



RHODES UNIVERSITY

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FOR HISTORICAL RESEARCH

STAFF NEWSLETTER

# RHODOS

16 MAY, 1997  
VOL 9 NO 8

## Let's drink to that . . .

The Vice-Chancellor officiated at a cocktail function last week when seven staff members who have recently been awarded higher degrees were presented with Alty Awards.

Here (from left) Mrs L McKinnell, Ms S A Hunt, Miss N Heynderickx and Mr M A Carklin pose with Dr David Woods (centre).

Drs S E Radloff, H van der Mescht and T F Cunningham were recognised for their recent PhDs and we hope to run their photograph in a later edition.



## Positive reception for Rhodes in UK

Back from an action-packed two weeks in the United Kingdom, the Vice-Chancellor Dr David Woods (see *Rhodos* 2 May) reported on a "remarkably positive" reception from the many UK companies whose senior executives he and the Rhodes team met. Dr Woods said, "In many cases, we were making contact with people who had not previously known anything about Rhodes, and as we were treading on virgin territory, we had a marvellous opportunity to turn people into keen supporters. I have no doubt that, over time, Rhodes will reap tremendous benefit from the start we made during this trip."

Dr Woods and other members of the 'UK team' (Aletta de Villiers, Charlotte Woods and Jane Dickson) met with chief executives and

other senior representatives of a wide range of organisations during the 10-day period.

Some 35 appointments with prospective funding partners had been arranged by our London representative (Old Rhodian Jane Dickson) and Aletta de Villiers, Director of Marketing and Communications.

"Organisation was meticulous, down to the length of time each tube journey would take to get us from one appointment to the next," said Dr Woods, "and, with a schedule as hectic as ours, this was a godsend."

In addition to the formal meetings, dozens of valuable contacts were made, to be followed up on future visits to the UK, through telephone calls and at a range of social functions.

A cocktail party for about 35 top UK businessmen was

hosted by the Chancellor, Dr Gavin Relly, at the London headquarters of the Anglo American Corporation, leading to some valuable new friends for Rhodes. A dinner at the historic *Cafe Royal*, organised by OR Mike Chapman (son of Mrs Jean Chapman and lookalike of his late father Prof Chappie Chapman) brought together a

select group of Old Rhodians who have reached the top of their professions in the highly competitive international environment and gave Dr Woods a receptive audience to whom he was able to put across the Rhodes message.

Dr and Mrs Woods were also guests at the very successful Old Rhodian

*continued on page 2*

### EXHIBITION OF DRAWINGS

**BY G. COUTOUVIDIS****Rhodes Art  
School****Somerset  
Street**

19 May to 23 May: 8.30 am — 4.00 pm  
8.00 pm — 10.00 pm  
24 May and 25 May: 9.00 am — 1.00 pm



## Letters to The Editor



### Ball disappointing

The Editor,

I would like to express my disappointment in the grad ball, which was a good party, thanks to long lost friends and fun, but no thanks to the food, the wine or the seating arrangements.

We arrived to find that there were three places too few on our table, and we had to wait while another table was found before we could all sit down. I had ordered two bottles of red wine, only to be told that there was no red wine left when I got to the bar.

The moral of this story must be that the early bird catches the worm or, you snooze, you lose, but one does not expect this to happen at a ball that tickets have been booked for. The third complaint is that the food was very mediocre (tough beef and overdone beans) and there was not enough of it. I also expected more than tinned fruit for R 150,00 (the cost of the ticket). These complaints were echoed by everyone whom I spoke to.

I find it very disappointing that the highlight of the grad weekend for many was spoilt by bad organisation and I hope that the grad committee will take note of these problems so that they don't happen again next year.

Brigid Martin

*This letter was referred to the Chairman of the Graduation Ball Committee, who replies thus:*

The Editor,

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to Ms Martin's comments concerning the Graduation Ball.

