He suggested that the department look into an interment system whereby students worked on a newspaper or studio as part of their course. All technikons, and Potch University, employ this

method, which gives their students a decided advantage when applying for jobs.

Rhodes did have a system whereby the department organised vacation jobs for journ students, but this fell by the wayside when Charles Riddles (the organiser) was on sabbatical last year. When canvassing opinion, RHODEO found that many journ students welcomed a "vac system" and urged the department to re-introduce it soon.

Although newspaper editors admit that a university education cannot be a substitute for experience, they believe that practical skills can also be taught at a univer-

sity level. Mock interviews, telephoning tricks and tips on how to gain the confidence of the interviewee are important skills to be included in the course content.

Gavin Stewart, Head of the Journalism Department, on the other hand, said that the department has generally received positive feedback from the industry. He did however admit, that only 4th year journ students are immediately employable. "By graduation in April, most graduates have found employment. Although the past two years have been bleak."

Stewart explained this phenomena by the general economic recession and the fact that in-house publications have been eroding staff and cutting down on the number of issues they produce. "But there is an enormous demand for good black journalists. This is essential in South Africa where the media needs to be covering more issues relevant to black people."

Asked what subjects he believed students should take to improve their chances for employment, he said that economics and extra languages were very important additions.

When asked to respond to some of the criticisms from editors working in the commercial press, Stewart said that "their comments are born from ignorance" but agreed that there were weaknesses in the course. The department is emphasising the newsgathering, news sourcing and media awareness components of the course. "Students don't read newspapers or watch TV news. This is actually a world-wide phenomena" and he urged students to start doing so.

Trying to assure journ students that there are job opportunities when they graduate, Stewart believes, "The magazine and weekly newspaper markets could grow quite substantially in the next while. There will also be enormous opportunities for people in radio journalism because half of the country's population is illiterate".

### Where the hell are they?

Those dubious graduates brandishing a mug of coffee in the one hand and swinging a cigarette in the other, ready to tackle the world in search of the truth. Here's a selected list of the few elite Rhodes journ graduates who achieved success:

Marc van de Velden - Sapa Editor

Shona Bagley - Cosmopolitan Assistant Editor

Guy Berger - South Editor  
Shaun Johnson - The Star Political Editor (former Rhodeo Editor)

Jessica Pitchford - Chief Editor SABC News (Johannesburg)

Mike Procter Simms - Chief Editor SABC News (Port Elizabeth)

Helga Wilson - CNN News-gathering

Monalisa Mavusu - Ogilvy Mather Advertising Agency Client Services

The list goes on:

David Isaacson is now working for Sapa, Matsube Mfulwe for The Sowetan and Audrey Brown for Vrye Weekblad. Marsha Kline (reporter) and Patrick Bulgerite (political reporter) work for Business Day.

## Rag Day float a downer

Janet Roche

THIS year's Rag celebrations were marred by a "float" which displayed slogans which were racist and discriminating against homosexuals.

The incident provoked angry responses from Rag, the SRC and the Women's Group.

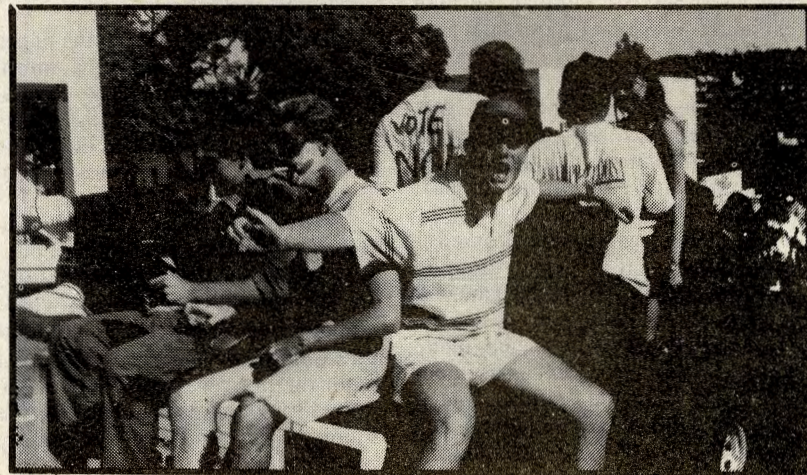
The car belonging to the Sundowners drinking club, joined the Rag procession after it had officially begun. It apparently went unnoticed by Rag organisers.

Slogans on the car included "Fuck lesbians", and "Men against women against Rag" and "Vote maybe".

Although the "float" was not an official part of the procession, the Women's Group felt it was degrading and unnecessary. They said Rag should have been more vigilant.

Daryl Lee, SRC president said the SRC viewed the offensive float as an extremely serious matter. Despite numerous requests, he said they would not be implementing any disciplinary action because the people involved are not Rhodes students. He said the SRC would be meeting with Rag to discuss ways of preventing the recurrence of such an event.

In response Malcolm Vogler, chairperson of the drinking club responsible for the "float" said: "We would like to apologise to Rag. It was a poor attempt at humour and although the act was irresponsible it cannot be reversed."



# SASNEWS

## Campus round-up

South African Students Press Union News Service

### ANTI-SEMITIC RAG MAG

**POTCHEFSTROOM** - Anti-semitism seems rife at Potch University where the Rag magazine recently printed an anti-holocaust joke.

The administration gave a public apology, but nothing has been heard from the SRC. National chairperson of the South African Union of Jewish Students (Saujs), David Cohen, said the Potch SRC president was unapologetic when interviewed on Radio 702.

Saujs has contacted the SRC, but nothing has been heard as yet.

The university intends to conduct some educational programmes in conjunction with the Transvaal Council of the Jewish Board of Deputies.

### PROGRESSIVES WANT A NEW COUNCIL

**STELLENBOSCH** - The Broederbond is set for a heated battle against progressive candidates for positions on the Stellenbosch university Council.

The Broederbond is doing its utmost to prevent the election of former Progressive Federal Party leader, Frederick van Zyl Slabbert, and DP candidate, Martie Meiring, to the universities highest decision making body. This is according to the *Vrye Weekblad*.

The Broederbond is supporting directors of the Nasionale Pers, Elize Botha and Dawid de Villiers, as well as educationist, J Pauw.

Progressives on the campus are supporting Meiring and van Zyl Slabbert, to get new ideas into the Council during the transition to a post-apartheid South Africa.

### MZWAKHE BANNING

**UNIBO** - Mzwakhe Mbuli, the Singing Poet, has been banned from performing at the University of Bophuthatswana under the 1979 Publications Act. This directive came straight from the Bop Government Department of Internal Affairs.

Mbuli's performance was to have taken place during the last weekend of January in the Great Hall. His show was banned only three days before.

The Management of Unibo lodged an appeal with the Department of Internal Affairs but was informed that it will be three weeks from the time of the filing, before an outcome of the appeal will be known.

### RAU STUDENTS LOSE OUT ON LUNCH

**RAU** - Students at Johannesburg's Rand Afrikaans University returned to lectures to find that they no longer had a lunch hour.

In the past the RAU timetable has allocated an hour for lunch between 1pm and 2pm, where no lectures were scheduled. This year students and lecturers have only twenty minutes to eat.

The decision affects most students on the campus since the residence students often have to miss classes in order to eat lunch in res - served from 12pm to 1pm.

Student organisations are also faced with the problem of when to organise their activities, since students no longer have free time during lunch.

Neither students nor lecturers were consulted about the decision and it has been rejected by both the SRC and the university senate.

The South African Students' Congress and the RAU SRC have objected to the undemocratic decision, and have run a petition campaign to win support from students for the reintroduction of the lunch hour next year.

## GP combats sexual harassment at UCT

**UCT** - "If sexual harassment is giving you a headache... see your GP," proclaimed the bright yellow posters at the UCT Orientation Week parties.

But they weren't advising students to see a doctor, the posters announced the arrival of the Gender Patrol - a group set up by Rag and the UCT SRC to combat the high incidents of sexual harassment on the campus.

According to the SRC spokesperson, Iliane van Ees, the group was established because a great deal of sexual harassment had happened at Orientation week parties in past years.

She said the experiment worked at three levels. "It allows an ongoing assessment of sexual harassment at the Orientation parties; has given the issues a lot of profile; and made people aware that sexual harassment is a huge issue on campus; and it serves a practical purpose in that we can walk people home and help if they are being harassed."

Alison Burchell, the head of the Student Affairs Secretariat, said the idea for a general patrol arose out the Gender Police which exists on many campuses in the USA.

"The name is a bit of a misnomer. It's more of a passive thing where students can approach people for advice, if they find themselves in difficulty, or are feeling uncomfortable."

Burchell said that since the publication of the report of the Committee of the Enquiry into Sexual Harassment last year, the university had done far more than in the past, in terms of raising awareness about sexual harassment.

The university has also established a network to provide counselling and medical examinations for victims of sexual abuse, where students can receive more sympathetic treatment than they would get from the police. A member of the network would also accompany the victim to any court or disciplinary proceedings.

## "Branch" returns

*As Codesa working group one establishes a climate for free political activity in South Africa, Central Intelligence Services seem intent on continuing investigations into student activities.*

**UCT** - James Pitman felt like he was in a JFK movie when his "friend" from the university revealed that he worked for the Intelligence services, and began asking him for information on "political action" on campus.

Pitman, a member of the UCT SRC, said that a man called Gordon had befriended him at the Athletics club, and kept inviting him for drinks. "I thought it was rather odd and he needed a friend or something", said Pitman. "A week ago he said he urgently needed to talk to me in connection with Orientation Week but that we needed to be alone."

The man then revealed that he was not a student but worked for Intelligence. "He seemed interested in the potential for conflict on campus. He said students were being intimidated and that he was worried that South African Students Congress

(Sasco) people were moving across to the Pan-Africanist Students Congress (Paso). I was fascinated and I asked him quite a bit about what he did. He sits on committees and gives them information which they pass on to security agencies...He deals mainly with tertiary institutions."

Pitman asked him why he needed the information: "He said every government needs to know about the kind of political activity at tertiary institutions". He also said that their relationship with students and Admin was so that it was impossible to conduct investigations in the open. Gordon said that he wanted to meet Pitman on a regular basis.

Gordon did not offer any financial reward, instead "he seemed to be trying me on ideological grounds", said Pitman.

Pitman informed the SRC about the incident. He explained that he was upset by the way it had been

made "emotionally difficult" for him; "it was like he was asking me to be his friend".

Another SRC member, Iliane van Ees, said she was approached two years ago by someone fitting the description of "Gordon". She said he was on campus during SRC elections, and during the controversial strike in 1991.

UCT SRC president, Thulani Khanyile, said he was not surprised by the revelations: "The new SRC is non-aligned (to political organisation) and it is to be expected that forces would be analysing the direction it took."

Colonel Snyman from Central Intelligence Services in Cape Town,

formerly the Security Branch, denied the allegations: "We are not working in any student organisations. We only deal with crime and illegal or banned organisations."

## Controversy rages over student bars

**UWC** - At most universities students wouldn't hesitate to have a bar. At the University of the Western Cape, however, student opinion is sharply divided.

The plan for a student bar was initiated by the SRC last year to serve as a means to combat alcohol abuse in the hostels and to improve interaction between day and resident students.

According to SRC Sport and Culture Officer, Henno Cornelius, "There is a great lack of recreational facilities on campus. This has led to a great deal of malicious behaviour...people want something to do so they drink excessively."

### Shebeens

"We used to have kombis pulling up outside the hostels loaded to the brim with alcohol," said Cornelius, "and then the students used to run shebeens from their hostel rooms."

Students who go into town to drink at the hotel run the risk of being attacked by gangsters in Bellville.

Last year there were a number of cases of assault, robbery, rape and sodomy on the road between campus and the residences in town.

"Recreational facilities are not abundant in the Bellville community and to many people having a drink is the only means of socialising on campus. Having a bar on campus means it can be done in an orderly way," argued Cornelius.

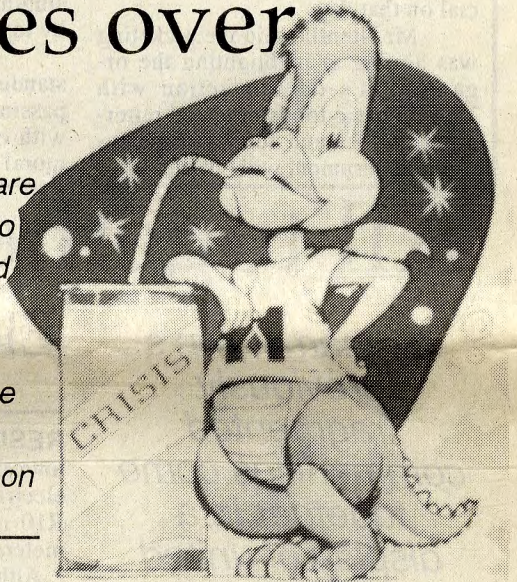
## Plenty big thirst in Sunny Durbs

**DURBAN** - Residence bars at the University of Natal Durban have been closed with immediate effect following the controversial case of indecent assault in one of the residences last year.

