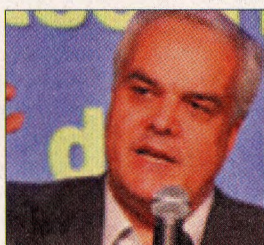




04

Marketing faith



09

The grapes of
Matthias Rath



12

100m on no
legs

Small change is big change



Nine-year-old Slovo Tetana is being sponsored by ZIMSoc

■ Lauren Clifford-Holmes

■ Delia de Villiers and Ashleigh Swaile

ZIMSoc is currently making a contribution towards Rhodes' community service efforts.

In light of the recent charity events hosted by RAFSoc and RMR, the Zimbabwean Society is undertaking the task of sponsoring a physically disabled boy from the Extension 6 district.

Prudence van de Linde, the warden of Atherstone House and principal of Good Shepherd Primary School, which the child attends, has been working in conjunction with ZIMSoc in organising his sponsorship and development. According to her, nine-year-old Slovo Tetana caught the attention of members of ZIMSoc with his disability. Due to a defect at birth, Tetana is irretrievably crippled and unable to move without the aid of crutches. In addition to his physical disability, he also has a learning impediment. ZIMSoc's attempts to alleviate some of the difficulties that arise from his situation have taken the form of the simplest of gestures like replacing his worn-out shoes with a pair of takkies which are hard and durable since he drags his feet. Tetana does receive special boots, partly subsidised by the Health Department, but the expenses

involved in acquiring these boots is a great burden for Tetana and his family. They are also providing his family with groceries and paying for a full year's tuition at Good Shepherd Primary School. ZIMSoc believes that despite his circumstances, Tetana should be given the opportunity to rise above them. According to Prudence Mambo, the Cultural Officer of ZIMSoc who is involved in the project, the capacity to fund Tetana's education has already been included in this year's budget. The plan is to monitor his progress and hopefully continue the sponsorship next year. When asked why ZIMSoc did not sponsor a needy child in Zimbabwe, Mambo stated that people always want to know how their money is being used. In Grahamstown, a small contribution could make a much larger difference. "It means a lot of work and effort, but Grahamstown is an impoverished town. If you have the opportunity, it would be wrong not to do something about it," says Mambo.

Tetana's sponsorship marks the beginning of ZIMSoc's endeavours. Although it was initially perceived as a temporary project, Mambo emphasised the society's hopes to expand

their scheme next year with a food and second-hand clothing drive, while continuing to sponsor Tetana's education. "People just came together and decided to help out," says Mambo.

Mambo asserts that one does not have to be affiliated with a specific society in order to become involved in any community-based project. It has been made very clear that charity work is not about the society. The emphasis is placed on raising awareness within Grahamstown to the realities of the general community's circumstances.

At Easter time ZIMSoc collected Easter eggs and distributed them at the school. They hope to continue to do more small scale projects on an ongoing basis. ZIMSoc is not the only society currently aiding underprivileged children at the Good Shepherd Primary School. Victoria Girls' High School has also made a commitment to supply food to the school every Tuesday, which will then be distributed among the pupils, even though they are already on a government feeding scheme. "These people are needy and we appreciate any effort people are making to help them," says van de Linde.

RAFSoc channels funds into foundations

■ Jenny Pettenger

A reformed DemSoc is taking steps to fulfill their promise to perform a community service, following last year's conflict regarding the legitimacy of the society.

Newly-named RAFSoc (Raising Awareness and Funds Society) has held two fundraising events this year. While these are the same old parties that Rhodents know and love, they have a new twist, as the funds raised are being used for charity. Between the two events held this year, over R12 000 has been collected. Selling society shirts to members raised a further R1 750.

RAFSoc Charity Representative Kelly Cowen, approached the CSD (Centre for Social Development) to find out which areas of Grahamstown need the most help, and discovered some interesting information about primary education in South Africa. 34% of Grade One pupils do not pass the class, and never continue with their education. This is largely due to a lack of financial resources and the poor condition of school buildings. RAFSoc

set their eye on a target: two run-down pre-primary schools in Grahamstown's Extension 7 both in dire need of help.

Siyazama School is currently operating out of an incomplete building and three shipping containers. Funds raised by RAFSoc will be used to assist the school in installing ceilings and carpeting.

Chairman Grant Howarth states that the society's main focus is the school's main building, which is in such a state that classes can no longer be held there. Teachers have been conducting regular classes in a house. Cowen explains that the RAFSoc funds will be used to erect a two-roomed building with ablution facilities. This building can be used for classes until the main school building is completed, at which point it will become a nursery for children under the age of three, who are currently not accepted by primary schools and need a place to safely spend their days. The main building is being financed largely with funds raised by the monastery located just outside Grahamstown. In

partnership with the Give 5 campaign and through the CSD, RAFSoc is funding the purchase of bricks to build the school and a fence to surround the perimeter of the property to ensure the safety of the school children. RAFSoc will also donate educational equipment to the schools, such as toys and books. Howarth says: "We want to try to make a definite impact, something you can see now, instead of just giving money to several different charities."

Secretary Nicola Palmer explains that RAFSoc is aiming to create more than just an overnight project. "We want to form lasting relationships so that future committees can continue the work." The committee is attempting to lay the foundation for RAFSoc to be a charity-supporting society for many years to come.

After the controversy which surrounded the society last year, the current committee appears eager to make positive changes in the work that the society does and its public image.



RAFSoc is an example of reform in action

■ Lauren Uppink

Editorial



An emotional rant

■ Carly Ritz

As you hopefully, gracefully climb the age ranks, you get invited to many a 21st bash with a funky theme. There was 'formal with a touch of pink', 'tops and tails', 'come as what you're not', 'Turkish delight' and 'your favourite accent' to name a few. It's a milestone and a great excuse to have a party.

But besides getting dressed up, drinking too much and dancing all night, if there's one thing I love about such occasions it's the speeches. Everyone loves a little dirt and this is the perfect opportunity to spill the beans and have a good laugh as you relive your friends' most embarrassing moments. But in and amongst the drunk in gutter and sexual *faux pas* stories is a wealth of defining moments.

I was asked to write a speech for my friend Simone's 21st a while back. When I sat down to cram two years of friendship into a page and a half, I was overwhelmed by memories of elated times, sad days, silly jokes and drunken escapades.

Friendships here at Rhodes are different to the ones I have at home. It's because at Rhodes we live our lives alongside those of our friends. We see each other every day, every night, every meal. We go to lectures together (when we go), to tuts, to Kenton and home again. We're together on the good days and on the bad ones. Relationships here become very intense – very quickly. So when it comes to writing that speech, there is just so much to say.

Simone's speech gave me a chance to reflect. I don't like to reflect often. When you really take time to evaluate honestly where you're at, you have to take everything into account – every success and every failure. No one likes to admit they've messed up. But it's a good thing to really look at yourself each day and be honest. Did I achieve all that I could today? Did I make someone smile or hurt someone's feelings? Was I kind or mean, grateful or indifferent? Did I tell people how I really feel about them? I don't think about these things every day – although I try.

People are precious. They deserve to know how we feel about them – and not just when we're drunk. Yes – when in the grip of *dronk verdriet* and with a little dutch courage, we divulge our true feelings for people – "*in vino veritas*" but why not on an ordinary day?

I should have told the guy who spilled his heart out at The Rat one night over a gin and tonic how I admire his ingenuity. I should have apologised to some people for hurtful things I've said and I should tell my father I forgive him. But I haven't done all these things...yet. I should get onto all of that soon – while I still have the opportunity.

I don't want to be that person who looks back with regret. Thinking I should have done that or said this but was too scared. I don't want any more people to get away without knowing how grateful I am for having met them. So starting now: thank you to my wonderful *Activate* team for their sweat and tears and thank you to everyone holding this paper now – I have learnt a lot from you.

Letter to the Editor

Lee-Ann Biller, owner of Spindizzy Shuttle Services, has responded to a recent article which appeared in *Activate*.

I would like to comment on the accusations that students had been delayed for three hours at the airport without being informed that they had to wait for a full bus. We had three trips to PE Airport arranged for the Sunday in question.

I truly do feel that these complaints were completely unjustified because we were prepared to wait and delay our departure times, resulting in us also getting home much later than expected. Other companies left students behind because they were simply not prepared to wait. We know this because we took some of these students home.

I personally spoke to each and every student and remained in contact with them. I assured all parents and students that I spoke to that I would not leave them behind. Due to flights being delayed, we had to reschedule our departure times, but we were pre-

pared to do so in order to ensure that everyone got home.

On numerous occasions we have students who have made bookings, but are not present when the vehicle arrives to collect them. They simply change their plans or accept lifts from friends, but don't bother to cancel, and they don't answer their phones, so we spend unnecessary time looking for them, resulting in us being delayed.

Unfortunately, it is correct that one of our vehicles ran out of petrol, but only three minutes out of town as opposed to the 10 mentioned in the article. We discovered the following day that there was a problem with the vehicle. This was unforeseen and unfortunate, and we apologise for it. I did return to assist, but my return was delayed by calls from the hospital. We are contracted to the hospital to transport their emergency theatre staff. On

my way into town, I received a call and had to respond immediately. Two staff members had to be collected – one of whom lives on the outskirts of town, causing more of a delay.

All students on the bus were in fact compensated. They were given a major discount on their ticket. I do apologise to anyone that was inconvenienced, but also believe that all circumstances should be taken into account.

I would also like to make an appeal to students. If you change your travel plans or decide to accept a lift from a friend, please advise us early enough so that we do not waste unnecessary time waiting around for you, as this results in us being delayed and is an inconvenience.

Should you have any suggestions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at spindizzy1@hotmail.com.