Ms Martin, I share your regret that aspects such as the catering turned out as they did at the 1997 Ball.

I can assure you that the catering, in particular, was not as envisaged and that this matter has been taken up with the caterer. Moreover, the whole complex question of how the Graduation Ball (for ever-increasing numbers) should be structured, run (and costed) and in particular catered for is currently being revisited.

Any constructive suggestions will be most welcome and should be sent to the Graduation Ball Committee, c/o the Examinations Office.

Andrew Cook

Rhodes invites correspondence on matters of concern to the University community which will indicate the wide spectrum of views held and will promote further discussion.

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

## Card catalogue moved

The old card catalogue which has listed the Rhodes Library's holdings for many decades has been moved from the Ground Floor of the Main Library to the Top Floor Landing. This move has released much needed space on the overcrowded Ground Floor and will encourage Library users to consult the On-Line Public Access Catalogue [OPAC] before attempting to use the card catalogue.

The Author/Title sequence has been refiled in its new location and can be consulted by Library Users. Any problems experienced should be reported to the Library staff. We apologise for the difficulties of access in the first term of this year which were caused by the need to move the actual cards in certain sections of the catalogue.

Users of the card catalogue should note it was closed in late 1990 and that no new records have been added since that date, nor have errors

been corrected while some records have been withdrawn. Material which has been acquired since about 1980 has been catalogued for the OPAC. Older material which has circulated since late 1990 and certain other categories of older material has also been added to OPAC. The card catalogue tends to be useful for older, infrequently borrowed material only. It should be used with caution and in conjunction with the OPAC. Library staff will offer assistance where it is needed.

Some of the subsidiary sequences of the card catalogue have been made redundant by the process of catalogue change and will be taken out of use. This could leave a number of catalogue card cabinets without a use in the Main Library. These are wooden, contain about 25 drawers on average and in most cases stand on their own legs. If any section of the University has a use for such cabinets they should approach the University Librarian.

J M Berning

### Positive reception for Rhodes in UK

*continued from page 1*

reunion held for the first time at South Africa House in Trafalgar Square. Organised by Jane Dickson, this was attended by some 150 Old Rhodians, the largest reunion held in the UK for many years. "It was interesting to hear many of our alumni comment that it was the first time they had ever set foot in SA House, although many of them told me they were very familiar with the outside during their youthful protest years in London," said Dr Woods.

The groundwork and legalities towards establishing the Rhodes UK Charitable Trust were completed between Aletta de Villiers and OR Donald Pearce-Crump of

BDO Stoy Hayward during the trip. Once registered with the authorities the Trust will be a tax-efficient channel for funding to reach Rhodes. Old Rhodians of the stature of Dr Allan Gray (Chairman of Orbis Investment Advisory Ltd.), Michael Chapman (Managing Director of BMO Nesbitt Burns International) and retired attorney Pearce Roodt have been invited to become trustees.

Dr and Mrs Woods will be leaving for a similar visit to the United States this weekend, which will take them to New York, Pittsburgh and Washington DC and which will include an Old Rhodian Reunion at Providence, Rhode Island.

### Staff pub open tonight!

Dave's Den will be open tonight (May 16th). Staff members and their guests are invited to join their colleagues after work, from 17:00.





# President of Constitutional Court honoured

In thanking Rhodes University for the honour which was later to be bestowed upon him, the President of the Constitutional Court of South Africa, Mr Justice Arthur Chaskalson, said that he would receive the Degree of Doctor of Laws (*honoris causa*) as a tribute to the Court itself and the value of its work in upholding the constitution.

While addressing some 240 graduands, their families and friends, he urged them to go forward into their careers with a commitment to making into realities, the aspirations set in the constitution.

