

activate

INDEPENDENT

STUDENT NEWSPAPER

LIBRARY

In Sober Reflection...



Rhodes and Alcoholism

Editorial

Jak
Koseff,
editor



Last time I was sober
Man I felt bad
Was the worst hang-over
That I ever had
Six hamburgers, scotch all
night
Nicotine for breakfast just
to put me right
But if you wanna run
cool...you gotta run on
Heavy, heavy fuel.

-Dire Straits, Heavy Fuel.

One of the last century's most eloquently raw odes to excess, it's last line very much the battle-cry of a life lived in hot-pursuit of the next great thrill. Long ago, the Rhodent identity poured iconoclasm neat and drunk it hard, and a century of nights blissfully forgotten and at best semi-repentant morning afters followed. No one's really bothered to check if the whys and wherefores have changed since then.

The main theme of this edition is not whether students drink, but whether couture du New Street masks socially sanctioned alcoholism, and if so, why? If our last edition defended our right to the choice of the night before, now we deconstruct the morning after, and between the shattered glasses and stained clothes

try to guess at whether, somewhere along the line we've lost control. In two weeks time, you'll find the world at it's most chaotic and misunderstood crowding these pages, with in-depth pieces on Zimbabwe, abortion, and pseudo-feminism in the works. For now though, we chose to try and tap into one of the more silent dynamics of our internal universe. Alcoholism brochures the world over will lay out with clinical clarity the supposed reasons for why people get themselves mentally chained to dulled brain states and life-long hang-overs. Social acceptance and the need to deal with overbearing pressure are standard-issue among these. You could factor in endless other variables, and this is a task I leave to our flagship features piece.

What we do have to face up to is the fact that, in many ways, this place is an unnatural environment.

The toasts raised across weekly drinking sessions are to the fenced off utopia that this place becomes sometimes. Here, for perhaps the only time in our lives, we play by a rule-book self-defined - and at the same time get downright ritualistic in the way we run our social lives. The dangerous side is not this. It's what can hide behind it - how alcoholism and self-destruction can get lost in the drunken shades of grey that student culture has become painted in. If Rhodes demonstrates anything about the modern condition, it's how people handle a lifestyle that foreswears itself to no definite structure. Once you're out of res, provided you're making your tuts, getting in your essays and hauling your ass to the great hall on exam mornings, the checks and balances are blissfully absent. If you figure out how to run your own life they're not necessary. But it's helluva possible to be in a state of advanced meltdown and chalk it all up to the rules of the student lifestyle. And when most of the people around you are a touch surprised if you're not bleary-eyed and craving panadoes on a Saturday morning, it's that much easier to kid yourself you're fine - and you probably will until the day it all comes crashing down and the damage report reads irreversible.

Let us just make it damn clear that there are no final judgements in this space. We question the world around us not always to change it, but sometimes merely to understand it.

We ask of the Rhodes student not that they crash bottles in defiance of abuse on the Kaif lawns but rather that they realise that they exist in an environment where it is all too easy to lose themselves to the destructive...and not realise they're doing it. Remember, Knopfler and co. belong to the 70's - these days heavy fuel can blow you right out of the race.

Activate would like to appeal to all students to fill this space. We welcome letters to the editor from all quarters. Space allowing, all letters will be published, provided they contain no defamatory or unproven statements.

Letters can be sent by snail or e-mail or slipped into the box outside the ACTIVATE offices, first floor, Union Building.

Contact details :

Tel : +27 (46) 622 7171

Fax : +27 (46) 622 4162 (mark att: Activate)

Snail mail :

c/o Students Representative Council

P.O.Box 94

Rhodes University

6140

Republic of South Africa

Section Editors E-mail:

editor@activate.soc.ru.ac.za

pm@activate.soc.ru.ac.za (Prod. manager)

news@activate.soc.ru.ac.za

features@activate.soc.ru.ac.za

culture@activate.soc.ru.ac.za

sport@activate.soc.ru.ac.za

sasnews@activate.soc.ru.ac.za

photo@activate.soc.ru.ac.za

societies@activate.soc.ru.ac.za

interactivate@activate.soc.ru.ac.za

advertising@activate.soc.ru.ac.za

pr@activate.soc.ru.ac.za (Public relations)

collective@activate.soc.ru.ac.za

(goes to all of the above)

Reasonable Anarchy



Pollyanna-on-Speed

The lines between us

"Screw Generation X, Welcome to Generation Why?" was Ed, Jak's slogan to entice wary young journo's to join ACTIVATE. This has now, however, taken on a new slant: Welcome to Generation I.

In the past, Generation X came to symbolise the poor lost souls born in or after the 1970's who really have no aim. Apathy is their motto, and blame for any social evil generally falls on their parents. Generation I, however, seems to be a new age of youth driven by the Information Era. They are chic, sophisticated and above all, informed. E-mail, SMS, WAP and DVD make up their *lingua franca*. Unfortunately, Generation I has also become indicative of individualism: I meaning me, and me only.

Whilst the X-group, even in their own apathetic manner, believed that humanity could offer them something, if only another reason to be repressed, Generation I seems devoid of all real social contact, save that which creates economic growth - for themselves.

Recently, the South African Appellate Court overturned a ruling stating that a pregnant woman applying for executive positions could not be discriminated against due to her pregnancy. Fair? Economically, yes the company may lose revenue in her absence over the five month or more period she is on maternity leave. But in this day and age is it reasonable to assume that she has a partner who can support her financially through her

pregnancy and upbringing of her child?

Generation X, though generally incapable of real action, at least makes an attempt to cry out against such a ruling, understanding the social implications involved. The I-group sees only one thing: the loss of money which could be easily reaped by another, more "viable" individual. A man perhaps, who would not complicate issues with silly little things like pregnancy or, heaven-forbid, PMS.

But this is not an isolated occurrence found only in big-city Jo'burg companies. The I-Generation has hit the G-Spot with tremendous force, highlighted by the enormous lack of interest in the ongoing chaos in neighbouring Zimbabwe. Some Zim students are afraid to return home due to the violence that they may encounter there, and yet, the only real concern to some South Africans is either that the Zim economy will collapse and vaguely affect our own.

Basically, what is my point? Whilst Generation X, to which I tentatively ascribe myself, tends to be insipid and even downright spineless at times, at least humanity features vaguely on their list of complaints. The how-will-this-affect-me? mentality presently being adopted by my Generation I counterparts makes me cringe in considering the society our children will enter into. Somewhere along the lines, I wonder who all this change is for. Is losing our compassion worth making our future that little bit easier?

FCUK the status quo.

www.gAL.co.za

get a life the student site

gAL

get a life

Horrors of April vac

By Patience Ukama and Esau Mathope

The use of certain residences as accommodation for students who remained as Rhodes during the vacation brought to light a major security concern.

The situation is due to the use of male residences, which do not have tight security measures, such as Dallas chip systems, to stop uninvited people entering the residence.

On 8 April, 2000, at about 03:00, three unidentified males were discovered in Matthews House, a male residence used to accommodate female students during the vac. They managed to rip the pool table, trip the lights for the upstairs corridor, and then proceeded to frantically knock on ladies' doors. This created a general sense of panic and the ladies started fearing for their safety. One resident thought the knock was genuine and opened the door, only to be confronted with this hoax. The intruder's identity is still a mystery.

Another assailant managed to get into one of the ladies' rooms despite the fact that the door had been securely locked. The panic-stricken occupant of the room later described the intruder as a tall, dread-locked man.

Joyce, a sub-warden, said that the front door was not even locked. When asked to comment on the situation, Monty Cooper, the warden of Matthews House said, "It is very much unfair to us: the students, the sub-warden and me". He also said that Rhodes had provided gatekeepers between 22:00 and 02:00 for the duration of the vac.

Dr Motara, Dean of Students, said that there would be a proper investigation into the matter to find out exactly what went wrong. Asked how such a far-reaching decision could have been made without his knowledge, Dr Motara said that it was independent of his office.

Ms Lesley Futter, Campus Events Manager, expressed regret at this event and said that in future they would apply a bit of foresight when allocation conference accommodation.

Prayer for Zimbabwe

By Shiellah Rufu
On Wednesday, 12 April, 2000, roughly 80 Christians came together, regardless of denomination, race, tribe, gender or age, to pray for Zimbabwe.

In the opening statement, one of the leaders of the prayer meeting,

Nil, said that this was a political meeting with no political motives as the Lord takes part in every facet of our lives and for this reason prayer included among other issues the calling of divine intervention in the land question and in the economy of the country.

Rhodes students from Zimbabwe in particular, were not forgotten in the prayers, as the problems back home are affecting their academic and general lives here at Rhodes University. Most importantly, the lack of foreign currency reserves in Zimbabwe mean that they will not be able to get their fees paid on time or they will not be able to pay at all because the Zimbabwe Dollar keeps on falling.

The most important issue among most Zimbabwean students is going home, especially during the coming June holidays. Gamuchirai and Margaret from Oriell House said that they feel better after praying about the most important issue of all, the warnings of a possible civil war in Zimbabwe which would mean that they can not go home during the vacation and they will be worried about the safety of their loved ones back home. This was a great issue among most Zimbabweans present at the meeting, as they concluded the prayer with calling for all Zimbabweans around the world and all world leaders with an influence, to join hands together in making the country a better, safer place to live in.

Rhodes honorary graduates named

By Esau Mathope

Rhodes University this year honoured graduates who have strong ties with the University and who have contributed locally and internationally in their spheres.

Rob Hamilton, an investor, business leader and entrepreneur of considerable stature, was conferred with the award of the degree of Doctor of Laws (Honoris Causa). He previously studied at Rhodes, aiming to become a nuclear physicist. But evidently Hamilton has always been interested in business. He graduated with a BSc and completed a BComm part-time. Further achievements include Managing Directorship and Chairmanship on the Board of Suncrush, Ltd., a Coca-Cola franchise and membership of the Board of Directors of Illovo Sugar.

Hamilton, as Prof V De Klerk announced during the ceremony, attributes his success to his BComm degree and his modus operandi of setting up a strategy and a vision. He is presently a member of the Rhodes Board of Governors and the

University Foundation. He has personally contributed R7 million to the University. At the moment he runs three Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) listed companies.

Another graduate honoured is successful journalist and historian Mr Colin Legum. He grew up in a place where there were few books or newspapers to nurture his skills. At the tender age of 19 he began to correspond with editors in an attempt to cut his niche. Collin wrote for Sunday Express and joined the Labour Party in the 1930s. By 1939 he was the editor of The Forward and The Mineworker, a Labour Party weekly, and he later founded The Illustrated Bulletin. He also managed to rise to the post of general secretary of the Labour Party and became the member of the Johannesburg City Council where he was involved in the ANC's anti-pass campaigns. He left South Africa just after the National Party stamped its racial rule and worked for the London Observer where he rapidly became the associate editor.

Hamilton became a fierce advocate of African issues and in 1952 he published an anti-colonial manifesto called "Attitude to Africa". A particularly valuable contribution he has made to international studies is the journal, African Contemporary Record, which he has edited since its founding in 1968.

RMR gets IBA approval - at last

By Esau Mathope

The Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) councilors have decided, in good faith, to award a four-year temporary license

This might seem like an insignificant achievement to most people who are not aware of the debacle surrounding community radio stations and their claims to long-term licenses. The IBA has come up with a whole new definition of community stations and their role. This obviously affects what the broadcasting experts on this body perceive as a proper community station. Campus Bay FM, University of Port Elizabeth (UPE) based and one of the Eastern Cape's most dynamic stations failed to obtain a temporary license CBFM could not be contacted for comment.

