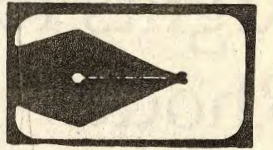


RHODEO



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Next stop...council?

MORE than 200 students and workers marched to admin last Thursday to protest the university's decision to award an honorary doctorate to Dr Chester Crocker, and to highlight students' demands for a restructured Rhodes Council. The march was part of a campaign taken up by the South African Students Congress (Sasco) to highlight that the Rhodes University Council and Senate were not representative of the Rhodes community.

The students and workers headed for admin carrying banners stating: "Why don't the people have a say?", "Cross out Crocker", "Rhodes needs counselling", "What a load of Crocker" and "Whatever happened to democracy?".

The protestors felt Chester Crocker did not deserve to receive an honorary doctorate given his involvement in the Angolan

civil war and his role in delaying Namibian independence by a decade.

Upon reaching admin, the marchers were addressed by Rhodes Sasco Chairperson, Phindile Dyani, who expressed his anger and opposition to the university Council and questioned the basis on which Crocker was awarded an honorary degree.

Sasco National President Robinson Ramaite told the protestors: "Rhodes University must shed its colonial status - it cannot go backward while the rest of South Africa goes forward. Rhodes has no option but to join the democratic process."

The Crocker controversy culminated in a march to admin with students calling for the democratisation of the university. Sarita Ranchod reports.

To page three

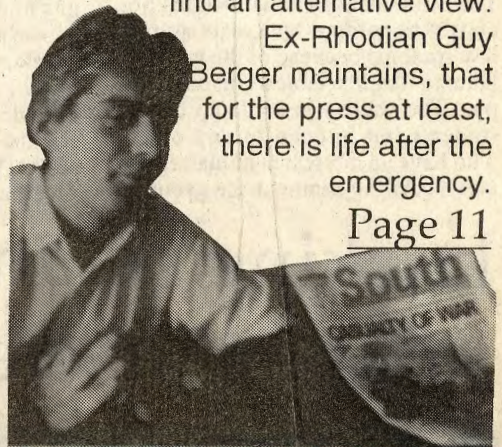
NEWS

North of South

In the age of CNN, John Bishop and Rocky V it is comforting to find an alternative view.

Ex-Rhodian Guy Berger maintains, that for the press at least, there is life after the emergency.

Page 11



FEATURE

Righting wrongs

What would a Bill of Rights mean for Rhodes, its composition or its employment practices? - a critical look at SA's future rights (and past wrongs)

Page 9



CULTURE

Van Hamlet



Hamlet director Ilse van Hemert extolls the virtues of theatre, Shakespeare and intensive voice training.

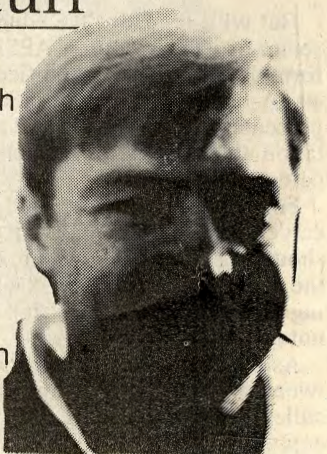
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SPORT

Astroturf

International hockey coach Richard Lemman predicts a bright future for both Rhodes and South African hockey.

Page 16



Rights for Rhodes soon

Bruno Jubase

A Human Rights Week is being planned by the Students for Human Rights (SHR) for August 9-11. The aim of holding a human rights week is to instill a culture of human rights awareness in the campus.

SHR chairperson Andrew Murphy said human rights were ignored and no political agreement reached at CODESA would have an impact if a human rights culture was not instilled at grassroots level.

The Students for Human Rights Society was formed two years ago by law students because of the need for Human Rights education on campus. The society is made up of law students but is open to any others who have an interest in human rights issues. At the moment the group is

involved in education projects with the Rini community and Kingswood college students on basic human rights. Inroads are still to be made into local high schools in the township. Seminars and group discussions are planned for the high schools.