The Student Disciplinary Committee also recommended that no more visiting sports teams be allowed to stay in residence, advised the implementation of a centralised kitchen and a new security system, and argued that "the consumption of alcohol anywhere in the residences (including private rooms)" justified expulsion from res.

The committee made the recom-

*"Bars on campus are not conducive to study." UWC and UND students combat sexual harassment, rape and violence by discouraging bars on campus.*



### Muslims

The plan has sparked off a storm of controversy on the campus with many students opposed to the idea.

Religious societies on campus are leading the anti-bar lobby. "We believe having a bar on campus is not conducive to studying. UWC is no heaven as it is, and a bar will increase the crime rate: car thefts, rape and sexual harassment," says Yagyah Adams, the Amir of the Muslim Students Association. "Non-whites do not have alcohol in their culture. There is thus a tendency to abuse." He rejects the claim by those in favour of a bar that the MSA is against the bar for religious reasons. "We are not taking a religious or even moral position," says Adams, "It is purely social because we are aware of the social effects of alcohol."

### No evidence

The Student Counselling Centre agrees. According to the Head of the centre, Lionel Nicholas, there is not much evidence that a bar would either increase or decrease the amount of drinking that would occur.

"We have to acknowledge that all research shows that prohibition has never worked," he says. "There is value in having a social environment where socially acceptable drinking can take place."

The SRC believe that even without beer these problems would exist. They point out that they do already exist without a bar on campus.

"It's not a matter of trying to aggravate the situation," says Cornelius. "We are not trying to promote a culture of drinking. That culture already exists..."

for three full-time wardens, a full-time director of accommodation, a full-time deputy warden, then they can find money for entertainment," he said.

The administration has said that under the Liquor Act, the beer clubs are illegal and that with the new licence, the university has acquired, liquor can only be sold from the two dining halls on campus.

Students are adamant that no drinks should be served from the dining halls because it ignores the wishes of the large Moslem student community who cannot enter places where alcohol is served.

# The Cherry's on top

Leizl Mattison

**THE** newest staff member in the Rhodes Politics department is a junior lecturer, Janet Cherry who has had an extensive career, filled with courage and dedication, as a political activist.

Her political involvement began as a student at the University of Cape Town (UCT) in 1980. That year she participated in the Cape Town meat strike for the recognition of black trade unions and was arrested and charged for appearing at an illegal demonstration.

She served on the UCT SRC as media officer and in 1983, became general secretary of the National Union of South African Students. The United Democratic Front was formed in the same year and by 1984 Cherry was made chairperson of their Port Elizabeth committee.

Her work in the townships has been extensive, especially after the Eastern Cape Adult Literacy Programme (Ecalp) was formed to promote adult education.

1985 was a year of upheaval and she was detained for three weeks under the notorious Section 29 of the Internal Security Act because of her association with an African National Congress member.

After the Langa massacre at Uitenhage in 1985 and with the declaration of the first state of emergency, Ecalp stopped functioning and the Port Elizabeth Crisis Information Centre (Pecic) was formed to assist people in the townships.

At this time the SADF occupied most townships. "You can't believe the state of repression," she said.

After the banning of the UDF she chaired the End Conscription Campaign in PE. Cherry was also involved in a successful consumer boycott which led to negotiations with the PE Chamber of Commerce and the release of some leaders from detention.

In 1986 she attended an anti-apartheid conference in Paris and returned shortly before the declaration of the second state of emer-

gency which forced her to go into hiding.

She was caught in Cape Town and detained until July 1987. "Prison was boring...at least we could study and were not treated differently from other prisoners."

Cherry gained her honours degree in Economic History during her time in prison and was released under certain restrictions.

In 1988 she joined the Institute for a Democratic Alternative for South Africa (Idasa) and organised a conference for women with the ANC. She was subsequently detained, because the ANC was still banned at the time, and later released under house arrest. This meant she could not leave PE, publish anything or leave her home between 6pm and 6am. She broke these restrictions, however, to attend another conference in Paris. She returned after the state of emergency was lifted and has since earned her Masters degree and also worked for the Black Sash.

She is now at Rhodes "to lead a quiet, academic life".

## Canada comes to SA's aid

Sasnews

"SOUTH Africa is destined to lead." These are the words of newly appointed Canadian ambassador to South Africa, Christopher Westdal in an interview with Sasnews.

A major donor to South African community and development projects, the Canadian government, has used its Dialogue Fund to provide assistance over the last few years to projects run by the South African Students Congress (Sasco) and the South African Students Press Union (Saspu).

"South African graduates have a vital role to play," said Westdal, "in helping the country solve the massive problems it will face in providing health, education, housing and welfare for all its citizens."

Asked whether Canada would stop funding South African projects with a political settlement around the corner, Westdal outlined his government's view: "Countries that have for so long been so critical of apartheid and have imposed sanctions, cannot just back away once change starts to occur," he said.

"Canada hopes to sustain and animate and underpin through practical means, a dialogue about the development of the political economy of South Africa and the region." Devel-



opment would include not only areas like health and housing, said Westdal, but the development of the human infrastructure as well. He listed a range of issues of importance, including human rights, constitutional development, educational development, education and the status of women.

The role which tertiary students had to play in development would be a major one. "South Africa is a microcosm of the world's problems," said Westdal, pointing to issues like ethnicity, race relations, the environment, population growth and AIDS.

Because of its relatively advanced infrastructure and resources, South Africa would make a dramatic contribution to the development of the Southern Africa sub-region. Westdal expressed optimism about the possibility for foreign investment in South Africa in the medium term, given a reasonable prospect of stability.

In the light of the enormous challenges facing the country, South African youth would not have the luxury of abandoning their ideals. "You will have to spend your lives creating a new world," said Westdal. "Nothing short of greatness will do."

## RU Oppies bored?

We are planning several "Oppie Only" activities, so if you haven't had an "O" inscribed onto your student card, please contact our faithful Oppie secretary, Joyce Allcock.

Craig Fourie, entertainment rep, is trying to brighten-up the Oppie Games Room. A competition is going to be held for the best wall-painting on one of the Games Room walls. If you're interested, come to our cheese and wine on the 27th March (and if you're not interested, come anyway).

The Oppie Board is considering introducing more games, and a hi-fi to the Games Room.

Oppies are reminded that they can have tea in the Oppie Common Room, or at any Hall that serves tea. It is necessary to show your student card.

A committee of sports reps has been set up. This committee will take into consideration, Oppie par-

ticipation in inter-res sports activities. You are encouraged to contact the sports reps if you have suggestions. You can do this through Joyce.

Sports Admin has been approached around a proposition to use the sports bar for an extra night a week. The outcome is not yet known.

The Oppie Board needs help in producing media and posters, so if you have anything to contribute to the "Oppidan", hand your news into the Secretary's office.

The Oppie Board meets once a week to discuss relevant issues. A sub-committee meets once a week to help keep up with campus activities; and to co-ordinate agendas.

If you feel that the Oppie Board could do more, and if you have comments or suggestions, get hold of us immediately.



## See the difference?

How does Rhodes Rag compare with UCT?

Nicolette Brown

**THE** recent Mr and Miss Fresher contests have opened Rag's policies on sexism to questioning and criticism. Rag at the University of Cape Town has incorporated anti-sexism into their campaign, and some students have questioned why Rhodes Rag does not follow suit.

In the late 1980's UCT Rag became integrated with the Students Health and Welfare Centres Organisation (Shawco). This body is made up of UCT students and is a registered welfare organisation. Among its policies, Shawco follows three major principles of non-sexism, non-racialism and democracy. Rag forms the fundraising management committee of the organisation. This means that all funds raised by Rag are used by Shawco for its projects.

When UCT Rag integrated with Shawco, it had to review all its functions and campaigns. This resulted in the abolishment of campaigns like Rag Royalty because of its sexist connotations. UCT Rag then started campaigning at national level hoping that the ideas of non-sexism, non-racialism and democracy would be taken up by all Rag organisations.

UCT Rag developed a censorship board to control publications in the Rag magazine. This board includes the SRC Women's Group Officer and other SRC members. Any material passed on to the board which does not conform to the three principles will be rejected.

Other projects launched by UCT Rag to try and enforce non-sexism included a Gender Patrol and the toning down of the traditional "Bummies" in the Rag procession.

The "Bummies" were an inde-

pendent procession group who wore women's underwear. Rag felt this was a form of sexual harassment and so has managed to get the "Bummies" to parade in a more acceptable manner.

The Gender Patrol is a group of trained students who "patrol" campus wearing yellow armbands for identification. Any woman who feels sexually threatened can approach any of these patrolpersons. The patrol is organised by Rag in conjunction with the SRC.

Rhodes Rag, on the other hand, is not affiliated to any body like Shawco. It cannot become affiliated to Shawco, as it is solely UCT student based.

Rhodes Rag does, however, have a general policy of non-discrimination. RHODEO asked why Rag then continues to launch projects which are still considered sexist by some.

Rag Chairperson Gaby Sidley said the contests are major fundraising events and without them a large proportion of funds wouldn't be raised.

She said the scope for fundraising functions which were not alcohol-related was limited. Functions like Mr and Miss Fresher contests, which aren't alcohol related, are thus needed to raise funds.

Concerning accusations that these contests are sexist, Sidley maintained that contestants enter purely by choice - they were not obliged to enter. Those that did, chose how they wished to carry themselves.

She said if student apathy could be overcome, and students came together to form organisations like Shawco, where there was more student involvement, Rag might not have to hold functions like Mr and Miss Fresher.

## Rhodes student heads for Cambridge

**RHODES** University economics honours student, Conrad Mitford-Barberton (24), has won the 1992 Nedbank Old Mutual Cambridge scholarship worth R60 000.

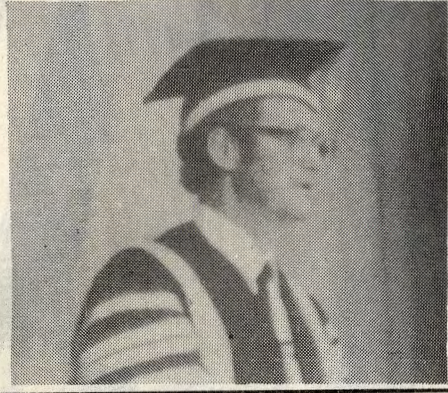
The announcement says it will enable Mitford-Barberton to read for an MPhil degree in economics and politics at Cambridge University.

He is a former Graeme College, Grahamstown, pupil who matricu-

lated with distinction in 1987, and was one of 11 post-graduates from the country's universities to reach the scholarship short list.

The annual scholarship is open to all post-graduate economics graduates from more than 20 Southern African universities. Last year's winner was Rand Afrikaans University graduate and Business Day reporter Greta Steyn.

# So who the hell's in charge here, anyway?



**"At Rhodes you can assume the captain and crew know their direction, that the ship is seaworthy and that it will reach its destination."**

*Vice-Chancellor Jan '92*

**F**inal decision-making power at Rhodes rests with the Council. Council is composed of people appointed by Senate (the university's chief academic body), Convocation (old-Rhodesians), the State President, the white municipalities of the Eastern Cape, donors and various white schools and members of the senior administration - the Vice Chancellor and the Vice Principal.

There are no representatives of Rhodes' workers, nor any of the Eastern Cape's black communities or schools.

Apart from the SRC President who has observer status only for unrestricted items on the agenda, there is no effective student representation.

### No women

At present the Rhodes Council has no women members and one token black member.

All of Rhodes' financial affairs and property is administered by Council. Furthermore, Council has the power, in consultation with, or upon the recommendation of Senate, to frame statutes and regulations governing the general conduct and organisation of the university. Council not only controls the university's finance and makes staff appointments, but it also has the final say on university policy.

Although the decisions taken by Council concern students, workers and the broader community, these sectors have very little say over the role and direction of the university. Rather, the interests of those who sit on Council - the government and commercial sector - prevail.

"Rhodes often proudly boasts of its involvement with the community it serves. If the university is serious about responding to the needs and aspirations of the majority of South Africans then it seems obvious that university structures like Council are democratised," commented SRC President, Daryl Lee.

"In order to do this, it will be necessary to amend the Parliamentary Act that formally outlines Rhodes University's structure. Such amendments have been made many times in the past," added Lee.

Despite hesitance by the senior administration this has been done elsewhere.

Students at Wits had long objected to the white council of big business representatives, state appointed members and admin staff - a composition that was stipulated in the private act of the university.