Before the awarding of the license, Prof Guy Berger, Head of the Journalism Department, spoke to an Activate reporter and said that "RMR is losing more than it is making". He also outlined a plan to improve the administration and logistical running of the station. By Friday, 14 April, 2000, the post of RMR Station Manager had already been advertised. The University auditors will oversee the RMR financial statements.

Millenium SciFest in retrospect

By Nomalanga Mkhize

The fourth annual National Sasol Festival of Science, Engineering and Technology (SciFest) came to an end on 4 April, 2000 after an activity filled week at the Settlers' Monument.

Numerous international and local experts descended upon Grahamstown to share their knowledge with over 15 000 festival goers. Sponsored by Sasol and managed by the Grahamstown Foundation, SciFest 2000 generated R75 000 worth of ticket sales from workshops, lecturers and films.

Festival director Brian Wilmot said that the quality of the exhibits and speakers had been very high this year and they had received very good feedback. Highlights included daily laser shows, robotic soccer and the sunset shows.

The festival was launched in 1997 and became South Africa's first National Science Festival. It draws on the experience of successful science festivals abroad and seeks to educate peoples of all age groups and levels of expertise.

Sasol confirmed its commitment to the SciFest as they consider science and technology as the backbone of any country.

Official Retraction :

We officially apologise for a set of quotes in our previous edition that should not have been included. Yvette, a resident at Cheslington flats was attributed with quotes that were never officially given for use in this publication.

We would like it made clear that said "quotes" were gathered by the news editor and the misquotation was in no way attributable to the reporters who wrote the original story. The news editor in question has been reprimanded for this, and is facing an intra-collective disciplinary enquiry. The editorial staff would like to make it clear that such practices are seen as ethically unjustifiable and all possible steps are being taken to ensure that they do not recur. We regret any harm or potential harm caused by this error. Would all please consider any quoted commentary attributed to Yvette to be officially retracted.

Briefs

- US - American historian, and author, Prof Deborah Lipstadt, won a libel case against a British right wing historian, David Irving. The two were involved in a conspicuous battle which centred around Lipstadt labelling Irving as a "holocaust denier" in one of her books called *Denying the Holocaust: The Growing Assault on Truth and Memory*. Irving had mentioned in one of his materials that the holocaust and Auschwitz did not occur as reported in the history records. Condemning his stances, a United States judge called him "anti-Semitic and a racist".

- Gauteng - Dr Werner Bezwoda, a chemotherapist who claimed to have discovered a revolutionary breast cancer treatment, was fired by his former employer, Wits University's Clinical Oncology Department. But he still managed to manipulate the terms of his trial owing to the province's department of health's foot-dragging on the issues. The department failed to attach any annexures to their charge sheet and this opened a loophole for Bezwoda's legal representatives to demand a postponement of the case.

- Durban - Former University of Natal head of Social Anthropology, Prof Caroline White, who was suspended by the university amidst allegations of racism against students, has had her charges dropped and hastily amended to "your general attitude towards the authority of the university and your superiors". This move has resulted in the Centre for Policy Studies Director, Steve Friedman saying that there is an increasing "situation in which the concentration of power in the hands of vice-chancellors and the deans is weakening the democracy in universities". White previously served as a senior researcher at the Centre for Policy Studies and Friedman is the thinktank who initiated the "xenophobia" debate after the police clampdown on crime hotspots in Gauteng.

- Grahamstown - South African Students Congress (SASCO) Rhodes is presently involved in a campaign to encourage eligible Rhodians to register as voters during the upcoming local elections. They are providing voter registration material in their offices and give information on election-related problems. But all is not well. According to Thabsile Mhlongo, SASCO local branch chair, there has not been an overwhelming response to this initiative. But she blames this on the fact that the Grahamstown branch of African National Congress (ANC), the party with a majority in the local municipality, informed them that the closing date for registration is 31st of March. This gave them only a few days to work on this project.

Bachelor of alcoholism

Compiled by Jak Koseff

Researchers :

Marita Kritzingar Jason van Niekerk

Lynley Donnelly Mike Marillier

"I think it is huge, it's extraordinary, alcohol is an outlet of stress for some people and we have just left home so people are experimenting in a big way; besides it is fun."

This could have been 50 years ago as easily as last week. Above the shouts and slurred choruses, as decades of the less-than blissfully hung have slept through the fading stench of Friday night, this has been the most common of Rhodent incantations. Raise the volume, raise the roof, down the spirits.

Leave the real world in a dimension called Monday, dance along the edges of sanity and love yourself for it. For this is the world we have chosen as our playground - where the edges blur, the distance fades and we lose ourselves to the beat, the hormone and the dream of a crazier, happier us. In the fading light of a Saturday evening, when the headache tablets have kicked in, and the body is barely restored, many will tack on a final defiant clause to all this: "and tonight... we'll do it all again."

There are questions no one seems to have asked for half a century - the whys, the wherefores, and perhaps most disturbingly - is this intensive social drinking, or socially sanctioned alcoholism?

We took it to the streets, we took it to the alcoholics' anonymous handbooks and we kept our eyes open as we strolled New Street, and we found a strange set of answers.

"There is a worrying amount of alcohol abuse on campus. But what do students in big city universities do, don't tell me they go to museums?" said Mark Rainier.

So, it's a consequence of our generation is it? That would be the official press position of the sages and would-be overlords that tend to moralise about student drinking. In a rather shallow attempt to dissect the question of student alcoholism at the time of last year's New Street raids, commentary in the Herald (carried over to the Sunday times) claimed one of the key reasons why drinking had become a social phenomenon out here was that women, once the "moral guardians" of Rhodes life, had themselves become hard-drinking and ethically corrupt. A more in-depth insight that

came out of that mini media frenzy was that something had switched gear between the activists of yore and post generation-X Undefinedables of now. The socially conscious world-shaper became the shot-swilling "career driven hedonist." Someone should point out that the activists still drank, though. This place didn't become the stuff of drunken legend for nothing, you know. Ever wonder why Rhodes hasn't had Rag in almost a decade? As the Rhodent archives will tell you, while it was no longer a financial reality, the major issue was the wreckage that was campus and students alike in the wake of float-building parties. In whispered drunken legends, some claim the clincher came when admin discovered a naked female tied to the columns outside admin when they came to work one rag morning. What might have changed over the years are the reasons behind it all. The only expertise on this can come from the students themselves. But asking students for their opinions on alcohol consumption at Rhodes netted some...er...interesting results: "If it's there drink it," said Hard Drinker from Smuts House.

"Let's get drunk and vomit!" said Martin Fluck also from Smuts.

"Great stuff!!" said Fish(as in "drinks like a").

SRC rep at Oriel Hall, Buyile Sibiyi says: "It is excessive but considering we are in G'town we are accepting of it." Fish consumed two thousands rands worth of alcohol in one month alone. When asked how much she drinks a night, she said "5 beers... I lose count on the shots." When asked if he had any solutions to the alcohol problem on campus, James Vos said, "I don't want any!" "Durban thinks we are a bar", said Andile Xokozela, a first year at Goldfields. Some students came up with some clever justifications for drinking: "I drink white wine because it's cheap and non-fattening" said Felicity Swann from Dingemans. "Alcohol overuse is not abuse; not in the way it's hyped up to be" said a second year from Goldfields. "It's like the community is throwing alcohol at us, it's their only way to make money" said concerned alcoholic. The image that emerges is of a student body that don't really know why they drink. We take it as our right and inheritance as the latest incarnation of a campus culture in which even our vice-chancellor was rumouredly a drinking club devotee in his varsity days. What is highly possible as well, though, is that students with psychological problems can mask and/or deny the alcoholism that results behind the sheen of "healthy" student drinking, somewhere in the barfly section ahead of the folks who drink out of a need for social acceptance, to shed their inhibitions or simply out of a need for pressure release.

But in a culture which either encourages or condones heavy drinking, how do you spot the person with the actual alcohol problem? In a place where everyone accepts drinking on a scale that would be insane anywhere else, how exactly do you know when you've gone too far? Our side-bar features the 20 questions used by Alcoholics Anonymous as a guide to determining whether you are in fact an alcoholic. This test is to be taken carefully. While it certainly shouldn't be trivialised, one instance of the problems referred to does not condemn you as an alcoholic.

But, do the experts feel there is a problem? Recently, a visiting child and adolescent psychiatrist, Dr S. Hawkrige, remarked that "alcohol usage among people of the student age-group in Grahamstown appeared to be of worrying proportions."

According to US surveys, 1 in 10 females and 1 in 5 males meet the criteria for alcohol abuse during their lifetimes. 3.5% of females and 10% of males meet the diagnostic criteria for alcoholic dependence. Psychologists fear South African figures may well be even higher.

Student adviser, Mark Rainier feels drinking problems amongst students are no higher than in the general community, but feels it can be amplified by the "negative heroics" of competing with other varsities for the reputation as a drinking university.

What all this comes down to is more of a warning than a crisis alert - it is possible that a certain degree of burgeoning alcoholism may linger behind the fines meetings, the club shows, the sing-alongs and the straightforward wild nights out. Many will ditch the whole drunkard motif when reality strikes and they start having to wake up at 7 every morning to head to the office. The drinking will be saved for weekends in the pubs when they romanticise the drunken hysteria of their student days with their mates.

Some, though, may find themselves wrecked by realizing too late and after too many fucked up opportunities that it was the bottle ruining their lives.

Make mine a double

Duke Sanchez

Pissed. Ferreted. Sloshed.

Absolutely torn.

We've all been there.

If you're a Rhodent you drink.

Probably abundantly. Unless you are a member of that thankfully small minority, the devoutly religious who made it to tertiary education, you are part of the alcohol "problem" on campus.

A major part of your pocket money goes to the Breweries, and most of your daylight hours are spent in a throbbing daze, questioning every aspect of your existence. In this state of mind, commonly known as Loser's Complex, or the Fear, you are more likely than ever to ask yourself why you do it. Most scientists and philosophers have placed that puzzle in the bin with the Problem of Other Minds, and realised that the crucial question is not "Why do we drink?", but "Should we skip the Union and just head straight to the Rat?"

Here are a couple of aids to drinking in the arse-end of the Eastern Cape.

The Law of Wallet Equilibrium.

The amount of money that is available to you, through bank-tellers, loan sharks and next month's rent is precisely equivalent to the amount that you will need to spend on alcohol to have a good time.

The Signifier of the Seventh Level

Everyone has their own tell-tale sign which gives away the fact that they have reached the Seventh Level of Drunkenness (a point of euphoria somewhere between the loss of memory and the irresistible urge to lie down). Useful to know because it means that you are guaranteed some type of action from said drunkard.

The Law of Unwanted Confession

The amount of beer in your system is directly proportional to the number of embarrassing things you'll say to people you really shouldn't. Slobbering declarations of undying friendship to that bloke who lives in your corridor, confessions of true love to vaguely attractive women. These will haunt you till graduation.

The Venue

A great sign of how drunk you are. If you're in the Union you should be caned, otherwise get out fast. If it's the Rat you could be anywhere on the scale of drunkenness. Ask Eric. If it's Pop Art an article on alcohol is probably irrelevant, and if it's the Vic, you are beyond the Seventh Level (see above).