As an offshoot of Lawyers for Human Rights the society looks at political, social and economic human rights. "We are committed in principle to safeguard against any form of human rights abuses. The whole aim of the group is to objectively, through awareness, encourage a human rights culture in South Africa, because we believe that no lasting political settlement is possible without a corresponding human rights culture," Andrew said. The Human Rights Week will begin on Sunday August 9 with a speech by Jennifer Ferguson or Thandi Claasen at the Great Hall.

Events planned include debates on gay and third generation rights, film shows and a music festival. Possible speakers include the ANC's Albie Sachs, Lawyers for Human Rights President Brian Currin, the Human Rights Trust's Rory Riordan and the ANC Women's League's Cheryl Carolous.

Looking behind the funding mystery



Sanja Goehre

THE fact that the Government subsidises some South African universities more than others, and the reasoning behind it has not been made known to the public.

This is due to a complicated process in which a mystery "A-factor" determines the final subsidy granted to each university.

Rhodes University's Finance Registrar, Mr Long, said the government calculates the proportion of the National Education budget each university receives according to a formula known as SAPSE 110.

SAPSE 110 takes into account the pass rate and the number of students enrolled at each university, as well as the proportion of Non-humanities, Sciences and Humanities students. Each year subsidies are calculated with figures from the previous three years.

But with funds for the education sector on a decline, this SAPSE 110 formula has had to be modified, and an "A-factor" now determines what percentage of the SAPSE 110 calculation the universities actually receive.

For instance in 1990 Rhodes received only 68 percent of what they should have received according to the formula. The factors determining this percentage decision were not made public.

As a result small discrepancies between the various government subsidies of universities, are difficult to explain.

Professor Antrobus, of the Rhodes Economics Department, said there was a greater need for financial aid to smaller universities as they had a higher average cost. However, Rhodes received 6,3 percent less funding than Stellenbosch University in 1990.

"The real controversy lies with the 'A-factor'. We know that cuts are inevitable, but we would be much happier if we knew how they are calculated and that they are applied equally," said Mr Long.

Mr Long does not believe the result of this inconsistency in subsidies was due to political reasons. He said the two Afrikaans universities, Pretoria University and RAU, did not seem to be favoured in any way.

Available government subsidies to universities for 1990:

- Potchefstroom University (8658 students): 71%
- Pretoria University (22 976): 60%
- Randse Afrikaanse Universiteit (9055): 55%
- Rhodes University (3802 students): 68%
- Stellenbosch University (13 830): 74,3%
- University of Durban-Westville (7485): 57%
- University of Cape Town (13 545): 64%



Whether it was a sixth sense or not, we'll never know. But when a stranger suddenly gave Julie Gibson flowers in her Linguistics lecture, she must have suspected something was up. When Adam Welz appeared with his camera at the ready, she must have been even more surprised. Nevertheless she pulled it off with admirable restraint and dignity.

Setting up tomorrow's South Africa today?

For many Codesa 2 was a confusing haze of Lester Venter's early-morning face, Cyril Ramaphosa's late-night severity and interrupted sports broadcasts.

Waldemar Budeli tries to unravel the events of the last fortnight.

THE week that preceded the second Convention for a Democratic South Africa (Codesa) made it clear that there would be no easy walk to consensus.

Of the five workings group assigned by Codesa 1 to deal with issues relating to a new constitution, only group two could not reach consensus. Since group two worked on mechanisms to draw up a new constitution, there were substantial fears that the second plenary session of Codesa would be a failure.

It needed the wits of ANC leader Nelson Mandela and State President FW de Klerk to avert what would have been a significant embarrassment for Codesa 2. The two leaders were locked in an arduous meeting late in the first day of Codesa. The meeting that discussed undisclosed matters saw the hope and amicable atmosphere returning to the Convention the following day.

Earlier in the week, the ANC and NP took tough positions on the majority necessary to adopt the constitution in a national assembly. The NP dugged in its heels on 75 percent. The ANC stood firm on 66 percent or two thirds. The question was debated until late Thursday evening but no agreement could be reached.



It had to be adjourned until Friday morning, just an hour before the opening plenary session. Again consensus could not be reached.