### Needs of entire community

Wits SRC President Kenneth Creamer said, "The university serves the needs of the entire community. It should not be governed by just a small sector of that community."

This call for Council to be more representative, fully supported by Wits students, was taken to their admin. After months of deliberation, the Wits admin finally took it upon themselves to get the act changed. This was proposed to Parliament last year, and the act was amended in December to allow four members of black community organisations onto the Council.

Although the admin defined the eligibility of the organisations whose members were considered for appointment to the Council, any member of the council could make nominations from the list that was drawn up. They were then elected onto Council by Council.

The four people chosen are prominent members of the community. They are the Rev. Frank Chikane of the South African Council of Churches, Dr Matlana of the Soweto Civic Association, Ms Sheila Sisulu of the National Education Co-ordinating Committee, and Mr Mabuzo of Sabcos (a black business association).

Another change within the Wits Council is that, for the first time in history, there are three students from the SRC who are full members of the Council, with both speaking and voting rights.

Originally, the admin had stressed that these students were present at Council in individual capacities as part of the of the governing structure of the university. They were not to be representatives of students. This meant that though these members provided a student perspective, they were not allowed to report back to students in general. They were not to be accountable.

As members of the SRC, these students objected to this, and have since reached a tacit agreement with the admin. Now, like the black members on Council who represent communities, these students represent students and can report back to their constituency.

According to Creamer, this amendment to the statute is a step in the right direction but hardly goes far enough. It is certainly not

sufficient enough to mean that the university is now governed by a truly representative council or that it is in touch with the community, because ultimately Wits University is still governed by a predominantly white council composed of representatives of big business and state appointees.

Creamer, however, is hopeful that over time, change will continue in an accelerated manner.

Although Rhodes currently has the SRC president on Council in an observer status, we are in much the same position as Wits was before they reached their tacit agreement with their admin. This observer has very little say in discussions, and no student feedback is possible before any decision is taken by the Council.

### Can't consult

The Rhodes student rep to Council, Daryl Lee, agreed with this perspective, saying: "At present, my participation on Council is frustratingly ineffectual. Due to the confidentiality of the forum, I can't even discuss policy matters with the SRC never mind consult students more broadly. Greater student representation on Council, with full speaking and voting rights and the ability to report back to students, needs to be effected to allow students to have a say in the education they receive."

Furthermore, greater avenues for community participation in determining research and teaching priorities are necessary so that informed choices based on the real needs of the broader community can be made.

However, according to Lee, democratising structures does not mean just replacing white faces on Council with black faces, or the men with women. He argued that there is a need to ensure that the functioning changes, that old policies are revised, that council becomes more democratic in its operation and that the University moves towards fulfilling its function as an educational institution responsive to a society that desperately needs its skills and expertise.

*Max Nmadzivanani reveals the PAC's feelings around Codesa.*

*Xolisa Mabhungo*

**A**GOVERNMENT that comes out of Codesa is likely to be more repressive than the present apartheid regime, said the national organiser of the Pan Africanist Congress, Max Nmadzivanani.

Nmadzivanani, a former PAC representative to the United Nations Organisation and Australia, spoke on campus recently at a meeting organised by the Pan Africanist Students Organisation (Paso).

He said the PAC would continue with its campaign against Codesa. He saw Codesa as a collaborating forum which will never stop the PAC. "No PAC member will go to any collaborative forum to beg for freedom".

The recent referendum was a manifestation of the fact that De Klerk still has the decisive voice at Codesa.

"The white power structure is still deeply entrenched, the holding of the referendum showed that" he said. Repression was continuing. "For the person on the ground, very little has changed".

Mr Nmadzivanani said a liberation movement should identify the conflict and the forces that are a vehicle for change correctly, and that Africans are the best qualified people to lead the struggle.

"Whether De Klerk is a reformer or not, he is still an oppressor of the African people".

He slammed the United States anti-PAC programme, saying he believed De Klerk was working as a guardian of US interests in South Africa. The African people should be self reliant as they could no longer count on the support of the Eastern European countries. The Western European countries are no longer interested in sanctions against South Africa, he said.

"The PAC will never be intimidated by any country, big or small, or any political force in this country."

## PAC not begging for freedom

### Who takes the next piece?



He believed that any negotiations about the future of this country should take place in a neutral venue under a neutral convenor. The International community should underwrite any decisions taken at these negotiations.

He was surprised the Codesa working group aiming to create a climate suitable for free political activity in the country was focussing only on the liberation movements and not on the South African Defence Force and

the police.

Nmadzivanani said the Azanian Peoples Liberation Army (Apla) was a national liberation army which "fights the forces of the government regardless of the colour of skin." Apla did not single out black policeman as targets, he added. "We are attacking structures of the Apartheid system, not black policemen personally."

## ABC of Codesa

CODESA is bringing together 19 different political parties together at the negotiating table. This includes mass political organisations, tricameral parliamentary parties, bantustan governments and the South African government.

There are two phases to Codesa. Phase one concentrates on the management of the interim period prior to a new constitution. Phase two involves defining the process of drawing up a new constitution.

Before phase one begins, consensus needs to be reached on a number of issues.

Therefore the five working groups in Codesa are busy meeting around key issues.

Group One is working on creating a climate for free political activity in South Africa. They have proposed the ANC and the government have more time to resolve the issues of political prisoners and the return of exiles at a bilateral level. Only after the ANC and the government submit a report will the group discuss the issues.

Group Two deals with constitutional principles. Their latest report states that they have agreed that: "A new constitution should provide for effective democratic participation of minority political parties consistent with democracy." The agreement emphasises that the principle does not imply simple majoritarianism or minority veto powers.

Group Three deals with the transitional arrangements in the establishment of the Interim Government. Their latest report states that: "Interim transitional arrangements still needs to be discussed."

Group Four is looking into the future of TBVC states (Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei). The question they are attempting to solve is whether or not these states should be incorporated into South Africa.

Group Five is working on the time framework of the transitional period, as well as the implementation of Codesa's decisions.



# Aids is everywhere

"Many people believe you have to be gay, drugging, black or a prostitute to get Aids. You don't."

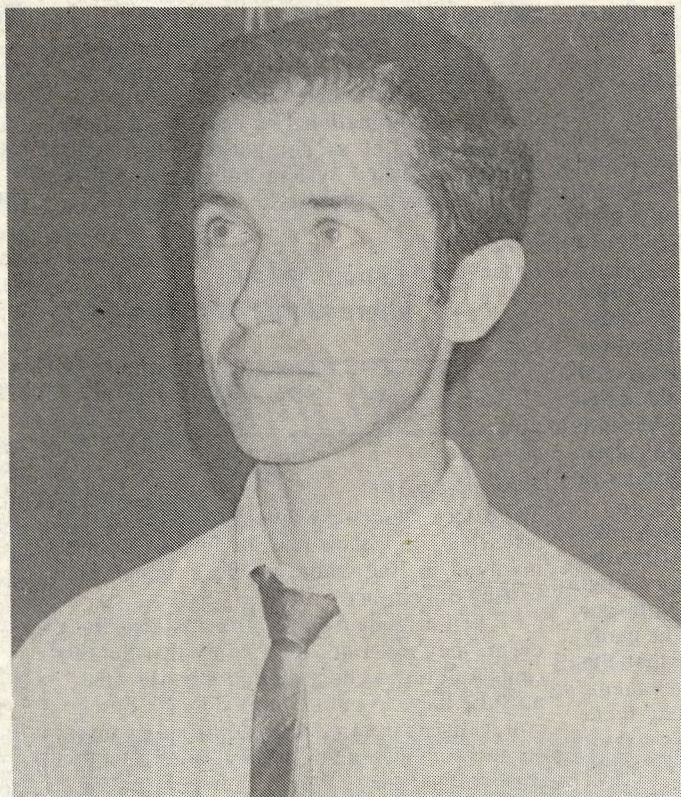
Pierre Brouard said at his address during Aids week on campus. Kim Jurgensen reports

**COMMUNITY** Aids Information and Support Centre spokesperson, Pierre Brouard said the media plays a large role in building false perceptions of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (Aids).

Mr Brouard was invited to speak at Rhodes as part of the Aids Awareness Week. Responding to the small turn-out he said "It's indicative of the lack of awareness around Aids that there's such a small audience. So much is written about Aids but there's so little understanding."

He said the media does not acknowledge the implications of the way they report on Aids. Prejudiced terms such as "high risk groups" create the impression that certain parts of the public are not at risk. "Aids is caused by an HIV virus and not by a way of life. The term 'high risk groups' is useless because everyone is at risk if they don't take proper precautions," he said.

The effect of this kind of thinking is that prejudiced people such as racists and homophobics believe they have the right to blame and attack certain groups in the community.



Pierre Brouard - We have to expel the mythical notion of AIDS free communities

Until recently "gay plague" was a popular term which suggested that being gay was in itself a reason to get Aids. Likewise, "African aids" is a term which suggests an entirely different disease. However, the HIV virus predominant in Africa known as HIV1, is also the predominant disease in North America and Europe.

What these reports have done is make people believe blacks and homosexuals

virus. The Boksburg Hospice closed down and reasons given were that the value of houses in the area were declining because of the influx of black patients.

Brouard also said war metaphors such as 'killer virus' perpetuate images of society being under attack. People ostracize Aids carriers because they feel threatened.

He questioned the media's agenda, saying they portrayed infected people as "some kind of a dangerous beast which needs to be feared." Because of this fear, the public feel justified in blaming and attacking carriers.

Describing carriers as "Aids victims" implies they are helpless. "Visual images further undermine them - showing thin, haggard people who appear too weak to care for themselves," Brouard said. "When a newspaper infers that homosexuality and transvestitism and Aids are all part of the same continuum...then they have their priorities mixed up!"

He accused the media of creating target groups, asking: "Is newsworthiness enough of a reason to print a personal saga?"

Brouard said health workers also had to account for their conduct. At present medical and dental policies require that all patients consent to an HIV test. "This



is psychologically very stressful. People have to deal with guilt from their past as well as fear of the future," he said. He added there should be "no distinction between people who have Aids and those who do not. All people should be treated equally, and to ensure the best precautions are taken, everyone should be treated as if they are HIV positive."

There are also ethical dilemmas around drugs and treatment for Aids carriers. A drug called AZT is designed to prolong the life of infected people. However, this drug needs to be taken everyday and costs R400 per month. Another drug which prevents eyesight loss, one of the side-effects of Aids, is equally expensive as AZT.

Brouard said the only way to deal with Aids is to confront it and take collective action. He said we have to expel "the mythical notion of Aids-free communities."

## Crisis not Aids but apathy

Kim Jurgensen

THE apathy shown by students in general and society as a whole around Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (Aids) is of great concern as the epidemic escalates in South Africa.

Co-ordinator of the Grahamstown Aids Awareness Week, Kevin Kelly, said "I think there will be a remarkable swing in attitudes when the first student gets Aids."

A study done at the University of the Witwatersrand showed that despite a high level of knowledge around Aids, people did not practise safe sex. "People tend to take action when it's too late - when they know someone with Aids," Kelly said.

He added that people usually blank out the possibility of having Aids. "We have to reach through this disbelief. It is necessary that we consult people around this issue."

Kelly said the student body could be reached through various organisations. Students have to be asked what action they think should be taken around the Aids crisis. He also said all organisations should have a policy on Aids and Aids prevention. "We have to take away the impersonal realm of Aids."

He went on to say that between one and two percent of blood donors in Natal tested HIV positive. "That means for every thousand people, 10 to 20 need to be contacted." This is a big undertaking for the Blood Transfusion Service as they have an ethical obligation to the donors. Personal contact needs to be made with the carrier and counselling needs to be done. Kelly believes Blood Transfusion Services are "socially accountable" to the public.

A recent rumour that HIV positive samples are not traced back to the donors so they can be informed, was denied by the medical director of the Eastern Province Blood Transfusion Service (EPBTS), Dr Santos.



Aids became prominent in the 80s but there have been few changes to student lifestyles

"There is no foundation in this rumour at all," he said "It is spread every year systematically in Grahamstown - nowhere else."

He said the EPBTS does have a policy around Aids. "When we discover HIV positive blood we trace it back to the donor and inform them immediately," Dr Santos told RHODEO. "We don't contact them by letter or telephone but arrange a personal interview with a doctor and a trained counsellor."

He said when there are problems with the blood such as low haemoglobin people are contacted by mail. However "Aids is obviously a much more serious issue and we believe it is vital that people are told face to face when they test HIV positive." Dr Santos added.

The Aids Awareness Week recently held in

Grahamstown was aimed at targeting all sectors of the population. Kelly said the programmes held in the schools were highly successful. He said many talks were held and at least 18 000 pamphlets were distributed.

