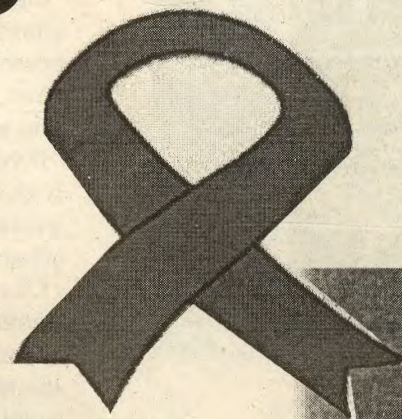


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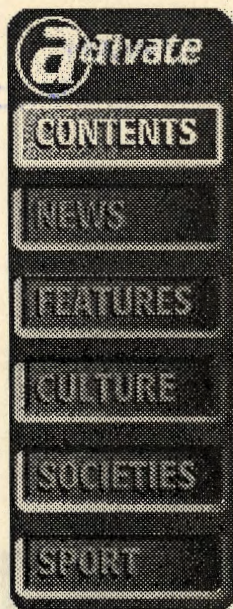


Pic: Gunther Deutsch

**SOME-
WHERE
BEYOND
AWARENESS**

AIDS AWARENESS WEEK - 1999

**SPECIAL PULLOUT :
VOTING '99**



Editorial

OK, so everyone's completely stressed. There is so much tension in the air that you can cut it with a knife. Inside the activate office this is because we only have three half-working computers and one borrowed laptop to work on. But outside, the only reason for people losing their sanity is exams.

Yes, the big E (for exams, not Everest or e-TV) is back again. So study hard, don't panic more than you absolutely have to, and look out for that shiny boot sticking ominously out of Admin's door.

If you look around carefully, however, you will find it is not only students who are stressing. Yes, with elections set for June 2, every corrupt politician in South Africa is quaking in his boots at the possibility that his constituents get wise to his double-dealing and vote him out of office. You know what you have to do: join those queues and make your mark.

Of course, it looks as though the ruling party may get a two-thirds majority. Being one of those students from the darkest-rest-of-Africa, I have seen that such majorities are easily abused in order to allow the head of state to join the Association of Life Presidents. I only hope that South African voters will be watchful enough to ensure the same does not happen here should the ANC reach that magical two-thirds figure.

While we're on the subject of politicians, let's not forget the campus variety. The SRC excelled itself with the Mr and Miss Rhodes competition. Despite some technical hitches, unruly spectators and security problems, in general much fun was had by all. It certainly made me realise that I have spent too many hours eating res food and too few hours in the gym this year.

The publication of the SRC financial statement also shows a degree of financial openness not generally associated with student governments.

However, the disorganisation at the recent SRC lunch at St Peters (admittedly Rhodes Catering is also to blame for this one) would be laughed at by even the most inefficient life-presidential regime on the continent (probably Laurent Kabila's lot at the moment).

Maybe installing more vending machines would be a better idea - they will at least be used much in the next few weeks, and could perhaps provide a source of employment to all those politicians soon to be election '99 rejects.

Classifieds

Wanted

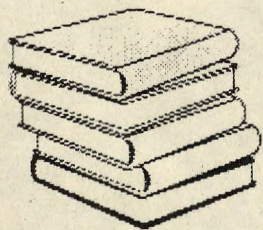
Do you want to sell tin tunks? If you are a student and willing, contact Amanda Bailey, e-mail enab@warthog or phone 6038400.

NEED A MAID?

She can clean and wash but not much more. Good for students. Available from 1 July 1999. Contact Amanda Bailey, e-mail enab@warthog or phone 6038400.

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International Student News

compiled by Greg Hacksley

"Die Matie" [Stellenbosch]

By Deon Wigget

'N KONFRONTASIE dreig tussen die rektor, prof Andreas van Wyk, en die Universiteitsraad nadat die rektor glo 'n raadsbesluit geïgnoreer het. Die omstrede besluit spruit uit 'n mediaverklaring wat gemaak is oor die raad se besluit om die ontbinding van die US-koor te herroep.

Volgens mnr Desmond Smith, voorsitter van die raad, "is die besluit van die raad 'n duidelike aanduiding dat die eerste besluit 'n fout was". Smith het gesê dit was die bedoeling van die raad om "sy spyt uit te spreek teenoor enige partye wat skade gely het" by die besluit oor die koor.

"Die raad wou sê hy is jammer oor die besluit," het Smith gesê. Geen verskoning is egter aangeteken in die mediaverklaring oor die koor nie. Die verklaring

lui bloot dat die raad tot "verskeie nuwe insigte" rondom die koor gekom het, en gevolglik sy besluit herroep. Dit staan in skrilte kontras met die raad se bedoeling, volgens Smith.

"Was akkuraat" Mnr Kobus Visagie, senior direkteur: Bemaking en Kommunikasie, het gesê die mediaverklaring was akkuraat ten opsigte van die raad se besluit. Visagie het erken die mediaverklaring is eers deur die rektor goedgekeur. Die rektor "bring altyd wysigings aan ten opsigte van korrektheid," het Visagie gisteroggend aan Die Matie gesê.

Smith het gesê indien die rektor wysigings aan die mediaverklaring aangebring het wat die essensie van die raadsbesluit raak, die raad "definitief kennis daarvan sal neem". 'n Raadslid, wat op voorwaarde van anonimiteit gepraat het, het aan Die Matie gesê die rektor het duidelik veranderings aan die mediaverklaring gemaak wat 'n indruk skep wat verskil van die raad se besluit.

Visagie het ontken dat die mediaverklaring onakkuraat was. Visagie het gesê hy "wil nie by 'n debat betrokke raak" oor die aangeleentheid nie.

Durham University

By Victoria Ferrier

7.58pm: Trevelyan College Bar: A dim room, two figures move behind a metal grill and in the corner the juke box sits still, silent, waiting....

8.00pm The grill goes up, lights go on and suddenly the bar is pumping to some suitably funky music. People start appearing from nowhere, some rush and others nonchalantly amble but all have one thing on their mind...drink. (Sounds like Rhodes - Ed)

So now that I have given the impression that here in Trevelyan College we do nothing else but drink, I had better put the record straight. Undeniably drinking is an essential part of college life, (Rhodes again - Ed) and with a Zimbo as Chairman of the bar what else would you expect? (hmm - no comment) However there is more.

Trevelyan, or Trevs as it is affectionately known, is one of the smallest colleges in Durham. Consequently it is a very tight-knit community and fiercely patriotic.

In matters of sport Trevs is divided into those who participate and those who support by terrorizing the opposition. This has proved to be particularly successful recently when we won the women's football trophy final. Equally strong in college is music, especially in the form of the jazz band, which is renowned for its funky sound and groovy bar concerts. As for the social side of things we are known for our college

nights in the infamous local club, Klute; (even if it does resemble a public toilet!) our formal dinners are infamous, and our summer ball lasts from dusk to dawn.

So there you have it Trevs in a nutshell, (and a half), but the only way to really experience it is to come and visit.



Treat with sensitivity

By Hayley Mathie

ONCE
AGAIN,
rape
rumours
are spread-
ing across
campus.

The issue is one which affects people of all backgrounds and stations and should be treated with sensitivity.

Sgt. Coetzer of the Grahamstown Police Department says that there have been no reported incidences of rape on the Rhodes campus since March 1997, when two visitors to the area assaulted a student. Dave Stow of Campus Security verified these facts.

Stow says that campus is relatively safe

but that students should protect themselves by not taking chances and avoiding dark areas. A 24-hour service is available to students who would like a security guard escort.

The lack of reports should not promote a false sense of security, however. Dennis Neer, Safety and Security MEC for the Eastern Cape, says up to 35 rapes remain unreported for every one that is brought to the authorities.

Figures for 1998 show that a total of 126 rapes were reported in Grahamstown, the majority of which occurred in Grahamstown East. This year, 31 reports were made from January to March.

This shows an increase from the corresponding period last year but cannot be taken as an indicator of the year total.

One survivor of an attempted rape on

campus describes her experience. "I knew the guy well and felt that I could trust him. I obviously couldn't though and as soon as we were alone he began to try things that I did not feel comfortable with. Before I knew what was happening things were out of control. Luckily, there were people nearby and I was able to get away when he tried to force me to have sex with him."

Support is available for all rape survivors both at the Sanatorium and the Police, who will be able to treat you and to open a case, should you want this to be done. Further counseling is available at FAMSA, the SRC Counseling Service and the Student Advisor's Office. All communication will be treated with complete confidence.

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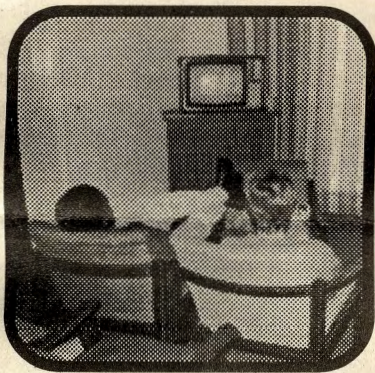
CULTURE

SOCIETIES

SPORT

Rhodents Dig it -or don't they?

by Tsholofelo Pelo



RHODIANS are fleeing from residence for reasons apparent only to them, but I think we can take a guess...

One clear reason is that the university residences are unreasonably expensive, especially when you consider the fact

that it costs just over R300 to stay in residence for a ten day vacation.

"The digs is still preferred more by students because they say they can experience freedom there and they lead a kind of advanced and very different life from that led by students living in residences," said Mrs Xoleka, one of the women who resides with some students in digs.

"They don't have to conform to any rule, they come and leave as they please, they are free to invite whoever they want, without having to ask permission from anybody" she said.

"I like owning myself and holding myself responsible for the things I do," says digs resident Mhise, who adds that she strongly believes that she is entitled to do what she knows is right, regardless of what people might think of her. She

says her staying in digs gives her a sense of responsibility and helps her to develop a growing mind.

Nolene Ferreira, Warden of Thomas Pringle, gives her opinion: "Residing in university residences has always been viewed as safe and comfortable and parents think students are more disciplined compared to [those students] residing in flats or apartments."

Food has also become a problematic issue, even though little is said about it. "The food we eat in the dining hall is horrible," confesses Kgaogelo, another student living in res. Most students would prefer to prepare their own meals. For these students, the advantage of being able to eat exactly what they want outweighs the inconvenience of time-consuming cooking.



These are the pros and cons of res life versus digs life as given by a few students - safety and convenience versus freedom and self-determination. Which will you choose?

PICS: Sam Reinders

"We're only here for the junk food"

By Karyn Maughan

IMAGINE traversing great oceans to arrive on a continent shrouded in legends of wild, untamed landscapes and camouflage-clad CNN correspondents.

Imagine finding yourself in Grahamstown, the dorpie capital of South Africa, where "foreign" defines suspect objects found in dining hall salads.

Though voluntarily leaving home countries that have single digit exchange rates may seem like lunacy, there are a few intrepid souls who pursue the venture...commonly known as "exchange students".

Keith Davis, an American student, explained that he "always wanted to

visit South Africa".

Keith is 21 and studying Philosophy and Writing at Gettysburg College in Boston. He was attracted to Rhodes' Journalism programme, but was not aware "how small" Grahamstown actually was.

"I had few expectations of South Africa. I did think that Rhodes would be predominantly white, but I was delightfully surprised by the cultural diversity of the campus. The hardest part to deal with, I think, is the First World/ Third World contrast," he said.

And the best thing about Grahamstown? "Definitely the Steers. It's much nicer and cleaner than any American fast food store and the food is much better."

Gaetane Guinard, 21, and Odile Grenet, 20, are both Media students at the Institut Albert le Grand in France. They came to Rhodes on an informal exchange

arranged through the French Department.

"It's very different from France here and you have to learn to like different things," said Gaetane. "In France we have our own flats and living in residence is difficult when you are older. You don't feel free and sometimes, when you want to be alone, you can't be."