Drinking Clubs

Rhodents who restrict their drinking to two nights a week. Can be annoying to serious drinkers by stumbling into them and spilling their drinks. Look for the guy in overalls with his mate's puke in his hair.

Admin

This is something that drinkers get from police, Rhodes officials, nuns and other killjoys. Don't take it too seriously, but be careful - the whiskey in gaol is bought with currency that most aren't prepared to pay. Reality, they say, is for people who can't handle the booze. Here at Rhodes most choose inebriation, or they go slowly nuts and end up lecturing in the English Department. So the next time you find yourself debating whether or not to have another, remember - the more you drink the cooler you are and the more friends you'll have.

Are you addicted?

1. Do you lose time from work due to drinking?
2. Is drinking making your home life unhappy?
3. Do you drink because you are shy with other people?
4. Is drinking affecting your reputation?
5. Have you ever felt remorse after drinking?
6. Have you found yourself in financial difficulties as a result of drinking?
7. Do you turn to inferior companions and an inferior environment when drinking?
8. Does your drinking make you careless of your family's welfare?
9. Has your ambition decreased since drinking?
10. Do you crave a drink at a definite time daily?
11. Do you want a drink the next morning?
12. Does drinking cause you to have difficulty in sleeping?
13. Has your efficacy decreased since drinking?
14. Is drinking jeopardising your job or business?
15. Do you drink to escape from worries or trouble?
16. Do you drink alone?
17. Have you ever had a complete loss of memory as a result of drinking?
18. Has your doctor ever treated you for drinking?
19. Do you drink to build up self-confidence?
20. Have you ever been to hospital or an institution on account of drinking?

Yes to 2 - Possibility of alcohol problems

Yes to 3 or more - Strong possibility of alcoholic dependency.

Devised by Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore USA.

Change for life

Many brush off streetkids as fallout from decades of skewed economic and social policies, assuming that somewhere in the twilight, there'll be shelters and help for them elsewhere. Hugh Ellis discovers such a place, and finds it starved of resources...and in need of our help.

Pics: Hugh Ellis and Kelly Wiltshire

Two years ago, Melekile was a 10-year-old street kid with minimal education and little prospect of a better life. Now he is a successful grade seven student looking forward to high school and eventual employment.

His recovery from the harshest of hard situations is thanks to the Eluxolweni shelter, and the Amasongo School, which is closely linked to it. Melekile decided to take himself to the shelter, in 1998. When he enrolled in the school people noticed he was one of the brightest students around. He progressed through Amasongo's unique curriculum, which allows learners to move through "grades" at their own pace, in the space of two short years, reached the level of a grade 7 pupil.

The Eluxolweni project in Grahamstown East provides food and shelter - and basic education - to as many as they have space to accommodate. Currently, though, they can only cope with 37 children each year. The school only caters for learners up to the grade 7 level. The school's principal, Jane Bradshaw, says they are stifled by a lack of funds, and acknowledges they are only "scratching the surface" of the street children's problem.

As things now stand many of the school's classes happen in containers. They have rickety doors, are dark and each one is packed. Some of the metal is rusting, in others the odd trickle of water comes through the side of the room. But the kids in all of them are in good health and ready and eager to learn. It is a positive sight.

Rev Dinga Mpunzi, the vice-chairperson of the shelter's management committee, is optimistic that conditions will improve in the near future. They are soon to start a locally run fundraising drive, and will use the money raised not just to improve current facilities, but also to start a second phase on a site about 100 metres away.

The building was donated by a local entrepreneur, who prefers to remain anonymous, and will be used to house more children - initially 10, later as many as 30 - especially those who are in the process of being reunited with their families.

This is not an easy process. Grahamstown does have a number of social workers that do this job, but their resources too are stretched to the limit. Despite this, though, many are reunited with families and relatives, and almost all students who finish grade 7 at the school go on to be successful at high school.

According to Rev Mpunzi, the shelter was only recently transferred to local control, which has enabled them to take on a more pro-active role in the community.

Previously, explains Mpunzi, the shelter was a "branch" of the Daily Bread Shelter in East London, and, as such, its management were unable to raise funds, or even hire and fire staff, without prior authorisation from East London. Bradshaw feels that this change became inevitable as concerned people from the Grahamstown community wanted to get involved in the shelter's activities. She says that the split will benefit both Grahamstown and East London shelter and both parties were in favour of it.

The real problem, says Bradshaw, is when the students hit the job market. Very few of those who have moved on to high school, and passed their matric exams, have moved on to full-time employment. Mpunzi admits that the school-leaves have not been successful in getting jobs, but feels this is very much the "normal" situation.

And here lies much cause for concern. With unemployment in SA in general at over 30 per cent, in Grahamstown at almost 70 per cent, who is to say that the next generation of kids will not end upon the streets?

It is a situation that Mpunzi want to avoid. As well as poverty, he mentions the worsening HIV epidemic as something that will increase the number of children without homes to go to.

But he says he has reason to be optimistic. He joined the shelter committee at the end of 1997, and had a natural interest as the children

attended his church services. "Since then, it is amazing the way the community has supported us... Things have changed enormously."

Among those who have been supporting the shelter are a number of churches, youth organisations, and, more recently, Rhodes University. A number of varsity students are visiting the shelter this year to teach art, English and additional math, in a volunteer program organized by the Rhodes Centre for Social Development.

And yet, much of this seemingly positive talk pales when one considers the number of children who are not so lucky. While no accurate count has ever been made of the town's street kids, their numbers are thought to run into several hundreds, possibly several thousands.

The problems of poverty may never be completely solved. But within those limits we need to do what we can. It does not have to involve helping ex-street kids. Rotaract, Sasco, Aiesec and others also have projects aimed at helping the disadvantaged.

If you have reached the end of this article, perhaps you give a damn. If so, get involved.

The Bastard Diaries



This column will not be about Hansie Cronje, wanking or women. I hear you. (a letter from a post-graduate)

Say no to graduation. Say it today, decide on it, then, drop out by tomorrow. Save your folks the money, save yourself the hassle, invest in a coffee shop or a Steers or something. Become a thief, rob banks without violence, drill the road with your car, ride it 'till the gravel becomes gated. Discover things you've never seen before.

Graduation. Prized and treasured event, or simply an item of status worth more than R80 000? Think about it: the price of a car, or food for thousands for a whole year? Mozambique would dig.

Grad weekend summarised: say howzit to everyone, drinks at Bright Lights, PopArt, digs, grad ceremony, fall asleep during it, take photos with folks, drinks at Bright Lights, the Rat, etc, garden party, more fucking photos, near arrest for public drinking in New Street (old laws), drinks at Bright Lights, etc, Grad Ball, more photos, more friends, more bullshit, a puff from a joint, a stash of Tas etc etc. The end, say goodbye to people you won't see again until one day, in the paper, in the Pinetown Shoprite, on the TV or in a cage, on antibiotics.

The questions are the same: "So, what are you up to?" "Doing systems for a company in Jo'burg." (smile on face, it says 'money') "Dig it!" "Love it, you won't believe." (face says 'Hi mom, I'm at Van Stadens Bridge...')

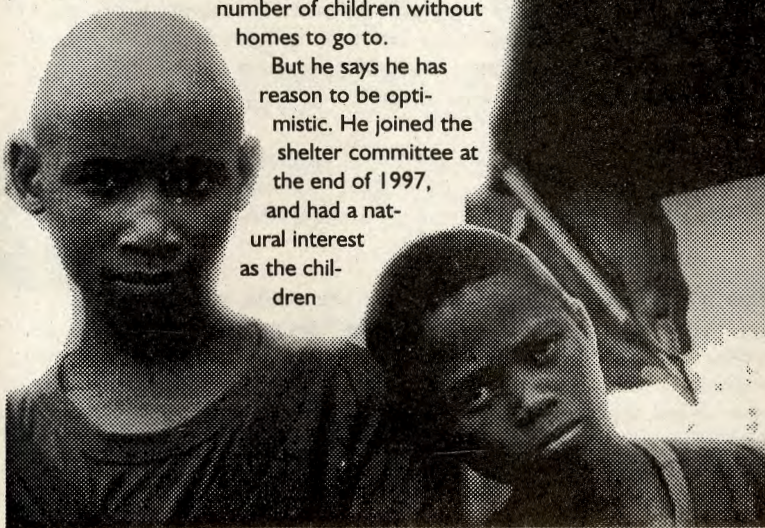
The real world is crap. It means you've got to get up at 08:30 to meet the VC with your col-

leagues (I'm with the Journ Dept, ok?) when you've been out drinking vodkaime&waters with Kytie Koekblik and Jo Edwards and Leanne & The Ex-Girlfriends and other dodgy celebrities in Peppers 'till three in the morning and right now you can't keep your eyes open and the lecturer next to you keeps on kicking you in the shins, so you start drawing picture of the VC to stay awake and two and a half hours later you have a picture of the VietCong and very little else except a headache. And you try telling yourself that it's ok, 'cause you get paid for it. And I like my job, which is lucky, because too many of my friends hate theirs. But they try telling themselves it's ok, 'cause they get paid for it.

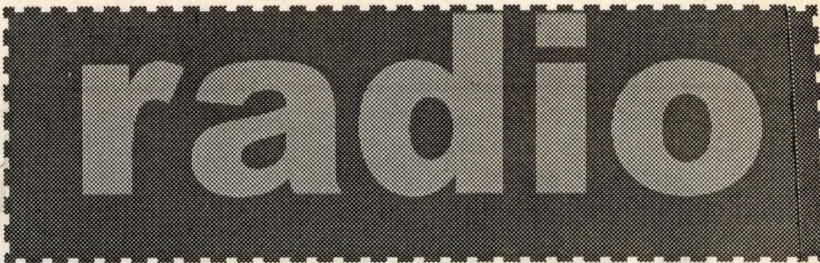
The good news is that graduates get jobs, the bad news (and you already know this) is that jobs are hardly ever what you want them to be. Which is a pity, because our jobs should be a way of life that makes us happy, challenges us and makes the world a better place to drive around in (which soon tells you that the people at the Dept of Roadworks hate their jobs, because they do fuckall, especially about the pothole that is the Grahamstown-Bedford road). Whether you finish your degree or not, whether you attend varsity or not, whether you can read or not - it's of very little consequence in a world of famine, greed, Americanisms, traffic cops and Hansie Cronje (a kind of cricket bat).

Because we already do what we can for who we care, make sure you also care for those who can't.

Toast Coetzer graduated because they had an empty seat and needed a body to fill it. He considers himself a lucky man.



Know thy mixer!



DJ Johan on RMR: 1- 4 pm on Thursday, the Thursday Lunchbox

If you are looking for experience, real kick-ass music, up-to-date info, a Rhodes-Sport Update and always something up for grabs... tune in to the exciting new show on RMR - the Thursday Lunchbox between 1 and 4 pm every Thursday.

DJ Johan worked for community station Radio Namaqualand in Vredendal, Western Cape, during 1999. He did a talkshow once a month. Working on radio is a dream come true for Johan, who's been dreaming about being a DJ since he was in primary school. He became friends with Cape Town based station, Radio KFM's popular DJ Amore Bekker and his love for radio just grew stronger.