"The first aim of the campaign was putting misconceptions right," Kelly said. "We had to deal with doubts and feelings of insecurity."

He said follow-up workshops were planned in most of the schools and a community campaign is being planned.

Kelly said there is not the same kind of fear around other dangerous diseases, such as Hepatitis B, as there is around Aids. "People are terrified because they are ignorant. We have to get rid of this ignorance."

### AIDS is ...

A killer disease caused by a small germ that gets into anybody's body. The human body has a defense system which protects it against diseases. Aids destroys this defence system and leaves the body open to diseases which can then attack and eventually kill us.

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- Infected blood
- Sharing needles, razors or syringes
- Passed from infected mother to unborn child

#### You cannot get Aids from:

- Kissing
- Saliva or tears
- Donating blood
- Mosquitoes, ticks or other insects
- Working or living with someone who has Aids
- Toilet seats
- Sharing cups, forks or spoons
- Food - even food prepared by an Aids carrier
- Second-hand clothes
- Swimming pools
- Doorknobs and Rails

# Editorial

## Cricket

"Nothing can beat sport as a reconciler" Steve Tshwete told a Rhodexo reporter in a recent interview. As he spoke the South African cricket side was jetting into Australia. Judging by the wide variety of people skipping lectures and jostling for space in the Oppie common room during the side's matches, he was right. And nobody's making any guesses as to what extent the idea of 14 cricketers waiting with bags packed in Mebourne contributed to the 91% turnout of students at the Great Hall Referendum polls

## Referendum

All the uncertainty and discussion on campus concerning the March 17 Referendum, is a thing of the past. Although the overwhelming Yes vote and unexpected high poll means that the negotiations process will continue; it goes without saying that South Africa has not been transformed into an "Ohlssons Lager" advert over-night.

Although flight enquiries to Zimbabwe have died down, it seems we are living through what looks to be the most important and uncertain time in South Africa's history. As the international community starts to lift trade sanctions and South Africa resumes its place in the international fold, several groups have warned about being caught up in the euphoria.

Apartheid is still in place and that is why most of the country's population was unable to vote in the recent referendum. We must now wait and see what impact Codesa will have for people on the ground.

## Local events

On a local level, this Yes vote already seems to be receiving opposition from No voters. It seems to be taking some time for the new South Africa to be reaching Grahamstown.

The town seems to have exploded with aggression as racist and sexist activity at local hangouts in G-town are becoming increasingly frequent and often violent.

Abuse is hurled at black students and on several occasions, students have been thrown out. Last Saturday night, arrests were even made.

## Admin

The voice of the most powerful group on campus is becoming increasingly silent. Admin refuses to give direct answers to RHODEO interviewers.

Reporters are in most cases, required to submit questions before the interview takes place. They go right to "the top" and the answers come back to RHODEO, more often than not, after deadline and without having really answered the questions. Does Admin have something to hide from students or is this the way they also deal with the commercial press?

The thinking behind the decision to give the Rhodes Honorary Doctorate to a person involved in the prolonging of the civil war in Angola, will never be known. The procedure of selecting Honorary Doctorate nominees is unclear. Since it is an award conferred by the university, shouldn't the whole university be involved in the decision-making process?

Staff and students are invited to nominate people for doctorates. But a committee appointed arbitrarily by Senate selects the names submitted for final selection. They are in no way accountable for their decisions.

Are things really "back to normal"? Have they ever been "normal"?

When it comes to the majority of Rhodes students, nothing seems that bad - besides the vac's only a few days away, not so?

## CREDITORIAL

Nicolette Brown, Ross Edwards, Steyn Speed, Kathy Rubenstein (let's do it again sometime), Kathy Carr, Janet Roche, Alison McLachlan, Christine Cambell, Nerisha Baldevu, Paddy Hozack, Xolisa Mabhon-ga, Sarah Letcher, Brigitte Engler, Josie Menre, Sanja Goehre, Kim Jurgens, Michelle de Bruyn, Kendal Claassens, Leizl Mattison, Megan Duff, Lisa Rumelin, Adam Welz, Sarita Ranchod, Ingrid Salgado, Waldemar Budeli, Alison Levings, Robyn Bowen, Loyiso Nonquane, Doug Taylor, Llewellyn Roderick, Jonathan Davis, Tamsin Hall, Julie Gibson, Brian Townsend, Heidi Warricker, Ibrahim Seedat, Daryl Mclean.

## Crocker's legacy

Dear RHODEO

I wish to add my voice to those who have protested the decision of Rhodes University to award an honorary degree to Chester Crocker. I feel this is the responsibility of those who like myself personally suffered and witnessed horrific atrocities in Angola at the

height of Chester Crocker's "constructive engagement" policy of the 1980's. I would like readers to know what black South Africans feel about Chester Crocker so that they can thereafter decide whether he deserves the respect and esteem which the Council and Senate of Rhodes University apparently have for him.

When Ronald Reagan won the presidential election in 1979, it was at a time when Namibia was headed for independence. At the time no "linkage" existed between the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola and the independence of Namibia. "Linkage" only became an issue when Dr Crocker became US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs in 1981.

I can still recall the euphoria among the comrades of Swapo in the period after the UNSCR 435 was adopted. They kept telling me "soon we are going home to rejoin our families whom we have not seen in many years". Little did they know then that the regime of which Dr Crocker was a key member would see to it that it would take them another 12 years before they were to see their families again; that is, if they survived at all, for many of them were killed in those 12 years. Many others reached home as cripples, simply because of a unilateral decision taken in Washington. Instead of peace and independence, Namibia in the 1980s experienced unprecedented escalation of war, all in the name of "linkage".

In 1980 Angolans could still buy commodities in the shops from such agriculturally-rich provinces as Lubango, Benguella, Huambo and Kunene. I can remember those days when we were able to drive from Luanda to Benguella and even further south. However, all that changed dramatically when Crocker became responsible for US foreign policy in Africa. Unita grew from strength to strength and virtually no trucks carrying food from provinces were safe from attacks. Thousands died, thousands of children were orphaned and many more made homeless. Angola today has the highest number of amputees in the world as a result of the landmines and bombings of Unita and the South African Defence Force.

Furthermore, as Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK) bases were in the provinces south and north of Luanda, many young South Africans were also killed in Unita's ambushes and SADF raids - actions legitimated by Crocker's linkage policy. As a journalist, I myself saw trucks that had been ambushed and villages razed to the ground by Unita, but I was never so deeply touched as the day when I attended the funeral of a young woman comrade killed in a Unita ambush who, only the day before her death, had been a guest in our home.

Namibia is today independent, Swapo is in government and the MPLA still in power in Luanda. So what did "linkage" achieve either as an academic theory or a political strategy

except to bring death and destruction to our region?

I simply cannot see how anyone in a decision-making position at Rhodes University can justify this award to a man who in the eyes of most - the majority - of South Africans is a

war criminal. I am outraged at this decision and ashamed of the actions of my University Senate and Council.

I call upon those of my fellow academics who share my anger to protest this decision and I call upon Senate and Council to withdraw this nomination. The day of apartheid has passed. Let us not honour those who served that hated system but instead let us look to honour those who so valiantly opposed it.

Lebona Mosia  
International Studies Unit

## BSM in Rag?

Dear RHODEO

The Black Students Movement gave, in the last RHODEO, their reasons for not getting involved in Rag, some of these, I feel, are worthy of comment.

"When a student pays 50 cents at a Rag event, they must not only know that the 50 cents will buy a rock to build a house - they must be there to put the rock down." Surely you realise that Rag is a fund raising organisation which then gives money, on request, to various charities. Would you perhaps like Rhodes Rag to take over not only the funding but the administration, maintenance and staffing of its 43 separate beneficiaries so that every student can take a few hours out of each day to put some stones down?

"Rag cannot claim to be apolitical and at the same time want to raise money for charity." I think, Mr Khoza, that you have finally lost your marbles.

"The Rag procession should not only go down High Street but carry on into the township." What a marvellous idea! There's nothing better than a traditional weapon between the shoulderblades to brighten up your Rag weekend.

"Rag should encourage students to teach sport or clean up areas in the township." No problems with teaching sport but does this mean that on Saturday I clean the township and the next day the township will arrive en masse to clean my common room? Not bloody likely, besides, why can't you clean your own township?

"BSM is opposed to the culture of drinking." What Mr Khoza conveniently forgot to mention is that the BSM regularly sells alcohol at its own functions, but then hypocrisy has always been the vaseline of political intercourse.

"They feel students are not conscious of why they are spending their money." Who cares, Rag's job is to raise money, not educate the masses about social problems. You say that "Spiritual wealth is much more valuable than short term financial assistance". Well I suggest, Mr Khoza, that you explain your standpoint to the next homeless kid with no food in his gut that you happen to pass by and give him a good bite of your ideology while you're at it.

"White students are aggressive towards black students when they have been drinking." Right I'm convinced now, this man has definitely lost it.

The very existence of the BSM is a force. The word 'apartheid' means 'separateness.' If you oppose apartheid, why do you support it by keeping yourselves separate? Should we all have our own colour movements, WSM (White Students Movement) etc?

The time for change is here, your greatest strength is the removal of the last pillars of discrimination can best be utilised from within. If you wish to change Rag, join it and mould it in your image. Don't try and change its shape by panel-beating it with your boy-cotts from the outside.

Vallance Kennelly

## Initiation OK?

Dear RHODEO

I would like to respond to the letter in last months publication from "An Irate Student". Firstly I have been a resident in Dingemans for three years now, and am proud to be associated with such a well-respected res.

With regards to what "Irate Student" termed as "humiliating initiation", I feel I should give you a more accurate description as to what happened.

The whole res gathered together where each first year was given an animal name. They were then teamed up with a second, third or fourth year student, where they got to know a bit more about each other. Each person then got to introduce their partner to the rest of the res and tell them a little bit about each other. The aim of this was for everyone to get to know each other thus creating unity in the res.

The first years were asked to dress in "shock your mother" style. Most of them came in velvies, luminous shirts and multi-coloured shorts. If "Irate Student" interprets "shock your mother" as dressing like a slut, then that reflects on her own personal opinion.

The res then took a walk to Botha, singing and generally having a lot of fun. Two of the girls who were dressed in skimpy clothing were asked to change before leaving.

To the Botha guys- Thank You! They acted like gentlemen. They were not rude or abusive and eagerly joined in the fun.

The first years were escorted into the Botha quad, where they AND the rest of the res sang "Old Mac Donald", before being sprayed with water. The Botha warden was present to ensure that no trouble occurred.

The evening then continued with fun, games and socialising back at Dingemans.

Another first year student who partook in the event had this to say: "I really enjoyed myself and did not feel at all humiliated. I got to meet the people in my res as well as some of the Botha guys. It was all in the fun of it."

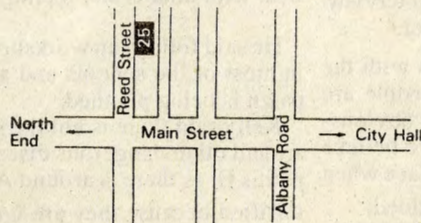
To "Irate Student" I have this to say: If you objected so strongly to all this, why did you participate? You had the right to refuse. Why did you not take this issue to the warden, Mrs Corsaine, or even approach our head student. If issues like this affect you so profoundly, what stopped you from addressing the matter through the the right channels? Think before you act!

Proud to be in Dingemans

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# Exile returns home

"It's a good feeling knowing you're home," he said. "I am impressed with the small changes taking place, particularly the attitude people have of sitting down and discussing their differences and working through their problems together."

"I see emerging democratic principles of freedom of speech, freedom of association and movement and some freedom of the press."

"I was shocked by the violence, and my wife, a Ghanaian, was especially apprehensive."

"I WENT INTO EXILE in August of 1976 because I took part in activities which led to uprisings in Alexandra township. On June 18 I led an uprising, and because of the role I played it was clear that myself and other comrades were not safe, especially after the Soweto uprising on June 16.

"We were sought by the regime's police force. I went to Swaziland, Mozambique, Zambia, Angola, Tanzania, Ghana, England and travelled throughout Eastern and Western Europe."

"In Western Europe the violence in South Africa was greatly exaggerated by the international press in that we got the idea people were killing each other in the suburbs, and that you couldn't walk freely in the streets."

"I don't think they gave the wrong impression of the intensity of the violence, but as a South African exile I felt I might not be able to survive and shouldn't come back. But when I arrived and saw that people were living a different life to the one I left 15 years previously, I realised I needed to be here."