And what about South African men? Odile believed that some had a certain rarity value. "Some are blonde and tanned and there are few like that in France," she said. "I prefer French," was Gaetane's response.

All the exchange students interviewed said that they hoped to return to South Africa in the future and had found South Africans to be friendly and welcoming.

And, of course, there is always the incentive of high-quality junk food.

Mr and Miss Rhodes

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Don't Stress

With the melancholy under-toad of the exams approaching us, the inevitable 'stress', 'annoyance' and just plain 'temper tantrums' are bound to pinch the arse of the peacefulness on campus. So here are a few suggestions to keep you all in good humours throughout the exams. Best of all, they're healthy!



Healthy Info.

1. Try not to skip breakfast, even if it is one of 'those' Thursday mornings - just whip up some 'Oats-so-Easy' which are ready in less than 5 minutes. Oats and wholegrains have been proven to relieve nervous tension, increase your stamina and give you an energy boost.
2. At lunch, eat as much salad as possible, especially lettuce, and don't forget to eat those green vegetables. They contain oxidants that increase the oxygen supply to the brain, helping your concentration.
3. St. Johns Wort is a mild natural antidepressant that will improve your mood and ability to cope with stress. It also improves memory and mental function. It is available at any chemist.
4. Take in as much Vitamin C as possible. Always eat fruit at mealtimes and try some Berocca Calmag daily.
5. Exercise as much as possible - even if it's just a brisk walk around the block. Exercise sends endorphins to the brain, making you feel more energized and soooo much better.

by Suzanne Mary Beukes

Horroroscope

Brain-washed by pop-culture, Bong-Bong the Omniscient stares into the mists of the future... Or is that the TV screen...?

ARIES

Try to stay out of the way of large yellow bulldozers. They're trying to destroy the earth and you might get run over. Carry a towel at all times.

TAURUS

A little man with hairy toes will give you a ring. Wearing the ring will render you invisible, so you can skulk around your lecturers and get the exam questions, my precious.

GEMINI

You will sail to America on a massive, "unsinkable" ship. While you will find the love of your life and get a valuable necklace, you will also be neck-deep in cold water. Is it really worth getting out of bed for?

CANCER

Your life will start feeling a lot like a recent Jim Carey movie. Just try to smile a lot and make sure that the camera catches your good side.

LEO

While surfing on the Internet, you get zapped into cyberspace. You turn in to the Freakazoid, who's strong and super-quick. You'll drive the villains crazy, because you're a lunatic.

VIRGO

Wear short dresses, and make sure that your hair is long and flowing... Disney is auditioning for their next feature cartoon, and you just *know* that you would make a perfect Disney heroine.

LIBRA

Just a small piece of advice: In space, no one can hear you scream... So make sure that you have some heavy machinery, a large flame-thrower and a cat.

SCORPIO

While trying to create tastier food, the catering services will accidentally clone dangerous dinosaurs. They'll eat all the res food and become extinct once more. But you'll *still* have to write exams.

SAGITTARIUS

When you go to bed tonight, don't sleep. If you do, some guy with long nails and bad acne is going to disembowel you in the most gruesome way imaginable.

CAPRICORN

When you go to bed tonight, be thankful (see Sagittarius). A lost boy who doesn't want to grow up'll just visit you. You lucky thing, you!

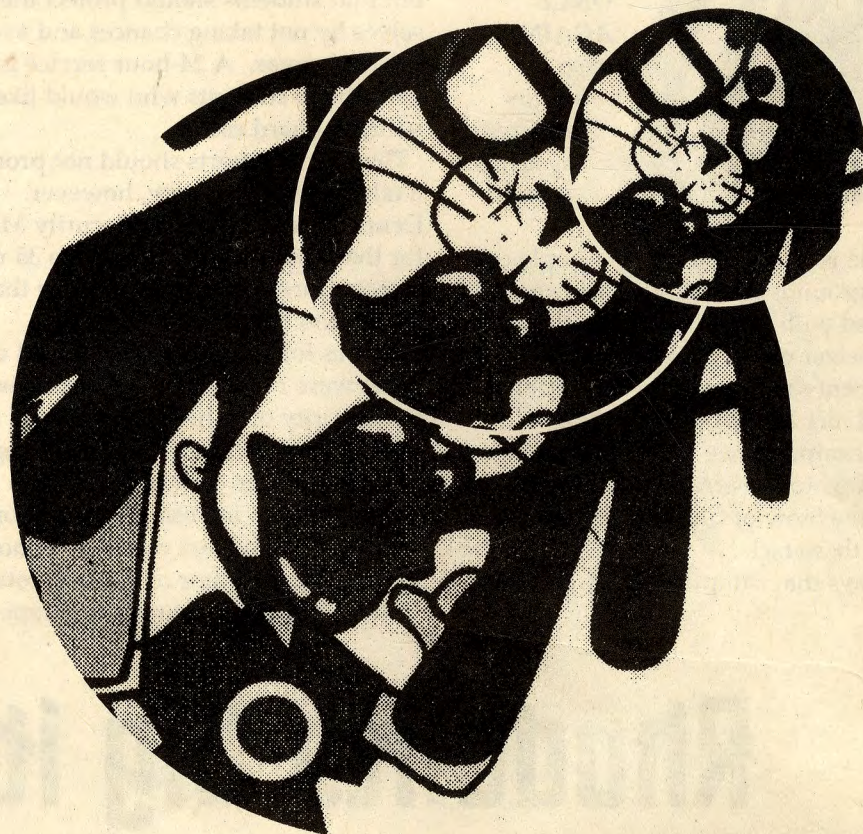
AQUARIUS

You are, in fact, the last Jedi Knight alive. It is up to you to save the galaxy (far, far away) from the Phantom Menace. May the Force be with you.

PISCES

When you swim with the dolphins in the Big Blue, try not to breathe in. It makes your lungs feel icky, okay?

G on the G-Spot



G HAD A CRUSH. Romance, soapies, kitsch teddy bears and House of Usher were bound to Push it into zir life eventually. What Garbage, you might think. But yes, gender perplexed people still have genitals. G will not disclose the nature of zir multiplicity - G has decided to play hard to get.

It all happened sometime after the DJ Christos and Fistaz party ("Brought to you by Empire Productions!") and around the RMR party. Somewhere in the dark recesses of a house with a soul - is that what those freaks in Motara's pyjama's were supposed to be? - The House of Usher. "AAAAA!" Jeez, they should really get actresses who aren't afraid of the dark, thought G.

After psychologically dealing with zir love dilemma during the short vacation - not that that cramped zir style in any way - ze decided it was time to bring it out of the dark. At least the risk of a stampede of RMR party proportions was alleviated as the play was over. Ze did not want to be common - or, lo and behold, have undue competition. But G's Utopian campus was suddenly infiltrated by phantoms of the past as the leftovers from Grad infiltrated zir existence.

In compensation, G realised that suddenly ze was very much the thing of the moment. What with the latest fashion of wearing skirts and pants simultaneously and the obvious gender crisis the campus must be going through, ze realised ze had a set a trend. Are people soon to be using ze and zir? Perhaps with zir new found popularity ze could muster the support for a political party and run for president?

What's more, there was the romantic RUCUS Nosh and Guzzle coming up. G was sure it was perfect for a first date. And if not, G had always been interested in Cybersex.

As for Fetish playing on Freedom Day -

what was this, Sexual Freedom Day? The Empire strikes back. Everything pointed to G's liberation of the dark secrecy of zir crush. However, there was one problem: exams. After all, G was a conscientious student - once, in Kindergarten. But seriously, with just under 6 weeks to exams how was ze going to get zir exam preparations done? G needed to dye zir hair, go on a few million loco missions, catch up on soapie watching, spend endless hours listening to inane RMR and, of course, find time to bunk lectures. Not to forget, nab zir love. And what with the gale force winds of late, G's usual speed wobble had been reduced to an exasperated trudge or just plain sleep. But thanks to Professor Pickles, G picked up a few spading techniques which ze planned to use to full potential.

One way of getting attention was to audition for Cue TV. G decided to go as zir favourite Simunye presenter - Boom Shaka (yes all 5 - or is it 6? - of them).

Unfortunately, ze didn't make the grade. G realised that Cue TV was probably going to fill the Boom Shaka role with people like Buckfever, Wash, Man Friday and Dr Woods.

Is Bevan Cullinan ever going to get out of Grahamstown?

Will the police crackdown inhibit G's drunken jaywalking?

Should G enter for Mr or Miss Rhodes?

Will Oriel sell their ball tickets?

Who is G's #1 Crush?

Prof Pickle's comedy night at the Union is as much a part of campus life as puking blonde first years and indecent animal grunts at Founders Hall and the man who started it all is Bevan Cullinan.

Bevan started Prof Pickles last year to give people in Grahamstown a platform. It began as a sort of drama department offshoot, a show covering wider genres than straight stand-up comedy. It was initially held in the box theatre, and was very popular from the outset. The next Pickles was a little more slapstick, and when it was decided to change the venue to the Union a straight stand-up format was adopted, which has proved so popular with the Union crowd.

When Bevan left last year it was touch and go as to whether Pickles would continue, and this was where the then M.C. Paul Llewellyn stepped in. Says Paul, "Bevan couldn't handle performing as well as introducing, because he's a real prima donna when he performs. So he asked me to be the M.C."

So Paul now runs Pickle's; he prepares the venue, recruits new acts, does the advertising and makes sure that everything runs smoothly on the night. He also runs the Fireside Jam, and does Journ 4 in his spare time. He faces a few challenges, the strongest of which is the need to get fresh faces and material on the stage. Pickles is now on every three weeks instead of two as coming up with new acts is no easy task.

Paul sees Pickle's going

PROF PICKLES

By Nick Ferreira



PICS: Sam Reinders



back to its roots, diversifying again and embracing various other forms of entertainment. Initially this will probably take the form of integrating one or two of the bands from Fireside Jam between the comic sets.

Paul also wants to continue with the technological advances made by Prof Pickle's. The last advance was bought about by a tobacco company which promoted a second-rate singer whose music alone is pretty good comedy (sick joke) and

allowed Justin Nurse to do some cool things with the set up. Ideas like the live RMR broadcast, little TV's and the improved appearance of the stage make the event that much more enjoyable for the punters. All the sets have been videotaped this year and there should be a "best of" video in the offing some time soon.

So, if you have any bold and original ideas, have a word with Paul and get up there and do it.



SRC Children's Day

By Glenda Zvenyika & Kholeka Nkombi

The SRC, in collaboration with ACTS and ANSOC, recently held a Children's Day at the Kaif Lawns. The idea behind such an event was to show the SRC's support of ACTS and ANSOC, particularly the work they do within the community.

The SRC's Gender Officer, Easter Chigumira and Labour and Community Officer Sam Mokorosi were responsible for organising this charitable event. They, on behalf of the SRC organised games and catering for the children.

The seventy children that were present were the most disadvantaged in the township and had been hand-picked by the two societies with the help of Sister Christina Mcgrath from the Assumption Convent.

Sister Mcgrath runs a Nutrition Centre during weekdays where she feeds these under-nourished chil-

dren every break-time during the school terms.

The children whose ages ranged from about three to fourteen years of age were treated to a superb picnic lunch comprising of sandwiches, sausages, sausage rolls, fruit, juice and plenty of sweets.

The rest of the afternoon was playfully spent on a variety of games like sack races which were thoroughly enjoyed.

Every child left with a party pack filled with sweets, pens and pencils donated by Wiers and Metro Cash and Carry.

Children who had won their races went away with T/shirts from Mr Price.

The day was definitely a great success and as Easter puts it, "something seemingly small to the rest of us can mean a lot to the underprivileged."