The compromise suggestion of 70 percent was not accepted. In addition to the question on the majority, the NP also brought forward a proposal of a second chamber as a supreme body with a veto power over the National Assembly. The proposal was confusing as the NP didn't define how this senatorial house would be comprised.

It is understood that the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) initially put the majority figure as high as 80 percent, but finally backed down to NP's stand of 75 percentage.

When the second plenary session concluded its deliberations, an agreement was reached that the outstanding points in all groups would

have to be referred to the multiparty management committee to unlock the impasse. It is understood that the debacle in group two which prevented Codesa 2 from delivering what most people anticipated, has also been referred to the committee.

The task to convene a third convention, which would ratify agreements on the still outstanding points, has also been entrusted to the management committee.

Picket at E-L grad



Shannon Simon

A PLACARD demonstration protesting the award to Chester Crocker of an honorary doctorate was held at Rhodes East London's graduation ceremony last weekend.

A "representative" group of about 15 picketers from the South African Students Congress (Sasco) held the demonstration to call for the democratisation of the university's Council, before being ordered to disperse by security forces.

Security official Captain Aslett told the picketers their demonstration was illegal as they had not obtained permission from the Town Council.

"If you hold those placards and protest in front of the hall, I will have to arrest you," he told them.

Nevertheless, they were allowed to hold their placards as Crocker left

East London's Guild Theatre at the end of the ceremony. No arrests were made.

When asked by Captain Aslett where their leadership was, one of the protesters replied: "Our leaders are at Codesa".

According to Aslett, security had been awaiting the protester's arrival, as they had been informed about the demonstration through the media.

Instead of arriving at the beginning of the graduation ceremony as they had anticipated, the students arrived near the end due to transport problems.

The picketers nevertheless felt they had registered their protest effectively.

The demonstration, together with last week's march, were part of Sasco's campaign to democratise Rhodes' decision-making structures, a Sasco spokesperson said.

March to admin calls for democracy

contd

He questioned the basis on which Council had decided to give Crocker the degree, calling him "the mother of all criminals", and adding that Council might as well have given an honorary doctorate to Hitler.

Ramaite called for a democratic Council which represented workers, students and academics. He said the present system was unacceptable as only one member of the Students Representative Council (SRC) could attend meetings and this person had observer status only.

National Education, Health and Allied Workers Union (Nehawu) representative David Nzanzeka also addressed the group. He said university workers would continue their struggle until they were represented on all decision-making bodies at Rhodes.

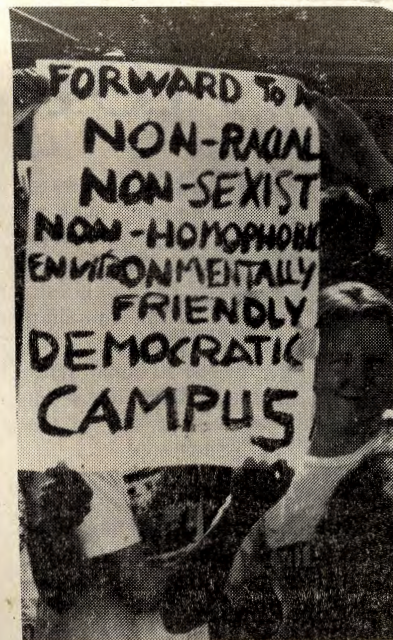
When protesters reached the administration block they were met by Vice-Chancellor Dr Henderson, Vice-Principal Dr Smout and Rhodes Council Vice-Chair, Dr Brian la Trobe.

A petition signed by more than 750 students and workers to protest the award was handed to Dr Henderson. He said the contents would be brought to the attention of Council and would be addressed in the future.

The petition rejected the university's decision to award Chester Crocker an honorary degree, and called for the restructuring of the Rhodes University Council according to democratic principles.

The petition said: "Council's ratification of Crocker's honorary doctorate, shows how out of touch they are with the unfolding process in South Africa.

"This is not surprising considering they are a committee of 27 white and one black middle-aged, middle-class men - who are nominated by the state president, white



municipalities and schools," it continued.