Dinners and donations

■ **Ciro De Siena**

Ruth First is playing an active role in assisting the community, by organising The Starfish Dinners in Grahamstown.

According to Ruth First's Charity Representative, Angy Youssef, "the Starfish Dinners are organised on a national scale". She added: "It is an event where a dinner is enjoyed and participants are encouraged to donate, with proceeds going to charities supporting AIDS orphans around the country."

The residence, which was named Top Charity Residence in 2004, has conducted other drives this year. They hosted a Shrek movie marathon to raise funds in support of donkeys at the SPCA, and are currently on a samp and beans collection drive. They were also one of the campus' biggest donors to The VERgin Challenge.

The dinner will take place this Sunday May 15 in Nelson Mandela Hall at the normal dinner time. The event raised R2 500 last year and all are encouraged to support.

For more information visit www.starfishcharity.org

activate
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Crime report – Rhodes campus

■ **Lorenza Allan**

Thefts have increased of late:

- A laptop and other items were stolen from Cullen-Bowles Residence on Freedom Day.
- A leather jacket was stolen from the Music Department's kitchens.
- R525 was stolen from an office at the administration department.

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Rhodes updates security on campus



■ pic supplied by the Rhodes University Communication and Development Division

■ **Natasha Joseph**

Following the shocking and brutal rape of a student during the Tri-Varsity weekend last year, Rhodes University established a task team to investigate what had happened, and to consider ongoing safety issues on campus.

After a call for submissions, approximately 324 were received from both staff and students, enabling the task team to put together some concrete ideas about safety and security at the University.

Two major areas of worry were the lighting on campus and the perceived ineffectiveness of the Campus Protection Unit (CPU) and its guards.

External observers visited Rhodes and reported that the CPU was, in fact, an efficient and effective body.

"Rhodes has spent a lot of money and worked very hard to improve security," says Gavin Stobbs, head of Hi-Tec's guarding division. "But personal responsibility is still the most important factor in keeping yourself safe." He advises students to avoid badly-lit areas and to stick to well-guarded roots rather than taking short cuts; and being drunk is no excuse for being unsafe.

"Always make sure you've organised a designated driver for the night, or use the shuttle services which are available," Stobbs says. "Just be security-conscious. This campus is a lot more secure than most in the country, but it's not Fort Knox. You've got to be aware of what's going on around you."

Below is a list of improvements and additions that have been made at Rhodes since last year:

■ 42 new security lights have been installed all over campus and six SOS/panic buttons have been installed. These are located in the following spots: the Jac Labs, the map wall on the corner of Prince Alfred Street and University Road (next to the Zoology building), corner of Prince Alfred Street and South Street (Grounds and Gardens building),

Student Union building (next to ATMs), Goldfields building, St Peter's Campus (next to Eden Grove and near the chapel footbridge) and at the Fine Arts Photographic building;

■ A security phone was installed on the St Peter's campus, but was flooded during heavy rains in December. Other phone systems are being investigated;

■ More cameras have been installed around campus to provide an "eye in the sky";

■ The successful Blue Routes have been established. These are patrolled regularly by CPU guards, are particularly well-lit and provide a safe route home for many students. One woman student who was being followed late at night pushed the button and her potential attacker fled. CPU response times have been "excellent", says Dave Charteris, head of CPU. The CPU also advertised for a student corp – a group of students who would be employed by the CPU to bicycle around campus on traditionally busy nights and keep an eye out for trouble. The response was disappointing, but the CPU has decided to advertise again because it wants students to become actively involved in making the campus safer.

"Students won't have to arrest their friends," Charteris says. "They are essentially extra ears and eyes around campus and will be helping the CPU out." Every student will be paid an hourly rate and will work on a rotational basis.

Contracted Hi-Tec guards also patrol campus. All guards have the power to detain suspects, who are then taken to CPU headquarters and held until the police arrive. All Hi-Tec guards are trained and registered with the Security Officers' Board.

The University is looking at installing more panic buttons around campus, but Charteris warns that if students continue to push the buttons drunkenly, a "cry wolf" syndrome might develop. Please visit <http://www.ru.ac.za/administrative/cpu/> for more information.

Dulcé becomes Dolphin Kaif

■ **Jacqueline Lazic and Natasha Boddy**

The Day Kaif on campus, formerly part of the Dulcé franchise, is under new ownership and has recently been renamed the Dolphin Kaif.

Jennifer Berner and Aneeqe Messiahs, co-owners and managers of the new Dolphin Kaif, say the Kaif no longer has any affiliation with Dulcé. According to Messiahs, the previous owner has a new business venture in Port Elizabeth and "couldn't handle running both".

Berner says: "The menu, although still the same, will undergo some changes and we are still looking at prices."

The change in ownership of the Day Kaif raises the question of developments of the Main Kaif, situated on

the ground floor of the Student Union building. Since the end of 2003, there have been plans to convert the Main Kaif into a Dulcé as well. However, according to Dr Iain L'Ange, Assistant Dean of Students, Rocky Reynolds, who originally expressed interest in converting the Main Kaif, now feels that the "venture wouldn't have been profitable".

Applications for tenders for the Main Kaif and the Rhodes University Club were then requested. A deal to start the renovations was made by Ross Johnston, on behalf of other financial backers.

Speculation about an alleged by-law passed by the Makana Municipality stipulating that no alcohol is to be sold after midnight, means that

Johnston was unable to find sufficient financial backing for construction to begin.

L'Ange has asked Mel Tarr, the current owner of the Rhodes University Club whether he would like to continue his proprietorship for another six months. The relevant committee, which will also include students, shall then be convened to make recommendations about the future of the Kaif and the Union.

Many students have enjoyed the revamp of the Day Kaif as a revived hub of activity and are eagerly anticipating the reopening of the Main Kaif. Brett Ussher, a third year BA student says: "it will be exciting to have somewhere else where students can hang out and interact with one another."



Under new ownership, the Dolphin Kaif is expected to undergo further changes

■ **Caitlin Murphy**

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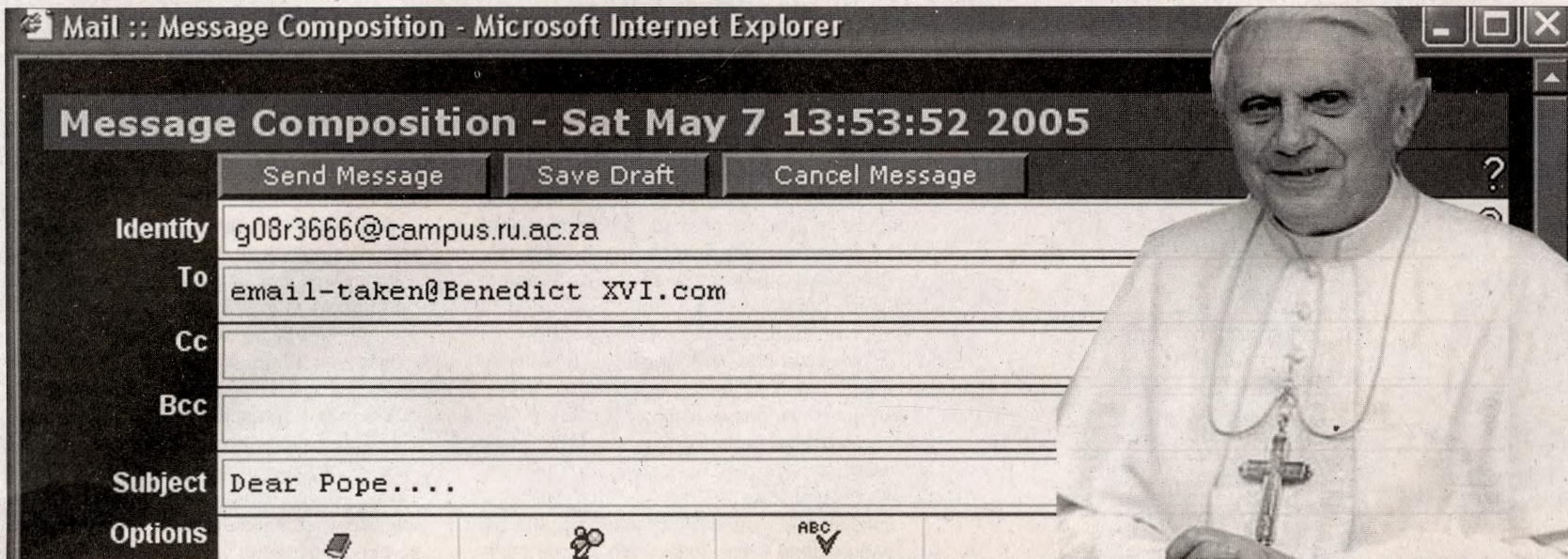
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Religion sells out

The election of Pope Benedict XVI has spawned a wealth of get-rich-quick schemes selling items or ideas to the perceived faithful. But it's not just Christians who are subject to this. **Ines Schumacher** looks at the marketing department of faith.



■ Gregor Röhrig

Memorabilia has long been available in the Vatican and elsewhere. A few years ago, a newspaper article mentioned some of the items you could buy. They included remote control models of the 'Popemobile', the papal limousine and Pope John Paul II lawn sprinkler attachments. The tagline for the latter? Let us spray.

Politicians, journalists and other religious leaders have all commented on the election of the new pope and either endorsed or condemned the choice. Many expectations were fulfilled when the German-born Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger stepped out onto the balcony and was announced pope. However, expectations were also crushed when it became clear that he was not the herald of a new era and change in the Catholic Church.

The papal election has not only been a question of faith, but also a chance to make money. People rushed to register the title of Pope Benedict XVI as a web or e-mail address. Some of these people promise the money to charity, while others claim it signifies their devotion to the new Holy See. The web address www.PopeBenedictXVI.com has been sold on E-bay, the most popular online auction, for \$6 200 – close on R40 000.