His ideal radio job would be to work for a Dutch radio station as a DJ. He wants to go and live in Europe, because he has several friends and relatives there.

The Thursday Lunchbox has several exciting features. At 13:15 it's the "Newspaper Newsflash" - a brief overview of what people find in Thursday's main newspapers.

At 14:00 there's the "Fab Four". Four listeners choose four different songs and their requests get played. Anyone who'd like their favourite song to be played in the Fab Four must phone Johan in the studio on 622 8605 or email him at g00S1217@campus.ru.ac.za

At 15:00 there's a full Rhodes Sports Update with Dave Knight, and at 15:30 it's the Grocott's Update - a preview of what will be in the friday edition of Grocott's Mail.

DJ Johan plays chart music, lots of new music, alternative and some easy listening songs as well.

Day	6- 9am	9- 11am	11-1pm	1- 4pm	4 - 7pm	7- 8pm	8- 10pm	10- 1am
Mon	Jo	Abby	Mike	Regan	Crimson	Chris	Pierre	Talk
Tues	Adele	Robyn	Ryan	Jo	Sorisha	Talk	Freaks	Talk
Wed	Jen	Spike	Mickey	Radio G.	Blizard	Talk	Juu\$	Mark
Thurs	Marisa	Daz	Janine	Johan	Zoey	Talk	Helene	Talk
Fri	Launch Pad	Robbie & Nick	Tate & So	Nevenka & Matthe	Resident President	Mickey	Shelly	Sakina
	7- 10am	10- 1am	1- 4pm	4- 7pm	7- 8pm	8- 10pm	10- 1am	
Sat	Radio G.	Mike	Libz	Top 30	Fisherman	RU Game	Tate & So	
Sun	Jannie & Stelana	Robbie & Nick	Spike	Johan	Talk	Ward	Toast	



Splitting Reels

Erin Brockovich

Reviewed by: Robert Odendaal

Starring: Julia Roberts, Albert Finney
Director: Steven Soderberg
Rating: 7/10

You sit down and from the opening credits that read "This film is based on a true story" you just know you're going to leave the theatre with a feel-good smile on your face, and, in that respect, Erin Brockovich does not disappoint.

Erin Brockovich (Julia Roberts) has three children to support and no job, until she gets involved in a car accident and, after suing and losing, begs her lawyer Ed (Albert Finney) for employment and ultimately gets it. This is where everything kicks off and, to cut things short, she gets involved in a public health cover-up where lives and millions of dollars are involved. Will she win? You know the answer.

The best thing about this film is Julia Roberts' superb acting in bringing the straightforward, in-your-face Erin to life. Her interaction with her boss is also brilliant and results in that feelgood moment you simply knew you'd get at the end of the film. Steven Soderberg (Out Of Sight, The Limey) provides some great directing without being obtrusive and moves the plot along nicely, although maybe a bit too slowly. All said it's not very deep, but still provides adequate entertainment for a night out, if only for one thing - Julia Roberts and her biting one-liners.

Joan of Arc

Reviewed by: Nigel Tompkins

The Players: Milla Jovovich, John Malkovich, Faye Dunnaway, Dustin Hoffman
Director: Luc Besson
Runtime: 155 minutes
Rating: 5/10

Hyperactive new rendition of the old Joan of Arc saga, this time told with kinetic visuals by French director Luc Besson (The Fifth Element, The Professional). Jovovich, as Joan, cries, screams and sweats through over two and a half hours of bloodshed and cheesy dialogue that makes for quite some uncomfortable viewing in places. Its hectic pace is stylised by Besson's quick cutting camera action as Joan tries to drive out the English from France. The performances all round leave much to be desired, especially from Jovovich and Malkovich, who doesn't seem to be having a successful time with his film résumé lately. Besson is clearly the wrong man for the job, indulging in over-the-top gory battle scenes, and making the viewer feel they're watching an extended version of an Mtv music video. The end result is an overlong bloodbath with no one to turn off the .tap

Review this

Toast Coetzer

Vusi Mahlasela & Louis Mhlanga
Live at The Bassline
BMG

The thing about true beauty is that it needs no language. Anyone who've seen Vusi and Louis live will know this, for despite their lyrics in a range of languages, the music, the mood and the sheer passion of their music shines through all sorts of cliches to be right there with you, in the bits of you which can't figure out why you've fucked up again, why smiling is free, why birds trace a sunset from north to south and when, if ever, these kind of things will intersect and sort themselves out. A great live recording this, rich and full, with a receptive crowd in the background egging on a range of songs about everything you've ever needed, needed to remember or remembered to forget.

Think about it: "confessing: who died last night/ who died this morning/ and why?"
Rating: 8/10.

Moby
Play
Mute/ DGR

Oh yes, it rocks and yes, it moves. This, Moby's most welcome transformation (we've had cheesy house, we've had vegan punk rock, we now have... something new), is a long and engaging album which you can fall asleep to, dream about kids and the woman you'll have them with, then wake up and find that your hi-fi is alight with something like unleaded petrol. The opener 'Honey' and 'Bodyrock', well, rocks, then 'Run on' and 'The sky is broken' grooves like well-worn Dunlops (and DJ Shadow, actually). But it's the beautiful vocals on 'Why does my heart feel so bad?' and the slow velvet thuds of 'Down slow' leading into the whispered broken bits of 'If things were perfect' and the acoustic humming of 'Everloving' which will make you think of grand entrances into shining lights where everyone screams your name. It's called heaven, a higher plane, or the Peppergrove Spar.

Ace lyric: "push it out to sea/ there's nothing left here/ for me"
Rating: 10/10

American Beauty
Original Soundtrack/ Various Artists
Universal

Although this is a soundtrack which definitely goes better with the movie, it's still highly enjoyable on its own. With a variety of stuff from Thomas Newman to The Who to Elliot Smith doing the Beatles, this is a refreshingly un-Top 40 soundtrack. Which is good. Highlights are The Folk Implosion's steadily clanging 'Free to go', Gomez with 'We haven't turned around' (which comes at the sharpest time in the movie) and the positively frightening 'Cancer for the cure' by the Eels, which sports our summary lyric for the day: 'grandpa's happy watching video porn... / father knows best/ about suicide & smack'
Rating: 6/10.

2

3

4

Mission: Munchies

This Activate reporter is beginning to think that this hellhole, as G'town is so often termed, is hiding a helluva lot of "bits of heaven". Activate has managed to find, completely by accident this time, another wonderful place to go. This time we went out for something sweet and what 137 High Street (that's the name) claims is "the best Cappuccino in town".

The atmosphere of the restaurant section of this Guest House and restaurant is simple but sophisticated. Inside it is very easy to forget that High Street is one of the busiest streets in G'town. Whether you choose to sit inside or in the delightfully Continental courtyard, you will be struck by how relaxing the atmosphere is.

Service is definitely not a problem. The waitress was friendly and efficient and the food: Wow! Wonderfully smooth cheesecake with cherries, fresh scones (which really were fresh) with strawberry jam, apricot jam, marmalade and real cream; and heavenly apple pie which was warm enough to start melting the real cream. Unfortunately there was no way anyone could try anything else after this lot so the rest of the menu must wait 'till another time. And there will definitely be another time.

And then the Cappuccino. The subject of Cappuccinos is a highly sensitive one and until we have tasted all the Cappuccinos in town, the best in G'town debate will continue but as far as this reviewer is concerned, it is decided. At any rate, the Cappuccino at 137 apparently matches up to Jo'burg standards.

Oh, and it's only R5.50 or R6.50 with (extra) cream!

So next time you feel like going out for coffee, just like you do back in Jo'burg or Cape Town or ... this is the place to go!

They also have a full menu which I definitely intend to try next time we get half a chance!!

No. of res meals worth missing: Fucking all of them thanks! (unless you intend to stick to a diet, in which case you have our sympathies!)

stuff

Debating

Internal Competition

Preliminary Rounds:

Ecos A, B, C.

25 and 27 April

2, 4, 9, 11 May. 7pm

Semis: 16 May. Ecos A, B. 7pm

Finals: 18 May. Arts Major. 7pm

Battle of the Bands 2000

Deadline for the Battle of the Bands 2000 has been extended until Tuesday, 18 April 2000.

The event will be held on the 14 May 2000 at the Rhodes Union. The winning band will pocket R3 000 as well as an opportunity to play for an hour on the main stage on the Sunday night of Oppikoppi. Those who can't afford to cut a demo, please contact Adele or Darren at RMR or e-mail advertising@rmr.ru.ac.za.

Skunk Anasi

... will be performing UPE Sports Hall on 30th April 2000. A show not to be missed

"Open Mike"

Sublime coffee shop is inviting all performing artists to come and express themselves in any chosen form. Art works are also welcome for display.

y Know

where, with whom, how many, how much...
(figure out the rest)

AMERICAN BEAUTY

4

Happening

RU Fixtures

20 April to 4 May

Thurs 20 Apr	Squash: RU1 vs OGI RU2 vs PAI RU1 vs L.P. (Spar League) Athletics: Round the Block	Home Away Away	17:15 17:15 8:30
	SPORTS COUNCIL EXEC MEETING	OMP	13:00
Fri 21 Apr	PUBLIC HOLIDAY - GOOD FRIDAY Mountain: Beach Hike to Kenton, Dias Cross	Kenton	
Sat 22 Apr	Athletics: Two Oceans Ultra Marathon Mountain: Hogsback Hike	Cape Town Hogsback	
Sun 23 Apr	Mountain: Hogsback Hike	Hogsback	
Mon 24 Apr	PUBLIC HOLIDAY - FAMILY DAY Mountain: Hogsback Hike	Hogsback	
Thurs 27 Apr	PUBLIC HOLIDAY - FREEDOM DAY Netball: u/19 SA Champs		
Sat 29 Apr	Athletics: Old Selbornian Tennis: Farmers League - RU vs SF Basketball (CBL): RUW vs Border Tech W RUM vs Border Tech M RUW vs ECT W RUM vs ECT M Ladies Final Mens Final Rugby: RU1 vs Hams Tech	Home Home Home Home Home Home Home Home Hams Tech	12:00 11:00 12:00 13:00 14:00 15:00 16:00 15:00

	RU2 vs Hams Tech RU u/21 vs Hams Tech	Hams Tech Hams Tech	14:25 13:10
	Surfing: Inter-res		12:00
	Chess: Inter-res	Home	10:30
	Netball: League	PE	13:00
	SA u/19 Champs	PE	
	Mountain: Morgans Bay Hike	Morgans Bay	
	Soccer: RUM2 vs Fort Hare M2 RUW1 vs Fort Hare W1 RUM1 vs Fort Hare M1	Prospect King King	13:30 13:30 15:30
Sun 30 Apr	Mountain: Morgans Bay Hike	Morgans Bay	
Mon 1 May	PUBLIC HOLIDAY - WORKERS DAY Mountain: Morgans Bay Hike	Morgans Bay	
Tues 2 May	Squash: RU3 vs RU staff Badminton: Inter-res RU Mixed vs Tuine/Despatch	Home Alec Mullins Despatch	17:15 19:00 19:00
Wed 3 May	Squash: RU4 vs RU5	Away	17:15
Thurs 4 May	Squash: RU2 vs GR 1 RU3 vs GC 3 RU1 vs PAH1 Hockey: RU Thistles vs UPE RUM1 vs Gelvan Table Tennis: Inter-res Badminton: RUM vs Kragga Kamma	Home Home Home Astro Astro Home EPI	17:15 17:15 17:15 18:30 19:45 19:00 19:00

Arts n' Culture

Counterculture



**Khwezi
Magwaza -
Arts & Culture
Ed.**

Most members of the Rhodes community always meet the start of the second term with mixed feelings but the only feeling I can identify with is boredom! Seeing as this is not a professionally acceptable way to think as a journalist, I mean the news is supposed to be all around us. I will be pretending like there are loads of exciting things to look forward to in this term.