Henderson commended the organisers for "the dignified way in which the march was conducted".

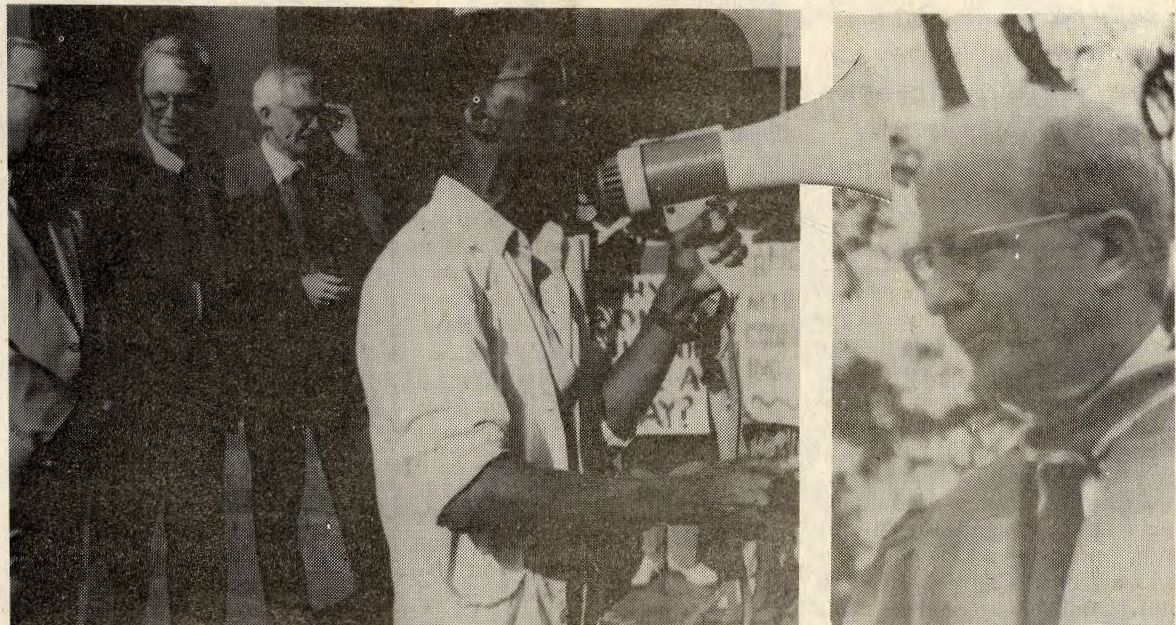
Sasco Executive member Kim Jurgensen said: "The focus of Sasco's campaign is the undemocratic nature of decision-making structures in the university; the Crocker issue just highlights one of the ways this manifests itself."

She said the object of the protest was to prevent a controversy of this nature from occurring again, by ensuring that the entire Rhodes community be involved in such decisions.

"The reason for giving an honorary doctorate should be to recognise the positive contribution a person has made to society. For this reason, we not only feel that Crocker is unworthy of the degree, but that there are other people who deserve this award," she said.

"The march was just the beginning of a campaign to democratise our university," she said.

The week in pictures



Nehawu representative David Nzanzeka addresses the marchers



Crocker with his award



Sasco national president Robinson Ramaite talks to the press



Behind the rave

Amid the parties and the jorls it is easy to lose sight of RAG's primary aim: to collect money for charity. Paddy Hozack looks into the crucial process of allocating the money collected to the different charities.

As of now the money made over Rag has not yet been donated to any charities. "It is a very lengthy process deciding on which charity organisations will be given money," said Rag chairperson, Gaby Sidley. An ad has been put into local newspapers requesting applications from charities that require funds from Rag. The application forms will be sent to the Social Work Department, consisting of Social Work lecturers and honours students, stating why they need the money and how much they need. The Social Work Department vi-

sits these organisations, checks their books and inquires why they need the money.