Happiness, ladders and a guy named Henry by Nadine Botha

Karma sees success as happiness. And Karma can make herself happy by performing. And Karma was not happy on Tuesday night when she found herself feeling like a totem pole and completely estranged from her audience due to the height of the stage. She was also not happy with stage layout, because the band could not exchange sweet cuddly nothings anymore, instead they had to bond through humour - and that sarcasm. And if Karma doesn't have fun, then the audience doesn't have fun. And if the audience doesn't have fun then Karma doesn't have fun. "It's like a big circle," said Karma. But at the end of the day, despite the acid-bitch reputation that Karma got after Tuesday, that crowd support on Wednesday was incredible. She must know what she's talking about. Upon talking to her, she seems to know what she not only what she's talking about, but what she is about.

Karma is becoming Henry Ate again. So that Karma can be "Karma when I go to sleep at night." Karma doesn't like to talk about herself; that's why she turned to writing songs. She made it a person to whom she confided - Henry Ate. "Henry Ate was a Karma 2" but they are not one and the same person, rather two parts of a whole. Karma might have had a bad day, but Henry Ate could go on stage and forget about it. Henry Ate was "an emotionally based creative force." There is also certain irony about the name - H. Ate.

Karma has some songs that are called "Karma Songs." The public doesn't hear them. Karma Songs are songs in which she has not found the release that she needs to in writing them. If she had to play them on stage, she would cry. Perhaps later, once she has dealt with the issues, she will play some of them. Others belong to much to other people. Although a lot of her songs are about people in her life and all are deeply personal, Karma feels that everyone should have their own interpretation.

Karma says that Henry Ate do have plans to go overseas and are going to go overseas. They are thinking of releasing a Greatest Hits album with re-recorded and improved (after the knowledge gained from their audience) versions of all their singles as their first overseas album. However, they're not in a hurry. She said that she'd rather touch every rung of the ladder so that she is comfortable when she gets there.

Pic : Krisanne Johnson



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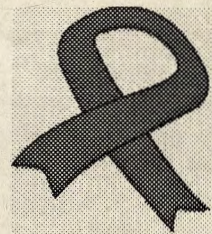
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AZT For Rhodes?



by David Ball

Rhodes University could be offering the Aids-retarding drug AZT to students in future, says student adviser Mark Rainier.

Rainier heads a committee formed to develop an official Aids policy for the University. He said the committee was exploring the concept of the sanatorium holding a "small stock of AZT", despite the drug being "incredibly expensive, with many side effects".

Rainier said he was determined to get the Aids policy pushed through the Senate before the end of the year. The policy will prohibit AIDS screening of people applying to join Rhodes as students or staff. It will also prevent discrimination against people who are HIV-positive and "guarantee students and staff confidentiality about their HIV status".

The committee looked at draft policies at UCT, Natal and Wits. The draft Aids policy would be circulated among students and staff for comment before becoming official University policy.

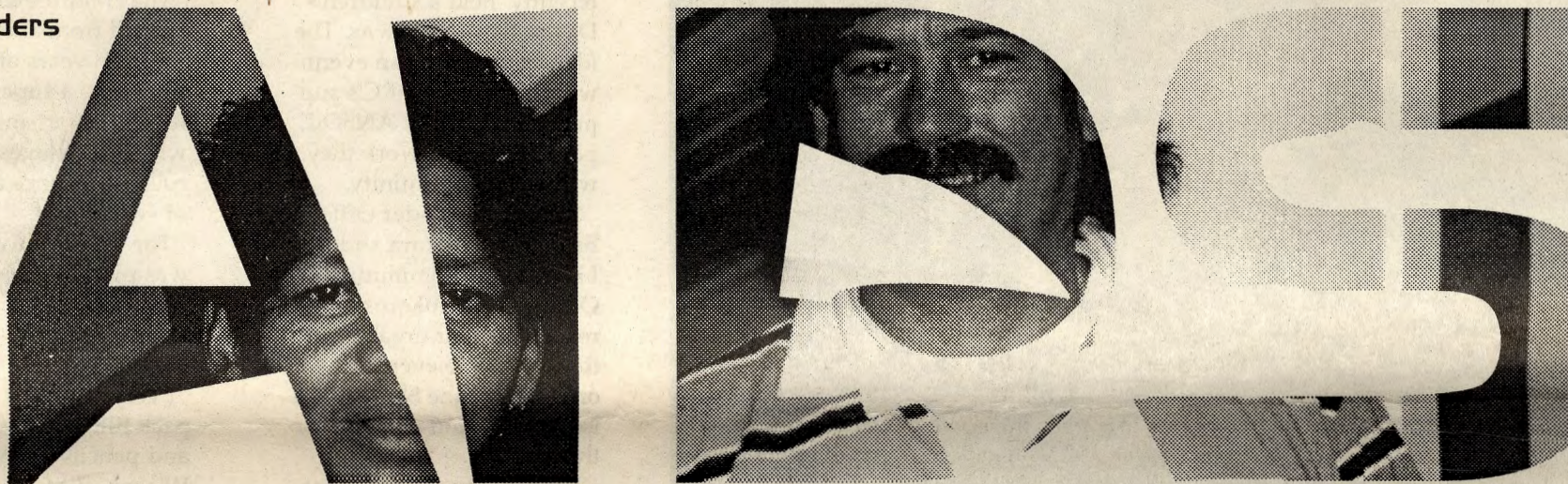
Students' Representative Council Gender Officer, Easter Chigumira, suggested that the SRC should use some of its budget to help Rhodes buy AZT. Talk of an Aids policy had been going on for three years, but nothing has happened. "Students are apathetic about getting involved in the process here,"

said Chigumira.

The head of the Rhodes Sanatorium, Sister Rosemary Buchner, said an Aids policy was vital for all. "Students must be able to see in black and white that they won't be discriminated against. If students know there's a network of support for them, they'll free relaxed about disclosing their HIV status. The more they do that the better," she said.

Nobody knew the exact number of HIV-infected Rhodes students because "relatively few students come for HIV testing". Buchner said a new HIV testing system was in place to "tighten up confidentiality". Maybe Dr Nkhozasana Zuma, our national minister of health, should take hint.

pic :
 Sam Reinders



A W A R E N E S S W E E K 1 9 9 9

 **25% students HIV positive**

By Hildah Mupfurutsa

In a residence of 80 students, 20 are infected; in a sports team of 12, three are infected, in a group of four, one is infected!

The danger doesn't stop there because each one of that 25% has a partner, or statistically speaking, 2.25 partners. Think about it, where does that leave us in five, ten years time?

The Eastern Cape Herald recently reported that 25% students were diagnosed as HIV positive at Fort Hare University. "This fact should have students thinking about the potential risk they are facing. Rhodes is not very different from Fort Hare University and who is to say that our percentages are not even higher," said Easter Chigumira, an SRC member who is actively involved in HIV/AIDS awareness and education on Rhodes campus.

Sarah Smiles, and Chris van Heerden, two people living with HIV are in Grahamstown to raise awareness and educate people about the reality of HIV/AIDS. Smiles, a mother of four, urged students to regard everyone as potentially HIV positive unless proven otherwise.

"There is no physical means of identifying who is and who isn't HIV positive, people therefore have to take extra precaution and regard everyone as potentially HIV positive," she advised.

"I was waiting in the doctor's surgery when the doctor popped out to call his next patient and tell me the results were positive", said van Heerden.

Chris does not know how long he has to live and has resigned himself to spending the rest of his life raising awareness of HIV/AIDS and helping people living with HIV.

According to Sister Buchner of the Rhodes Sanatorium, "abstinence can no longer be seen as a dirty word. It is now the most effective survival strategy".

She urged students and the community at large to become more aware of the risk they put themselves at in indulging in sexual activity with an infected person.

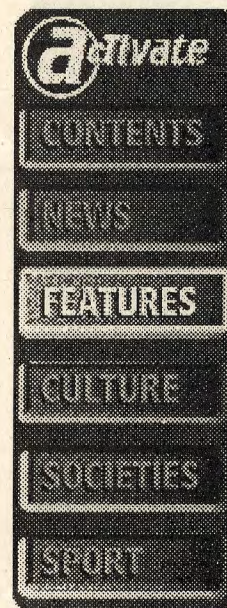
"Condoms are only 98% effective and will not guarantee you protection from the virus", she warned. The Rhodes Sanatorium and the Family Planning Clinic provide HIV tests and full family planning services, including free condoms.

STATS THE AIDS CRISIS IN FIGURES

- In the Port Elizabeth area, which until last year included Grahamstown, the first 4 cases of HIV were reported in 1987.
- By 1989, this had climbed to 30 new infections. The first 5 deaths from Aids were also recorded that year.
- The numbers continued to increase. In 1994, 1534 new HIV cases, and 140 deaths from Aids were recorded.
- In 1997, a total of 5234 new HIV cases, and 414 deaths from Aids, occurred.
- Average Age at death was 29.4 years.
- By 2002, an estimated 25 per cent of the South African population will be HIV positive.
- If current trends continue, 50 per cent of South Africans will be infected with the Aids virus in 15 years' time.

Source: Sarah Smiles.

Not so gaily sensitive ?



By Kelly Robert O'Donoghue

RMR's first ever show dedicated to gay issues has created a lot of controversy.

"Gaily Forward", a weekly three-hour show aired from 22H00 to 01H00 on Thursdays, is presented by "Fig and Fag".

The show was initially met with an air of acceptance in the fairly tolerant Rhodes University environment.

However, last week's show, entitled "the ins and outs of gay sex" alarmed listeners by its explicitness.

The explicit and graphic details of gay sex described by Fig and Fag not only shocked but offended some listeners.

"I don't mind what they do behind closed doors but I don't want to be subjected to what they have to say about anal sex over



Pic : Pia Marangoni

Fig 'n Fag - free-minded social commentators or wannabe gay-rights poster boys ?

the radio whilst I am listening," commented one listener.

Fig and Fag said that their aim was not to shock listeners but to "educate them (listeners) as well as showing that it's okay to be gay."

Several Rhodes students said that posters displayed on campus to advertise the show had angered them.

The posters showed a photograph of two men having sex with a black block censoring the genitals.

A number of the posters were ripped off walls and notice boards. "You don't walk around and see a poster of heterosexual couples having sex advertising a heterosexual show" said one aggravated student.

Should I stay or should I go?

Expectations For Festival '99

By Samantha Reinders

Fest...the word on everyone's lips already. I hear a yawn off in the distance. Someone mumbles...same thing, just a different year. Perhaps...but this year there are definitely a couple of things worth braving the weather and maddening crowds for.

One of the most exciting, never-been-seen-before, performances of the upcoming fest must be Stomp. Look forward to an exhilarating percussion and dance extravaganza that generates every imaginable form of rhythm - just by using everyday items such as pots, pans and Zippo lighters.

Nederlands Dans Theatre - a dance group that caused a stir at the Klein Karoo Festival earlier this year - are staging only one show, but this talented group is a definite must-see.

Pieter-Dirk Uys is also in town - with no less than 5 shows. If you are up for a good giggle these are a must! Other celebs to look out for are Breyten Breytenbach, Marthinus Basson, Brett



Bailey and Hugh Masekela, to name but a few.

If jazz is up your alley then this Festival will keep you busy for hours. The African Jazz Pioneers, Masakheke Youth Choir, Hugh Masekela, Dolly Rathebe and the Elite Swingsters are set to thrill any jazz lover.

Rhodes University is putting on a play by Max Rayneard called About Midnight.

Described as a comically bizarre thriller where reality and fantasy merge and separate, this one seems promising.

So there you have it...from music to dance and theatre to exhibitions...it all depends on what floats your boat! Add all this to the usual hustle and bustle that becomes Grahamstown (come on admit it - you do enjoy it) and there should be enough reasons to stay put in G-town for a couple more days this year.

pics :
Toast Coetzer
Sam Reinders

With preparations for the rarified 25th anniversary festival underway, Rhodents who aim to stay local over the July vac will have a smorgasbord of stimuli to look forward to

Piper calls 'Rhodents' to attention

Tamara Kenny

THE LIGHTS were bright, the music was loud and the costumes were utterly ridiculous- it was fabulous. The Rhodes Drama Department recently presented The Pied Piper (of Rainbow Town), adapted and directed by Jane Osborne.