The drama department had a real burst of life this last week with the Ilitha conference and FNB Dance Umdudo. It was really nice to see drama people actually looking like they had a purpose in life for a change. The Umdudonites and Ilitha junkies can get some well deserved sleep after a job well done. I must say that all this activity probably went right over the heads of most of you. The cancellation of drama lectures seems to be the most exciting happening of the week (as if you go anyway). For those of us who actually got into the experience we can count two exciting happenings this week, seeing Ngcina Mhlophe crossing New Street and the cancellation of drama lectures! For those of you who thought the posters adorning the drama department were just pretty pictures there is no hope for you and I suggest you find another column to read as I can gather arts and culture are not your strong points! If you thought that things were now going to return to normal and you might actually walk past the drama department and recognise the faces sitting on the steps... think again, there is lots more

to expect from the arts on campus. We will be getting the chance to see the much talked about Bessie's head, the new work by the First Physical company at the end of the month. I'm looking forward to that and I suggest you book your tickets soon. Not only will you be seeing the best dancers that Rhodes has to offer but you can tell people that you went to see it and watch their eyes grow with admiration. On the more secular level the one thing not to be missed is Mary J. Blige and Kci and JoJo landing on our sunny shores soon! I have to be at that concert cause, well, what would the world be coming to if the Arts and Culture editor didn't go to the most important R n' B happening this year! I mean it can only enhance our student publication's culture section and bring a better quality of work from me and it costs a lot less than a retreat.... hint, hint Jak! As we are a very poor student newspaper and me going to Cape town to watch Mary would only benefit you as a student body I suggest we start the Arts and Culture Mary Fund. Your donations will be greatly appreciated and I promise to send Mary your love! Well, that's all folks! I love you ... I love you all Here's looking at you Kid and all that jazz Smoochies Soprano From hell

P.S. NOTICE: Tall, leggy 40DD looking for a ride! (to Cape Town!)

Grahamstown Preludes

(with apologies to T.S. fucking Eliot)

I
Here winter evenings settle damp
With stink of chunks from dining halls.
Six o'clock.
Like smoking butts in coffee cups.
In res a musty shower craps
Some tepid splash
Of browning fluid at your head
And asbestos from unplumbed pipes;
The inmates beat
On broken urns and TV sets,
And at the centre of it all
Your brain begins to heave and thump.

You think you hate this fucking dump.

II
Last night now shifts on consciousness
With strong fresh pongs of puke
From the tin can littered street
With all the cruddy soles that meet
With carrot chunks and peas

Like last weeks Thursday matinee
That time resumes,
One thinks of all the glands
That are swollen in defense
Of the thousand sorely hung

III
You tossed a lot of name last night
You lay upon your back and waited;
You posed and watched the night revealing

The thousand sworded pillagers
To whom you yourself prostituted;
They thrust with little feeling.
And when all your sense came back,
And you realized you were all a-slut-
ter,
And you heard the scandals and the
mutter
You had such a stain upon your sheets
As the cheap can only understand;
Sitting along the bed's edge, where
You tweaked the semen from your hair,
And grasped onto the fading hope
That you'd used a working diaphragm.

IV
The butt that's stretched beneath Levi's
Flaunts it's way towards King Pie,
Followed by a persistent fleet
Of begging urchins of the street;
And shouts of "Sisi! I must eat!"
In Guccis and with Maybeline eyes
She shrugs off human empathy,
For those who can't buy mushroom pies
And sniff on Pritt to exhume the world.

Yet she is moved by faeces that unfurl
From clogged up bottoms and then
cling;
By the notion of some bran(d)-like,
Kind of laxative-y thing.

Wipe the drool from off your mouth,
and laugh;
This place revolves like regular bowels:
It all means shit in the end.

Millennial Shakespeare

By Helene Dancer

Here is a fresh take on Shakespeare. Andrew Buckland has created 'Night Dream' a caustic and rough rendition of the classic 'A Midsummer Night's Dream.' But it works, in a wildly experimental way.

"There has been a huge upsurge in spirituality in the West and the need to access other levels of awareness," says Buckland, who directs the play along with Sheena Stannard and Rob Murray. "A Midsummer Night's Dream as a text presented itself very strongly in terms of this dual level of existence."

'Night Dream' is true to Shakespeare's thematic concern with the strange balance in nature between order and chaos. The production uses the players, the lovers and the fairies to play out this tension, omitting the characters from the Athenian palace. The actors are all from the Rhodes University Drama Department.

'Night Dream' also subverts the beautifully mystical and magical elements 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' is renowned and loved for. Buckland's fairies are scabrous and insidious as they dominate their urban forest. Puck (Rob Murray) is a washed out character who seems to have indulged rather too heavily in chemicals. His mien is stark and degenerate as he drags himself around the stage on crutches.

Titania (Aylwyn Walsh) sports fibreglass wings and is flanked by a lecherous Oberon (Jacques Fouche) who constantly leers at the audience. The fairies embark on a grating and discordant lullaby as Titania falls asleep and Oberon plans to play the cruel trick of making her fall in love with the transformed Bottom. The fairies are constantly jeering and their mischievous characters are effectively accentuated by the red and green lighting which is key in creating the eerie and ethereal atmosphere. The music from the Afrikaans industrial music band 'Battery 9' is used as the fairies cavort around the stage.

There is an excellent transition from the fairies to the mortals and the gaping divide between these two entities is made very evident. The players are dressed in work overalls and seem so incongruous in the world of the forest. The lovers are also markedly wrapped up in their own mortal love dilemmas.

There is a great sense of interaction between the actors and the audience. As the audience enters the theatre, they are filmed live and the images are projected onto the curtain which immediately creates a sense of complicity. The interludes between the lovers before they run away into the forest is filmed and the result is an almost Pythonesque melodrama. This is viewed by both the audience and the fairies.

'Night Dream' cannot be perceived as an adaptation of Shakespeare's play. Rather, Buckland uses elements of the original to support his own cause and intent. "For the players and lovers, the original narrative is kept as it is. But the influence from the other world is not necessarily benevolent and playful," he says. "Even the fairies make mistakes. We dispensed with the idea of telling the story of the fairies as they are conveyed in visual and sound terms - purely theatrical games." And the fairies are stamped with the typical Buckland sense of movement and vitality on the stage.

The opening of 'Night Dream' coincided with the first night of the SASOL Scifest which happens annually in Grahamstown and the performance was used for the Rhodes University Graduation play. This means the audience was rather varied, "but," says Buckland, "we need to risk. There is the danger of it not working but the text itself is so good and the journey so true and human, it's hard to make it fail."

Unicensored Poets

G On The G Spot



Even if you win the rat race, you're still a rhodent.

Eden Grove had landed and the VC had asked "take me to your feeder," but G was nowhere to be found - ze hoped people had missed zir.

Initially fascinated by the twin gimps in the HS Berahim ("Do YOU know your varsity?" quiz: What is the Berahim?) ze had got lost in Eden Grove. Some superior beings that had built this motherhood where you could watch a 100X magnification of your lecturer's hand in the red and blue lecture theatres while you felt purple from the night before - day before - eh week before - okay, okay: term before.

But G had decided that second term marked a new phase in zir varsity career. After all, one is never too old to learn something stupid. And with regards to the Journ lecturer exiles to Canada, one is never too old to get detention for being late. All the cheese and whines were over and G had realised that 24 beers in a case, 24 hours in a day were not a coincidence but slow drinking. Besides, killing time leaves bad sectors in eternity.

Just like killing Kenny leaves bad humour in SL. (No, G had not joined the Pop Art Club: ze had stolen the mag from the dustbin outside Pop Art.) G had been a little perplexed as to joining the Vic-Karma club - does that mean you pay in karma? - or the Union. Ze had decided on the Union as what with the new student card registration, ze could let zir alter-ego in on zir Dallas chip and stage Fight Club in the Oppiden - as long as those Goths took their horrible curtain down. Also, there was less chance of running into the cop baton when you were disturbing "decent people" - not that G and the rest of the rhodents weren't decent people it's just that they were already disturbed.

What G did not understand was that Pepper's was the only place on New Street on a Friday night with no queue and

no cover charge, why was it still empty? Ze asked zir tattoo artist mentor - no, not the Melville dudes, G prefers not to reveal zir identity - and ze replied, "Hey mother-fuck it's written on the wall." As G puzzled over this cryptic message, ze decided to buy a pie from Sublime.

Although ze wanted to sit down with hairy Drama students and discuss the offence ze had taken to Bottom's boobs, ze did not have enough money to rent a plate for the pie. So G ambled down to the digs pantry (ze had now officially been kicked out of res for the sake of a first year - these first years were getting younger and younger, soon they would be running around in diapers with dog leashes - not that they don't need dog leashes now). Spar was the best place to obtain zir four food groups: fast, frozen, instant and microwavable. Ze had run out of breakfast: a pot of coffee and a straw. One must drink your coffee - there are poor people in India sleeping. G was sure that Spar could have done better than cold meats and salad if they had catered for Grad Ball.

Then again perhaps they gave crap food and a karaoke band to subdue the ruffians and avoid more chairs through the windows.

Of course, by the time G had arrived at Spar, ze was drenched having forgotten zir reindeer - eh raingear... It's never too early to start slurring your words in Grahamstown or to early to start expecting Santa. Although: early to bed, early to rise, makes people suspicious.

Was the Full Monty a Python?

Has G already forgotten zir new phase or was ze just drunk?

Will Pop Art ever start charging?

Will the clouds ever clear for Astrosoc?

Will this make the dead-line?

Out-takes & war stories

Footnotes and images from a life less sane.
by Toast Coetzer

Features

9

Speed

Miss Goldfields, Gauloises girls and other survivors of the Speed Kills campaign - brief pocketnotes from Welkom (and fuck Lenny Kravitz)

Toast Coetzer was going to see Lenny Kravitz, but didn't make it. He waylaid to the motorbike Grand Prix at Phakisa Freeway and the GP music festival in Welkom instead. He barely made it. Here's an account of the first of 3 days.

Last night, arrival: 4 beers, 4 balls left on pool table, 3 dogs. Alright. The Mosterts are cool people.

Day 1, 17/3 - 10:28 am, Phakisa Freeway

These be the fucking cool guys. Sitting inside the media centre, raining. 125's just went for a ride. 500s are waiting for rain to clear. Everything's so well organised, I've no idea what's happening. Efficiency is the end of common decency. It's official - Max Biaggi is fucking cool. Marlboro, Yamaha - a man needs little else. He's in his pit, king of machines.