He reminded his audience that these include commitments to heal the divisions of the past and establish a society based on democratic values, social justice and fundamental



Arthur Chaskalson (right) after the East London graduation ceremony at which he received his Honorary Doctorate. With him are, from left, Judge R J W Jones, Chairman of the Rhodes Council, the Vice-Chancellor, Dr David Woods and the Vice-Principal, Dr M A Smout.

human rights; to lay the foundations for a democratic and open society in which government is based on the will of the people and every citizen is protected by law

and to improve the quality of life of all citizens, among others.

"The challenge facing us as a nation is to develop our country and its human and

material resources so that we may one day be able to say that the values of our constitution have been realised", he said.

## Observatory named for former student

At the beginning of the Graduation weekend last month the Rhodes Astronomy and Ham Radio Society (ASTROSOC), played host to the Chancellor and Mrs Relly, the Vice-Chancellor and Mrs Woods and the Registrar and Mrs Fourie, amongst several other dignitaries and guests, when its rooftop observatory was named for Mr Simon Walsh.

Mr Walsh, who graduated the following day and is now teaching in Zimbabwe, is a former Chairman of the Society.

The current incumbent, Belinda Walwyn, said that it was with pride that ASTROSOC had been able to recognise Mr Walsh's contribution to the Society and the University in this way. "It is largely through Mr Walsh's initiative and boundless energy that we have this facility today, of which we can all be proud", she said.

Mr Walsh, in responding, sketched the history of the

10-inch telescope which is housed in the Observatory and referred to an impressive number of achievements which its use has brought about. These include the publication, locally and overseas, of observations and astronomical data and photographs made by ASTROSOC members.

Miss Walwyn has reminded *Rhodos* readers that the Observatory is open to the public from 21:00 every Sunday evening (provided the skies are clear!) during term time, when anyone who is interested may indulge in some star gazing under the guidance of members of the Society. It

should be noted especially that this time has been advanced to 18:15 this Sunday (18 May) in order to view the Hale-Bopp comet, which is a particularly exciting and good looking visitor to our skies at the moment. Access to the Simon Walsh Observatory, which is situated on the roof of the Geography building, is through the Botany Department's car park.



Dr Gavin Relly signs *Astrosoc's* visitors' book after the ceremony under the close watch of, from left, Simon Walsh, Belinda Walwyn and Dr David Woods.



## An historic occasion RU Council in first ever East London meeting

For the first time in the University's 93-year history, the Rhodes Council has met in East London, coinciding with the Graduation ceremony held there last week.

The councillors were welcomed by the Director, Dr Terry Marsh, and, after a tour of the campus and a finger lunch, commenced their meeting.

During its course, Mr Wayne Munro, Chairman of the East London Board, was elected to the Council and, as can be seen by the architect's model in the foreground, the Eden Grove development was on the agenda.

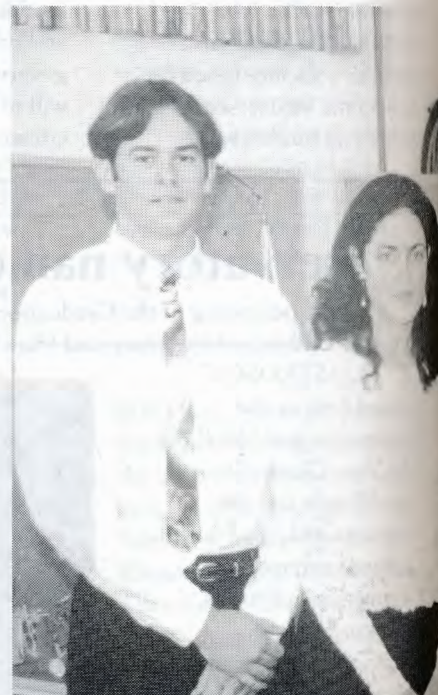


Councillors who were present at the meeting in East London were, from left to right, (seated) Clr P N Njoli, Prof W T Futter, Mr T T Long, Ms A de Villiers, Mr J F Khoza, Mr M Mabuti, Dr K H Moodley, Dr T A Marsh, Mr L M Reynolds, Judge R J W Jones, Dr M A ...