This half-hour children's production portrayed the classic tale in three languages: English, Afrikaans and Xhosa. This was to accommodate for the cultural differences of the hundreds of children who viewed this dynamic play, and made for some humorous moments in the production.

The basic story line was the same, but a few alterations gave it a certain South African flair. The criminal rats - hijackers, thieves and muggers- stormed the homes of the peaceful (and obscenely happy) Rainbow Town citizens. The citizens then turned to their Town Council - large self-indulgent, deceitful, box-shaped people. The Council's saving grace is the Pied Piper who they promise to pay "one thousand rand" to, if he can rid their town of rats. With a simple but effective movement choreographed by Gary Gordon,

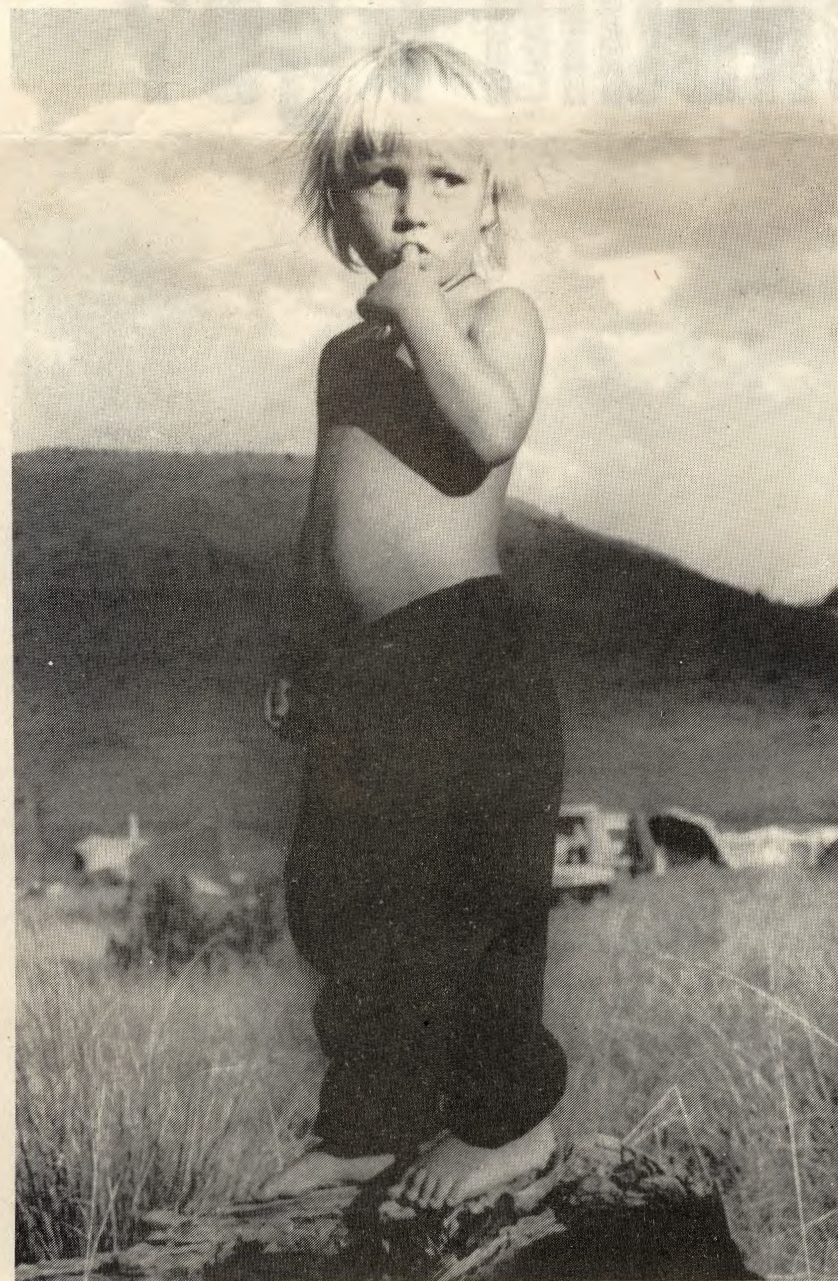


the rats were tranced into prison by the puppet representing the Pied Piper. When the people claimed not to have any money to pay the Piper, he hypnotised the children of the town and took them away to a magical playground. Only when the townsfolk promise to keep their promises are the children returned.

The basic message of the story was to encourage the children to keep their promises, and to be prepared for the consequences if they don't. A lesson many adults need to learn as well.

The production was enhanced by a score of Stravinsky's symphonies, which made for lively and expressive acting, and wonderful audience participation. The children were invited onto the stage after each performance, before climbing through the magic rat-hole.

They were fascinated by the large costumes, the smoke machine, the brightly coloured props and it was a truly amazing experience to see the wonder in their faces.



A frozen moment from the Splashy Fen Festival held in the Underberg from 28 April to 2 May. This festival celebrated it's 10th anniversary this year with a musical line-up including Boo!, Fetish, Famous Curtain Trick, THC and more. Pic: Sam Reinders.



Mindspeak

[untitled]

can trees cry?
 could the foetus scream?
 did he rape her mind?
 did she have to be a child?
 can slit wrists heal?
 do tears ever dry?
 do I have to feel?
 I tried to save the
 faced the puppies' squeal
 but find blank faces
 and heartless spaces
 I'm through world
 I've given up on you
 So, Lord, can I have my
 wings back
 this gravity's got my soul

HOPE

Outside two boys were playing,
 Seemingly unaware
 Of the difference between them,
 One black, one white.
 They sounded completely happy,
 Playing cricket in the yard
 And chattering away,
 As little children will.
 I'm sure they were aware
 Of their different coloured skin
 But, in the greater scheme of
 games,
 It didn't matter to them.
 As they grew through the years
 Their attitudes would change,
 But friendships from childhood
 Would mean more than race to
 them.
 Change isn't something surface,
 Something to enforce;
 It's something that you feel
 When little children play.

N.L.

Claire Hawkrigde

Counter Culture

IF YOU WERE told that a children's production could be even remotely political, you would likely snigger and walk away. As the elections approach, politics is on everyone's minds, and is appropriately discussed in the Drama Department's new production. The Pied Piper was designed for children, and its message was simple - but no-one ever said that adults don't read deeper into classics. Corrupt politicians, criminals released for good behaviour, unpaid taxes and Rhodent infestations may begin to sound quite familiar.

A multilingual nation trying to be heard and have their problems solved by ministers who battle to understand the concept of honesty is not uncommon in South Africa.

No, this production was not realistic, it was not intended to be. The children were fascinated and now understand the consequences of not keeping their promises in future. The interaction between the actors and children solidified the message, and perhaps because of a dynamic theatre experience, these children will grow up to be future leaders who are capable of being honest and trustworthy.

As per usual, here comes the little bitch about people not attending theatre - especially children's theatre. Our children need to be brought out of the T.V. rooms and back into the places where real stories are told, where live action happens in front of their eyes, and they can interact with and think about their experience.

And for all of those people who think that Karma should have been given preference for use of the theatre over this "silly, little half-hour children's play", come back and talk to me when you have found yourself a little culture, and another brain cell to keep the first one from being lonely: music is also a form of theatre. Why do you enjoy live performances? Because of the atmosphere, the people become real and human. If you had never been exposed to that, how would you know to miss it? Somewhere, somehow, you have been in a theatre and experienced that reality. If you take the children out of the theatre, when they are older, why should they bother to see an unplugged session, when they can buy the CD? At least give them to opportunities that you enjoy.

Pollyanna-on-Speed

Umdudo brings fiery brilliance to a bleak midwinter

by Sam Reinders

GRAHAMSTOWN'S winter had definitely set in and there was nothing I would have enjoyed more than to be cuddled up in bed. (Alternatively inside the doors of the Rat with a glass of red wine!) The thought of reviewing a festival of dance was most definitely not hot on my list of things to do today. As I took my seat in the Rhodes Theatre I was positive that I was destined to fall

asleep. How wrong I was.

Pulsating bodies, graceful moves and fiery performances combined with the sounds of drum beats and digiridoo's set the scene for start of the 1999 FNB Vita Dance Umdudo. One thing was certain - sleep was not going to be on the agenda for the evening. Quite the contrary!

This is the fourth time this festival of dance is being celebrated and with only one night of the festival completed it already appears that it will be one of the best yet.

The opening night began with the evocative beauty of Kevin Volans's music combined with the yet-again brilliant performance of the First Physical Theatre Company and Helen Seaman in particular. Rhodes University Drama Department maintained a high presence

with three different pieces. Acty Tang's performance was notably spectacular - I only hope he doesn't catch pneumonia!

Moeketsi Koen, Assistant Artistic Director for the Soweto Dance Theatre, also provided a breathtaking dance performance.

Personally the highlight of the evening was the traditional dancing of the aptly named Brighter Future Theatre Company. Armed with only a drum, bottle tops around their ankles and their skilful traditional dance, these youngsters showed the appreciative audience what the youth of today can do.

At the reception after the show I overheard one of the performers recounting all the hard work that they had put into the preparation of their dance. He ended his conversation by saying,



Acty-Tang warned the audience with a fiery performance in *The Dragon's Kiss*.

PIC: Sam Reinders

"Shoo...tomorrow I am going to have a big hangover!" That pretty much summed it up...for him and for me.

Counter Culture

ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE... or so the saying goes. As winter approaches, Grahamstown is winding itself up for a fantastic "festival" season, and the Drama Department is definitely going at it with full force.

In the past few weeks, we have seen cabaret and comedy, drama and dance. Those who missed Kryspad, The Fall of the House of Usher and the Dance Umdudo, definitely missed the boat. Intense. Amazing. Spectacular. But hey, who really expected anything less? Next up is the Pied Pier of Hamelin, directed by Jane Osborne. This children's pantomime full of rumbling, tumbling and rainbow people may appeal to many Rhodents out there.

Chances are, though, you haven't really taken the time to find out what exactly appeals to you. The opportunities are here, festival is just around the corner, and the G-spot is overflowing with creative energy. It's about time that the majority of the Rhodes students begin living up to the "arty" Rhodes stereotype (even if you are a commerce-junkie) and take to the theatres. You never know, it could be the mind fuck we're all looking for.

'Nature Art' controversy

by Nadine Botha

RHODES FINE ART Masters student, Elaine Matthews experienced controversy and harassment over her sculpture exhibition on the summit of Gaika's Kop near Hogsback.

"I find it alarming that people are capable of condemning art that they don't understand and can threaten to destroy creative work," said Matthews. The exhibition is a temporary site-specific installation that aims to create "an awareness of the sacred in nature".

According to Matthews, she ensured permission from local farmer Richard Bowker to use part of his land on the top of Gaikas Kop to install the work. However, upon receiving an invitation to the opening, Bowker withdrew permission saying that the work was 'satanic.' Matthews then gained verbal approval to use the land from Hamish

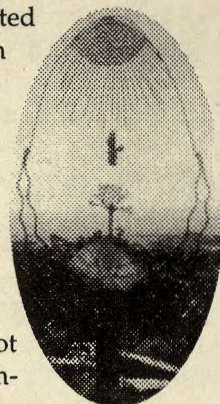
Wylie, Hogsback Plantation Manager for SAFCOL - a forestry company which rents part of the mountain from the Department of Water Affairs and Electricity.

The exhibition opened on 21 March, receiving a very positive reaction from the media and public. Said Matthews: "I have taken over 90 people to see it, despite the difficulty of getting to the top of the mountain." The Hogsback Arts Council requested that it form part of their Arts Festival programme, which took place over the Easter weekend.

On the Thursday before Easter, Wylie phoned Matthews and threatened to "throw the sculptures off the mountain" if she did not remove them immediately. Matthews spoke to SAFCOL divisions director of forests, Mr Piet Odendaal, who agreed to allow Matthews to leave

the work on the mountain until after the festival. However, on taking a group of people to view the work, Matthews discovered that the penis of the central figure had been ripped off and that someone had erected a rudimentary wooden crucifix opposite the work.