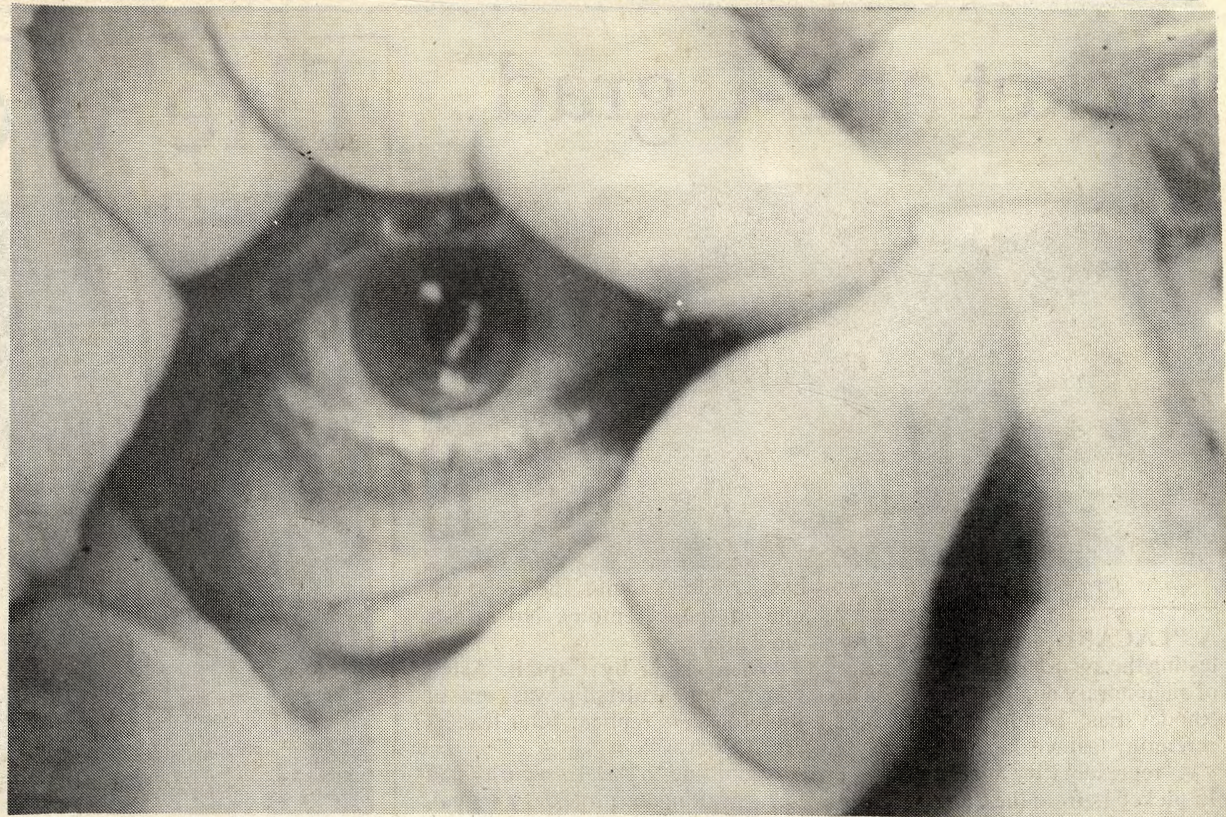
"We can't give them all the money they ask for. It would be wonderful if we could," said Gaby.

In September and October the Rag Funds Dispersal Committee, consisting of the Vice-Chancellor's nominee, Dr Motara, the Social Work Department, the director of the finances committee, Liz Lieper, the president of the SRC and three elected members meets to decide what charities should be allowed money.

In the past only registered organisations could receive donations. This year, however, other projects will be eligible.

A new Rag committee is to be elected at the beginning of next term. Sidley is appealing to students to fill in application forms which can be collected from the Rag Offices.

Anyone who is interested in applying for Rag chairperson must go for an interview in the Rag Offices on Thursday, 21 May 1992.



A close look at the BDI

Alison McLachlan

THE SRC Projects Committee's new publication, The BDI, was launched on campus last week, to an enthusiastic student response.