## Michelle's the best of both campuses! — pictures from the Ea



Michelle Francis with some of the awards which she won at the East London prize-giving ceremony last week. She was adjudged the best Accounting 2 student from both the East London and Grahamstown campuses.



Dr Terry Marsh (centre), Director of ...  
From left, they are Andrew

Michelle Francis, a student at Rhodes in East London last week walked away with the lion's share of the prizes from the annual awards ceremony on that campus.

Amongst them was the Sanlam Insurance Prize for the best Accounting 2 student amongst those from both campuses.

Michelle also won the awards for the best Auditing student (Eastern Cape Society of Chartered Accountants Medal and the Gregorowski Prize) and the Arthur Andersen and KPMG — Len Verster Awards for Accounting 2.

Robert McIntyre, currently studying at the Grahamstown campus, also won 5 prizes; the Pretoria Portland Cement Award for the best 3rd-year student majoring in Accounting and for his contribution to the Department, the Norman Harris Award for the best student in Taxation, the CIMA prize for the best Management Accounting student and the Eastern Cape Society of Chartered Accountants' Medals for both Accounting and Management Accounting. Robert was not able to attend the function.

Several other students won awards and prizes, including Helga Ludwig (best Management 3 student and best IS 3 student), Lindy





Prof H A Parolis, Mr C Murray, Mr E K Moorcroft, Mr P J Bennett, Mr T C S Tagg, Prof V A de Klerk and (standing), Mr P A T Weldrick, Dr S Fourie, Dr D R Woods, Mr W Munro, Dr M A Motara, Mr N E Woollgar, Prof I A Macdonald and Mr H A Long.

## London prizegiving



East London with the recipients of this years Director's Book prizes. Melanie Junior, Cecilia Mazibuko and Luca Fanicchi.

Gunn (best IS student) and Kribaloshni Cooposamy (best Com Law student).

Dr Terry Marsh presented Director's Book Prizes to Luca Fanicchi (Social Science), Melanie Junior (1st-year Primary Education), Andrew Barnes (1st-year Commerce) and Cecilia Mazibuko (best Diploma in Education student).

Several of the awards were presented by representatives of sponsoring companies and organisations IBM, the Border Chamber of Business, auditing firm KPMG and the Eastern Cape Society of Chartered Accountants.

## Concern over promotions procedure

In a statement issued to Rhodes on behalf of RUSA/NTESU (Rhodes), the staff body's Chairperson, Ms Glyn Armstrong, has advised her members that there could be cause for concern about applications for personal promotions.

RUSA/NTESU (Rhodes) has been made aware that applications for personal promotions will not be reviewed in April 1997. This will be done in the second half of the year and take effect in January 1998.

On

enquiry from Personnel, RUSA/NTESU (Rhodes) was informed that this decision had been taken at Academic Staffing Committee level and that it had been decided to bring other personal promotions into line with this. According to Personnel, until a few years ago, the practice was for personal promotions to be effective from 1 January of the

year following the April review. It was only in recent years that it was brought forward to 1 July together with the cost of living increase.

The result of this change will result in there being no personal promotions in 1997.

**NEWS**  
from **RUSA/NTESU**

RUSA/NTESU (Rhodes) finds it disturbing that it was not consulted on the broader issue in the change of scheduling of personal promotions.

We intend to address this issue, among others, at our next liaison meeting.

Glyn Armstrong  
RUSA Chairperson



# US-style local government has much for SA

A recent US trip by Grahamstown City Councillor Nontuthu Faku, employed in the Personnel Division at Rhodes, organised by the Public Administration Exchange Programme, was a worthwhile experience, she has found.

The programme, which has been running for some time now, was advanced after our local government elections in order to expose the new councillors to local government in America.

Nontuthu was part of a group of twenty civic representatives from the Eastern Cape who visited different cities, chosen for their similarities when compared to the centres from where the visitors came.