After receiving a threat from Bowker that evening to remove her sculptures - or else he would - Matthews removed them so as not to risk any further damage. She has also been receiving anonymous phone calls, "quoting biblical texts in a very hysterical manner."



activate

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Play with your radio

by Jana Barnard

TUESDAY EVENINGS are no longer an intellectual wasteland, with RMR's new cultural offering, RAT (Rhodes Audio Theatre). Radio plays, very popular in the 50s and 60s, have been revived on RMR.

"It's completely different," says Sam Wilson, who initiated the programme. Each production is written, directed and voiced by a team of Rhodes students. For Isaac Kosmides, student playwright, the productions are a way to "create a new audience by creating radio scenes which are expected to be confined to television". He says that the aim is to use old methodology to develop a new target market beyond the standard chat and music shows that have been dominating the RMR radio waves. The concept was born last year, when Wilson wanted to do something entirely different on RMR, despite negative responses.

"I realise now why nobody has tried it before," says Wilson. "It takes nine hours of labour-intensive production to produce a fifteen to thirty minute play, not including the time it takes to write it". The producer's task is made a little easier by generous support from RMR and the Drama Department.

RAT has received enthusiastic audience response. One listener described it as "a wonderful idea. Radio plays open up doors for people who aren't drama students to be exposed to theatre." She hopes that listening to RAT will become a new "Rhodes thing". The show is set to run fortnightly, at 21:00 on Tuesdays. RAT plans to publish the scripts accumulated during the year, to allow for adaptation for the stage. "It's amazing how many really, good scriptwriters there are at Rhodes," says performer Jordan Ross.

Political Debate

By Donna Kipps

WALK OUT into the street and ask a couple of students how they feel about the upcoming national elections. Chances are you'll find widespread uncertainty and apathy. Strange, considering the four year reign of the incoming government will be the period when most of us will be laying down the tracks for our (gasp) more permanent lives.

Many students "don't know who to vote for", and many are considering just staying in bed on June 2. There are a couple of thousand young voters on this campus who need to realise the responsibility that's been handed them. Students feel they don't know enough about the various parties and what they represent to make an informed choice.

Now, I'm big on informed choices, but a lack of knowledge shouldn't stop anyone from voting - it should merely get them out into the real world to find out more.

Rhodes Debating is hosting a Political Debate on May 14 in the City Hall. Top political parties will debate issues impacting on the Eastern Cape and Grahamstown-Rhini area.

The parties represented will be the African National Congress, the New National Party, the United Democratic Party, the Vryheids Vront and the Pan-African Congress.

Rhodes Debating Press Liason officer Scott Burnett said, "This is the perfect opportunity for both local residents and Rhodes students and staff to find out how issues in the upcoming elections will affect their lives."

The debate will begin at 7pm and entrance is free. This is your chance to give yourself a shot at being an effective political entity - a thinking voter.

Working on the straight and narrow

Rhodes...

By Daniel Friedman

BEING A BIT on the straight side, as I am, formed an idea in my mind of what to expect from a gay, lesbian and bisexual society. I envisioned screaming queens in drag shouting from the roof tops "I'm gay and I'm proud," a vision fed by Priscilla, Queen of the Desert, and countless similar movies, newspaper articles and magazines. It was this image that was shattered forever on interviewing OutRhodes chairman, Nic Moolman.

OutRhodes does not wish to publicise a stereotype that does not reflect the gay community as a whole. Rather, OutRhodes want to avoid alienating the

straight world by creating a single impression as to what a homosexual person "is". Nic believes homophobia stems from a lack of education, and that misconceptions can be easily shattered. He speaks of a snowball effect whereby slowly this education spreads. He even goes as far as to say that fervently homophobic people have, in the past, become some of OutRhodes' closest allies, on meeting those involved with the organisation. My involvement with campus media led to me meeting, recently, someone who will be called for the sake of this article, Joe. Joe likes girls, sport and alcohol - healthy male interests. Joe considers himself the norm, and is a stereotype of every hot-blooded, white South African male. The idea of homosexuality makes Joe violently ill. I mention that I am cynical regarding whether Joe can change.

Nic Moolman believes he can. If not personally, Joe's surroundings will change until the idea of homosexuality is no longer a cause for fear and loathing. Joe will not be forced to change, but perhaps one day he will want to.

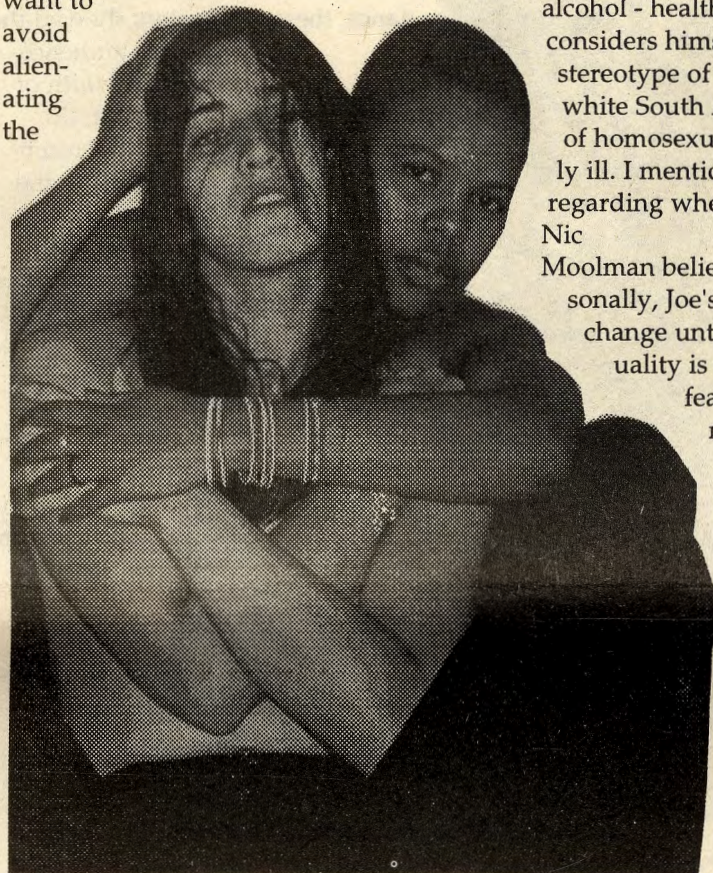
The idea that Joe should be shown enough gay individuals to break his ingrown fears and stereotypes is an idea of basic tolerance rather than sexual politics. Moolman stresses the idea of personal freedom

more than group identification. Similarly, OutRhodes does not try to force homosexual people out of the closet. Rather, Moolman speaks of a personal comfort zone, whether this means remaining secretive about your sexuality or dressing in drag and holding a rally. This idea of personal comfort paints a picture of OutRhodes as a non-political organisation. This is so. OutRhodes wish to distance themselves from STEP, the chiefly political mouthpiece for Rhodes' gay community, which no longer exists. Nic speaks of the 'hidden agendas' inherent in politics, something which would conflict with the open agenda of what OutRhodes is attempting. Nic attests to not being a diplomat, but at the same time he doesn't want to 'step' on the straight world's toes.

This is a vision of tolerance, both by straight people towards the gay world, and within the gay community as well. It is a vision that one day, a room full of homosexual, bisexual and straight people can co-exist, without any of them believing theirs is the right way. This will not happen overnight, but OutRhodes believe, pragmatically, that it can happen slowly. OutRhodes are working from the ground up.

I try and picture ol' Joe, handing out OutRhodes pamphlets proclaiming "okes, its okay to be gay". It is a difficult, perhaps impossible vision. But an inspiring one.

PIC: Tamara Kenny
Posed by: Kelly and Lerato



SASCO URGES STUDENTS TO...

Activate reporter

"EACH VOTE COUNTS" is the message of Sasco Regional Chairperson Nomava Notshe. With only 33 days until national elections, tension mounts as student political organisations on campuses across South Africa campaign to eliminate student apathy.

Notshe was addressing a gathering of delegates from across the Port Elizabeth region, including Grahamstown representatives. The two day conference was hosted by the South African Student Congress (Sasco) in response to ANC President Thabo Mbeki's call to all student organisations to revive student political awareness. Mbeki said that "student political structures must become active to ensure that the ANC enjoys hegemony in South Africa's second democratic phase."

While launching the provincial election programme, Notshe emphasised the role that the youth play in determining the country's democratic progress. She

urged all Sasco chairpersons and their Branch Executive Committees to work collectively and effectively at encouraging their constituencies to

VOTE.

She also stressed the impact and effect of every vote in choosing the government to lead South Africa through the next 5 years.

Notshe highlighted the role students in the early 70's played in transforming the then status quo, bringing about a revolutionary and democratic transition in both the country and student affairs. She said that the students' sacrifice, which included the loss of lives, should not be undermined or their struggle forgotten, as their efforts led to the freedom and privileges 90's students are now enjoying.

The transition to a democratic government did not, however, mark the end of student politics, said Notshe. Issues that existed during the struggle are still very much alive. The organisation claims that the walk to freedom is not yet over, as not all the doors of learning are open to everybody. Transformation of institutions is moving at a slow pace, if any at all. She challenged delegates to call on their constituencies for support in facilitating transformation within their respective institutions.

Sasco's national election programme is centred around the theme "Mobilise students for the renewal of the ANC's Democratic Mandate - Vote ANC." The theme was derived from the original logo on the Rhodes Sasco 1999 t-shirt, which was adopted because it encompasses all facets of student politics stand for and the principles envisaged by Sasco as a national student organisation.

Soccer Ladies Score

By Elmarie Fisher

Rhodes Ladies Soccer have proven their worth yet again with three players chosen to represent Eastern Province in the EP trials held on the 8th of May.

The players chosen were mid fielder Elmarie Fisher, striker Helen Fox and mid fielder Kutala.

The three will represent the Province in the SASSU tournament to be held in July.

Although Ladies soccer was only introduced to Rhodes University last year, the players have proven themselves talented enough to not only represent their university, but the Eastern Province. However, in order to keep up the high standards they will need all of Sport Administration's support.

12-66:What's wrong with Rhodes Rugby?

By Nick Ferreira

THE SECOND HALF of the Rhodes 1st XV rugby match against Buffaloes on Saturday, 8 May, brought that familiar sinking feeling to the crowd of supporters. As the opposition ran in try after try, it was left to those members of the Rugby Club sitting in the stands to answer the often asked question: "What's wrong with Rhodes rugby?" And the even tougher question: "How do we fix it?"

The most obvious answer is that the Border Premier League is no place for an under 21 rugby side. Twelve members of our starting XV are under 21, and most will still be next season. And as any Rhodes forward will tell you, there is absolutely no substitute for size and experience, especially in the tight five.

The players themselves often cite discrimination from Sports Administration. They don't give us money because we don't win, and we can't win because we don't have any

money, the argument goes. While its true that Rugby receives less in the way of sports bursaries than Rowing or Hockey, its not true that the poor results are Admin's fault. The Rugby Club

This is especially true of senior players, whose academic commitments force them to choose res over Rhodes Rugby.

Despite these problems, Rhodes Rugby Club manages to maintain high spirits. The players are loyal and the coaches and committee members are dedicated and hard-working. Even so, the demoralising effect of score lines like the one we saw on Saturday are not to be underestimated. So what is the answer?

Many would have Rhodes become an under 21 club, fielding 2

sides in the Border under 21 league. The problem is what to do with the senior players who are the spine of any club, maintaining traditions and forming the leadership.

Also, we would lose our status as a proper rugby club if we had no first team competing in a premier league, and very possibly the subsidy from the Border Union.



Rhodes 1st XV rugby team suffered a humiliating defeat against the Buffaloes. Pic: Krisanne Johnson

is generously subsidized by the Border Rugby Union, employs the most expensive sports coach at Rhodes and has excellent facilities.

A more logical argument is that inter-res rugby is taken far more seriously than Rhodes Rugby. If all the talent that competes in inter-res played for Rhodes our pool of players would much deeper.