12:00

Recce 1 complete. Perimeter safe - 9 cops, but they're not sure. 7 to 8 speedpigs are at the entrance. The digging is big, speed important. Dude to the left to journo: "Does the circuit look good or must I cut the grass?" There're tall skinny girls in red (Campari) twopieces prancing tits around. They're a real feature. Not terribly pretty, but the journos and pit crews check them out anyway. One of them's Miss Goldfields 2000. She spells her surname like so: De Clerq. Gmmf. Sun's out, hot again. The stats here are maddening. Air - 24 C. Ground - 30 C. Humidity 75%. Good to know, isn't it?

The thing about all this is that it's stupid. Stupid, but great fun. A waste of money, but great fun. The noise, the sheer speed (you want to do it too), the feeling that this is an international corporate whorehouse to sell smokes, pasolas and smart drinks. Because we are what we own (and Mozambique owns fuckall), this should be fine?

Organisation: there're black women on all parts of circuit with brooms, no less, to sweep course in between races if necessary. Choppers around, might get a ride. Re girls, overheard: "Ek ken al daai girls, ek was saam met hulle op skool gewees - wag, laat ek jou voorstel."

13:40

First man down - one of the marshalls got stung by a bee. Lady at medics tells me about last year when naked couple did a wheelie, wiped out and lost the skin on their asses. Aren't Italian accents nice? I haven't seen any liquor yet, just mineral water. Reluctantly stuck in the paddock - pass reads 'paddock'. Hungry, have a piss.

Go out on spectator bus, few people checking practice runs. Some oke from Florida (no, Jo'burg one) wants to know whether the black photographers can take photos or whether the whites must help them. I say no, they're all right. Gave some very obvious weekend bikers a lift (wear their leathers all the time). R6,50 for a boereworsroll. A joke with an obvious answer: 2 Italians and 1 Sotho urgently need to

fax something. How do they do it?

With difficulty.

15:03 - GP 2000 Music fest, Central Welkom

Crisis: "Ons sukkel met die elektrisiteit." Everything needs to be earthspiked. Gauloises girls stroll in. Gmmf. Bastards didn't want to give me a hat. Black dude is wearing Battery 9 t-shirt. Tribute band? New member?

19:20 -

Music fest

Notes: 1) I love beergardens

2) I am sunburnt

3) Leery (new band): "We are ready to rock you." Which is nice to

know.

Must interview Miss Goldfields. I will ask her whether she likes gentlemen of leisure and why the fuck she spells her surname all funny. Weird shit:

1) Entering Welkom, the sign says 'Welcome to Welkom, Grand Prix country', the back of which says 'Speed Kills' - both sponsored by Coke.

2) Phakisa Freeway is opposite the cemetery.

3) The Shell Garage shares premises with the Welkom Tombstone makers.

Something's up.

20:20

Pissed, beneficiary of free backstage drinks. Slugs of War on. Good. Drunker. Bagpipes, Irish riverdancing chick (must go), from Durban. They are: Blow Job, Vomit, Porno, Whatsisface (!!) plus (?) Spiderman. PA's playing 'The Distance', "he's going for speed".

Somewhere deep inside the heads of THC, they are THE LEVEL PLANE BENT.

Henriëtte, Gauloises girl: 083 6370 183 (meet at 08:45).

Dagga-Dirk is humming classical tunes. Rain, whatthefuck. 206 is dropping "Radio Kombuis" samples into breakbeat, wicked. En Bloemfontein is 'n callgirl /Gauloises girl/ Kanaan/ Babilon. Plum's not sitting pretty. Boo! is unplugged & undressed & not eating biltong sandwiches backstage. I am. Insistent on being clowns to the left, jokers to the right. Carel: "Ons moerit anyway." The vibe just grew by drink-o-pop (makes 2 litres).

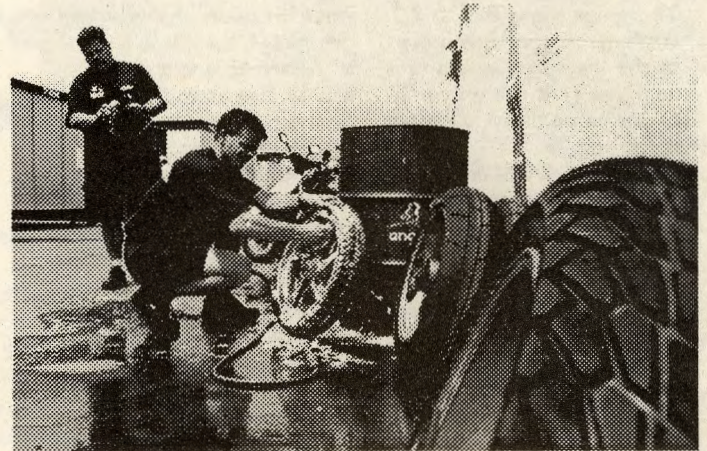
23:00 Plan X

Koos enters beer tent. People go awry/ odd. The man is his own pedestal sunk. Beauty from within, it's called. Statue?

00:29

Near end of Boo's set = brilliant. Crowd inside beer tent of 50 is going like 10 000. Fuck Lenny Kravitz. Again. Welkom's sleeping, the fear not theirs. Boo!: "You are the only person I like as much as me." Is this it? Is it? Not in a million years, but it saves us from early demise. Cry going out to the far reaches of your applause. Yes, next stop - this. Chris just held a note for 30 seconds on "true love". Will have none of it. Shot.

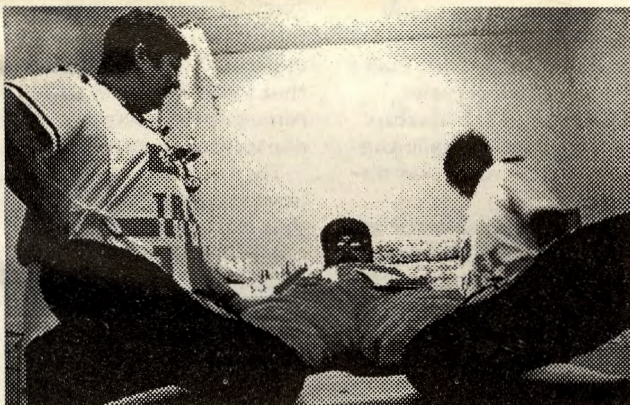
The actual race only happened two days later. Garry McCoy won the 500s. For detailed shit on Days 2 & 3, ask Toast, he'll recall what he can.



Pit crews: Busy



Toppie, President Of Hoodlums Bike Club, JHB.



First Grand Prix Casualty - a marshall stung by a bee.

Girls in red, Jesus and five bottles of Tas (that became seven) - notes from Oudtshoorn and the KKNK

48 hours in the Klein Karoo, Oudtshoorn, the most happening festival in the country since the Koedoe-drol-spoeg competition at the Bosveldfees in Ellisras. 4 people, 4 presspasses, 5 bottles of Tas, 5 girls in red, 2 guys from the telly.

It's Hama from Brasse Vannie Kaap, he's sharing theories of first world demise with me, we're talking the implementation of the Happy Brown People Project (in brief: screw person of other colour, breed, end racism in 200 years) and how all the whites will die out, it's in their blood, they don't breed well: "It's the party generation, they always fuck everything up."

And this, this is the party generation. Earlier that afternoon I distributed copies of the HBP Project at a Koos Kombuis book signing to some of his devoted fans - Tas t-shirt wearing Maties. They read it, look at me like I'm from fucking Iceland: "Nee wat ou pel, gaan try hierdie plan op 'n ander plek." Throw the fucking plan away, fair enough (you are free to paint Table Mountain pink as far as I'm concerned). They've obviously never understood Koos's song about how we're all non-believers anyway (that'd be "kaffir" in some twisted form of Arabic).

Boo! is on stage. Frontman Chameleon is electricity in a dress. Placebo wish they invented this. BVK makes hiphop hipper than the Wu ever

will, it now is for the people. Ready D drops the mix like a white mouse swallowed in a whirl of cream. Valiant Swart rides the black horse of redemption right past the campfire of Piet Botha, Liela

Groenewald should be on our car tape, which spins Macy Gray till we die. The five bottles of Tas became seven without us buying more, Jesus is around, his name I can't remember (walk on water, don't sink).

It's Johan Botha and Johan Rossouw, two guys who are somewhere between Kyk-Net and 50/50 presenters and Radio Sonder Grense jocks. They are drunk, so are we, it's the Rock Art (funny, hey?) at 04:00 on day two. Rossouw knows: "I give this festival two years and people will be fucking (he said 'naai', ok) in the streets." We're interviewing girls wearing red and asking them why they wear red and why they wear it where they do. We also survey boys about whether they dig boob-tubes. One girl wears a Buddha t-shirt and explains: "Buddha is cool - it's that mean expression."

Botha's got it: "Edgars is the Naspers of clothing stores." Rossouw is defending himself: "Don't give me kak, I'm on TV." Some guy solves the red dress issue: "If she wears red below, well, if you can't (score her), you're stupid. But if she wears a red top, she wants to, but she can't." It's unfortunate.

06:00, bed.

The car tape is tuning "are you one of the beautiful people", the road winds down the Langkloof, the view is to keep, the cellphone's saying 'Weather 40', return the smile in the car mirror, pull in at Jeffreys for coffee with a mate. It starts pissing down.

Mr Fat Brasse Vannie Kaap: Heavy set

Princess Leonie from Boo! takes a sip.



Disabled student dilemmas at UWC

Source: GAL

There are many disabled students at the University of the Western Cape and all agree that the university has to be more accommodating.

Leadwell Witbooi lost both his legs in a car accident in October of 1998. He is now in a wheelchair. A resident of Phillippi, he is currently engaged in his first year as a Human resource student.

Witbooi, studied occupational therapy (OT) before his accident and had only two semesters to go before completing his degree. He was unable to do so, because of the accident, and it would be difficult for him to practice occupational therapy as a disabled student. He says that he's always felt that the ramps at UWC are too steep and this causes pressure on his hands, which causes "blisters on both" his palms. Furthermore, he says, "the desks are not suitable for those in a wheelchair, it's too far and I have to lean over in order to write". It is difficult for him to make it to class on time and he has, therefore, asked that disabled students, like him, have a special desk close to the entrance so that they don't cause a disturbance. He believes that the university has to be more accommodating for disabled students in these matters.

Nzuzo Qati is a blind student who lives on campus in the Chris Hani residence. This section of the residence is mainly for students with disabilities because it is closest to the core of the campus and allows disabled students maximum convenience. Nzuzo is an LLB student who makes use of audio material, as well as Braille, for notes. When asked

what his main problem on campus is, he states that transferring books into braille, "takes so much time to do". This becomes a problem because the university only supplies the books at the beginning of each year and students have to wait before they can use them. "It would make things easier if acts and cases were also more accessible."

Evadne Abrahams is the program coordinator for disabled students. Her role is essential in the success of these students, as can be seen in the case of Andre Kleinhans, who graduated this year with a Cum Laude in his B.Sc. degree.

UWC is the only university that accommodates visually impaired students in the physiotherapy course. Evadne is negotiating for changes in lecture halls, makes the audio material available, discusses the organizing of ramps and provides blind students with brailled notes.

"Disabled students are not being prioritised because of the university's financial constraints," she says. She also feels that "there could be much more done for blind students if academics prepared at least 3 months in advance". This would allow time for transference into Braille.

The new equity bill will see to it that companies or workplaces "are forced to comply or get penalized for discriminating" says Evadne. This could ensure that the university accommodates disabled students.

An important part of Evadne's creed is "it's a person with a disability and not a disability with a person".

Is UWC kwaito capital?