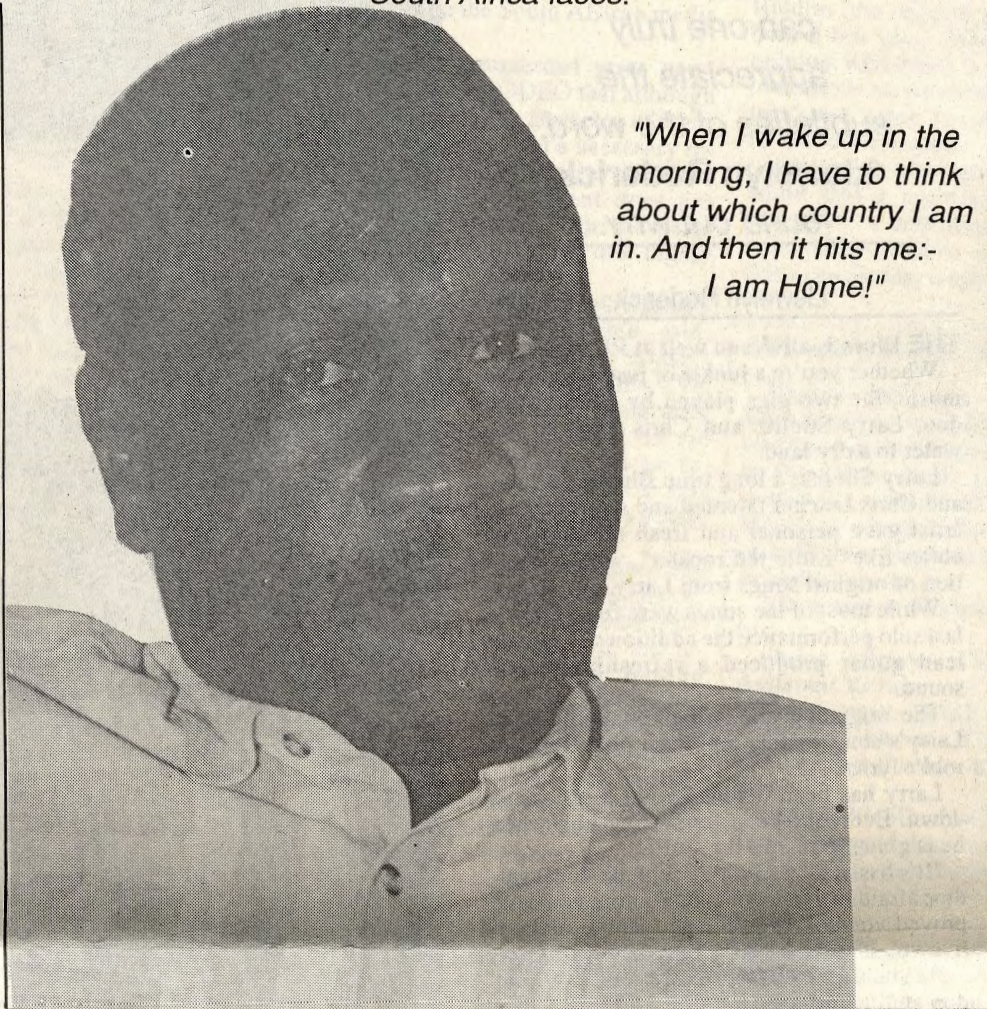
"The time for exile is over. We have got to be here to help change the situation. I want to be a part of the process that brings about stability, progress and peace."

"THE REFERENDUM results reflect a general optimism that South Africa is moving forward. I feel that the solution in South Africa and the road to democratic peace and stability lies in transforming Codesa into a dynamic mechanism for bringing about change in the country."

"The number of organisations at Codesa is a reflection of the pluralism in South Africa and to convince the PAC, CP, Azapo, HNP and AWB to participate in Codesa is vitally important."

"I believe that Codesa should not have a fixed model of a united South Africa, but rather allow all parties to express their own idea of a future South Africa. We must allow the CP to present a proposal of self-determination and put it to a democratic representative body which will discuss it fully and

*Somewhere between Mozambique and Western Europe, returned political exile and current lecturer in the International Relations Department of Political Studies, Lebona Mosia realised the importance of returning home and playing an active role in the process of change. He spoke to Megan Duff about life in exile and his feelings about the challenges that South Africa faces.*



*"When I wake up in the morning, I have to think about which country I am in. And then it hits me:- I am Home!"*

either accept or refute it on a democratic basis.

"We must be open-minded enough to accept other alternatives or see the plausibility in the content of what they are saying. Codesa is the peoples parliament!"

"The Referendum results have given Codesa legitimacy and a mandate to continue."

"EXILE BENEFITTED ME in that I was able to complete my studies. But more than that it was a world of experience. One of its good points was that I realised the problem in South Africa is not colour, although that is how the problem manifestes itself. It is far broader."

"By this I mean that many white people are fighting for change in the country and have been killed, persecuted and detained because of this. Equally, there are black people who have collaborated with the apartheid regime to uphold its racist structures."

"I also realised there were black people who could be my enemies, like the Bantustan leaders who used their power to restrict democratic political activity."

"In the ANC I learnt a lot about international politics, and comrades helped me understand the political situation better. I went through some hard times in Angola and lost a lot of people through UNITA."

"The most negative aspect of exile was that I missed home! My mother died while I was in exile and I was very sad that I could not attend her funeral. My brother and sister also died, and I lost so many people I really loved."

"But I met a woman whom I love and we have two great children."

"I STILL DON'T FEEL as if I'm completely back. Physically yes, but emotionally the feeling of being home comes last to me when I wake up in the morning. I have to think about which country I am in, and then it hits me - I am home!"

"I often think of the many good people I met in exile and the good times we had together. I saw many countries which have left a deep impression on me. I had the opportunity of seeing former Socialist countries and have learnt many lessons from them."

"For me exile does not evoke return. I will never go back. I do not regret having gone into exile, as people were needed to pioneer what we accomplished."

"I am fortunate that I came home alive and educated. I completed my studies in England where I did my masters in International Relations. Before that I studied BA Honours in Political Science at the University of Ghana, where I also received a Diploma in Journalism."

"I HAVE BEEN HERE since January and I am not sure whether I will stay in Grahamstown for long, although at the moment I am lecturing post-graduate students in International Relations."

"I hope to continue studying and lecturing while working for the ANC to actively make a change in the living conditions of the people."



## When comics are not funny

*So what's the big hype about comics anyway? What are they? Where have they come from and why are they here? Should they be treated seriously, dealt with as a new literary genre - graphic literature - or be relegated to second class reading matter?*

**BROADLY** speaking it is possible to take the 1930s as being the birth of the contemporary comic as we know it today. The forties are in fact considered the Golden Age of comics, having spawned forth the ever-popular superhero comics, most notable of which are the Batman saga and of course, Superman. These were the depression years, and easy-to-read, escapist literature had its role to play. It was only in the '70s that people began to question the nature of comics, regarding them as counter-educational and subversive, thus causing the comic industry to maintain a low profile and promote only wholesome and orthodox stories. Titles included Archie, Richie Rich and Tom and Jerry. This trend, however, only lasted

until the early '80s, by which time people began to challenge the ideology behind the wholesome comic and demand realism in plot and characterisation. Previous comic heroes were 're-vamped', given three-dimensional personalities and made socially relevant. Life, as depicted in the comic, was no longer simply a clear cut silhouette but the edges began to blur far more realistically. By this time many comics had obviously evolved into more adult orientated publications, and this, combined with their ever increasing popularity, resulted in remarkably high standards of writing and art work, as well as intricate plot structures. Paul Suntup, proprietor of a comic shop in Johannesburg, maintains that there has always been a large, untapped market in South Africa, but for many years now, only the mainstream publications have been available, while the European and American markets have flourished. The Censorship Board recently confiscated several comics from Suntup's store in Johannesburg, deeming them to be undesirable for children due to explicit sex scenes. Judging from its reaction, it seems that the Censorship Board is unaware of the adult trend in comics. Topics covered by the comics are far-reaching and some seriously challenge stereotypes of women.

Titles range from the anti-social to the anarchical and often delve into the fantasy world. Local comics are becoming increasingly popular but come out quite irregularly. Titles include Social blunder, Desire and Lolita 17 (complete with free condom inside!).



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## MUSIC



Tony  
Lankester  
TUNED  
IN

EVERYONE has a different way of enjoying music. Some like to crank it up really loudly in a sincere effort to send Mozart, Bach and the lads into a grave-spinning frenzy; while others are content to stroll around campus with a walkman, blissfully ignorant of the fact that they look really silly and are doing a good job of shutting out the rest of the nasty, cruel world.

Then there's a third group which I like to affectionately refer to as the "Vic siff-brigade". This stylish group of individuals successfully manage to combine the two traits of the previous groups: they both crank the music up and shut out the real world. In fact, not only do they shut them out, but they manage to offend any real people who stumble in on them.

The key element to being part of this group, is alcohol. You have to partake of huge amounts in order to enjoy yourself; but the secret is deeper than that - you have to let people know that you are horribly drunk so that the next day you can have sympathy for your hangover. Now I'm not a prude; but there's something about dancing ankle-deep in a pool of sweat and puke that just turns me off. Nor do I dislike loud music - there's nothing like a huge bass speaker playing games with your heartbeat to get the system going. I have to draw the line somewhere though, and this time the line has to be firmly between me and the "Vic siff-brigade".

This is an (almost) free country however, and I guess I have to be tolerant of everything around me. Talking of this country, South African music is really beginning to move toward the light at the end of the competency tunnel. Anyone who has heard the latest single from Robin Auld will have to agree that finally we are becoming internationally acceptable - if that's at all possible for a country that attracts nearly 900 000 "No" votes. Auld has just returned from an overseas sojourn and the difference between his 1935 hit "All of Woman" and his new material is astonishing. "Perfect Day" actually passed the Vic test a few weeks ago. The masses seemed to move rather quickly to it, and even stopped throwing up and groping during the catchy chorus. Rumour has it that e'Void is making a comeback soon, and The Getout is quickly making a name for themselves in a market swamped by international commercial artists - many of whom struggle to carry a tune.

Hopefully the Vic crowd is not a true test of South Africa's listening public, but if they are, then we can only be optimistic about the future of music in this country. Stand back Genesis - here comes New Dawn.

# I guess that's why they call it the Blues

*Not until one hears the  
Blues played with  
passion and finesse,  
can one truly  
appreciate the  
subtleties of the word.*  
Llewelyn Roderick  
*found out why.*

Llewelyn Roderick

THE Blues is alive and well at Rhodes.

Whether you're a junkie or just enjoy good music, the two gigs played by Blues guitar duo, Larry Strelitz and Chris Letcher was water to a dry land.

Larry Strelitz, a long time Blues musician, and Chris Letcher talented and dynamic guitarist gave personal and fresh renditions of oldies like "Little red rooster", with a selection of original songs from Larry.

While most of the songs were from Larry's last solo performance the addition of Chris on lead guitar produced a refreshingly new sound.

The original work is the collaboration of Larry's song writing and local poet Rob Berold's lyrics.

Larry has been itching to put these songs down. Everyone keeps on asking him when he is going to record the stuff.

"It's basically a catch-22 with the local studios afraid to touch your stuff before you have proved yourself as a live-act. But to make it live you have to be in Jo'burg," he says.

He submitted demos of his work to a London studio and was asked to go for an interview. Once at the interview he was told, while they liked his sound, the lyrics were too political.

"This particular studio is connected to Warner Bros, who fought for ages with Paul Simon over the 'political' content of his Graceland album, and are quite wary of political content," he said.