Another possibility is an amalgamation with the local Albany Rugby Club, similar to UPE's amalgamation with Defence. This could result in Rhodes supplying most of the under 21 players and Albany's stronger senior players dominating the first side.

The downside is that Albany have no reason to join us and Rhodes would end up losing its identity completely.

In the meantime, the only recourse left to loyal Rhodes supporters is to watch in awe as outweighed, under aged players put their balls to the wall in the sort of display that held Buffs to 21-7 at half time. But that sort of heart is what the game is all about.

Bad turn-out for Aids Marathon

By Marguerite Hill

AS PART OF the AIDS awareness week program, the Aerobics club was approached by SRC to hold a marathon on Thursday 6th May.

Despite the eager efforts of the Aerobics club, there was a disappointing turnout with no more people attending than at a normal class. This is possibly due to the fact that SRC failed to advertise sufficiently.

any sport. This called for trainee instructors, Lee-Anne Barnes and Michelle Schlotfeldt to put their skills to the test. A brave effort was made by these two enthusiastic students, as well as by Catherine Harrison-Smith, and an energetic hour and a half was enjoyed by the participants.

The club surprised several participants with spot prizes consisting of aerobics gear. After everyone's brave efforts, all were invited to



Pic: Sam Reinders

Unfortunately, the club's two qualified instructors, Sashir Staddon and Lianke Van Wyk were both suffering from illnesses preventing them from participating in

reward themselves with Energade and fruit provided by the club.

Rhodes rowing - definite contenders for victory at Boat races

Christelle du Toit

AFTER GOING THROUGH a bad patch earlier this year, Rhodes rowing has managed to pick themselves up and are looking like definite contenders for victory at Boat Race 1999.

In the previous edition of Activate, I reported on the trouble experienced by the Rhodes Rowing Club. I believe that all the facts given were correct, but I do acknowledge that some facts were left out. This article aims to rectify some of the misconceptions my previous one might have created.

The club has recognised that it has had some trouble over the past season but is ready to look towards the future and focus on winning Boat Race. The men and the ladies have won Boat Race for the past six years and there is no reason why this year should be different.

The combination of fresh talent entering the club and

old rowers' experience promises to be the recipe for success. The past problems of inconsistent training and lack of motivation seems to be sorted out at last.

The Rhodes rowers put in some serious effort for the South African Championships. All teams performed well against strong competition from well-known South African clubs like Old Eds. The B ladies came first out of the universities in their category after coming last in their heat at SA Universities.

At a club meeting on Tuesday 4 May it was clear that the rowers are committed to creating a structure in which the club can perform optimally. Pete Andrew, head of Sports Admin, attended the meeting and stated that he believes that "Boat Race season will bring the club back together." He expressed his trust in the clubs ability

and assured them of his continued support for the rest of the season.

Hey! You!

Got a story idea? Want to contribute to your student paper?

Join us for newsgathering next term

Time: 7 PM

Date: Tuesday 20 July

Place: Activate office, student union building, alternatively, e-mail the respective editor at:

news/features/culture/sports@activate.soc.ru.ac.za.

Together we can speed up change.

Together, we've won our freedom and dignity.

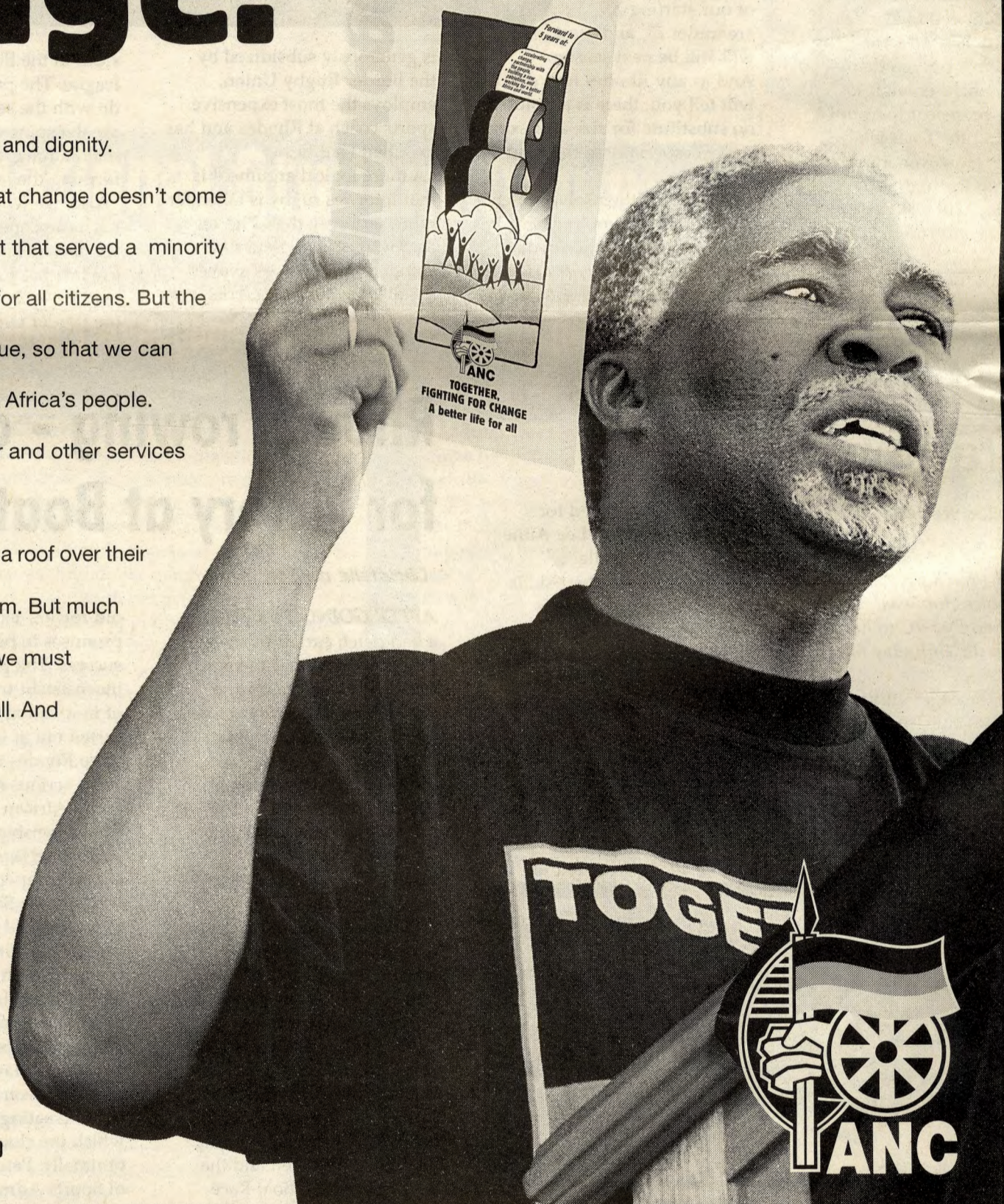
But our experience has shown that change doesn't come easily. We've ended a government that served a minority only, and formed one that works for all citizens. But the fight to bring change must continue, so that we can meet the basic needs of all South Africa's people.

We have brought electricity, water and other services to millions of people.

Today 750 000 more families have a roof over their heads, on land that belongs to them. But much more work lies ahead. Together, we must step up the fight for a better life for all. And make change happen faster.

**TOGETHER,
FIGHTING FOR CHANGE.**
A better life for all.

Vote ANC.



For comments and queries please contact your nearest ANC Office.
Issued by the African National Congress, PO Box 61884, Marshall Town 2107.

RP Right Party
 ●desires an independent state based on ethnic principles because of the uncontrollable rate of crime in the country .similar to the Swiss Canton system
 ●GLK Sinclair @ 011-609621

PPP People's Progressive Party
 ●to provide the people of South Africa with a political alternative which is dedicated to the protection of the rights of the individual and the achievement of the full potential of every human being within a framework of democratic principles and a social market economic order
 ●Contact George Malebana-Metsing @ 014-5656578

PAC Pan Africanist Congress Of Azania
 ●a party committed to a non-racial, gender affirming , africanist and democratic South Africa/Azania, wherein human potential is realised to its fullest
 ●commitment to non-racialism and affirm that the opportunities for human development must be open to all
 ●Contact MM Muendane @ 012-3206243

NNP New National Party
 ●to play a leading role in redefining South African politics by bringing together a majority of South Africans In a dynamic political environment, based on proven core values and Christian norms and standards
 ●Contact Dirk Bakker @ 012-3446050

MUM Mass Union Movement
 ●the party and equality perspective of creed
 ●to liberate South African population .seeks represent the United Nations issues of violence
 ●Contact R 333656

SAFA South African Freedom Alliance
 ●to address the marginalisation of the coloured population in South African politics, industry and housing delivery.
 ●Contact C Boyles @ (011) 616 0298

SPP Sindawoyne progressive Party
 ●the party strives for the shaping of a democratic government that is free of corruption and autocracy
 ●Contact M Mtsweni @ 013-9472113

SOPA Socialist Party Of Azania
 ●to build a strong socialist party based on opposition to all forms of racism, sexism and capitalist exploitation through the leadership of the black working class and its party
 ●only the black working class and the rural poor have the necessary class interest to create a Socialist Workers' Republic of Azania

NEP The New Earth Party
 ●concerned with environmental issues such as deforestation and the depletion of natural resources
 ●affiliations to environmental organisations worldwide
 ●advocates that income tax be done away with to stimulate the economy

UDA United Democratic Alliance
 ●committed to promoting human rights
 ●promoting economic, social and cultural development
 ●supports the maintenance and enforcement of law and order
 ●wants maintenance of a reasonable budget and system of education
 ●Contact A Stals @ 021-9529736

UDM United Democratic Movement
 ●the party will unite South Africans from all communities in a new political home, built on the foundation of the principles and ideals of our national Constitution
 ●the party will address poverty and imbalances in our society

VSP Vukuzenzele Sekusile Party
 ●a provisional party that is committed to the ideas of democracy, freedom and peace and strives to unite all people of Mpumalanga, regardless of race, colour, gender, creed, religion or culture.
 ●founded to address the lack of service delivery, particularly in response to rising unemployment, high crime rate and poor health services.
 ●Contact P Skosana @ (013) 947 2520

XP Ximoko
 ●a multi-party organisation which stands for a non-racial, non-sexist democratic country based on universal adult suffrage

ANC African National Congress
 ●created to defend and advance the rights of African people after the violent destruction of their independence through Apartheid
 ●believes in the creation of a non-racial, non-sexist, democratic society
 ●Contact Amos Masondo @ 011-337262

ACDP African Christian Democratic Party
 ●represents a new start for a new South Africa through the presence of God
 ●consists of multi-racial leadership and common principles to bring hope to the nation
 ●stands for Christian principles, freedom of religion, open free market economy, family values, community empowerment and human rights in a federal system
 ●Contact LM Green @ 021-461-2048

AMP African Moral Party
 ●calls for equal redistribution of the country's resources
 ●believes that homosexuality and other deviant behaviour are detested by the majority of South Africans, and will not allow a handful of neo-liberals to destroy society
 ●stand for reimposing the death penalty for murderers, rapists, child abusers and hijackers
 ●Contact Gulam Sabdia @ 012-323-4000

AEB Afrikaner Unity Movement
 ●strives to unite the Afrikaner, and empower him economically and otherwise, to enable him to develop his full potential which can be utilised to the advantage of the nation
 ●supports free market principles and objects to discriminatory employment procedures, affirmative action and nepotism
 ●Contact D du Plessis @ 012-567-0388

STUDENT'S ELECTION

TAKE THE PLUNGE

Vote and make your first time perfect has been the sentiment echoed by a group of Journ 2's eager to lure students to the polls. And that's well and good. But what about the second time, doesn't that count? If not, then pretty soon you may find yourself lulled into that familiar routine -- middle-aged, disillusioned, tired and wanting out.