Source: Article by Liezille Pretorius in online news @ UWC

It does not matter if you come from South Africa or Sweden, its going to be part of your body, you're going to dance", says Latin music lover, Ricky Martin. Yes! Rhythm does come from Africa and has created common grounds by joining people with its beat. It therefore comes as no surprise that most musical genres are inspired by this African sound. The Blues, Hip Hop, Rock, Pop, Rhythm & Blues, Jazz, Reggae, Gospel and other genres have their "roots in Africa", claims Bush Radio hip hop DJ, Rozzano X. Ironically, most South African consumers do not realize the African cultural influence on music produced by the likes of Macy Gray, Bob Marley, Nina Simone and so many others.

Many people claim that UWC students only support Kwaito bands. Interestingly, Kwaito artists who promoted their work last year visited the Residence students.

DJ China of the UWC Radio Society was the organizer of these events. He says, "there is a huge demand for extra-mural activity on campus and bringing Kwaito artists to residence helps to promote local music and give students what they want." Is Kwaito the only music UWC wants to be exposed to? We found out what the most popular sounds on campus are, what could be found in the CD players of UWC compatriots and why the particular genre is preferred.

Siyabonga Nkwali or DJ CYA! (as he prefers to be called) is a member of the UWC Radio Society. He keeps up-to-date with the trends of his listeners and says, "Most of the time I get requests for Kwaito and Hip hop sounds, local music...like POC, Bongo Muffin, TKZee and, of course, international artists namely, Dr. Dre". He gives the impression that UWC audiences are mainly Kwaito and Hip Hop fans. "I think students like Kwaito because it is local and they can relate to it." DJ CYA! has MDU's CD blasting his speakers at home.

A music student said that most UWC music students have an eager interest in Jazz and wish to be formally instructed in this discipline, despite the department's resistance. Wayne Siebritz, who teaches piano and violin in the Music Department, argues that Jazz has not been formally written like classical music. "Jazz music sounds different every time it's played. It is not as sophisticatedly orchestrated like classical music." This makes it difficult to teach. However, it should be noted that the department has agreed to implement the instruction of Jazz into their curriculum in three years time.

In the meantime, Siebritz says "there is a keen interest in learning...to play classical instruments at UWC". Besides his music students, he says that there are many other students coming for private piano lessons. "Many previously disadvantaged students did not have the opportunity to learn to play an instrument...now they have the chance and they are making use of it!"

'Local-is-lekka' and if you feel guilty that you only have international music in your sound system at home, we suggest the following tunes: the essential South African music survival kit includes Gloria Bosman's debut album called "Tranquility", "Rhymziwrote" by Spex and Bongo Maffin's IV.

In the words of Lauryn Hill, "music started out in the heart", so the genre you prefer depends on the tempo of your heartbeat.

Riots at UPE

Source: Article by Derrick Spies in UPEN

What started out as a peaceful student demonstration, broke out into pandemonium at the UPE campus on Friday the 3rd of March.

Approximately 200 disgruntled students blocked the main entrance from 7:30am on Friday, acting on grievances regarding late registration and financial exclusion. With the flow of traffic backed up as far as Marine Drive, students wanting to attend lectures were directed to the back entrance on campus by Federal Security and police.

The police informed the protesting students that their demonstration was in fact illegal, as the necessary procedures of notification had not been followed, and public access was blocked illegally.

The students moved onto campus grounds, where they split into smaller groups and entered one of the lecture hall complexes. Subsequently, students began to disrupt lectures; turning lights on and off, knocking books off desks, chanting and threatening lecture participants.

It was at this time that a representative of the University Management authorized the S.A. Police Services to intervene. This led to 13 protestors being arrested, while the rest of the crowd was dispersed.

The Vice Chancellor and Principle, Prof Jan Kirsten commented that 'since the talks were still ongoing, I find it strange that the students have, in a certain

sense, undermined their own bargaining position, I find that very unfortunate.'

He also hinted that internal disciplinary action could be taken based on a report from police and protection services. Mr. K. Matiso, Director of Student Services stated that discussions will continue, but added 'higher education is not free in South Africa, this is the bottom line... it does not matter whether you are poor, underprivileged, black, white or green. Peaceful demonstrations are allowed, but once you introduce violence, violate the rights of other students, that is a problem'.

Amongst those arrested, were members of the Student Representative Council, acting in a personal capacity, and members of various student political organizations, such as Pasma.

Inspector T Mngconkole, Communications Officer for SAPS, P.E. region, stated that 'no unnecessary force was used' and that 'no injuries were reported with the arrests.' This counteracts the press statement released by the SRC, wherein they state that they 'would like to express shock and anger that force was used to remove protesting students from the campus.'

They went on to say, however, that they "realise that the actions of the protesting students were illegal," and as the SRC, have decided to dissociate themselves from any illegal actions".

RAU's first millennium bash

Source: Article by Amogelang Pheko in HERAUT

A bash hosted by D-Lab kelder, on the initiative of the RAU Rag Committee, attracted a huge number of students. Sponsors were Redd's, Black Label and Engen and what made the bash worth going to was the performance of South Africa's leading group, Boomshaka, and DJ Pepsi. Long queues for tickets, were an obvious hint that most students were looking forward to the party.

RAU Radio's DJ Zee warmed up the dance floors before the much-awaited DJ Pepsi arrived. Zee spun the discs and sent most people "buck wild" with his skills. The 24 year old DJ Pepsi, co-owner of Exposure Production, sizzled away at his decks and was followed by a striking per-

formance by Boomshaka. Group members, Lebo, Thembi, Theo and Junior received great applause from the crowd with Lebo and Thembi's sexy movements sending most guys wild. The group went back to their 1995 hit, "Thobela" before performing their latest offering from the self-titled album.

Songs such as Lerato and On and On were chanted by the group. The group sent out a message about the dangers AIDS before concluding with their hit song Bambanani, encouraging people to stop the violence and hatred. DJ Pepsi continued spinning the discs before DJ Zee wrapped the show with some more sound.

To orientate or not...
RAU has answered the question

HERAUT By Gina de Villiers

Leaving high school to start university is a daunting prospect no matter how large or small your school was. There are so many strangers, a different way of teaching, a different...everything. One can immediately see that there is a need for an orientation program.

RAU provides this service with great success. The extended orientation program has been running since 1995 and the feedback they receive from the students each year is overwhelmingly positive. The majority of first years do make full use of the two-week program, especially enjoying the social activities.

Students do not realise how fortunate they are to have such an extensive orientation program organised for them. It is not a standard practice at universities around the country - not all first year students are settled in as they are at RAU. Research has shown that the majority of universities focus the attention of their orientation programs on those students entering the residences. The system of dayhouses is one unique to RAU and was begun at the request of the students. This allows day students to belong to a group, develop their potential and feel at home as the residence students feel.

Students from other universities agreed that they

would like a system such as this as they felt very isolated and would have liked the same opportunity to meet other new students. Ms van den Berg, one of the co-ordinators of RAU's orientation program, gave some interesting insights into the university's view of the program. She said that the dayhouse system helps the university when it comes to organising activities and presenting information that would be useful to the first years. "RAU finds that the orientation program is a good way to communicate with the students, probably for the only time in their careers here," she said.

The social activities on the program are often what the first years enjoy most. This aspect is the one that students from other universities found most lacking in the orientation programs they took part in. They all said that the programs told them what they needed to know about the degree they were studying, but did not allow them to meet students from other faculties. A complaint coming from a student at the University of Natal - Pietermaritzburg Campus was that the limited social events for day students seemed to be geared for one specific race-group.

She also expressed a feeling of isolation and said, "I did not meet one new person!" This opinion is not shared by the first years at RAU, who have once again enjoyed the orientation program thoroughly.

Rhodes Rugby

Ruckin' Good Stuff

By Gregory Hacksley

"I'm confident we'll take Tri-Varsity this year." These are the words of Rhodes 1st XV Rugby coach Mike Moolman, and with the way things are shaping up for the 2000 season this looks distinctly possible.

Rugby at Rhodes is in one of the strongest positions it has been in for years, with the Under 21 and 1st XV sides looking particularly impressive. Fielding four teams, three of them comprised only of students, and with many players from last year still remaining at Rhodes, Mike has every reason to smile. In fact the 1st XV that lost to UPE in the dying moments of the game last year have only lost three players. The team this year can therefore build on the experiences of last year and the added experience of seasoned players. The jump from schoolboy rugby to club rugby is a large one to take, but it is an easier one for young players to make if the team that surrounds them is an experienced and talented one.

Like last year, the Rhodes 1st XV will again be playing in the Border Premier League, but unlike last year, where they finished 2nd from the bottom, Moolman has high hopes for his charges this year. "We'll definitely finish in the top 5." The reason for his confidence is the same as before. A combination of talent, experience and a will to win are the defining characteristics of the Rhodes 1st XV, and it is an enviable combination to have.

South African Universities (SAU)

Moving away from what Rhodes Rugby will do to what it has done more recently, the Rhodes 1st XV had mixed fortunes up at SAU in Bloemfontein where they played three games.

Loosing the 1st match badly to Wits Tech 3-53, in a game where everything that could go wrong went wrong, Rhodes recovered quickly to thrash the University of Durban Westville 83-6 in their next game. The third game against the University of Pietermaritzburg, however, was probably the game of the tournament as far as the Rhodes side was concerned. Regarded as one of the best tertiary sides in Natal, the two teams were fairly equally matched and the game could have gone either way. With the points level at 8-8, Rhodes missed a penalty kick five minutes before the end of the game which would have secured them victory. Three minutes later Maritzburg missed a similar scoring opportunity and the game ended in a draw. While Moolman feels that Rhodes could have won by as much as 10 points, good rugby was played by both sides in the true spirit of the game.

Rhodes vs Swallows

In a well supported game on Saturday, Rhodes 1st XV trounced Swallows 1sts 56 - 7. Dominating from the kick-off, Rhodes scored 10 tries to Swallow's 1 and led 20-0 at half time. Rhodes outplayed their opponents in every aspect of the game with fullback Earl Wobbe scoring 3 tries and substitute Shane Ward scoring 2. However Rhodes could have added an additional 14 points to the total if their kicking had been better. They only managed to convert 3 of the 10 tries, something that definitely needs to be worked on if they are to reach the goals coach Mike Moolman has in mind for them.

In the curtain raiser to the 1st XV game, Rhodes 2nds thrashed Swallows 2nds 45-0.



1st XV centre Grant Mitchell ready for action during SAU

Club Feature:

Kung Fu

Fanchento Kung Fu (Way of the Cobra) is a non-classical form of Kung Fu which is heavily influenced by the principles of Jeet Kune Do (art of the late master Bruce Lee).

The training is geared towards simplicity aimed at eliminating excess movement and energy. The techniques and exercises are strictly for self-defence and to develop the student's individual attributes. The techniques are simple, direct and functional and are applied with economy of motion which makes them fast, powerful and non-telegraphic.

Fanchento teaches you to attain body wisdom (to act instinctively without

thought) through experience and self-reflection, and self-mastery through focus of energy to one point. The Rhodes School was established in 1991 by Si Fu Marc Kahn. Marc received his instruction from Si Gung Mickey Davidow, the head of the South African Fanchento Federation. Marc started off with six students, of which two are still active in the school: the current head instructor, Michael Datt (grey sash), and Letitia Grimmet (green sash).