The story of an Irish-born journalism student in London has attracted the public eye. Vincent Flood, who has been dubbed the Cyber Pope, created an e-mail account shortly after the new pope was announced. Although he claims that he did not wait in front of his computer in order to create this account, many people claim that the e-mail address was no longer available only two minutes after the announcement. popebenedictxvi@hotmail.it is being auctioned on E-bay, but has not passed the \$100 mark. Flood claims he is more interested in the media buzz and hopes to launch his career more easily now that his name is known. His sales pitch talks about purchasing a Holy Hotmail account as a "truly divine way to stay in touch with your friends".

The Hotmail address has been flooded with e-mails from well-wishers who believe they are actually writing to the pope. The register in these e-mails varies. One e-mail reads: "Holy Father, how are you? Father, I kindly request you take care of your health." Another reads: "hey pope I hope u av a gd reign."

Officials are not worried that the web domains created are going to be used as porn sites, because the people that purchase these domains are mostly interested in making a fan web site for the pope.

Typical items like watches, mugs, t-shirts that read "Papa Ratz" and "German Shepherd", bookmarks, bumper stickers, fridge magnets and teddies of the pope are common on E-bay. There are also many strange items ready to be auctioned off, like pope-corn, "pope-on-a-rope" soap, lantern string lights with his face on them and rubber bracelets similar to AIDS and 'Reach for a Dream' bands inscribed with "Habemus Papam". The most bizarre item of all would have to be an alleged piece of the pope's hair, with the starting bid of \$35 000 – roughly R213 000. Nobody has started the bidding.

This technological exploitation of the Catholic Church is not the only sign of commercialisation. It is interesting to note the way in which religious holy days have been changed into holidays. In modern society, religion drifts apart from people, and the meaning of Christian Holy days are lost. Most people know the meaning of Easter and Christmas, but they struggle with the concept of Lent and days like Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday and Good Friday.

Christianity is not the only religion which has been exploited. If you still believe Buddhists live secluded lives on isolated mountain tops and chant scriptures day in and day out; think again. Buddhism has endeavoured to reduce its magical elements and priests have moved into the city. Songs are no longer chanted, but rather sung like Mandarin pop songs. Preaching has also extended to the vernacular. Is this a compromise of a traditional way of life or a move towards a globalised future?

Islam has also become a victim of globalisation. Modern Islamic thinkers are working hard to effect changes and rescue the religion from orthodoxy. When Amina Wadud from America announced she would lead prayers, it caused an initial outrage as women had never before led both genders in prayer. But this practice has caught on in some countries and is practiced regularly there. However, Islam is not as commercialised as Christianity because the religion remains an integral and spiritual part of life and is not considered worthless and over-rated.

To what extent has Christianity been commercialised already, and how much more can it withstand? It is easy to demand that the Catholic Church be more lenient and adjust its teachings and beliefs to suit our fast-

paced lifestyles. It is much harder to do this without seeming hypocritical and changing 2000 years of the same doctrine.

So, this is what the world faces: when we think of the Catholic Church we think of elderly men shuffling around with organ music playing in the background. But the truth is that Christianity has already lost a lot of its meaning. Softening opposition to issues like abortion, homosexual marriage and contraception would be dishonest and destructive to the Church's history and beliefs. Many people are comforted that the pope refuses to change his viewpoint and appeal to people who believe otherwise just to gain followers.

But people demand change. In France, 82% of people want priests to be able to marry, 82% demand that abortion is allowed in certain circumstances and only 19% condemn homosexuality. Does this not indicate that the Catholic Church's doctrine is outdated?

"The truth isn't popular – Christianity isn't popular or fun – but it's right and true," said one of the thousands of people gathered to watch the pope's inauguration. Isn't it true that we are all liberals at heart and follow whatever makes us feel good?

So, should we respect the Church's decision to reinforce its old doctrine or should we demand change? Condoms save lives, but if Christian teachings were to be followed strictly, HIV/AIDS could be eradicated as well. Do we need radical change, or faith? We all need to decide which of these viewpoints we want to advocate. We can not condemn people for thinking and feeling differently from us, because when considering it objectively, don't all religions fundamentally preach acceptance and understanding?

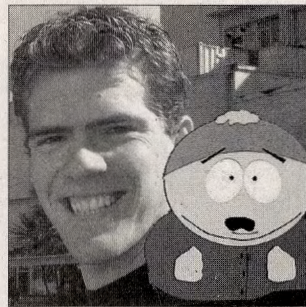


■ Dimitar Dobrev

What you said:

What is your favourite TV series and which character would you want to play?

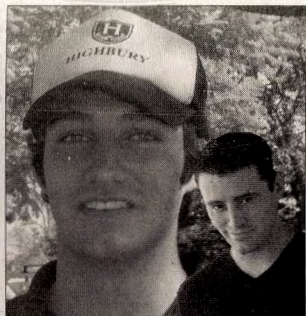
■ pics by Dan Claderwood and Jess Deckers



Glenn Wilkinson
3rd Year
BSC
Series: South Park
Character: Cartman



Noxee Maquila
1st year
BA
Series: All of us
Character: TJ



Rudy Glock
3rd Year
BA-Social Science
Series: Friends
Character: Joey



Ryan Govender
2nd Year
BA-Law
Series: The Simpsons
Character: Otto Mann



Tami Duncan
1st year
BJourn
Series: Friends
Character: Rachel

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The flip Side

Call it what you like, but racism is alive and well. It may not be as blatant as it was during apartheid, but it's there. The problem comes when trying to figure out just where *there* is. Two of the terms many people point to are 'oreo' and 'coconut'. Anthony Andrews and Angelo Fick present their points of view on the construction of racial identity.



■ Matt Middleton

■ Anthony Andrews

I have grappled with them my entire life – those piercing labels, those penetrating judgements that people sling off their lips so glibly, 'oreo', 'coconut'. But what do these labels actually mean? Well, according to the word on the street, 'oreos' are black people who talk and act like white people, who associate only with white people and who have abandoned their 'original black or coloured cultures'.

Often these people refuse to speak their mother tongue, opting rather for the perhaps more prestigious English language (speaking it with a distinctly white accent). In crude terms an 'oreo' is black on the outside and white on the inside.

These people, myself included, commonly come from former Model C schools, where most of the pupils were white and the environment was therefore dominated by the white culture. So, based on my accent, people often lasso me into this tight box. It is immediately assumed that I have forgotten my coloured culture and that I am trying to be white. That is not fair.

According to Professor Adendorff, professor of English Language and Linguistics, the terms 'oreo/coconut' are in themselves callous because they trivialise a person's identity. They oversimplify someone's personality by comparing him/her to a mundane biscuit. They imply that there is an ideal person and we, the 'oreos', have fallen short of the glory. "What we must realise is that people can't dictate the circumstances of their lives," says Adendorff. We were put into these environments as children and we naturally took on habits and mentalities that are often construed as being white. We cannot help these habits any more than someone who has grown up in a traditionally black or coloured

milieu can help being black; it is conditioning that has taken place from an early age.

Adendorff rightly pointed out that when it comes to matters of culture, things are rarely completely black and white. People do not lose their culture in the same way that they lose their virginity. And besides, I believe no culture is absolutely right (whatever that means) in all respects. I believe that all cultures have something good to offer and elements from a certain culture should not be dismissed simply because one was not born into that particular culture. This separatist mentality is born out of the days of apartheid when there were only four categories of people and they were clearly set out on identity documents: white, black, coloured or Indian. Those were the options and one dared not combine two separate ones.

There are, however, legitimate concerns that this 'oreo' phenomenon is raising in respect of the anglicisation of South Africans. Some contend that this is because English is seen to have more economic appeal and more social esteem than the other 10 official languages. Wait a minute, this trend is not only confined to 'oreos'. People of all colours and collars all around the world are marginalising their mother tongues for greener, richer English pastures. I am in no way advocating the abandonment of the other languages or cultures in our country; I still speak Afrikaans, and my mother still cooks curry, but I refuse to be inhibited by people's narrow definitions of who I should be on the frivolous basis of my skin colour. So, I will retain my culture – an option offered to me as a result of the long struggle for equality in South Africa – and I will enjoy our multi-cultural, multi-lingual heritage in our rainbow nation, regardless of the biscuit to which society compares me.

therefore less authentically Italian, Gabea a less exemplary Muslim, or Thando less truly South African? By whose authority, when and why do human beings become less authentically themselves, and in whose interest does such delegitimation function? Remember Kristallnacht.

Can one think of the novel as belonging to Jane Austen – and by some odd implication, to white people – given the work of James Baldwin? Is photography white art given the work of Rotimi Fani-Kayode? Is opera still the province of white artists with Barbara Hendricks and Sibongile Khumalo on stage? Is rugby white with Jeremy Guscott and Gobani Bobo on the field? Are they all 'coco nuts', or will they pass for Black subject to a rhythm-and-pencil authenticity test? Culture generally, and art specifically, refuses to be limited by something as narrow as 'race', but good art recognises that 'race', while not real, has real effects which cannot simply be wished away.

When Black subjects claim an authenticity of being which can be mapped using the contours of the body, we replicate the very structures of oppression Black people have resisted throughout modernity, and as such deny and undo the work of struggle that has marked our constitution as Black subjects. If the phenotype of the cultural worker determines my political relationship with the artefact or practice, I have learned nothing from the histories of 'race' and racism in modernity. The delight of culture is the inability of those who make it to control its multiple journeys. Let us accept that there are multiple ways of being Black, just as there are multiple ways of being human: not all of them are equally, legitimately politically progressive, but then neither are human beings.