Many thought they made their first time perfect on 27 April 1994, getting in a new democratic government, embracing the hopes and dreams of the collective nation and of course, booting out the old, tyrannical and blatantly unjust one. The second time, they reckon, just has no significance.

In fact, the next elections are possibly far more important than the first. According to Guy Berger, Journalism's head of department, "The next elections are about lots more than who sits in the next parliament or provincial legislature. The poll will set the political agenda for a long time to come. It can fan expectations and fix lines of division. It can also feed a culture of political tolerance and foster accountability".

So those of you who are thinking about coping out of voting start thinking seriously about the rights you are giving up as a member of the best known political system we have at present, democracy.

Democracy is not some flimsy concept brought on by tight-assed philosophers to make our lives more difficult. The basic tenets entail participation at grass-roots level; that is you and me; with a plurality of ideas, criticism

VOTE SA...for a damn good shot at making this country as close to the mental vision of excellence that we have locked up in our heads, as possible.

and/or appraisal. And most of all, it cannot be sustained in a vacuum.

Voting can therefore mean choosing a party that embodies the vision you have of the country, or about strategic choice. The former is easier, going with gut instinct and allegiance. The second is more arduous. It requires serious political engagement and contemplation and the action is dependent on the principles of democracy; that is getting in the best possible party that can do the least amount of harm or, the best possible opposition to keep the government in check.

Waiving your right is that last recourse and should show evidence of knowledge of the process, parties and rational decision making.

Considering that 89% of students in tertiary institutions don't even know how the president is elected into office, most students would have to make some leaps and bounds to be able to execute the last strategy with success (statistic from Reality Check- April 28, 1999).

It is said that a person with a little knowledge is arrogant but a person with a lot more knowledge questions. I hope that as students we strive to attain a critical, open agenda on life.

So, put down that fascinating accounts textbook on June 2 and Vote SA...for a damn good shot at making this country as close to the vision of excellence that we have locked up in our heads, as possible. And then maybe go down to Popart to celebrate your country, but be sure to stay within the legal limit, otherwise you may be celebrating the rest of the day in jail.

So YOU'RE NOT VOTING

Ivor Sarakinsky, political analyst at Rhodes, said students were not entirely disinterested in politics. They were simply following a general trend of a "depoliticised" society.

"Politics is less important now because of the transition to democracy," he said.

"Before one would talk politics at the dinner table, now we talk about the weather," he said.

A normalisation has occurred in which people are living as citizens, not

as political activists. Before, students used to get involved when big issues arose, because of Apartheid and the desire to rid society of it. Now, they are focussing more on their studies and social lives.

Sarakinsky said that the apathy of the student body at all universities was common. However, he felt students, aged 18, were excited about voting for the first time because they were aware of the dynamics involved in the election process.

because...

- A** You are disillusioned with politics and politicians, who make promises but do not deliver the goods.
- B** There is little or no election awareness on campus and you do not know who to vote for.
- C** The elections will take place during exams and you would rather study than waste time voting.
- D** The voting registration point did not coincide with the place you will be at on election day.
- E** You see politics as an adult concern.

EXERCISE YOUR RIGHTS

The Bill of Rights is a cornerstone of democracy in South Africa. It enshrines the rights of all people in our country and sets out democratic values of human dignity, freedom.

POLITICAL RIGHTS
 The right to free, fair and regular elections and stand for public office.

EQUALITY
 Discrimination on grounds of race, gender, pregnancy, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion, conscience, belief, culture language is unlawful.

HUMAN DIGNITY
 Everyone has inherent dignity and the right to have their dignity respected and protected.

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION
 This includes freedom of the press and other media; freedom to receive and impart information; ideas; freedom of artistic creativity; academic freedom and freedom of scientific research.

LANGUAGE AND CULTURE
 The right to use the language and to participate in the cultural life of choice.

PRIVACY
 The right not to have your person, home or correspondence searched; your possessions seized and your privacy of your communication infringed.

ASSEMBLY DEMONSTRATION PICKET AND PETITION
 The right, peacefully and unarmed, to assemble, to demonstrate, picket and to petition.

HOUSING
 The right to have access to adequate housing.

HEALTH CARE, FOOD, WATER AND SOCIAL SECURITY
 Access to adequate health care, food, water and social security.

EDUCATION
 Entitlement to basic education including primary education and further education.

LIMITATION OF RIGHTS
 Rights are not absolute. They may be limited in terms of law of general application provided that the limitation is reasonable and justifiable in an open and democratic society.

United Movement
 aims to promote unity
 among all people Irre-
 of race, sex, colour or

ate not only women of
 ica, but the global female
 n
 representation for MUM in
 Nations and address
 violence against women
 R Baljath @ 0322-

National Coloured Party
 ●a multi racial party which does not seek
 separatist status
 ●aims to draw attention to the need to
 bring justice, equity and respect to
 coloureds
 ●founded in response to the realisation
 that apart from not being accepted as black
 enough to qualify for the ANC's policies on
 affirmative action, black empowerment and
 the reinstatement of land, the ANC has hid-
 den the agenda that it could not support.

MF Minority Front
 ●committed to the recog-
 nition of minority rights in
 an emerging democracy
 and entrenching these
 rights in the Constitution
 ●promoting a non-racial,
 non-sexist, democratic
 society in which there
 exists a harmonious rela-
 tionship between all com-
 munities

KISS Keep It Straight and Simple
 ●the party believes that the suc-
 cess of democracy rests on the
 wealth generated by a free econo-
 my
 ●wants to put a limit on the size
 of government by restricting the
 powers of taxing of the govern-
 ment and also by restricting its
 monopoly on the money supply
 ●Contact C Emary @ 0151-7443

JAJA Justice and Freedom Alliance
 ●to rescue South Africa from retrogres-
 sion, through innovative governance and
 21st century lateral thinking and install
 high moral, civil and economic standards
 ●a party that is based on theocratic and
 democratic principles and is the only
 alliance that embraces a large percentage
 of ubuntu, especially justice and penal
 codes practices

SURVIVAL GUIDE

South African National Election 2 June 1999

RIGHTS

ne of democra-
 es the rights of
 and affirms the
 y, equality and

ections, to vote

, gender, sex,
 disability, reli-
 uage and birth

the right to have
 d.

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 academic free-
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participate in

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AND PETITION
 to assemble,

housing.

CIAL SECURITY
 d, water and

ng basic adult

e limited only
 to the extent
 justifiable in an



Lindsey, BA student

(DYLYC) I was not born here, so my loyalty lies elsewhere. Once I
 have my degree I am off to greener pastures.
 (WDYTYVNB) A vote basically is the say of the people. If I were a South
 African citizen, I don't know if I would vote. I mean, why vote when you
 know what the outcome will be?
 (DYBITFOSA) Like all other developing countries, I think a
 revolution is inevitable.



Kelly,

3rd Year Journalism student

(DYLYC) Yes, because it is beautiful and the people are
 friendly.
 (WDYTYVNB) Yes, but because I am part of a minority group. I
 don't think that my vote will actually change anything.
 (DYBITFOSA) Yes I do, but it will take a long time because
 programs starts with education, and this is one department
 the Government is not paying much attention to.



Charisse,

4th year BA student

(DYLYC) Of course I love my country. But it
 doesn't mean I want to live here.
 (WDYTYVNB) It is important because if we are all
 apathetic about voting, nothing positive will ever be
 achieved.
 (DYBITFOSA) SA is a beautiful country, but we have a
 long way to go before things improve. I think that
 while resentment for policies such as affirma-
 tive action will cause a lot of trouble. We
 have a lot to fight for.



Krishna,
 Theology Student

(DYLYC) Very much so.
 (WDYTYVNB) Voting is like saying, "I
 count", and that I have a say about how I
 will be governed.
 (DYBITFOSA) SA is beautiful. We must
 act positively and know that God will
 help us.



Stix,

4th year commerce student

(DYLYC) Yes.
 (WDYTYVNB) The power is in the youth's hands. We are the
 future of this country.
 (DYBITFOSA) Yes, but it is difficult to see a light at the end
 of the tunnel when crime and violence is rife. It is up
 to us to do something about it.

CAMPUS VOICE

(DYLYC) Do you love your country?
 (WDYTYVNB) Why do you think your vote
 is important?
 (DYBITFOSA) Do you believe in the
 future of South Africa?

PROMISES, LIES AND DELIVERY

With Madiba's release from Robben Island, the nation rose
 up together to welcome in a new age for South Africa. He
 embodied the people's hopes and aspirations, their desperate
 need for a new governing body that would fairly
 represent them as citizens of the New SA. Viva
 Nelson Mandela, Viva ANC...

But once in power, in an obviously imperfect
 world, the problems had surfaced, and some of
 their earnest promises had become impossible
 dreams.

Political analyst, Ivor Sarakinsky, said the history begins
 with the ANC's Freedom Charter of 1955 - a rather idealistic
 document in terms of meeting the needs of South Africans but
 based on a hope for a better future.

It then became apparent that as the next government, the
 ANC, although a powerful political force, had to become prac-
 tical in the face of the harsh world of politics. Enter the RDP.
 Not the "Rolex, Diamonds and Porsche" version - but the
 "Reconstruction and Development Programme".

But the ANC's inability to deliver and finance a range of
 RDP promises meant that it had to be revised. Next entry; the
 shift to GEAR, based on real economic trends.

The ANC has been successful in some areas, and less so in

others. Through President Nelson Mandela, a climate of racial
 tolerance and national reconciliation has been fostered. Without
 a sensitivity to these issues, South Africa's transition to democ-
 racy could have been very different.

Enter the RDP. Not the
 "Rolex, Diamonds and
 Porsche" version - but the
 "Reconstruction and
 Development Programme".

Water for example, is one of their success
 stories. Kadar Asmal's ministry is a model of
 creative solutions in practice, seen through
 their bringing water to the people.

The lives of citizens have also been
 improved through free medical care for preg-
 nant women and children under the ages of 5-6

for example. Education breakthroughs however have been lim-
 ited due to the legacy left by Apartheid. Housing has had
 degrees of success; although numbers lie below initial targets,
 there are more houses and fewer squatter shanties. In the pro-
 vision for proper shelter, the ANC has made significant
 progress.

But with scandals of corruption within the ANC ranks,
 squabbles between party members, and controversial projects
 such as redeployment of teachers etc., the ANC needs to clean
 up its act.

They have yet to prove themselves as capable of solving the
 problems of crime, unemployment and job creation.