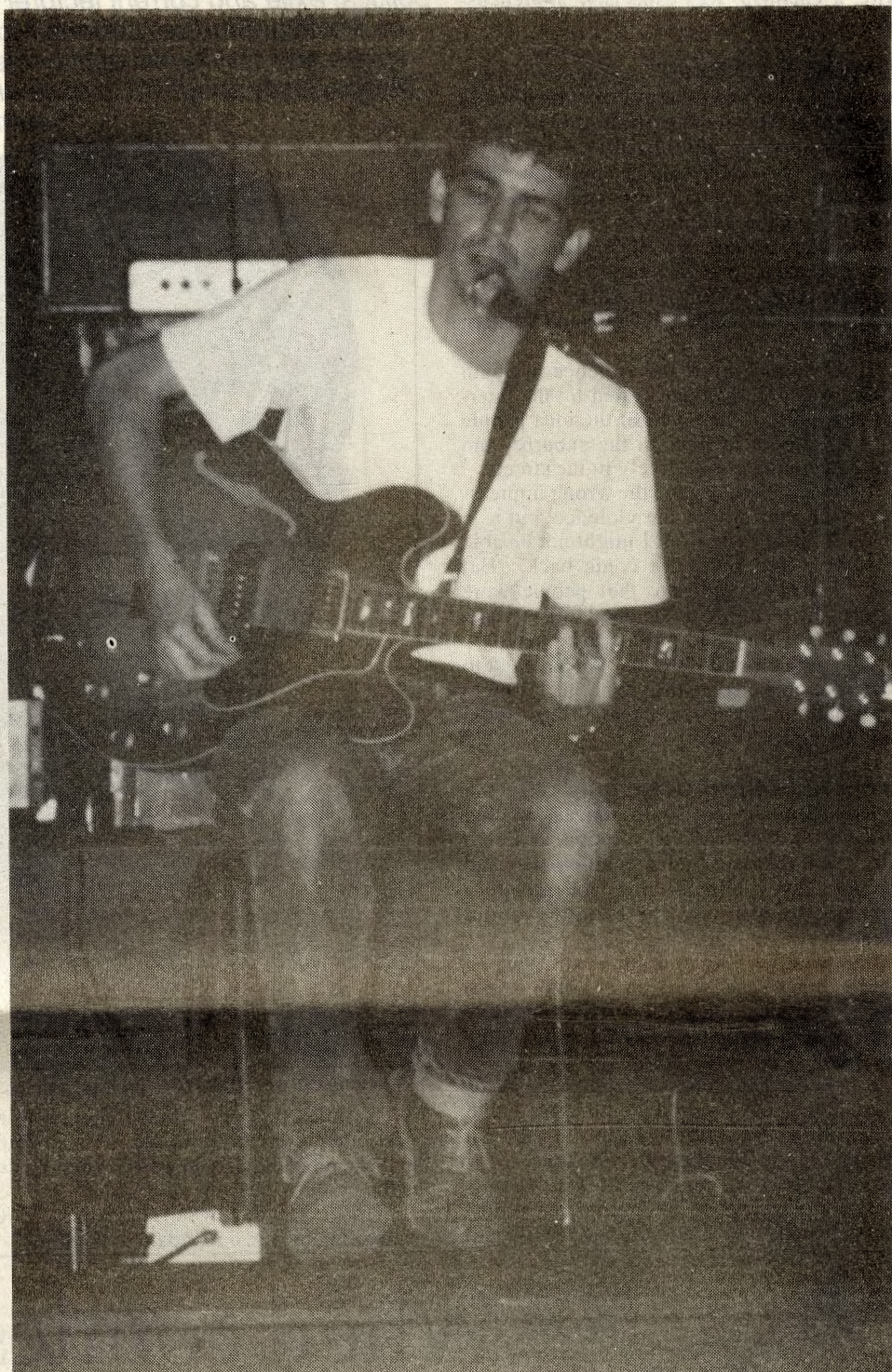
At the moment he is at a "sort of standstill".

"The bottom line is financing. I will probably finance my own tape and Rob is keen." He adds that Napac has a recording studio and are keen for this kind of thing to happen.

He would also like to get a band together if there is to be any serious live gigs. Grahamstown probably will not produce the musicians he would like to work with.

"I haven't come across any other musician other than Chris whom I would like to work with," he says.

There is a bass player in Durban that he is in contact with but nothing is certain.



"Larry Strelitz chases away the angst and worry with his guitar."

There are no firm plans for any future gigs at this stage but Larry and Chris would like to play once a term.

Larry acknowledges that this is not ideal, but his other commitments have him occupied for the while.

"The qualitative difference is enormous between short gigs and playing over an ex-

tended period. A few years ago I played for ten consecutive days at the Festival - late nights - and by the end of it I was feeling so fluid and comfortable with the music. At the moment it is one static point after another." he concluded.

Meanwhile look out for their next gig sometime next term.

## Restaurant Review

# Spurs ahead

Nerish began with a Spicy Nachos Mexicano: "I was tempted to ask for a doggy-bag 'cos there was so much and it was just too nice to waste," she said. Never one to mince her food, I mean words.

Other than that? "Sweet, but spicy - the chillies could have been hotter though."

Ingrid tried Crumbed Mushrooms with a tangy tartar sauce. "These are the most scrumptious crumbed-anythings I've ever tasted," she said.

*One foggy, rainy night in an isolated ghost-town, two students came upon...the Redwood Spur. Cold, wet, ravenous and armed with "a taste for life", they were plunged into the heart of Spurland. Able to do little except eat and drink, they hungrily set themselves to the task at hand.*

She also chose a dinkie of Nederburg Cabernet Sauvignon to go with her main course for its "erotic bouquet (did I pronounce that correctly?)."

Nerish decided on a semi-sweet white wine - Kupferberger Auslese. "I'm not much of a wine drinker but this is delicious."

She ordered a Club Rump with mushroom sauce ("...and took three hours deciding!" - Ingrid).

"It was perfect; there was such a large portion and the sauce was rich and creamy," said Nerish.

Ingrid had Chicken Kebabs with cheese sauce ("...that kept her quiet for the first time the whole night!" - Nerish). "The chef cooked it really well. It was nice, slightly sweet. There was just sooo much!" she said.

"Nerish and I also shared a side-salad ranging from watermelon to potato salad, but we didn't get past the banana bread we were so full," said Ingrid.

But RHODEO-types are never too full for dessert, especially when a cold walk home awaits them.

So Nerish had a chocolate mousse with cream (and a cherry which she never ate), and Ingrid had a Cape Velvet Dom Pedro. A good end to a good meal.

Both the service and atmosphere were great throughout the evening. But the danger lay in their return to the RHODEO offices.

Other RHODEO-types were not happy with Nerish and Ingrid's excessive gloating - so they were banished from the RHODEO office until their tummies returned to a respectable size and learned the discipline of shutting up.

# Hi Bahai

Robyn Bowen

THE Bahai Association, recently established on campus this year aims to "tell people about the Bahai faith and promote harmony among students of all races" said Jennifer Treadwell, secretary of the association.

The Bahai faith, founded by Baha'u'llah, is the fastest growing religion in the world and is the second-most widespread, following Christianity.

According to Treadwell, some of the basic principles of the faith are a belief in one God, the equality of women and men and the elimination of all prejudices which separated humankind.

There are four Bahai members on campus at present, but interested students are invited to attend meetings, which are held every Thursday at 7.30pm in the Ichthyology Department. For further details, contact Qurban Rouhani at Stanley Kidd House.

# Month of patience

Julie Gibson

**SINCE** the end of February, Rhodes Muslim students have been undergoing hours of fasting between sunrise and sunset.

The Holy Quran, which is the Islamic bible, states; "And eat and drink, until the white thread of dawn appear to you distinct from its black thread, then complete your fast till the night appears." But what are the reasons for this abstinence?

RHODEO spoke to Farzana Akram, Public Relations Officer of the Muslim Students Association to find out.

According to Farzana, the Islamic religion rests on 5 pillars; faith, prayer, fasting, charity, and pilgrimage to Mecca. If a muslim allows one of these pillars to weaken, their faith in God is placed in jeopardy.

Ramadan, the time of fasting is the month of patience, the reward of which is paradise. Peoples' sins are more easily forgiven at this time.

There are several reasons why fasting is a part of this religion. Aside from the fact that it is a universal institution, it also brings passion under control, invigorates the soul, inspires prayer, removes a false sense of prestige, preserves health, teaches sympathy for the hungry, disciplines the morals, and makes faith a living force.

"Making Sehri" is the breaking of the fast about an hour and a half before sunrise. The next meal is eaten in the evening after sunset and is known as Iftaar.

Muslims never pray during sunrise and sunset because this was the characteristic prayer time of sunworshippers. However they do pray five times a day and, during Ramadan, perform an extra prayer called Tarawih.

As Ramadan draws to a close, Muslims begin to pray more intensely because the "night of power" falls during this time. According to Farzana, people's lives used to be much longer in the past, which meant more time for prayer. Nowadays, however, there is a need to compensate for shorter lives. Hence the Night of Power was granted. According to the Quran, the Night of Power is greater in blessings and spiritual virtue than a thousand months.

At the end of Ramadan there is a day on which it is prohibited to fast called Eid. On this day of thanks and gratitude, Muslims should be inspired to give generously, thereby contributing to the pillar of charity. This is believed to increase wealth, as well as the prosperity and happiness of the unfortunate; it cheers the giver and relieves the receiver, brings tenfold reward in this world and the hereafter, balances society and removes economic tension. Furthermore, it removes social discrimination, and helps the poor, the orphaned, the widowed, the needy, the wayfarer, and the victims of social iniquities.

Ramadan is indeed a month of patience, and for many, a test of endurance. Yet if the reward of patience is paradise, then patience is justly rewarded.

# Stoep talk

**International cricket, a whites-only referendum and Aids awareness! These were the happening events of the past few weeks and if you didn't know that then you seriously need to consider taking your head out of the sand before you get crabs**

**C**ertainly, the upper echelons of our esteemed administration seemed to know that there was a South African cricket team in Australia. Anyone who tried to meet the Dean of Students on the day of the England-South Africa match would have had a difficult time locating the man. It seems that he organised a leave of absence for himself for the duration of the game. One can hardly blame him for staying glued to one of the most riveting matches of the World Cup. But it would have been a nice gesture had he extended the leave of absence to all the students who wriggled restlessly in their lectures and tuts daydreaming of Jonty Rhodes's runouts and Peter Kirsten's batting.

**F**or those who don't know it yet, the trendiest thing you can call a white student at the moment is a "yes-voter". Some students are still celebrating the white population's regaining of a semblance of moral integrity and dignity. Rumour has it though that the SASTS office was inundated with queries about overseas air ticket prices as no-vote majority predictions became more and more widespread. Moral integrity may be one thing but as usual survival is everything. One wonders why a CP government was so frightening to people who have been governed by a racist, sanctions-scoring, violently nationalistic party for 48 years. It seems that as we regain our dignity so we lose our memory.

**T**he eagle-eyed referendum voter would have noticed two surly gentlemen lurking outside the exit to the polling station wearing "Vote No" badges. When approached for their political views, they remained tight-lipped saying that their campaigning was over and that they were only monitoring the voting. One notes that they were also monitoring the SRC Oppie by-election table directly facing them. Now everybody knows that the CP don't hate blacks, they would just prefer them to stay in their proper place (presumably, Transkei?). But when a cocky, rather dark SRC Vice president takes the juicy koeksuster offered to him by the obliging NP organiser and enjoys it nogal then all tolerance and hospitality disappears. Those who witnessed

the spectacle say that the bewildered gentlemen retreated quickly into the polling station to swap gasps of disbelief with the brave police officers who were apparently guarding the voters against a right-wing attack! Ag, shame.

**C**oming back to campus, it seems as though the Rhodeo story on the Chester Crocker fiasco is something of a hot potato for the powers that be. Rhodeo was very discretely approached to reconsider their decision to print the edition with the controversial article. Apparently, the admin even offered to pay the costs of reprinting the entire paper once the story was removed. The official reason given for the concern was to prevent Govan Mbeki's embarrassment at knowing that he had been refused an honorary degree and his possible resistance to accepting such an award if offered to him in the future. Hmmm, do we trust them?

**W**hile we're in the general district of embarrassing situations, the notoriously not-quite-normal 21st birthday party of a certain RMR bigwig was filmed it seems and a large number of campus celebs are reasonably worried about the explicit footage. All kinds of cross-dressing, dirty dancing and general debauchery were captured for eternity by a discrete Journ student. The video of the decadent festivities is currently doing the rounds of Grahamstown's trendiest digs so if you want the lowdown on some of our high-flyers, see it...if you dare!

**M**ore campus news is that the recent SRC speaker on Aids attracted quite a diverse audience. Those who attended were reportedly impressed that the Dean of Students took the time to be enlightened about the lethal disease. Apparently he caused quite a stir, however, during question time when he suggested that all this talk of an Aids epidemic was an exaggerated myth perpetuated by out-of-work medical researchers, Aids sufferers and condom companies! The good doctor went on to make a valid point about preventing concern about Aids from overshadowing other health issues like malnutrition, kwashiorkor and hepatitis which it seems was lost in the hubbub as the audience struggled to comprehend his scepticism of the seriousness of the Aids crisis in Africa.

**T**he last piece of gossip is that our very together SRC (you know, the one with the minibus that no-one seems to be able to start without an extensive training course!) never schedules a meeting for any time near 5:30pm. Of course, officially this is to allow people to attend meals or to go to sports practices. Unofficially, it seems that a couple of the SRC members are avid soap opera watchers. There's only one way to learn how to be bold and beautiful, I suppose, and that is to watch the Americans do it on TV!

# Pan Bagna what?

Sarah Letcher

**A NEW** and innovative society has been created on campus!

The Pan Bagna Craft Market Society has been formed to give students an outlet to sell their home-made crafts as well as to encourage creativity and promote student craft.

Spokespersons Chloe Hardy and Andre Reynolds told RHODEO the idea for the society developed after the orientation week Oppie Market on Kaif lawns. There, Chloe and Andre met a number of other enterprising students selling crafts ranging from shoes to silk-screened cloth.