Training takes place in Alec Mullins Hall on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 7:00 - 8:00pm for beginners and 8:00 - 9:00pm for seniors.

Packing a Punch

Kelly Smith

Say "Kickboxing" and most people conjure up scenes from "Bloodsport" or the Tae-bo infomercial (all respect to Billy Banks).

Now picture the quiet little girl that sits next to you in your economics tut throwing right hooks and front kicks in the Rhodes dojo and you'll have an idea of this new sport that is offered at Rhodes.

Kickboxing combines boxing skills and legwork in a sport that will improve your fitness and muscle strength. You're also guaranteed to feel a lot safer when walking home late at night.

Currently, the class is a

hour and a half long and has approximately an equal number of males and females.

While fear of injury is a common concern, this is prevented by avoiding full contact when working with partners and the taping of knuckles when working on the punching bags. Members of the class are divided into beginners and those who have trained before.

The class is given on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8pm in the Rhodes Dojo and is a fun and enjoyable way to vent your frustrations. Just ask that quiet little girl in your economics tut.

Results

RUGBY

27/2 - 31/3/ SASSU TOURNAMENT IN BLOEM-FONTEIN:
RUM1 VS WITS TECH
LOST 3-53
VS UNIVERSITY OF DURBAN WESTVILLE
WON 83-6
VS PIETERMARITZBURG
DREW 8-8

ATHLETICS

29/3/ POWERADE LEAGUE TOP 5 COMPETITION:
KAMLASH NARSHAI 100m(HEAT)
11,60 5TH
JASON KIDZA-SEWANYANA TRIPLE JUMP
13,55 3RD
ANDILE XOKOZELA 100m(HEAT)
11,65 5TH

SQUASH

ALBANY LEAGUE:

28/3/	RUM3 VS PA4	WON	16-7
29/3/	RUM4 VS ALEX2	LOST	4-17
29/3/	RUM5 VS SF3	WON	17-6
30/3/	RUM2 VS OGI	LOST	7-14
30/3/	RUM1 VS SACI	WON	17-6

P.E. WINTER LEAGUE:

10/4/	RUI VS SWIFTS	WON	13-4
10/4/	RUWI VS OLD GREY	LOST	0-14

HOCKEY

2/4/ RU OCCASIONALS VS OLD GREY WON 6-1

RIFLE

4/10 - 7/10

NATIONALS IN BLOEMFONTEIN

C CLASS

MATCH 6 MATCH 7 MATCH 8 MATCH 9 MATCH 10

HILTON SIEBERHAGEN

93,17% 93,5% 94,17% 93,83% 93%

TYRA MARKET

91,67% 94,33% 91,83% 92,83% 94,33%

MARK SAINSBURY

93,5% 91,17 92,83 93,67 92,83%

CAL VAN WINKEL

92% 91,83% 94,17% 93,83% 92,17%

CHRIS EVERITT

91,67% 90,67% 91,67% 89,33% 93%

PRAVESH AMTHA:

89,83% 90,33% 91,17% 90,83% 90%

Sports Briefs from around the world

- Australian World Cup hero Tim Horan has confirmed that this will be his last year of international rugby. The 29-year-old Wallaby star, who made his debut as a 19-year-old, has been a stalwart for Australia over the last 10 years.

- VVS Laxman scored 353 for Hyderabad against Karnataka in the semi-final round of the Ranji Trophy last week, the highest first-class score anywhere in the world since Brian Lara's 501 not out.

- Former England captain Lawrence Dallaglio was last week presented with the award for the best player of the inaugural Six Nations Championship.

- Kenya have defeated Denmark by eight wickets to win the final of the one-off ICC Emerging Nations Tournament in Harare, while in the final round of the Tournament, Ireland completed a narrow victory over the Zimbabwe Development XI. Kenya who won all their games finished top of the log with Scotland finishing at the bottom.

Rowers do it backwards

By Chris Allan

Vanderkloof Dam. The middle of the Free State in the middle of summer. All radio reception dies as we approach, English becomes an endangered language, and the air-conditioning in the Rhodes buses gave up a long time ago (like when the box marked additional extras was left unticked). Two women's and two men's crews were to spend the next 48 hours trying to reclaim the SAU rowing trophy that was lost to UCT last year for the first time in eleven years.

The night before the heats, saw the light-weight rowers running circles around the resort dressed in most of the clothes that they own in an attempt to shed a few kilos before the weigh-in the next morning. The locals were most amused to see sweaty Michelin men and women jogging past, strained looks on their faces.

Heats were rowed the next day. Rhodes qualified for every race. Storm clouds loomed. The locals couldn't work out why the people in the boats were facing the wrong way. There was a formal dinner, a few minor food fights and a chance to see what scuffy rowers look like with more than a tri-suit and T-shirt on.

Racing commenced far too early on Saturday morning, and from there on in it was all down hill. Race after race would come down with the Rhodes crews selfishly keeping the first place position all to themselves. The 900 metre course did provide for some very exciting racing in a wind that made life difficult for the first 700 metres, leaving just enough space at the end for a last burn for home on smooth water.

Rhodes entered every possible race, some extraordinary indi-

viduals (that would be the esteemed president of the Rowing Club, Howard Barratt) rowing as many as six races and walking away with four gold medals. Great organisation, camaraderie, very vocal support sprinkled over a base of skill and stamina resulted not only in Rhodes winning the regatta from UCT in second place by just under a hundred points, but also the outstanding fact that of the 34 people that went to SAU, 32 of them walked away with at least one gold medal.



Special mention should go to the men's C4 who found themselves with only 3 rowers who qualified for the event (due to SARU rules). They drafted in the very competent and very female B eight rower Candice Fraser and rowed to the start just as God decided to top up the levels of the dam in a big way. They landed the boat and waited for the storm to subside. When it did they rowed down wearing newly acquired wreaths (assembled on the bank while they waited) on their now very wet heads, and proceeded to win the race.

The rest of the weekend consisted of much partying in the mud and under the Boma, a fair amount of alcohol being consumed (did someone say funnel?), a few minor UPI's, some nakedness, a lot of rides on a Super Tube (in the middle of the Free State?), a few friendly waves to unimpressed opponents, and a bloody long trip home.

Adam Cripwell, Paul Backes, Pete Davies, Rod MacDonald and Nick Kyriacos were all selected to row in the Blues crew; Athol Hundermark (who won men's A sculls) was selected to row Blues Double and Paul Smith was selected for the Grudge double.

Pic: Chris Allan

Sideline



Gregory Hacksley - Sports Editor

The King is dead. Long live the King.

The events of last week have left the sports loving public of South Africa shattered and incredulous. The unthinkable happened: Hansie Cronje, the most successful captain in the history of South African Cricket, a man of unquestionable integrity and deep moral and religious convictions, the apparent perfect role model, admitted that he had not been "completely honest."

It's hard to stomach, harder to believe, but before one condemns the man too much there are a few things that should be remembered. Firstly he is innocent of match fixing and other heinous crimes till proven guilty. Admitting that one has not been "completely honest", especially when you've got so much to lose, and Hansie has lost a lot, takes guts. It also shows moral fortitude, that he has a conscience and that he is the same Hansie Cronje that we have come to respect and love over the years.

Secondly, what Hansie has admitted to doing, accepting (?) money for "match forecasting" is no different to what Shane Warne and Mark Waugh were found guilty of last year. His match forecasting, if Indian police transcripts are to be believed, were also inaccurate in terms of amount of runs he thought players would make.

Thirdly, and irrespective of the outcome of the independent investigation, Hansie, more than any other player, has helped to mould the South African Cricket team into the formidable side it is

today. From the time he took over from Kepler Wessels in the Test series against New Zealand in November 1994, Cronje has led South Africa in 45 of his 68 Tests, winning 22 of them. He has taken 43 test wickets at an average of 29.95 and has scored 3714 test runs averaging 36.41, which includes 6 centuries.

In the 188 one-day internationals he has played for this country he has scored 5565 runs at 38.64 and taken 114 wickets at 34.78. Of the 138 One Day Internationals he has captained he has led South Africa to victory in 99. This man, whatever the outcome of the investigations has been a hero for his country and deserves to be remembered for the good as well as the bad.

I believe Hansie when he says he has not been involved in "match fixing", and that he has never gone out onto the field to "lose a game for South Africa". I believe he was naive and foolish to converse with bookmakers and accept the money he did. I believe that he will be cleared of match-fixing charges. I would like to believe that he will once again play for South Africa and maybe even captain the side. I believe... but only time will tell. In the meantime the King is dead. Long live the King. Viva Shaun Pollock vival (but come back Hansie, please!)

Sports Quiz

- 1) How many times in a row has the Rhodes men's 1st crew won the annual "boat races" down in Port Alfred?
- 2) Against whom, and when did Jannie de Beer make his Test debut?
- 3) Who is the first team captain for the Rhodes women's hockey side?
- 4) How many centuries has Gary Kirsten scored in One Day Internationals?
- 5) How many of the 138 One Day Internationals played under Hansie Cronje as captain have the Proteas won?
- 6) Who is the current boxing heavyweight champion of the world?
- 7) What is the motto of the Aerobics Club at Rhodes?
- 8) Who won the 1991 Rugby World cup?
- 9) Kevin Costner stars in a new movie as a sports star. What sport does he play?
- 10) What is the Five Nations Rugby Tournament now called?
- 11) What is Sachin Tendulkar's highest score?
- 12) Which team did the Rhodes 1st XV beat 83-6 at SAU in Bloemfontein?
- 13) Which Rhodes sports club has the biggest membership?
- 14) How many rugby teams does Australia field in the Super 12 tournament?
- 15) For which RU sports club is "Basil" the mascot?
- 16) Where and when (what month) do the 2000 Olympics start?
- 18) Who are current Tri-Nation champions?
- 19) What does RUFFS stand for?

E-mail answers and contact details to sports@activate.soc.ru.ac.za. Win a six-pack. Closing date : 28/4

Top-gun

Just another bullet in my chamber!

By Tyra Markert

The Bloemfontein Rifle Range was the host of yet another successful Nationals held from the 4th till the 7th April. The top Shottists from across South Africa and neighboring countries flocked to Bloemfontein for the annual event, making up a total of approximately 350 participants. The Rhodes University Rifle Club team was comprised of six shottists.

The competition entailed shooting five matches in prone position, using .22 Anschutz rifles at 50m. Two matches were shot on each of the first two days and one match on the last day. Each match comprised of shooting three sheets of targets within a time limit of 60 minutes with a final score of 600 times 5 matches giving a final total out of 3000.

Each participant was categorized into one of three classes, A, B or C class according averages obtained from previous competitions. The schools are placed in a separate class. Most of the Rhodes team was placed in C class (shooting an average of 92.5% and below) and one in B class (92.5% - 96.5%).

The Rhodes team did well this year, some shottists improving on previous scores with the top four moving up to B class.

/3000	%
Tyra Markert (Chairman)	
2791	93.04
Mark Sainsbury	
2787	92.9
Hilton Sieberhagen (Vice - Chairman)	
2781	92.7
Cal van Winkel	
2780	92.67
Chris Everitt (Captain)	
2739	91.3
Pravesh Amtha	
2710	90.34

The Rhodes Rifle Club is improving in leaps and bounds with the development of a second team and improvements to the Rhodes range, which is situated on campus.