Nontuthu was very impressed by what she saw there. "The American system ensures that hospitals, clinics, the police and schools as well as special interest groups in child abuse and teenage pregnancy are part of the local government", she said.

"The American councils have more control over the police, while here they have no influence at all and NGOs (Non-Governmental

Organisations) are involved in things like the provision of low-cost housing while we expect the government to do everything."

She believes that the US and South Africa are addressing similar problems, as a result there is much which they can offer.

"For instance, there is a local government-run small business corporation where one gets training in financial management and in running a business. It also stands as surety for people who have low credit ratings with financial institutions. Imagine a number of South Africans who would benefit if we had something like that."

She also found it interesting that kindergartens and schools for the disabled are part of the formal school system and that there are training programmes for high school drop-outs such as computer skills courses — all local government-driven.

Asked whether she thought the timing of the trip was right, nearly 18 months after our local government elections, she says: "Yes, it couldn't have been better."

*Phumeza Mgxashe*



*Her recent visit to the United States gives Nontuthu Faku full reason to smile.*

## Information literacy — A pilot project

During the course of the first term the Rhodes Library embarked on a pilot Information Literacy Project, aimed at first year students registered for Psychology 1 and ELAP (English for Academic Purposes). The programme was designed to introduce the students to the range, richness and the usefulness of the resources of an academic library and was based on actual topics and assignments.

For many of these students the skills required to use a library, let alone an academic library, are quite foreign.

The Psychology students were divided into small groups and given hands-on experience of the Library's on-line

catalogue (OPAC), while the ELAP students had a double period tutorial and library tour based on their first assignment. The ELAP students will be receiving OPAC training and will also have further information literacy sessions centred on further assignments.

Library staff would welcome additional feedback from both staff and students, but are pleased to note, that the project has been received very positively thus far.

As far as the future of the Information Literacy Programme is concerned, it is felt that if this programme is to develop meaningfully it will be essential for a librarian to undertake the research,

planning, programme design and liaison with academic departments in a full-time capacity. Suitable access to computer terminals, preferably in the form of a computer laboratory in the library, is also essential.

Rhodes is not alone in this initiative. The Cape Library Cooperative (CALICO) of the tertiary institutions in the Western Cape has recently completed a pilot information literacy project with the aim of embarking on a full-scale programme. The University of Botswana launched one in 1994, with the support of its academic community and has apparently met with success.



# Don't expect a sundial to cuckoo

Whilst the Japanese education system runs like clockwork, the idea of superimposing such a system on South Africa would be as inappropriate as expecting a sundial to work like a cuckoo clock.

These are the feelings of Dr Hennie Van Der Mescht, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Education, who has returned from seven weeks' "educational exposure" in Japan.

One of seven South African educationalists to be selected for this experience, sponsored by the Japanese International Cooperation Agency, Dr Van Der Mescht says that the difference between the two countries is

simply too great for South Africa to adopt any major ideas at this stage.

"Japan is a simple country with one culture and one language. They don't have the multicultural, multilingual problems that we have in the South African educational system," he said. "They are also far more industrially and economically developed and their basic public services such as health, transport and security are worlds ahead in terms of efficiency."

Not that this comes as anything very unexpected. It simply points to the fact that South Africa will, at some stage, have the opportunity of teaching monocultural countries such as a Japan, a

thing or two about operating in a multicultural situation.

"Yes, we can certainly learn from the contrast between our two countries," says Van Der Mescht, "but to introduce their top-down approach — their education system is controlled by headquarters in Tokyo — would be inappropriate in South Africa where the mood is definitely one of decentralisation."

"Where we could learn from them, is in the introduction of school lunches in all schools as this has great educational benefits, as well as in the extension of international exchange programmes which are a big part of education in Japan," he added.

## Student trust fund to be launched

The Minister of Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development, Manhammed Valli Moosa, will be at Rhodes tomorrow afternoon and evening and will participate in the launch of a student trust fund aimed at providing financial aid to students.