■ Matt Middleton

■ A. C. Fick

Conversations about 'race' are often informed with commonsensical, ill-informed understandings of 'race'. Such talk can even be heard among students of the humanities and social sciences. People continue to make assumptions about the worth, competence, politics, ability and intelligence of human beings based on how they look, even as we acknowledge that 'race' is socially constructed rather than real, such that someone's skin colour is not necessarily a reliable indicator of (as if it ever could be) their 'race'.

Any discussion of 'Black authenticity' is necessarily invested in an essentialism which holds that one must be exactly what others see you to be: your skin colour must be an indicator of the language(s) you speak, your affinity for particular types of food, your work ethic (or lack thereof), your ability to dance, the music you like, your sense of time, etc. Such views either overtly propose or imply notions of 'race' purity, and are invested in pseudo-biological understandings of identity which prove untenable under close scrutiny. Witness the failure of the Nazis to separate adequately Aryans from non-Aryans, and of the Apartheid South African state to reliably tell Blacks from Whites such that it had to invent a plethora of racial terms to 'grade' subjects along a grid from 'pure' white to 'pure' black, only to realise that such a system inevitably allows spillage and migration from one category into another, destabilising the system of classification altogether. Cultures are dynamic, internally contradictory, and not all elements of a particular culture apply equally to all subjects claimed by that culture. Not all Italians have read Dante, not all Muslims speak Arabic and not all South Africans eat braai/veils: is Giovanni

How to get a life

Varsity is cool. You can get drunk on a regular basis, have as much sex as you want (with protection, of course) and maybe even do some work. But let's face it, it's probably fair to say that at least some of us will have to leave and get jobs one day. So, in the spirit of enterprise, here's how to get a life.



■ Alice Christerson

Our reasons for being students at Rhodes University all vary, but can basically be reduced to a general desire to obtain a degree, while collecting some raucous memories along the way. We feel exceptionally proud of ourselves for having gathered enough initiative to register for a course and the majority of us feel that this, together with handing in all our assignments on time, will guarantee us a job in a world that is completely detached from the isolated realm that is Grahamstown. However, with the job market in South Africa and the world at large becoming increasingly cut-throat, it is questionable as to whether a degree alone stands us in good stead to successfully pursue our career of choice.

Education, although still only accessible to an elite few, especially at a tertiary level, does by no means translate into instant employment. Although invaluable when it comes to gathering the skills that will qualify you for fulfilling the demands of whatever occupation you may go into, it should be seen as part of the greater process, which is career development. This process, according to Mervyn Wetmore, Career Adviser at the Rhodes Career Counseling Centre, needs to start as early as first year. This is necessary in order to ensure that by the time you start looking for a job, the foundations of basic career development are already in place, enabling you to compete successfully with other job-seekers. Wetmore explains that there are four strands that allow for the development of a successful career, namely: informed degree and subject choice, purposeful extramural involvement, regular work experience and career literacy and ongoing career research. While most of us are already in a position where we feel reasonably comfortable with the specific degrees and subjects we are pursuing, the other three strands of career development remain fairly foreign to us.

Both purposeful extramural involvement and regular work experience are beneficial in addition to dedicated study. This is because they allow for skills acquisition and development, making you far more appealing to future employers. Furthermore, they encourage self-awareness and personal growth, without which a degree becomes far less effective. Regular work experience gives you insight into possible future working environments, making you better equipped to decide in which areas of work you would finally like to specialise.

Gaining access to these working environments also makes it possible to begin initial networking. Even work experience that does not fall within your particular field of interest can be useful because it allows for the improvement of interpersonal skills. Career literacy and ongoing career research should be continuous and work together with the aim of acquiring knowledge and skills in a specific career. This is dependent on your being aware of your own interests and strengths, as well as areas for personal and career development.

In order to become career literate, it is necessary to investigate the range of possible job opportunities. In addition to this, it is necessary to be in a position to make career plans according to your own self-awareness and job knowledge. These plans will be

heavily dependent on a thorough understanding of how to draw up job search materials, such as CVs and cover letters, as well as how to present yourself in the interview. The career seminars and workshops run by Wetmore throughout the year offer all students the opportunity to improve their career literacy. They are dedicated to informing students of the best ways to go about finding vacation work, carrying out a job search, drawing up job search materials and conducting yourself in a job interview.

While successful management of the four strands of career development is fundamental to finding a job, it may not necessarily make you stand out from the crowd in the eyes of prospective employers. In order to achieve this, Wetmore suggests you do something unique within one of the career development strands. This could be anything from starting your own business to constructing your CV in an unusual way. In his article "Using Key Marketing Tools to Position Yourself on the Job Market", Randall S. Hansen, a published career expert in the USA, states that: "The most successful job-seekers are those who understand the value of marketing and apply to themselves those principles that companies have used for years to successfully sell their product."

By seeing yourself as a product, you will be able to examine what characteristics, features and skills you possess. Once you have established which aspects of your personality are most appealing, it is possible to most effectively promote yourself. The tools of promotion include anything which can be used to get a job interview and ultimately a job offer. Examples of promotion tools would be resumés, cover letters and phone calls, all of which can be used to market the appealing features that are specific to you.

The right kind of attitude can also get you surprisingly far. Thokozile Madonko, a Rhodes graduate who now works for the University as a researcher, recommends that a student "enjoy the process of developing a career". She points out that: "A prospective employer will be able to tell if a student

is really interested in their life rather than just getting a job." Furthermore, if a student is committed to pursuing, not just a job but a career, "any interview that they go for will be a learning experience for them". Rohitash Dhanan, a second year student who has already taken major steps in implementing the four strands of career development, believes it is "doing the little things right on a consistent basis that add up to building

a really strong base". He stresses that "what recruiters look for in a young graduate is initiative and eagerness to really do something different and make an impact, and if one has made the most of every available opportunity at University, it really does stand out".

While at Rhodes, much can be done over and above achieving academically in order to eventually succeed in the extremely competitive job market. Applying the four strands of successful career development is the first step that needs to be taken in order to establish a strong career basis. In addition to this, students need to learn how to market themselves successfully, as well as to take into account the numerous benefits to be reaped from a positive attitude. With all of this in place, there is very little that can stand in the way of Rhodes graduates in their pursuit of meaningful and stimulating careers.



Eye
In The
Sky

■ Andrew Whitfield

I believe it was the Channel 4 News Anchor Ron Burgundy, as played by Wil Ferrell, who once said, "when in Rome". Well, we aren't in Rome so Grahamstown will have to do for the meantime. It has been said that Grahamstown has the most breathtaking sunsets in the country; they have been known to bring a grown man to tears and weep like a little child. This is probably a good thing because if the eyes had no tears the heart would never have a rainbow and we couldn't have that now, could we?

In this beautiful world we are, however, confronted with some outrageous events that chill the bones and leave us in total and utter disbelief. Walking past our friendly neighbourhood burger joint I saw an advertisement for the local newspaper that read: "A weekend of rape, sodomy and murder." This makes people want to buy newspapers because we have this inherent curiosity for the sick happenings that go on in our world. Shock sells.

The world is a crazy mixed up place. People do things that we cannot explain and that leave us dumbstruck and depressed while we wallow in sadness. These events cut right to the core of everyone whether or not you had any affiliation with the victim. The world must have been a very different place when a good friend of mine, Louis Armstrong, sang *What a Wonderful World*. Don't get me wrong, the world does have its moments - rainbows, flowers and, of course, those breathtaking sunsets really do impress. However, the reality of it is that there are sick and twisted individuals out there that commit the most heinous crimes which result in Butler's having to order extra stocks of Valoid.

Gone are the days when you pull in to a Wimpy, grab a milkshake and read the happy news in the world. The minute you set your eyes on that paper, your milkshake tastes of sour lemons and that sick going-back-to-school feeling hits the pit of your stomach harder than Mohammed Ali's fist. Fear has found a place in society more than happiness. No one looks forward any more; it's more about looking over your shoulder wondering when and where the next violent act is going to take place. Everyday conversations are polluted with stories of bad people doing bad things. The usual, "did you see that cute fluffy bunny", is now replaced with, "did you hear about the guy who got shot in the head". Not a pleasant analogy, but I think you get my point. We can no longer hide away in our little utopias of security that we create to block out all the filth in the world. We have to face the reality of these crimes and at least try to find some sort of solution. The sad part is that violence is usually prevented by more violence, and we therefore live in a perpetual cycle in which violence is an inherent part of who we are.

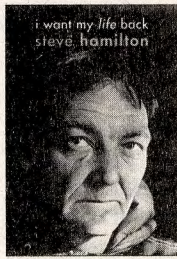
We cannot escape the craziness of the cycle so we pretend it doesn't happen, grab a bottle of Crackling and step into our world of denial. It's out there all around us and the more we deny it or ignore it, the worse it is going to get. But for now let us enjoy life. What else is there to do?

To paraphrase Burgundy, you stay groovy Grahamstown.



Reviews

Book

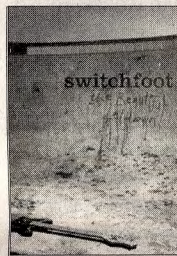


i want my life back - Steve Hamilton

■ Stacey-Leigh Shapiro

Steve Hamilton is a drug addict. He has been clean of street drugs for 12 years, but every day is a desperate battle against what his body craves so fiercely: drugs. *i want my life back* is the story of Hamilton's downward spiral into South Africa's elusive drug underworld. Hamilton spares the reader no detail and this story is by no means an attractive one. While we all think this will never happen to us, Hamilton provides us with enough evidence to show that it can. It is his experience as a drug addict, and not as a writer, which makes this story all the more powerful. A must-read for those who enjoy non-fiction and appreciate a raw and intimately honest read.