Further investigation into oppie hobbies showed that there are students out there making ceramics, Origami mobiles, patchwork bags and things as diverse as xylophones. The main problem, however, is the lack of a viable outlet to the public.

Early next term, the society plans to begin a once-a-month Saturday craft market on Kaif lawns. This will, hopefully, include buskers and any musicians keen to add to the groovy atmosphere.

They also plan to become part of the Port Elizabeth Sunday Art in the Park.

The society is still relatively small and interested students (crafters and musicians) are



"Chloe Hardy and Andre Reynolds stepping into home industry."

encouraged to contact them soon (they have an SRC box). As Chloe says: "People must just start making stuff!"

Sign up to find out what "Pan Bagna" means!

# Behind them shooting horses

Sarah Letcher and Llewelyn Roderick

**"EXIT! Exit! Or we'll be here all night,"** yells director David Alcock from the dimly lit seats onto a stage brightly decorated in red, white and blue and covered with swirling couples.

This is madness, this is drama, this is the set of "They Shoot Horses, Don't They?"

With only days to go before opening night the cast and crew of "They Shoot Horses..." are on fragile threads.

This year's graduation play, Ray Herman's adaption of the Horace McCoy novel, is set in America in the '30s. It deals with the lives of young people in the depression, struggling to survive.

It was chosen by David Alcock after he saw it produced by the Royal Shakespeare Company in London. He realised the relevance of the themes to our present South African situ-

ation - "there are many young people in this country having to face similar harsh realities and the trauma of coping with living".

The play whirls around a dance marathon which has a \$1 000 prize and has the added attraction of feeding the starving competitors. Young people attend the marathon in a hope to be noticed by Hollywood producers, following the myth of the star being discovered overnight.

Although it is a sad story, the dancing and live band '30s music balance it out. The musical director is Prof Nowotny from the Music Department.

The cast is impressively large at 50 people; accommodating first, second and third years, as well as drama students doing honours and masters. Contributing to the ensemble are Tamara Rabinowitz, Neil Borland, Sarah Tudge and Ronae Joliffe.



"Talking about horses and getting depressed."

# Students of the world unite

**JOHANNESBURG** - At the 16th Congress of the International Union of Students (IUS), Moeti Mpuru was elected unanimously to the position of Secretary-General for the next four years.

Mpuru was the Projects Officer of the South African National Students Congress (Sansco) from 1989 until the dissolution of Sansco in mid-1991. He was studying political science at Unisa, but has left South Africa to assume his duties in Prague, Czechoslovakia, where the Headquarters are located.

The South African Students' Press Union (Saspu) spoke to Mpuru when he was in

Johannesburg about the IUS, and the challenges facing him.

## What is the aim of the IUS?

It aims to unite the students of the world, to champion the struggle against the violation of student rights, and to contribute effectively to the reform of education. The IUS is also important in showing to students that they do not exist in a vacuum. They are part and parcel of their communities and this means they need to contribute effectively towards the democratisation of their societies. The IUS is also a platform where students through their organisations can exchange information and experiences.

## What is the structure of the IUS? and what kind of work does the IUS do?

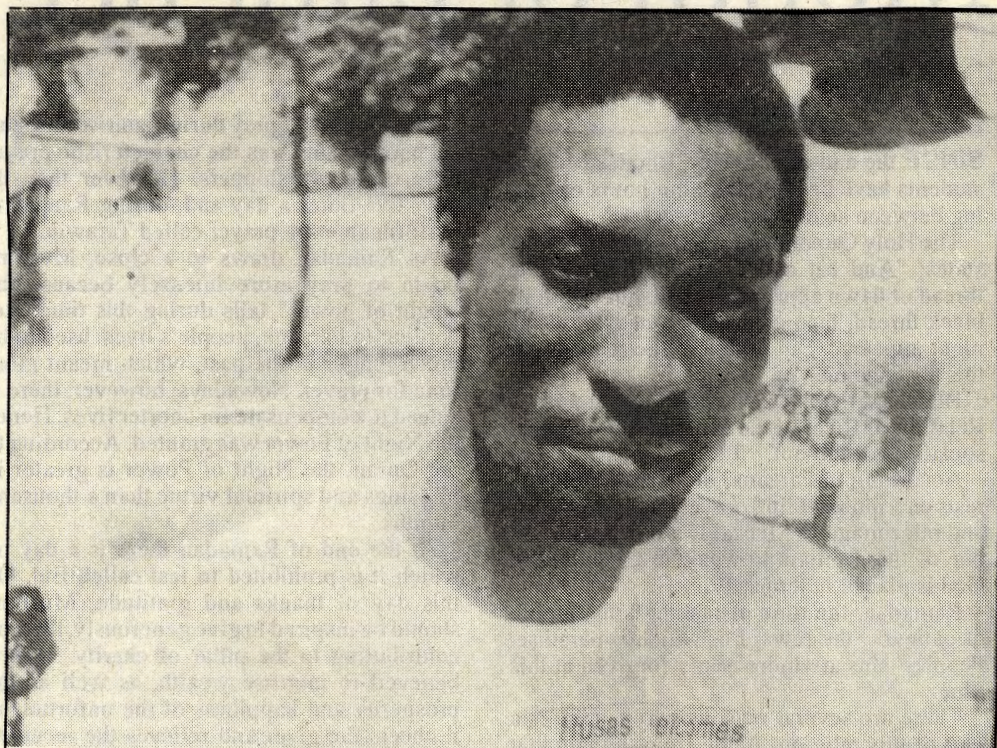
It's best to explain the work of the IUS in terms of its five permanent divisions:

1) The first division is concerned with student rights and academic freedom. This involves monitoring the violation of student rights, publicising these where possible, and sending IUS delegations to countries where this occurs. This division is also responsible for campaigning within the UN for the eventual recognition of the IUS bill on academic freedom and the rights of academic communities. Argentina is heading this division.

2) Secondly, we have the Division for Education. The main work of this division is elaborating on the slogan, "Education is a right, not a privilege". It is important to look at education systems throughout the world and the common problems which affect students, such as subsidy cuts, government education budget cuts etc. Substantial cut backs in education have become an international phenomenon and the role of the division is to examine and recommend how the IUS can best intervene. Papua New Guinea heads this division.

3) The third division of the IUS is for Women's Equality and Rights, an issue which I think is one of the most important in the IUS. It is crucial to network what women's organisations are doing, and put the issues around women's equality on the agenda of the IUS. In the past, women's representation in the IUS has not been satisfactory. At the 16th Congress, only one third of the reps were women. Women are poorly represented, even on the IUS executive secretariate where out of 13 people only two are women. The treasurer of the IUS is a woman from Nicaragua. The Canadian Federation of Students is responsible for this area of work.

4) The fourth division focusses on contact with international organisations which the General Union of Palestinian Students is heading. It tries to ensure that IUS positions



Moeti Mpuru, newly elected Secretary-General of the International Union of Students, and student activist, speaks of having to adopt a broader international perspective.

are canvassed for in UN organs, where we are represented, and in non-governmental organisations.

5) The fifth division is that of press and information, whose responsibility it is to publish newsletters and publicise the work of the IUS.

## What does it mean to be the General-Secretary of the IUS? What are your responsibilities?

It's a challenging position. We're talking about the secretary general of an international organisation - a mini "United Nations". It involves co-ordinating the activities of more than 120 student organisations whose interests are very diverse.

## What is South Africa's position in the IUS?

The South African Students Congress (Sasco) is a member union of the IUS, but before it was launched last September, the ANC Youth League was a member of the IUS. Basic membership to the IUS depends on a student organisation which is controlled and run by students, which functions independently from the government and which is open to all students, regardless of religion, race, gender, sexual orientation or economic circumstances. It must also represent the ma-

majority of students in that country.

## South African student organisations have weak women's organisations. Why do you think this is so?

World-wide, the state of women's organisations is extremely weak. Women are often not encouraged to assume leadership positions. In some countries, women experience real cultural problems as well, which hampers their involvement.

## What is your advice to the student movement in South Africa?

We need to ensure Sasco grows from strength to strength. Our goal must be to build an organisation of qualitative cadreship and ensure elements of continuity. We must fulfill our responsibility in the IUS and in the All-African Student Union.

## And finally...what does it mean for Moeti to be Secretary-General?

It's not Moeti being Secretary-General of the IUS - it's Sasco and all the comrades who have struggled in South Africa. I'm not representing myself - I'm representing a group of dedicated activists who've shown confidence in me. - SASNEWS

## Happenings

### MARCH 26 - THURSDAY

- History Seminar: RFA Hoernie (1880 - 1943) and the segregation debate 1923 - 1943  
Maxwell Seminar room - 3:15pm

### MARCH 27 - FRIDAY

- Lecture on Marx and Individual Rights: by Tony Fluxman  
Political Science Dept - 4:30pm
- Hockey Club Disco: Great Hall - 7:30pm

### MARCH 27-29

- SRC Leadership Weekend  
Port Alfred

### MARCH 28 - SATURDAY

- Zimsoc Disco: Great Hall - 7:30pm

### MARCH 29 - SUNDAY

- Oppidan Video: Arts Major

### MARCH 30 - MONDAY

- Students Art Crit work on display: Fine Arts School

### MARCH 31 - TUESDAY

- Barker Lecture: Arts Major - 5:15pm

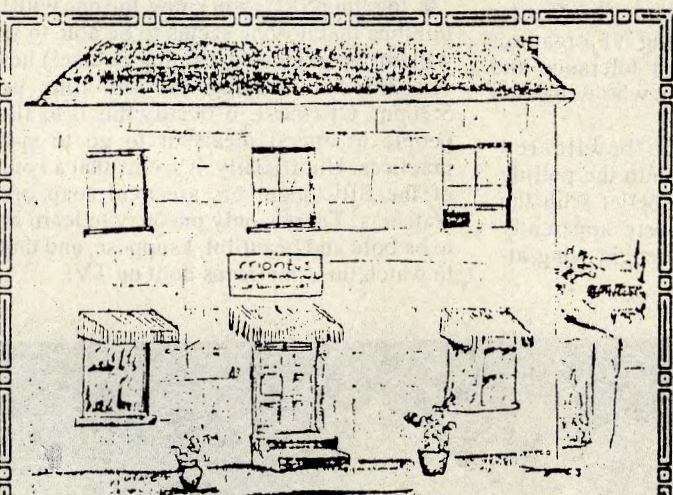
### APRIL 3 - FRIDAY

- Lecture on Models and Analogy: by Crawford Miller  
Philosophy Dept - 4:30pm

### SPORTS ACTIVITIES

### MARCH 28 - SATURDAY

- Settlers Marathon: Port Alfred Prospect - 6:00am



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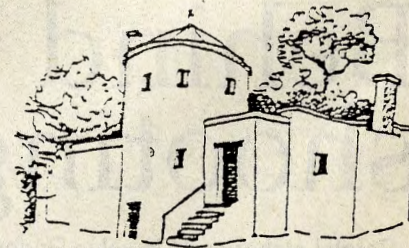


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# Rasta Rebels rock Rhodes

Tamsin Hall

**TWO** South African bands, the *Syndicate Sisters* and *Dr Victor and the Rasta Rebels*, performed in Grahamstown earlier this month, on their country-wide tour to promote their newly released albums.

The bands played for two nights at the Monument, where an audience of teenagers and adults boogied together to the smooth rhythms.

The *Syndicate Sisters* are a jazz-fusion orientated band, with leading vocalists Beverly Alexander and Doreen Philemon captivating their audience with swaying hips and provocative smiles. Their latest album, *Foolish Games*, has proved to be a great success, said the promoters.

The *Rasta Rebels* have what the band's representative, Mr Mike Dejager, calls "their own direction" and they play a lot of up-beat reggae. It is a six-piece soul, dance and reggae band, with Dr Victor as leading vocalist, and it began as a "fun project" in July 1991. They decided to follow up on their successful debut album, *Pump up the Reggae*, by forming a group, and will go on another nationwide tour in June this year.

The current tour was to finish in Oranjemont on May 9, Mr Dejager said.



Doreen Philemon of the Syndicate Sisters

# The Lizard of Oz



Ross Edwards

**IN** a recent visit to the Rhodes Philosophy Department, Professor Bert Olivier from UPE gave a lecture on the process of "Dislocating the Everyday" looking at David Lynch's "Wild At Heart" as Cinema of the Grotesque.

According to Mr Marius Vermaak, a Rhodes Philosophy lecturer, the talk was "the first public lecture in a series aimed at dispelling the myth that philosophy is an airy subject divorced from reality."

Prof Olivier reflected on the apparent fact that the sufferings of life far outweigh its gratifications by numerous illustrations from Schopenhauer and other critics of the grotesque in art, literature and more recently Lynch's cinema.