The fund, to be named after the Minister, is an SRC initiative and will be launched at a cocktail function tomorrow (Saturday, May 17) at 15:30 in the Senior Common Room.

Admission will be by a donation of R 50,00 (students: R 25,00) towards the fund.

"We would like to encourage as many people as possible to attend this event," says SRC President, Mr Chico Khoza, "as we will be putting the money gained through ticket sales, as well as any money people might like to pledge, towards the student trust fund."

The Minister will also speak, during a public lecture tomorrow afternoon (14:00, Chemistry Major), on *The role of the youth in entrenching constitutional principles*, while he is on our campus.

The SRC will present Minister Moosa with an award for his contribution to the constitution-making process at the cocktail party, which will also be attended by other dignitaries such as the Premier of the Eastern Cape, Arnold Stofile.

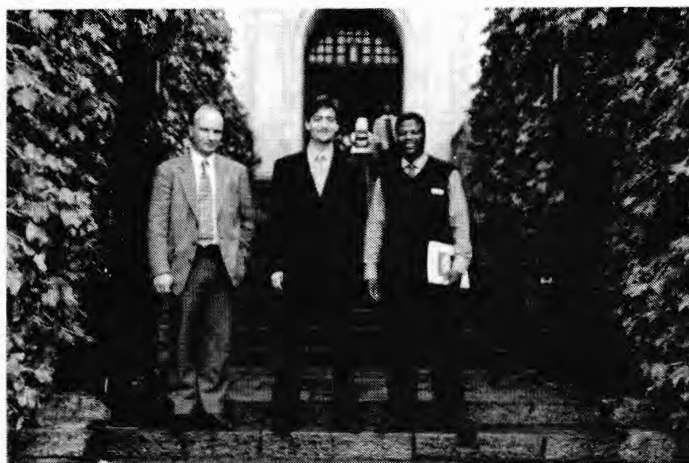
Tickets for the cocktail party may be purchased in advance from the Rhodes Reception and SRC offices.

## Seeing how the money's spent

A recent and welcome visitor to Rhodes last month was Mr Andreas Semadeni of the Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs which has sponsored the Department of Political Studies' Democratisation programme in the amount of R 660 000.

During his time in Grahamstown, Mr Semadeni, who is in charge of the Ministry's Southern African projects, met with staff members of the department, the Acting Vice-Chancellor, the Deans of Social Science and Arts and several of the students registered for the Democratisation course which his government has funded.

The Democratisation programme is offered at a postgraduate level to Honours and Masters students and bursaries will be available,



Mr Semadeni toured our campus while here, accompanied by Dr Paul Bischoff (left) and Mr Michael Marangxa of the Marketing and Communications Division (right).

particularly to those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

"In this way we hope the programme can contribute to the further democratisation of South Africa", says Dr Paul Bischoff of the Department of

Political Studies, adding that with the implementation of a second phase of the project, students from SADC countries will also become eligible for bursary support in 1998.



# Sports Results

26 APRIL

**Women's Hockey**

RU 1st XI vs Old Grey Pigs	
Rhodes lost	1-4
RU 2nd XI vs PE Technikon	
Rhodes won	3-1

**Rugby**

RU 1st XI vs Cambridge	
Rhodes lost	15-20
RU 2nd XI vs Cambridge	
Rhodes lost	16-28
RU u21a vs Cambridge	
Rhodes won	44-5

**Soccer**

RU vs Defence	
Rhodes won	9-2 (Dylan)
Rogers scored 5 goals	

**Tennis**

RU 1sts vs Salem	
Rhodes won	9-2

**Table Tennis**

RU vs UPE	
Rhodes won	9-2

26 - 27 APRIL

**Rowing**

S.A. Champs

RU Mens A Eight came 1st	
RU Mens B Eight came 1st	
RU Mens A Four came 2nd	
RU Ladies A four came 1st	