CD

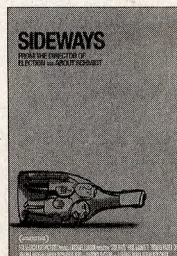


Switchfoot - The Beautiful Letdown

■ Anthony Andrews

Switchfoot is an outstanding rock band whose songs soar up the charts while going down like a cool drink on a hot day. They are a Christian band who made it onto the commercial scene after their smash hit single *Meant to Live*, and are still riding the wave of success with their third album. Their melodies lull you into a state of slight euphoria and dare you to sing along to the alternative rock motifs, while their lyrics, such as 'this is your life, are you who you ought to be,' are challenging statements about life and its purpose. Rock 'n roll is taken to a whole new level by Switchfoot with this album.

Movie



Sideways

■ Joni Els

The award-winning film, *Sideways*, directed by Alexander Payne (*Election* and *About Schmidt*), is a testament to the male mid-life crisis. We follow life-long friends Miles (Paul Giamatti), a struggling novelist, and Jack (Thomas Haden Church), who is an actor, through the Southern Californian wine region. Intent on celebrating Jack's last week of being a bachelor before he ties the knot, Miles plans to send Jack off in style: good wine, good food and golf, while all Jack is interested in is getting laid one last time. These differences of opinion reveal the pair's contrasting characters. This film might just leave you feeling a little sideways.

The Real Macoy – now on 5fm

■ Hayley Axford

If you love house music and you have been living in this town for longer than a few months, then the name 'The Real Macoy' will mean something to you. Mlungisi Dlukulu, otherwise known as Mlu, graduated from Rhodes University in April this year. Mlu will always be remembered for being the opening set for international and local DJs that played in Grahamstown, and he always stole the show.

After being an influential presenter on RMR and one of the resident DJs at The Suite, he left the compressing contours that define Grahamstown, and moved to Johannesburg in search of a job in radio – what he loves best. After a few weeks of interviews at various radio stations in and around Jo'burg, he went to the SABC offices to hand-deliver his CV and a demo tape. After a casual meeting with one of the 5FM producers, Mlu landed his first job as a sports reader for Dicksy Ncquula's weekend shows between 2pm and 5pm. With the experience he gained from working on RMR throughout his university career, he was able to meet the needs of the 5fm audience.

Mlu's vibrant personality and

distinctive laugh resulted in him being allocated his own show.

Hayley: What do you think of Jo'burg? Has living there changed you as a person and as a DJ?

Mlu: It's not like the coast, that's for sure. It's dry and concrete. They should have shot whoever wrote about how amazing the 'bright lights' of Jo'burg are. It's giving me new experiences in a bigger, more intense world, but it definitely hasn't changed me.

Hayley: So, what's it like working at 5FM?

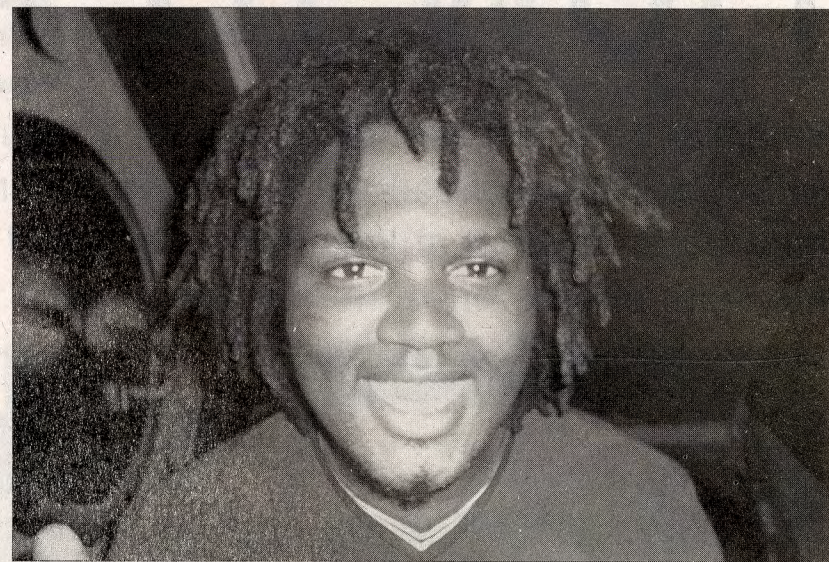
Mlu: I know it sounds clichéd, but it's a dream come true. I'm so glad it happened.

Hayley: How did you feel when you were given your own show?

Mlu: Wow. It's about doing something I love, but speaking to a bigger audience, so my influence is bigger too. I love it.

Hayley: What do you miss most about Grahamstown?

Mlu: I miss the people, the donkeys, which all happen in slow motion. Everything is so fast over here and it's



■ pic supplied

like people are going nowhere fast!

Hayley: Do you reckon that having been at Rhodes makes you different to everybody else?

Mlu: Yeah. Can everyone just chill the hell out over here! (laughs) I miss seeing people who don't feel the need to comb their hair or wear shoes. So, being a Rhodes student worked for me because I am a laid-back person. I'm a chilled out coastal boy.

Hayley: What plans do you have in the

pipeline?

Mlu: I don't have much control over the music I play at the moment, but I am hoping to get some more shows and just get into the Jo'burg gig environment. I want to bridge the gap in the type of music I want to play and just add in some new flavour.

'The Real Macoy' will be gracing Grahamstown in the next week or two and will be playing at The Suite shortly. Catch Mlu on 5fm on Mondays 1am to 4am.

Open the Day with music



■ pic supplied by the Musicology Department

■ Anya Van Wyk

The Rhodes Music Department will present its annual Open Day on May 21 to showcase the department's musical talents to the community. Traditionally, the open day was only for prospective music students to find out what the department had to offer, but it has now become a platform for musicians to strut their stuff.

In terms of variety, the musical spectrum will be well represented, with styles ranging from light jazz, Latin American and opera. Among the attractions will be an opera performed by Rhodes students and members of the Eastern Cape Opera Company.

"After listening to the voices of these musicians you will feel as if you are living in the days of Mozart," exclaimed a member of the opera company. A tribute to the music of Verdi, Offenbach, Lehar and Strauss forms a larger part of the repertoire, but the theme is the Viennese Age.

"The music is meant to schmeltz (melt) you," said the conductor. The energy and gaiety of Viennese party scenes are reflected in the lighter

music. The sway of the music is heard in the voices and seen in the expressive movement of the performers. Lifting sopranos lead some of the main melodies and are supported by rich altos and basses in a captivating symphony of voices.

This year's open day comes at a time when the music department is entering a new phase of its development. According to lecturer Juan Munoz, the department is currently improving its standard on a local and global level. "We are too isolated here," he said. Munoz and many of the lecturers plan to bring about this transformation by becoming more active in serving the community. He wants to increase numbers of those enrolling by involving more of the schools in the community, especially the township schools. His long-term ambition is 'to make music bring about growth'.

In addition, food and bargain CDs will be sold and activities for children are provided. So, come and support the department and enjoy the ambience created by the exceptional quality of music that Rhodes has to offer.

The Comedy Corner

Degrees of melancholy

Stand up comedians like to rant. So we've given them their own space. Introducing the Comedy Corner. This week **Brett Bruton** looks at study anxiety.

I sit now as I have many-a-night before and think to myself: "What the hell am I doing?" The small cursor blinks epileptically at me from the blank white void that is the page hovering on my computer screen, always remaining one step ahead of me as I chase it with words that can never really say anything.

They don't exist, you see? I can read them on the screen, or maybe even print them out onto a sheet of paper, but I'll never be able to touch them or hold them, never able to fully experience them. And so something of my self becomes forever lost to me, and it is with this melancholic epiphany that I refill

my wine glass, lean back in my chair and think to myself: "Shit, my degree is screwing me up."

I think that every student experiences that moment of self-doubt and anxiety. The only thing that changes from person to person is the amount of time that elapses between arriving at university and finding yourself curled up in the foetal position behind your desk, your thumb in your mouth and the other hand in your pants, sobbing for your mother and longing for the days when the only things you had to worry about were not getting caught eating your gran's medication and not pooping yourself when guests were present. It took me three years.

I study a BFA. That's a Bachelor of Fuck-All for those of you out of the loop. Will it ever get me rich? I doubt it. Will it better my life? I just spent the last three months studying how my existence is pointless and that everything is already lost to me, so I guess that's a no. But does it make me happy? Yes. If you could take a step back and consider what you have accomplished and find even a spark of pride or happiness in something you have produced, then all is not lost. So Kristeva can stick her theory of melancholia where the sun doesn't shine and Walter Benjamin can take his notion of allegory, roll it and smoke it. I already have. I feel much better.

Dr Rath and the vitamins that could

■ Claire Nellson, Delia de Villiers and Bianca Camminga

In Germany it could cure cancer, in America it was going to change the face of heart disease and now in Africa, it's the miracle answer to HIV/AIDS. Vitacor, the new wonder vitamin from the Dr Rath Health Foundation has found its way to South Africa, much to the dismay of the Treatment Action Campaign (TAC). Strangely, the South African Minister of Health, Dr Manto Tshabalala-Msimang, can see no wrong when it comes to the claims of Aids denialist and discredited vitamin seller Dr Matthias Rath on the wonders of multivitamins.

The German-born Dr Rath, founder of the Dr Rath Health Foundation, is a controversial campaigner for the use of natural remedies. According to their website, the foundation "researches the benefits of micronutrients in the treatment of diseases like cancer". Recently, Dr Rath has turned his attention to Africa and the HIV/AIDS pandemic, claiming that multivitamins alone can cure HIV and AIDS, and that anti-retroviral drugs are toxic.