Lynch's unique brand of cinematography often arouses mixed feelings of disgust, horror, revulsion and outright amusement from audiences, like the scene where a villain's mutilated hand is stolen by a dog.

Critics were cited as reviewing Lynch's films with phrases like "surrealistic nightmare, grotesque violence, deformed chicken-baby and in a twisted sort of way all this sickness is quite funny." Similarly, "Wild At Heart's" fantasy-images from "The Wizard Of Oz" were reduced by "Vrye Weekblad" critic Tony Karon to an analysis of Lynch himself as "The Lizard Of Oz."

Prof Olivier ended his illustrations with reference to the film's simultaneous use of "the ridiculous and horrifying" in a way normally reserved for Shakespeare's "Hamlet" or "King Lear", instances of "humankind's awareness of living in an indifferent universe, yet craving meaning."

Unlike conventional horror films like 'Aliens' or 'Critters' where humans go to the end of the universe to confront unspeakable horror, or alternately brings it home, Lynch shows one that it exists, just beneath the surface of the everyday.

For both Lynch and Prof Olivier, "Life is a tragi-comedy, in short, it is grotesque," or as "Wild At Heart's" Lulu observed, "The world is wild at heart and weird on top."

# Fostering media awareness in E Cape

Megan Duff

**A** "Media and Democracy" Festival will be hosted at Rhodes University from April 10-12, to create awareness and enthusiasm around media and to encourage active participation from a wide range of organisations.

The festival aims to build "media consciousness" among grass-roots community organisations in the Eastern Cape and Border region and to emphasise the central role of media in building a democratic society. It will create an awareness of the importance of media strategies in building democratic organisations.

The festival also aims to equip delegates to use existing media and to produce their own, as well as to build links between community organisations, media trainers in the area, and the established media.

"The Eastern Cape and Border regions are politically important to South Africa and home to millions of people yet media coverage is inadequate and organisations often struggle to get news into the mainstream press and on SABC-dominated airwaves," explained Festival Organiser Rod Amner.

Community organisations often lacked the skills and resources to express their point of view adequately and hardly had the means to produce their own media. "Literacy, particularly 'media literacy' is very low, and there is a great lack of media training in the Eastern Cape and Border area," said Amner.

The "Media and Democracy" festival programme is structured to promote debates and panel discussions around the media now and in the "new South Africa".

A "hands-on media showcase" is aimed at demystifying media, and presenting it as accessible to all people. It offers the opportunity for organisations and interest groups to discuss common problems, training programmes and future plans.

ANC Department of Information and Publicity official, Mr Joel Netshitenzhe, editor of South weekly, Dr Guy Berger and a speaker from Codesa's working group 1 will outline their perspectives on how they envisage the future South African media.

The "Media Showcase" provides a basic introduction to different kinds of media, including a demonstration of how the technology works, assessing what media is appropriate for groups with limited resources, and providing information on the required training to produce media and what training is available in the region.

The importance of media in building a democratic society, and whether the existing media is reflecting the situation in the Eastern Cape, will form part of the panel discussions.

Workshops on how to deal with the press, radio and television, as well as training sessions ranging from sticker making and T-shirt silkscreening to producing videos, will be offered.

A discussion on the potential of radio as a mass medium in the "new South Africa", with speakers from Radio Transkei, Radio Freedom and Bush Radio will follow on from a National Community Radio Forum meeting to be held in Grahamstown at the end of March.

For further information on the festival contact: Sue Valentine or Moira Levy at IDASA (021) 473127, Rod Amner or Nina Shand at ECNA (0461) 23486/29565 (fax) 0461 311050.



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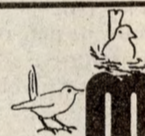
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**RHODES** Satisu is pushing back the boundaries of non-racial sport as it challenges the sports domain traditionally held by the South African Universities (SAU).

According to Satisu chairperson Mzi Mgudlwa: "There has been a vast unequal distribution of resources in South Africa... the black community has been actively undeveloped." White communities received large amounts of funding in the past and have produced good players. "We didn't have the necessary channels to nurture our talent," he said.

White sports bodies had a "certain clout which they could have used to challenge the racist government," while at the same time politicising people through sport. However, they never stood up against the racist policies of the government and in fact most of their members are "products of the apartheid allocation of resources", Mgudlwa firmly states.

He says sportspeople should, wherever possible, try to open up facilities to underdeveloped communities. Last year Satisu was involved in a table tennis training programme in the township. However, one of the organisation's weaknesses has been that it has not been able to sustain this training and has

# "Breaking for Unity"

## Satisu lines up the non-racial pocket

too often waited to be called upon by other organisations to implement these programmes.

Mgudlwa says unity in sport needs to start at a grassroots level. Unity at a national level must be informed by what happens on the ground and the process thus far, has been top heavy - a bit back-to-front. "One of the best ways to build non-racialism is on the sports field," he says.

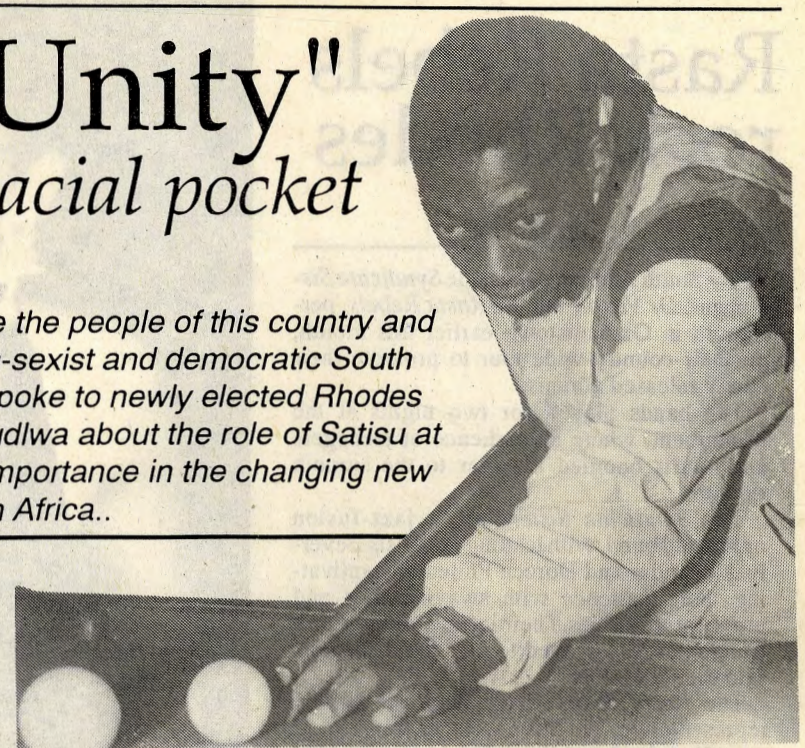
Satisu was launched in 1991 as a result of the merger between Satisco and Satisa, which were both formed in 1986. "We had to have an alternative to multi-racial sport, which fails to address the historical differences in sporting facilities for different race groups. Our aim has always been to organise students around non-racialism, non-sexism and democracy."

Satisu believes the emphasis must be on student leadership and

players can be involved in the decision making process through their elected convenors from the 12 codes.

Every year Satisu has Summer and Winter Games as well as an Annual General Congress. The highlight of the year is the Sports and Culture Week which happens in the fourth term. During this week, speakers are invited, sports activities are held and awards are given out. Each code chooses their most im-

*"Through sport we will unite the people of this country and establish a non-racial, non-sexist and democratic South Africa" - Kim Jurgensen spoke to newly elected Rhodes Satisu chairperson, Mzi Mgudlwa about the role of Satisu at Rhodes University and its importance in the changing new South Africa..*



Mzi Mgudlwa: Unity starts at grassroots

proved player and also the player of the year for that code. The sports committee chooses the overall player of the year and the most improved player.

"One just has to look at the support people are giving the South African cricket team to realise the tremendous unifying potential of sport," he said.

## Symbols - the key to national unity

**A RECENT** Rhodéo survey indicated many diverse opinions about the use of sports and national symbols in the "New South Africa".

On the Springbok, there were three main groups of opinion. Firstly, some felt it was a symbol associated with apartheid and should be changed. Others said it should stay the same as it was recognised worldwide. Some considered the Springbok an apolitical symbol representing the spirit of South Africa.

There were similar feelings about the green and gold colours though fewer people thought changing them was necessary. A small minority couldn't give their opinion as they were unaware of the reasons behind the choice of these colours.

An overwhelming majority voted to change the flag, although some thought the orange, white and blue, symbolising the earth, sky and sea, could form the basis of a new flag. Some students said the flags in the centre had too many negative connotations of a bygone era. Suggested alternatives included combining the flag colours of the major political parties: blue, green



and white or even reggae colours.

Many students greeted the suggestion of retaining the national anthem with amusement. With few exceptions, they felt it was highly unsuitable for a culturally diverse South Africa. However, some suggested that it should be translated into more South African languages as its beauty would override negative connotations.

"Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika" was supported by about 30 percent, while the majority preferred something new, fresh and acceptable to the

whole population. English was considered the most viable language because of its relative neutrality. Some people even suggested "Hello Africa, tell me how you're doing," by Dr Victor and the Rasta Rebels or something combining the traditional songs of each culture.

It was hoped that democratic negotiations would proceed as soon as possible. In the interim, however, it was felt the cricket team was on the right track by remaining as neutral as possible.

## Unification proceeds cautiously

Christine Campbell

**SPORT** in South Africa is on the brink of a new era - one of international acceptance. Most sports in South Africa are either unified, or are in the last stages of unification. Cricket, Surfing, Swimming and Shooting are already participating in the international arena.

Several sports are operating as a unified body at Rhodes. But some codes are still negotiating.

Squash is in the last stage of unity. Discussion on the break up of the Squash Rackets Association of Southern Africa, and the emergence of a new controlling body, to be called "Squash SA", is being held at a national level.

A proposed controlling body, called the Eastern Province Squash Union, was discussed at a meeting in Port Elizabeth, on March 14.

Informal meetings have been held at Rhodes, between representatives of South African Universities (SAU) and South African Tertiary Institutions Sports Union (SATISU), with positive results, but the

meeting for February 24 failed to materialise and has been rescheduled.

Rugby, a major sport on campus, is only in the first stages of unity, with the Rhodes University Rugby Football Club (RURFC) and SATISU scheduled to meet for the first time regarding unification. At provincial level, rugby has been unified in the Eastern Province Rugby Football Union (EPRFU) since December 7 1991.

There are two obstacles to unity in hockey; the colour barrier, and the sex barrier. White men, white women, coloured men, and coloured women are represented by four associations, and have to be unified before South Africa can be accepted into the African Hockey Federation (AHF).

Negotiations are proceeding, and the AHF said "It should take six months for South Africa to be accepted into international hockey."

In most provinces the colour barrier has been broken. For example EP Men's Hockey are busy uniting with the EP Men's Hockey Union (EPMHU), but white and coloured men are still negotiating in Natal,

although women's hockey associations have united there.

Colour barriers are falling away, but sex barriers seem to be very much in place still. Women's and men's hockey clubs still operate separately at Rhodes.

Cross Country and Road Running have unified two associations, but the third association is still undecided.

Cricket at Rhodes has not been formally unified, although in practice the club is unified. This conflicts with international sport acceptance.

Soccer unity was established with difficulty in 1991, and the 1992 season has not been without its problems. But at Rhodes the club is unified, and seems not to have these problems.

Karate and Track and Field unity is still being created at national level, and Swimming and Waterpolo still has to be unified at provincial level.

Nevertheless, Aikido, Underwater Hockey, Basketball, Volleyball, Badminton, Rowing, Surfing and Shooting are all unified at Rhodes.

## Indoor and out

Christine Campbell

**THE** Women's First Team came second in the Rhodes Indoor Hockey Tournament, held at Rhodes on March 14.

Five teams participated: Rhodes 1st Team, Rhodes 2nd Team, Bohemians from Port Elizabeth, Hamiltons from East London, and Kingswood School.

A Round Robin was played. Rhodes 1st Team won three out of four matches, and Rhodes 2nd Team won one game.

The Inter-Varsity Hockey Tournament against the University of Port Elizabeth (UPE), was played on Monday March 16.

The Rhodes Men's 1st Team had an unexpected victory over U.P.E.,



beating them 8-5. In the Women's 1st Team game, UPE struggled to win the match 4-2.

The Men's 3rd Team won their match 3-2. The Men's 2nd Team lost 4-3.

Both the Second and Third Women's Teams lost 3-1 and 3-2 respectively.

The spirit continued from the matches into the party afterwards, with the players arriving back at Rhodes in the early hours of Tuesday morning.



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