Why BDI? SRC Projects Officer, Simon May, said: "We see the role of Projects Committee as a group on campus which looks at things in an alternative way. This gave us the idea of some sort of a visual image...and we thought the spelling was quite cute".

The content of BDI has been compared to that of RHODEO.

"RHODEO is a newspaper, and thus its content is fundamentally

news; whereas the BDI is an issue-based publication. What we try to do is extrapolate various understandings from particular political, social and environmental issues. We try and provide a forum for debate, whereas RHODEO's role in that respect is limited," Simon said.

There are about 15 people on the present BDI staff. Simon stressed that new people were always welcome.

"The main section of the BDI was a 4 page feature on abortion where we included heavy pro-life and pro-choice positions as well as various legal, medical, and psychological

data. We also tried to have an 'i2i' (as in 'eye to eye') debate between an academic, who opposed the award of an honorary doctorate to Chester Crocker, and someone from the Rhodes University Administration to defend the decision. The Administration, however, didn't prove to be very helpful.

"There are other articles about the student movement, the death penalty and the menace of oil tankers," he said.

The BDI staff hoped to make the publication permanent on campus. The next edition was planned for the beginning of the third term.



Attention knit wits

RAG is once again appealing to all students to get their knitting needles and knit blanket squares.

The squares must be twenty centimetres squared and can be handed in at the Rag Offices.

These squares will then be sewn together to make blankets, which will be sold cheaply to the people in the townships, "so it is not a hand-out," said Gaby Sidley.

There will be a prize for the person who knits the most squares.

All aboard for Saujs!

Pia Stockenstrom

"DON'T miss the boat" was the slogan used by South African Union of Jewish Students (Saujs) to publicise their annual national seminar to be held in June/July this year.

Many issues including religion, politics, women's issues and social issues will be covered.

Among the speakers to address Saujs members are Judge Ismail Muhammed, Judge J Zuiman, the ANC's Albertina Sisulu, past national president of Saujs, Howard Sackstein, Weekly Mail Editor Anton Harber and John Hearsh of the United States Consulate.

On the lighter side are fun activities and social gatherings such as fancy dress parties, Karaoke evenings, games evenings, and a "booze cruise", with Evita Bezuidenhout, talkshow host Dr Paul and comedian Mel Miller to liven things up.

A highlight of the national seminar will be a guest speaker from Israel who will address one of the more pertinent issues.

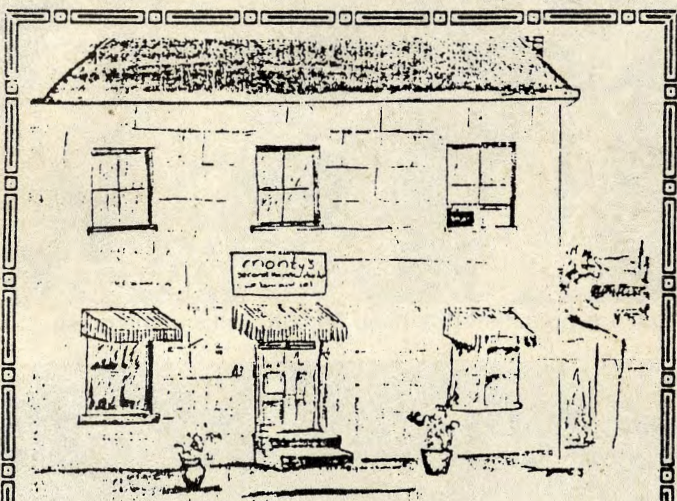
Other activities include a traditional Sabbath conducted by Rabbi Moffson of University of the Witwatersrand Saujs, and the National Congress during which the National Saujs Committee is elected for the following year.

Rhodes Saujs Chairperson, Dayan Gross, said: "At the seminar, people come to realise that they are not just Saujs Rhodes, but part of a national body which is part of the World Union of Jewish Students."

He emphasised the fun side of the National Seminar in conjunction with some of the more serious issues and said that the aim was to meet people and to make genuine friends.

The National Seminar will commence at the Orkney Vaal Holiday Resort on 26 June with the leadership forum.