South Africa is not the first place where Rath has caused a stir. In the UK in 2000, the British Advertising Standards Authority upheld a complaint against claims in a Matthias Rath Ltd. newsletter which stated that the company's vitamins could prevent heart attacks, strokes, high blood pressure and other conditions mentioned in the newsletter. In South Africa, Dr Rath has not only locked horns with the TAC, but also the Advertising Standards Authority of South Africa (ASASA). The TAC and the Democratic Alliance (DA) have called on the Medicine Control Council (MCC) to take action against Rath's company's claim to cure Aids.

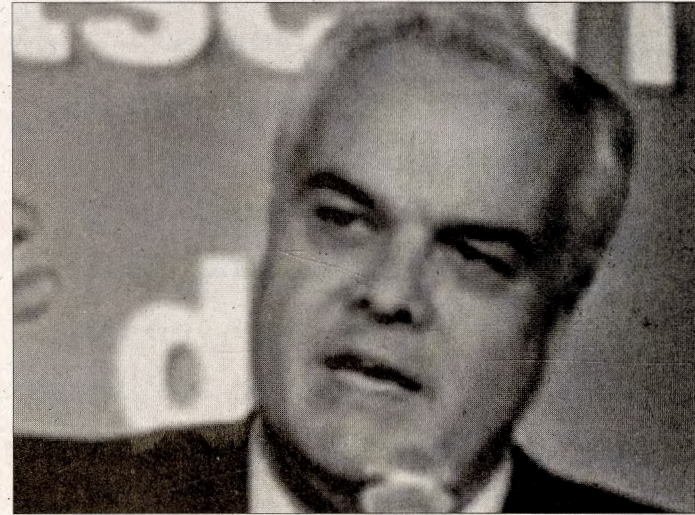
According to the TAC's constitution, their main objective is to campaign for equal access to affordable treatment for all people with HIV/AIDS. It aims specifically to "challenge any barrier or obstacle that limits access to treatment for HIV/AIDS". The last few months have seen deliberate attempts by the Rath

Foundation to undermine the work of the TAC. According to the TAC, the Rath Foundation has purposefully tried to re-invent HIV denial and undermine the treatment of people who need anti-retrovirals. The TAC also claims that the Rath Foundation exploits vulnerable people in an attempt to sell their products. Other organisations that have condemned the Rath road show include the World Health Organisation (WHO), Unaid, Doctors Without Borders, the SA Medical Society and the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu).

Over the last few years, several studies have been carried out to investigate the role of micronutrient supplements in the combating of the HIV/AIDS disease. The results of these studies have been inconclusive. In turn, the WHO and Unaid have both maintained similar recommendations for micronutrient supplementation for all people, whether they are infected with HIV or not. The three United Nation organisations are extremely concerned about these misrepresentations and note that the Rath Foundation uses quotes and information from UN agencies out of context. According to the UN, misrepresentation of this sort is both dangerous and unhelpful.

In addition to this, the Rath Foundation has accused the TAC of being a drug front for the pharmaceutical industry. TAC members are concerned that people who need to continue antiretroviral treatment will no longer do so because of Rath's claims. The TAC claim that Rath's "false claims" are being spread through posters and pamphlets in areas like Khayelitsha, Guguletu and Nyanga and causing confusion among people in poor communities who are desperate for help.

The TAC has since taken the matter to the ASASA. Rath has responded by defaming the ASASA in newspapers like *The Sowetan* as also being a drug company front.



Dr Matthias Rath founder of the Rath Health Foundation ■ pic supplied

The TAC claims they also has evidence that Rath is conducting illegal experiments on people and is not registered with the Health Professionals Council of South Africa (HPCSA). The HPCSA has reportedly laid a case with the police, but the case is not progressing. The TAC is now asking the government to stop Rath from defaming them. However, in contradiction to government policy, Dr Tshabalala-Msimang is allegedly supporting Rath. In an interview with *Business Day*, the minister said the Rath Foundation "is not undermining government's position - if anything, they are supporting it. Our own programme talks about vitamins and micronutrients."

Former Education Minister Kadar Asmal may have offered the perfect response in support of the TAC. He commented that "this kind of quackery deserves the old Afrikaans response: voetsak".

Fear of clinics hampers fight against Marburg



■ pic supplied by bbc.co.uk

■ Gretel Lopez Gomez

The Marburg disease outbreak in Angola has already claimed the lives of approximately 269 people, and the death toll is rising. There is no known cure and yet, since the beginning of the outbreak, the number of patients in hospitals and clinics has decreased drastically. Due to its fatal status, most of the patients quarantined in hospitals are never seen again. This has earned the hospitals a bad reputation. As a result of this, many families decide to keep their sick relatives at home and pursue other remedies and the advice of local healers, while unintentionally allowing the virus to continue spreading.

The outbreak started in Uige in October last year, but was first thought to be malaria, a common sickness in Angola, since their initial symptoms are similar. The symptoms of Marburg normally appear within five to 10 days of infection. The first signs are fever, headaches, pain in

muscles and joints, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pains and diarrhoea. After approximately 10 days, massive bleeding ensues through any corporal orifice, including the eyes and gums.

Dr Heinz Feldmann, a specialist in virology, explained to the *New York Times*: "It is a misconception that Marburg victims bleed to death. They actually die from shock as fluid leaks out of their blood vessels, causing blood pressure to drop. There is no specific treatment, but more patients would probably survive if they could get the kind of intensive care available in developed countries."

The virus was discovered in 1967, when a number of scientists, who had been working with African green monkeys from Uganda, died. Over the years, several outbreaks of the Marburg virus have occurred. It is a disease native to Africa although it is still unknown which area it comes from. Scientists are not even sure whether

humans or animals are the hosts. In humans, the virus is transmitted through contact with bodily fluids. The period of incubation ranges from five to 15 days and the virus multiplies very quickly once inside the body.

The majority of the cases reported are from Uige, where several national and international groups are tenaciously trying to control the worst outbreak of this virus ever recorded. The World Health Organization (WHO), Doctors Without Borders and the United States Centre for Disease Control and Prevention are among the agencies trying to combat the spread of the virus. In a country like Angola, which has a high percentage of illiteracy, a vast number of sicknesses and deaths are attributed to witchcraft. Marburg is not viewed any differently. The appearance of figures in white bio-suits, a colour traditionally associated with witchcraft in Uige, has caused suspicion among the local inhabit-

ants.

The medical workers have had to remove the bodies of the dead as quickly as possible, preventing traditional burial rights from being performed. To make matters worse, the efforts of the health workers are being perceived as being ineffective since they cannot prevent the deaths. Some aid groups have been attacked with stones or have had to retreat from mobs armed with sticks.

At present, the Angolan government is informing its citizens about the Marburg virus via TV, radio and newspaper. The population is being educated about preventative measures and what should be done if a relative is suspected of being infected. The measures taken by the government and the efforts of the international agencies are making a dent, but it seems that this will be an ongoing uphill battle against impoverishment, illiteracy, fear and tradition.



■ cartoon by Dimitar Dobrev

The thievery you don't see

■ Ngabomzi Bikitsha

African history is steeped in pillaging and plundering of our natural resources. As if colonial looting was not enough, exploitation has now transformed into the looting of African artefacts. All across the African continent, museums, art galleries and universities are being robbed of their artworks. These artefacts include stone figures, brass and bronze sculptures, masks and paintings. Within a couple of months of their disappearance, they resurface on the lucrative US and European stolen art market.

In the last 20 years, Nigeria seems to have suffered the most, with hundreds of artefacts being looted from institutions and sold in Western countries. Poverty, political conflict and the West's ever-growing enthusiasm for all things African are the main fac-

tors which contribute to Africa being vulnerable to art theft. When there is political unrest in a country, it is easy for smugglers to ransack valuable art. The world market for stolen art is estimated to be about \$4.5 billion and Africa accounts for 10% of that figure.

South Africa's very own Standard Bank Art Gallery, situated in Johannesburg, has been broken into on a regular basis and valuable national and international pieces have disappeared from the public eye. One of the predominant problems regarding art theft in South Africa is that it is seldom reported and consequently it becomes difficult to catch the culprits. Famous South African artists such as George Pemba have had their work removed from gallery displays by members of international syndicates who perceive Africa as an easy target.

Africa In Focus



■ Lindsey Berry

Full Name: Republic of Angola

Capital City: Luanda

Population: 14.5 million

Languages: Portuguese, and over 60 other Bantu-group languages

Head of State: President José Eduardo dos Santos

Quirky Fact: Angola has only one daily newspaper which is state-owned

The Breakfast on the Verge show, presented by VErge and Janelle on RMR, hosted a 26 hour show, called The VErgin challenge on the 25th of April 2005. The purpose of the challenge was to aid the Grahamstown Feeding Association, which operates three soup kitchens in town. RMR is pleased to announce that a grand total of R2500 was raised and urges you to take up the challenge, make a difference to your community today.