ISCV

Isidiso - Salvation Christian
 Voice Organisation

●a party founded on Christian principles
 ●believes that the current problems of
 crime, violence, corruption and abortion,
 are due to the lack of godly wisdom of the
 present leadership
 ●its goal is to transform the present
 ungodly leadership to one which consists
 of a voice of God
 ●Contact E Radebe @ 016-5947947

IFP



Inkatha Freedom Party ●a cul-
 tural liberation movement to pursue the
 aims and objectives of the black struggle
 for liberation
 ●Contact Sue Felgate @ 0358-700630

God's People Party

●believes in a right to fight all lies and
 suppression by Satan and his followers
 ●JHV van Rensburg @ 017-6473356

GLA

Gay and Lesbian Alliance

●a party which wants to legalise same
 sex marriages, privatise all policing struc-
 tures, legalise gay and lesbian adoption,
 encourage provincial referendums on rein-
 troduction of the death penalty for serious
 crimes
 ●wants to criminalise all types of hate lan-
 guage and normalise attitudes on all levels
 of society towards gay and lesbian citi-

VF



Freedom Front

●a party which believes in self-determina-
 tion and a volkstaat
 ●its aim is to acquire freedom for the
 Afrikaner, as well as to serve the interests
 of compatriots
 ●Contact Colonel PD UYS @ 012-3481168

FA



Federal Alliance

●commits itself to the values, principles
 and ideals enshrined in the Constitution
 ●committed to the pursuit of an independ-
 ent judiciary, upholding and protecting the
 right to life, the rights of property owner-
 ship, free enterprise, freedom of expres-
 sion, freedom of association and language
 rights
 ●Contact Greg Deegan @ 011-4860783

DPF

**Dabalorivhuwa Patriotic
 Front**

●believes in the principle of confederalism
 (alliance states) and nationalism that will
 give rise to nation states
 ●believes that a country can run its own
 national affairs by way of self-government
 and self-determination
 ●Contact TS Makhale @ 015-9825404

AZAPO Azanian People's Organisation

●believes in a democratic order which entails
 upholding supremacy of the law
 ●believes in addressing the basic needs of all
 people, providing free compulsory education
 from pre-school to standard 9, abolishing the
 right to bail for crimes such as murder, rape,
 armed robbery and child molestation
 ●Contact MJ Kgokong @ 011-9881255

CDP Christian Democratic Party

●a party with the intention to unite all reli-
 gions in South African society in order to
 mobilise them to stand as one for the bene-
 fit of South Africa and its people
 ●Contact Johann Kotze @ 083-7250323

CP Conservative Party Of South Africa



●irrevocably committed to obtaining sov-
 ereign self-determination for the Afrikaner
 nation in its own territory
 ●Contact DW Hoffman @ 012-3291220

DP Democratic Party



●commits itself to a true democracy which
 rejects race as its basis and protects the
 dignity and liberty of all its citizens
 ●is founded on the principles which form
 the basis of liberal democracy
 ●believes in the protection of fundamental
 human rights and liberties
 ●Contact M Moriarty @ 011-881-6125



ELECTION

**Survival
Guide**

2 June 1999

X

Thabo - he's our man ...

As an intellectual and political philosopher, the image of Mbeki as the man in whom lies the solution to South Africa's crippling ills is one that the ANC is vicariously projecting.

The ANC is selling Mbeki's political strengths, his wisdom, humanity and caring. He is pictured smiling, confident and a vision-ary of sorts.

With his concept and promotion of African renaissance, Mbeki has commanded a lot of attention, and in some circles; respect, particularly from the non-white electorate.

However, some have seen this concept as signalling an anti-white sentiment.

Visions of the Zimbabwean Land Redistribution Policy

which have left a lot of white people angered and disillusioned about their future in the country immediately come to mind.

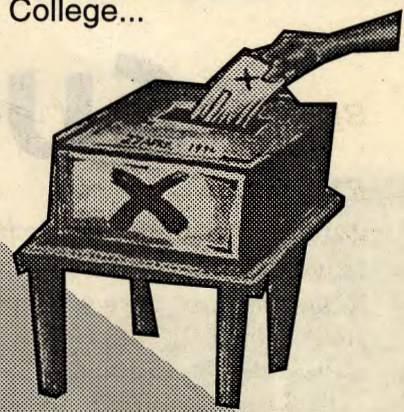
Mbeki has certainly not chewed his words as far as his position on land redistribution, black empowerment and affirmative action is concerned.

One cannot deny the necessity and dire need of these policies in order to redress past inequalities. The big question is whether Mbeki possesses in him the kind of diplomacy that will render them effective.

Critics have cited Mbeki's 'political arrogance' and 'aggressive character' as sure indicators for dictatorial rule and dubbed him, 'the second Mugabe'.

X

Places students will most likely be near to vote on June 2 -- Rhodes Theatre; Public Library; Prison (sorry, couldn't resist), St Aidan's, Graeme College...



**REALITY
CHECK**

"More than half the population think it is important to stay engaged, although they don't particularly like politics, and more than one third still believe it is important to be as involved as possible..."

28 April 1999

Snippets

To vote or not to vote?

Ex-pats won't be allowed to make their mark... According to local electoral officer, Mr. S. Cridland, only those away on business can vote.

Those on holiday over the election period must apply for a declaration vote before 25 May. This certificate can be obtained from the presiding officer for each voting district.

Prisoners have the right to vote.

Deputy president Thabo Mbeki has said that a special round of voting will take place on May 26 and 31 and June 1 for the disabled, the elderly, and pregnant women.

New party formed:

The Abolition of Income Tax and Usury Party has been formed by Stephen Goodson.

He says his party representatives could act as a catalyst to reform South Africa's monetary system and secure a better life for all citizens. Wonder how that would work!

ANC at loggerheads with DP about posters:

Of all the things to complain about, these two parties insist on attacking each other's campaign posters. What does that say about our future? Will a bunch of whiners be running the country?

Voter stats:

According to latest statistics, 18 177 million people have registered to vote.

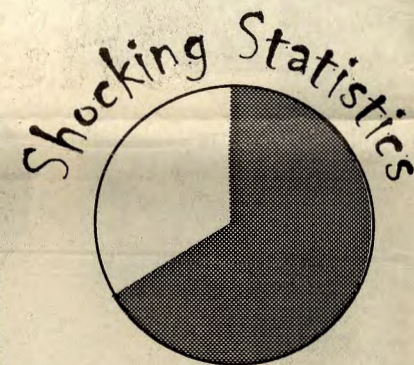
This represents 80 % of the total number of eligible voters.

Forty-eight % of those fall in the age group 18 to 20.

Exams vs Elections:

For all those worried about writing exams on that second day in June, Rhodes University has left this day free of exams to respect election day.

X



□ 31 % students registered
■ 69% students did not register

Statistics released by the IEC showed that only 870 out of a possible 2806 eligible students, had registered to vote in the campus voting district

**REALITY
CHECK**

"Almost with one voice South African's say that we should stop talking about race; then in the next breath they say that blacks and whites will never trust each other..."

Roger Friedman
(28 April 1999)



Ivor talks politics

External comment: I. Sarakinsky

Opposition parties claim that the ANC wants a 66% majority to amend the constitution and thereby empower itself as the ruling party.

The facts are that the Bill of Rights, the bastion of democracy, requires a 75% majority for amendment. Furthermore, even if the ANC were able to change the constitution, such amendments would have to stand the test of the Constitutional Court.

The most important feature of South Africa's democracy is the entrenchment of constitutional rather than parliamentary sovereignty in the Constitution. Majority parties now do not have the final say in interpreting the constitution. Instead, a judicial authority, separated from the party-political process, is the sole custodian of the new South Africa's founding document.

The Constitutional Court has already ruled twice against the ANC clearly showing that a majority party will not be able to do whatever it pleases in the next Parliament.

Analysts have also speculated about the centralisation of power around the future President, Thabo Mbeki. The main concern is with the way officials are appointed at all levels of Government.

Instead of speculating about Mbeki's motives, central intervention in appointments is explicable as a response to a weakness in the proportional representation electoral system.

Parties draw up lists of candidates and the number of representatives a party has in Parliament depends on the percentage of the national vote it receives. This means that the party, not the voters in a constituency, has to control members of Parliament to ensure that they carry out their mandate.

The experience of the last Parliament has shown that without popular control, some members of Parliament were able to pursue their own or factional interests thereby inhibiting efficient and effective government. X

"... a majority party will not be able to do whatever it pleases in the next Parliament."
- Ivor

Women Stand up and be Counted

We can't say we are going to "liberate" women. The women are part of us - women must liberate themselves."

So said Nkutsou Mtsau of Azapo at a recent gender debate with the ANC's Gauteng deputy-secretary - general.

With the elections just around the corner it is vital to take stock of what has been done for women's rights, and where the so-called "fairer sex" fits in with White Paper policy, legislation and parliamentary representation.

There has been a marked improvement in the representation of women since 1994, but certainly not enough. At present, women comprise only a quarter of all legislators at a national and provincial level, and a shocking 18% of all councillors.

With South Africa holding some of the highest figures for rape, battery and sexual harassment, the necessity for women to vote is paramount. Legislated discrimination still rears its ugly head in many laws on statute books and in customary law, and it is crucial that women are on board - participating in the system and promoting gender related matters.

But, placing women on election lists does not necessarily mean instant freedom from oppression. It requires an overhaul of deeply entrenched, socialised norms on all levels of society, a challenge that will face South African women for many years to come.

Mandla Nkomfe of the ANC believes that economic transformation is the key to liberation.

"We have already co-opted women in to the system. What is now required is a fundamental economic transformation." X

You know you're in SA

when:

+ Rwandan refugees start leaving the country because the crime rate is too high.

» When a minister is fired he returns the government cell 'phone, but keeps the G-number-plated BMW.

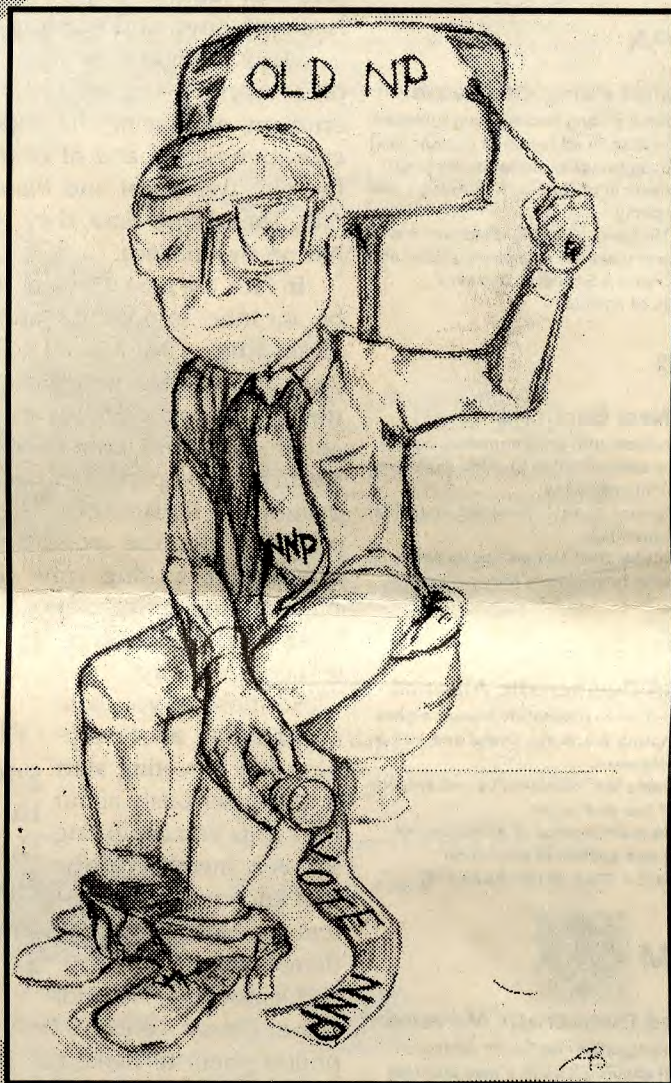
» The government has more opposition from themselves than any opposition party.

✓ Crime actually DOES pay.

* A murderer gets a 2-year sentence, and a pirate M-Net viewer a 6-month sentence.

✓ You go to prison for murder, and instead of the death sentence you get a nice box of condoms.

» The Minister of Housing didn't build a single house, and the Minister of Finance doesn't wear a tie. The Minister-without-Portfolio makes more noise than all the others put together until he is given a portfolio, and then you never hear from him again. X



Voice of the Youth

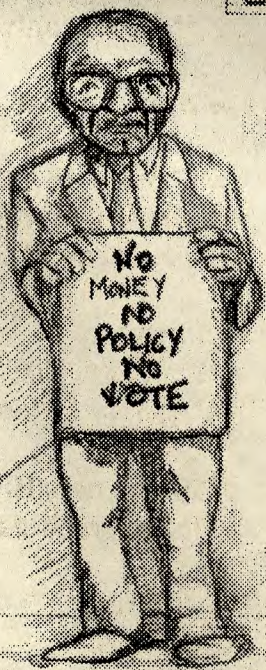
"Listen, this government has not failed at all. Five years is not long enough for all the problems that were left."

Thando Sonaba
(17 yrs old)

"I think there is a future in this country for everybody. South Africans should commit themselves to taking the country forward."



CALITZDORP



ON THE PAC CAMPAIGN TRAIL