It will be open to all other Saujs members on 29 June and end on 7 July.



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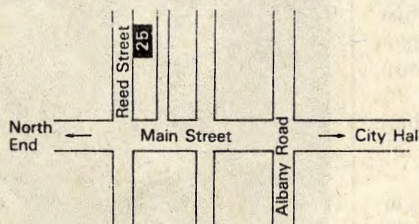
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That's Education!

You have heard of Talk Radio, here comes Teach Radio. Don Pinnock, Journalism Lecturer, is challenging his students' expectations of lecturing by "broadcasting" some of their lectures to them. Steyn Speed spoke to him and some others on the need for challenging old approaches to teaching.

FIRST Year journalism students were introduced to an innovative approach in teaching recently.

Seated in the Rhodes theatre an "audience" of over 200 students listened to a "Media in South Africa" lecture broadcast to them over loudspeakers. Unlike traditional Rhodes lectures, the "lecturer" was not standing at the front of the theatre behind a podium, but was perched in a sound control booth behind the assembled class. The broadcast was a mix of signal tunes, public announcements and a Canadian educational radio programme.

According to lecturer Don Pinnock, the new approach was aimed primarily to spark interest among the students: "Students are intelligent enough to gather the necessary information themselves," he said.

the Cory Library for most of their research - the first time first year students have used the Cory Library "en masse".

"The essay they write is supposed to resemble a newspaper feature like you'd find in The Guardian Weekly," Pinnock said.

He said he didn't know why more lecturers didn't try new teaching techniques.

"Education is also entertainment. If you don't have surprises, students will soon become bored. And boredom is the death of education," he said.

He felt lectures needed to be more tightly choreographed. The days of academic gowns and controlled lecturers behind podiums needed to be reconsidered, he said.

"There is very little discussion in the university about different forms of teaching. Lecturers aren't expected to be good communicators," Pinnock said.

He said university structures like the Teaching Learning Support Committee (TLSC) was one of the few places where teaching methods were critically discussed.

Head of the Linguistics Department and member of the TLSC, Professor Vivian de Klerk agreed, saying lecturers were seldom required to undergo any teaching training.

All new lecturers were however obliged to participate in an orientation programme at the beginning of

each year to highlight approaches to training. The programme's four day duration didn't provide enough time, De Klerk said.

The Teaching Learning sub-committee of senate tried to stimulate critical discussion on teaching methods, she said.

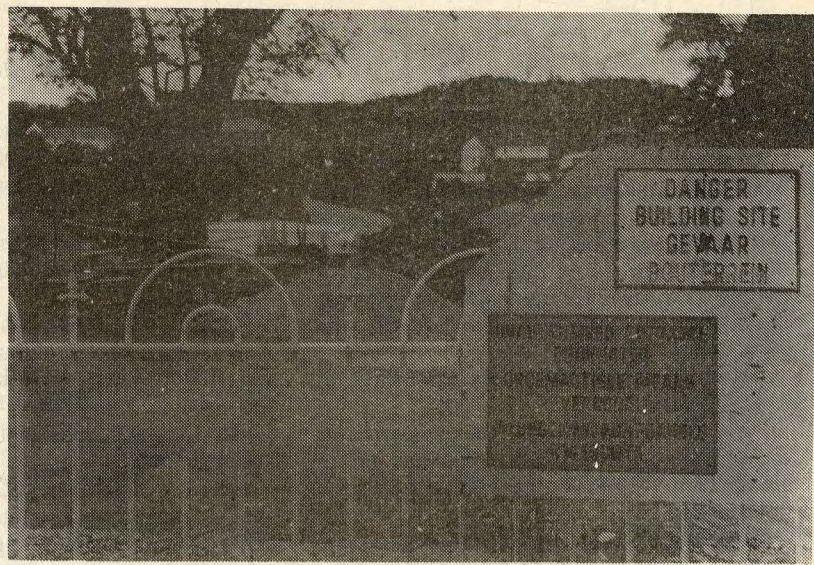
"We are planning seminars for the third term to sensitise staff to the needs of underprepared and linguistically deprived students," she said. These seminars were purely voluntarily - some staff members probably never went, she added.