pics by
Lauren Clifford-Holmes

Tel 046 6227787

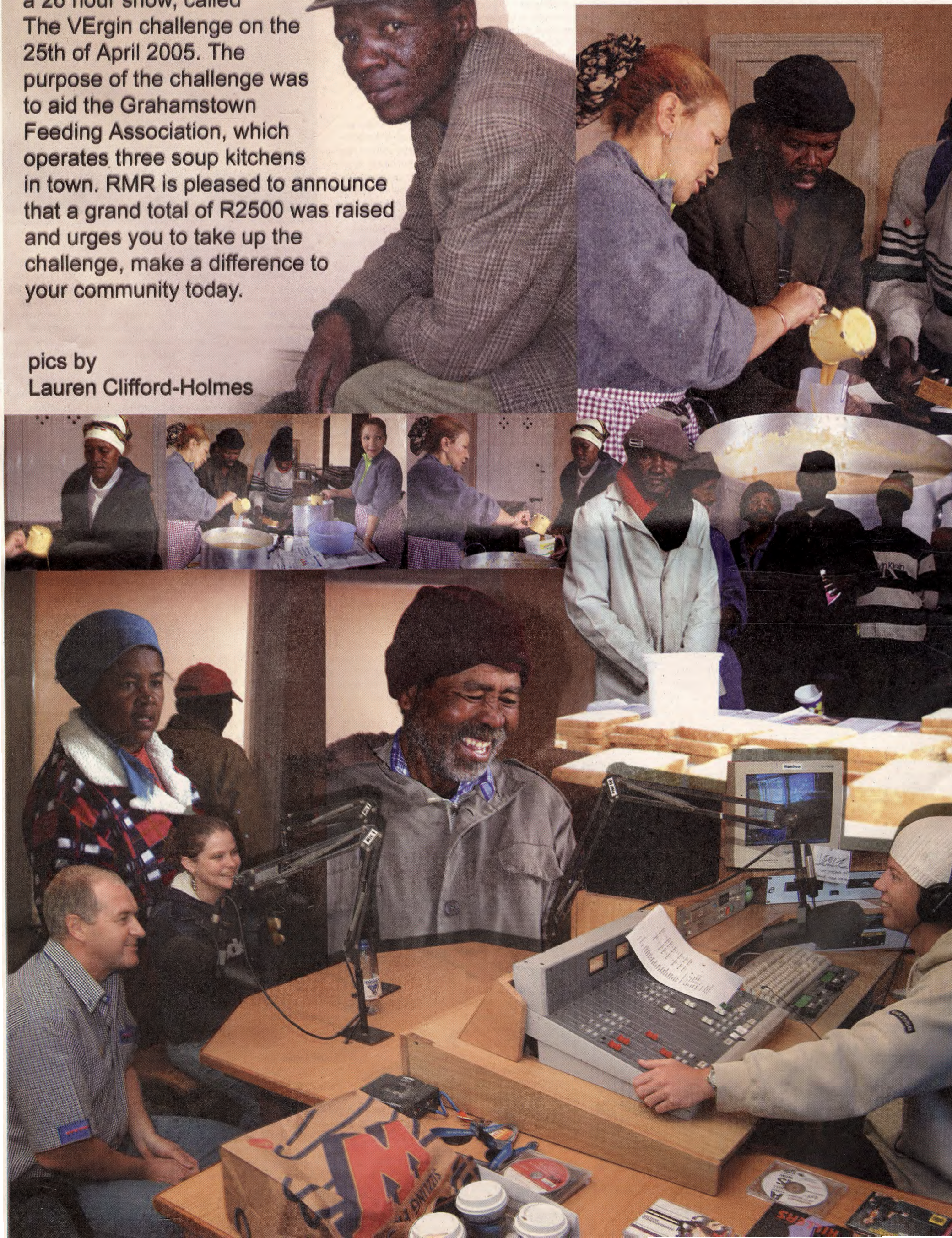
FOTO FIRST

1
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FUJIFILM

If you're serious about quality



Canoeing club contributes to community

■ Pip Mortlock

The Rhodes Canoeing Club (RUCC) was established in 2003 by Tom Mapham. The sport is generally difficult to get into for several reasons: the first being accessibility and the lack of public advertising, especially in the Eastern Cape. The equipment used is expensive and easily damaged. Transport and the amount of time required for training are also problems. The aim at the beginning of 2003 was to take canoeing in Grahamstown from merely being an elitist sport, to making it more accessible to the general members of the University and the

greater community. The club also decided to take the sport to the younger, poorer members of the Grahamstown society, and in 2004 organised an event with the orphanage. The day was more of a fun outing than a possible future development for the sport. Unfortunately, the orphans that went canoeing were too young and no further developments stemmed from that day. On April 27, the club took 25 orphans, all older than 12, to Settler's Dam in Tomas Bains Nature Reserve. Eight members of the canoeing club,

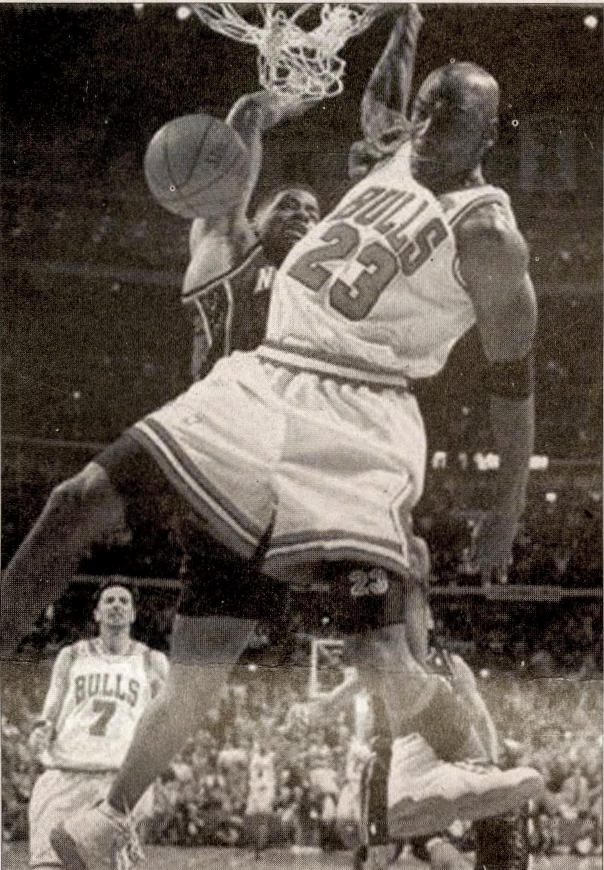
armed with paddles, canoes, life jackets and excited children got the day under way at mid-morning. Four stable polar bats were used for individual paddlers. The members present took the kids out paddling in double canoes and kept a close eye out for any problems. The day ran smoothly and the children seemed to enjoy it. It did not take long to identify two paddlers who had a degree of competency. It is the club's aim to nurture the better paddler over the next few months, get him on to a gym programme and paddling regularly with a member of the club.

The Fish Canoe marathon takes place at the beginning of October and RUCC hopes to have a member of the orphanage paddling for them. Once the excitement of falling in, swimming, getting their balance and racing their friends was over, they rounded the day off with a braai and games. In the end, the club hopes that it was a day for the orphans to remember. More importantly for the sport, however, is to give a disadvantaged youth the opportunity to paddle down the Fish River and change his life forever.

Running with the Bulls

■ Rob Boffard

The last Chicago Bulls basketball team that made it to the National Basketball Association (NBA) playoffs, in 1996, was labelled the greatest team in history by some commentators. This was the team of Michael Jordan, Scotty Pippen and the utterly bizarre Dennis Rodman. This was the team with the lightning-quick Toni Kukoc and the mountain that was the Australian Luc Longley. In short, this was one hell of a team to go up against. Since then, the team which even those who hated basketball knew, has fallen on hard times. All the key players left. Phil Jackson, the inspirational coach who had led the team to six finals victories, resigned due to management difficulties - he went on to take the Los Angeles Lakers to three championship victories. The Bulls' management indulged themselves in building a team of inexperienced rookies that couldn't handle the hard-nosed offence of teams like the Lakers, the Philadelphia 76ers and the awesome New Jersey Nets. More importantly, no-one could or would coach them; in the past five years, three coaches have tried, and all three have failed. The Bulls sunk to the bottom of the league like a stone. But, in a moment that will stay with Bulls fans forever, they came back from the brink. For the first time in 10 years, the Chicago Bulls have made the playoffs, the series of games that eliminate the contenders for the finals. This is a sweet, sweet victory in itself, one that has been earned through hard work, trial and error and lots of frustration. The gritty, experienced coach Scott Skiles has managed to form a team that, while it may have its fair share of rookies, is a force to be reckoned with. Led by the tough forward Tyson Chandler and held up by players such as Chris Duhon and Sudanese Luol Deng, the Bulls are already two games up in their six-game first round clash with the Washington Wizards. Unfortunately, it's true that by the time you read this, the Bulls may have been eliminated from the playoffs. By all accounts, they don't yet have the experience and depth of play to make it past teams such as the Shaquille O'Neal-



Jordan may be gone, but the spirit of the Bulls lives on
 ■ pic supplied
 backed Miami Heat and hard-as-nails Detroit Pistons. However, the fact that they made it this far is reason enough to celebrate. The Bulls are back. They may not have veteran or legendary players in their line-up, but they do have history behind them. Even if they get knocked out, there is still a chance that, in the next few years, history might just repeat itself.

Rhodes runners fare well in the Settlers Marathon

■ Jenna Viljoen

On Saturday April 30, Clover Settlers Ultra Marathon took place over a distance of 60km. The race was hosted by the Kowie Striders and sponsored by Coca Cola, Clover and Powerade. The 60km race commenced from Hoerskool PJ Olivier and proceeded to wind towards Bathurst passing Manley Flats Cricket Club and Bloukrans Pass. The 21.1km half marathon began at 8am for runners and 7am for walkers in Bathurst. The cut-off time for the half marathon was 11am while those running the ultra marathon had a cut-off time of 1:40pm after starting from Grahamstown at 6am. There was a good turnout even though only those who were 20 years

and older who were allowed to compete in the ultra marathon. For those doing the half marathon, the minimum age requirement was 16. These limitations were due to the considerable strains which the race places on the body, and to free the Kowie Striders from any responsibility should an injury have occurred. Parental consent was required for runners under 21. A substantial number of prizes were awarded at the Port Alfred Country Club, with the first man and woman in the 60km race each winning R1000. Gold medals were awarded to the first five finishers, silver to the next 95 and bronze to everyone who crossed the line before the cut-off time.