27 APRIL

**Men's Hockey**

RU 1st XI vs Hume Park	
Rhodes won	6-0

**Ladies Hockey**

RU 1st XI vs UPE	
Rhodes lost	4-5

**Basketball**

RU Men vs Dynamos	
Rhodes won	100-76
RU Ladies vs Dynamos	
Rhodes lost	58-85

**Volleyball**

25 - 27 APRIL

National Promotional Volleyball League

RU vs Appolo (Natal)	
Rhodes won	3-0
RU vs Delfos (Natal)	
Rhodes won	3-0
RU vs Natal Tech (Natal)	
Rhodes won	3-0
RU vs Saints (Cape Town)	
Rhodes won	3-0
RU vs Goodyear (Uitenhage)	
Rhodes won	3-1
Rhodes men won the first leg of the PVL	

**Netball — Freedom Day Tournament**

RU vs All Saints	
Rhodes lost	12-20
RU vs Port Alfred	
Rhodes won	14-11
RU vs Alexandria	
Rhodes won	12-11
RU vs Alicedale	
Rhodes won	11-08

**Volleyball — East London Ladies Tournament**

RU vs MBSA	
Rhodes lost	0-2
RU vs Dogg Pound A	
Rhodes won	2-0
RU vs Striders (semi-finals)	
Rhodes lost	1-2

30 APRIL

**Rugby**

RU u21a vs Police	
Rhodes lost	0-22

3 MAY

**Soccer**

RU vs African Aces	
Match drawn	4-4

**Rugby**

RU 1st XV vs Hams-Tech	
Rhodes won	8-5
RU u21a vs Hams-Tech	
Rhodes won	27-21

**Tennis**

RU vs Carlisle Bridge	
Match drawn	5-5

**Women's Hockey**

RU 2nd XI vs UPE	
Match drawn	2-2

4 MAY

**Men's Basketball**

RU 1A vs Trojans 1A	
RU lost	109-26
RU 1A vs UPE 1B	
Rhodes won	69-45

**Hockey**

Thistles vs Pirates Corsairs	
Thistles won	4-0
Romans vs Pirates Corsairs	
Romans won	4-0
Occasionals vs Lotus	
Lotus won	3-1
RU ladies 2nd XI vs Lotus	
RU lost	2-1

7 MAY

**Women's Volleyball**

RU vs UPE A	
Rhodes lost	2-0

**Men's Volleyball**

RU vs UPE B	
Rhodes won	2-0

# Smalls

**BED and BREAKFAST**

Self-contained flatlet, pool, private entrance. R 55,00 p.p. Contact Sheryl-Anne Drennan at ext 8298/9 (a.m.); 2 7189 (h) or cell 082 657 0359.

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Hi-Tech armed response. In quiet cul de sac, Mosdene Close. Well-loved homely home consisting of lounge; separate dining room, both opening onto delightful sunny patio. 3 bedrooms (2 double) and feature single bedroom. 1 1/2 bathrooms; fitted study/sewing room; kitchen and laundry. Large outside storage room. Garage with electric door. Sprinkler system with own computerised water system piped throughout the house from own, clean, fresh borehole. Beautiful secluded garden; many more features. View by appointment only. Phone (0461) 2 2863. No agents please.

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**HATHA YOGA CLASSES**

When: Mon, Wed, Thurs from 17:30 - 18:45. Where: Albany Museum, Rennie Wing. Enquiries: Kathy 2 3900 or Jane 2 7642

**SHORT RENTAL**

Secure and spruce 3-bedroomed cottage in Henry Street available from 1 August to 1 December or part thereof. Rent about R 1 400 negotiable. e-mail knox@thoth.ru.ac.za, or tel 31 8026.

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Classifieds: 20 cents per word. Advertising copy must be supplied in writing, on diskette or by e-mail and must be accompanied by full payment.

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**RHODOS DEADLINE DATES**

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