Top four Rhodes finishers in each race:

21.1km	60km:
Nathan Helming - 1:36:27	James Ferguson 5:30:27
Garyn Rapson - 1:42:05	Matt Gibb 5:43:09
Sylvester Appollis - 1:42:44	Michael Irwin 6:22:48
Garreth Young - 1:43:27	Greg Pienaar 6:22:48

RHODES UNIVERSITY CAMPUS PROTECTION UNIT

Applications are invited from Rhodes University students, who should at least have successfully completed their second year of study, for posts in the Campus Protection Unit from as early a date as possible:

STUDENT CYCLE PATROL

The Campus Protection Unit is looking to employ 16 students on a rotational basis to assist with safety and security on the University Campus.

The students, who will be provided with bicycles and two-way radios, will patrol the campus in teams of four, from 21h00 to 04h00 on a rotational basis, involving some three nights per week. The areas will be confined to the campus and will involve mostly Prince Alfred Street and the area between the Main Administration Building and St Peter's Campus.

- The Student Patrol Unit will primarily be required to**
- assist in providing a visible security presence;
 - report conflict situations to the Control Room operator;
 - report and record acts of vandalism to University property.
- Candidates, who should be physically active and energetic, will be required to demonstrate the following attributes/skills:**
- sound conflict management skills with a high level of assertiveness and the ability to make sound, fair and timely decisions
 - excellent communication skills with the ability to communicate with both peers and superiors and with good listening skills
 - stress management skills
 - ability to deal with diversity

Students on academic probation are not eligible to apply for these positions.

Application forms are available from the Recruitment & Selection Section, Room 223, Main Administration Building, Rhodes University. Completed applications should be returned to Recruitment & Selection by 12 noon on 22 May 2005.

Exchanging boots for clipboards

■ Kysle Andrews

Recently in South African rugby there has been a spate of ex-players becoming coaches, with some examples being Rassie Erasmus, Chester Williams and Dick Muir. Williams is the coach of the Cats Super 12 team, Erasmus coaches the Free State Cheetahs in the Currie Cup and Dick Muir is saddled with the unenviable task of coaching the Sharks. One has to wonder if such a career switch is wise. In an era of hi-tech coaching, South Africa finds itself far behind other big rugby nations when it comes to coaching techniques. Sir Clive Woodward proved that intensive post-match analysis, dedicated research of your opposition and superior tactics is what wins the big matches. Placing the stars of yesteryear in charge of teams, merely because they were great players in their prime, is no longer good rugby sense. To expect amateur era players to be able to adapt to modern coaching patterns is optimistic. Jake White, the current Springbok coach, has done more than anyone else to modernise South African rugby - and he never played serious rugby after his youth. Instead, he learned the skills required by the modern coach: man management, opposition assessment, the ability to motivate and delegate responsibilities to his team. Most ex-player/coaches have been out of the game for a while and, while they try to stay up-to-date, the constant change and evolution of rugby has left them far behind. Their inability to evolve with the game has let South African teams down on numerous occasions. At age group level we are one of the top two nations in the world. South Africa's victory in the International Rugby Board under-19 World Cup proves this, but while we continue to create



Persistence and optimism: Jake White
 ■ pic supplied by supersport.co.za
 exciting talent, our Super 12 teams get clobbered each year, a further reflection on the poor coaching techniques used. What was considered good coaching a half decade ago is now archaic. The ability of ex-players to bring something new to the game and deviate from what they were taught is for the most part questionable. Influence of ex-players on current players should not, however, be underestimated. The experience of the likes of Erasmus should not be lost to the game. In specialist positions this experience could have a maturing effect on younger players. Ideally, ex-players should be placed in coaching structures under modern coaches like Jake White. South Africa is striving to regain its premier position in international rugby. An ex-player, like Nick Mallet, is a good example of someone who takes us a little closer to this goal. A successful future lies in the hands of coaches who can understand and evolve with the modern game.

Taekwon-Do-what?



Matt Esof (left) demonstrates the form and technique which characterise the art of Taekwon-Do

■ Elle Blignaudt

Walking into the Dojo at Mullins Hall on a Monday or Wednesday between 5:30pm and 7pm might send a non-Taekwon-Do-er into what seems the 'twilight zone'.

However, for the students under the instruction of Matt Esof, terms like saji guri gi, solar plexus and hiro form part of typical conversations. In the same way that we are ignorant of these terms, there are many misconceptions regarding the physical sport founded in Korea.

After listening to some of the gallant stu-

dents studying the 'way of the hand and foot' (Taekwon-Do in English) the following facts were revealed: Orrin Snelgar, one of the senior students, says Taekwon-Do "is not all about jumping, flying kicks...that's just one part of it. There are many aspects to the sport." James Harris, another student who has been involved in Taekwon-Do for several years, says: "In this day and age it's good to have Taekwon-Do to keep safe and defend yourself."

Breathing techniques are crucial to Taekwon-Do. Mpumi Dubea, a classmate of Harris,



■ Elle Blignaudt

explains that these breathing exercises "need to be performed in conjunction with the martial arts technique".

This brings us to another common misconception regarding Taekwon-Do: that it is dominated by men. This was proved wrong by Jennifer Hislop who has been doing the sport for five years and has already attained a blue belt. She is currently the highest ranked student in the Taekwon-Do class.

Esof says mistaken beliefs regarding his favourite sport come from the Olympics. "People

base their ideas on what they see there because it's better known. Looking at Olympic style of Taekwon-Do, it's weak. Taekwon-Do is not completely focused on sports; it's very practical self-defence as well."

Esof started Taekwon-Do at age 10 and has been in love with it since. "You get everything: fitness, self-defence and mental security. It's the complete package."

He is hoping to travel to Australia in July this year to compete in the World Taekwon-Do Championships.

The fastest thing on no legs

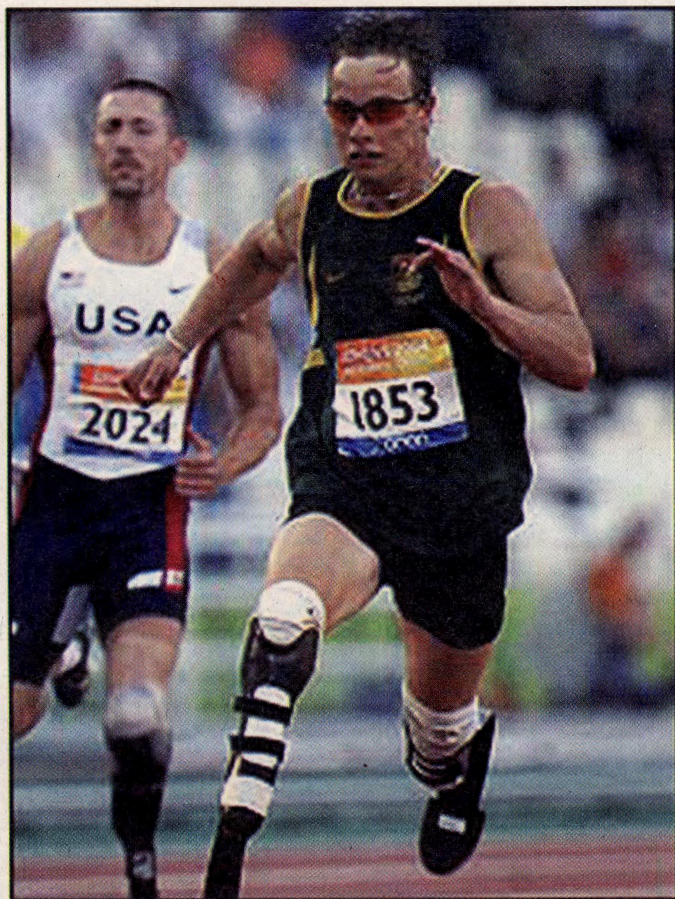
■ Philippa Francis

Pretoria schoolboy Oscar Pistorius is hoping to achieve great things when he participates in the Visa Paralympic World Cup in Manchester from May 12-15.

Pistorius became the new wonderkid in the world of athletics when he broke the 200m sprint world record in 21.97 seconds at the Athens Paralympics last year. As a young child, both of Pistorius' legs were amputated below the knee as a result of a congenital disorder that left him without a fibula in each leg. He does not, however, believe that he is at all disabled and says: "I just don't have any legs."

In February this year, the Pretoria Boys High matriculant participated in his first important able-bodied race at the Absa Series meeting in Potchefstroom. Here, he broke his own 200m record for below-the-knee amputees. He will make history again after the Manchester Games when he runs the 400m in an IAAF Grand Prix in Helsinki in June. He will be the first Paralympic athlete to compete in such an event.

Always an avid sportsman at school, participating in rugby, tennis and waterpolo, South Africa's sprinting sensation was introduced to athletics only in January 2004 and has not looked back since. In March of the same year, he ran the 200m in 24.8 seconds. This was improved to 21.97



Pistorius: a powerhouse in both body and mind

■ pic supplied

seconds in September at the Athens Olympics.

The 18-year-old is delighted when people speak of him as "the fastest thing on no legs". Considering that the world record for the 200m is 19.32 seconds, this statement is not far off. His goal for the next few years is to participate in both the Paralympics and Olympics in 2008 in Beijing, China. Pistorius is just over two seconds behind the qualify-

ing time for the South African team, but is confident. "I have three-and-a-bit years to find an extra two and a bit seconds."

According to the 100m world record holder, Marlon Shirley, Pistorius steps 49 times in 100m "which is right up there with the guys in the Olympics". If Pistorius does manage to qualify, he will surprise all international federations to become the first athlete with prosthetic legs to compete in the Games.

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