De Klerk felt the recently established teaching award would provide an incentive for staff to critically look at themselves and their teaching. She emphasised it was important for students to nominate staff members who they considered worthy of recognition so that teachers were answerable to their students.

She said lecturer evaluation by students was a valuable part of the process of selecting lecturers for the teaching award.

SRC Education Councillor Jenny Roberts said the best thing the SRC could do to improve teaching methods was to get lecturers to run such evaluations and encourage them to adjust their methods accordingly.

On lecturer evaluation Don Pinnock was most emphatic: "Lecturers are employed by students. Students should say if they're unhappy, and lecturers should be obliged to change."



New res for 1993

Pia Stockenstrom

A R3,5 million women's residence for Rhodes will be completed by the beginning of the 1993 academic year.

Director of Rhodes' Estates Division Philip Murray said, "the new residence has been specially designed for women and will accommodate 84 students."

It consists of a north and south wing and will be linked by an entrance hall and a common room.

The residence is being built behind the Philosophy Department

building next to Prince Alfred House. The location was chosen due to its proximity to the Drostdy Dining Hall which "has spare capacity for the 84 students with minor additional expenditure," Murray said.

The building has been designed to compliment the surrounding structures to "create architectural harmony".

Murray said Rhodes had identified a need for additional accommodation for students. He believed there would be a sufficient number of students to occupy the new residence in 1993.

Bishop Tutu in G-town

Julia Pole

ARCHBISHOP Desmond Tutu conducted an evening service at the Grahamstown Cathedral at the weekend.

Bishop Tutu's impressive and charismatic sermon on the love of God began on a lighthearted note.

He said "God must be terribly confused by the contradictory prayers he receives. Some people pray for sunshine so they can have enjoyable picnics, while others pray for rain. In the end God must be saying, 'Don't call me, I'll call you'."

However, jokes were not the Bishop's intention. After that humorous introduction, he launched into a serious attack of apartheid and its effects.

"A few years ago, I came to these parts, to the funeral of Steve Biko, and tried to speak about God caring," he said. "It was as if we were mocking our people when we told them God loved us. But we tried to



sustain our people in hope."

Regardless of this attempt however, the difficult question of where God was at present was still often addressed to the Bishop.

Bishop Tutu's response to this was, "God doesn't sleep. He does not take a holiday. This system under which we operate in this country is contradictory to christianity and it's immoral."

He also mentioned the current government fraud of R5 billion, with an appeal for the money to be used for township housing and schools instead. "We must not be surprised by the ghastly revelations being made," he said. "People involved in fraud should resign, other-

wise they get promoted," he said.

Bishop Tutu further commended the actions of Nelson Mandela and FW De Klerk. He said, "God comes down to deliver and now we can see the freedom breaking all over the place."

Bishop Tutu envisaged a future as one where everyone would form a more compassionate community and work for reconciliation. "There will be justice, compassion, and caring," he said.

The big smoke break Nothing to break your butt over

Leizl Mattison

THERE were no butts about it. The SRC's recent Non-smoking Week tried to alert smokers to the health risks connected with smoking and make non-smokers aware of their rights.

SRC Sports and Health Councillor, Roger Webb said the idea was suggested at last year's SRC conference and is hoped to become an annual event.

The South African National Cancer Association (Sanca) and the Heart Foundation were invited to give talks on the subject, posters and pamphlets were distributed, and certain places on campus were proclaimed "non-smoking" areas.

"The campaign was not aggressively enforced and a lot of people blatantly ignored it. However, some were at least able to think about the consequences," Roger said.

"Surveys have shown 80 percent of smokers want to quit and we have planned a support group to help individuals. It has been estimated that

smoking will be the biggest killer in ten years time and people should realise this," he added.

Students were asked how they felt about the campaign. Many said it was a useless venture and that they had actually smoked more; while others claimed it had not been enforced enough. "It's a damn fine idea... pity I can't give up," one said.

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The SRC's CKI-RMR success

Alison McLachlan

THE SRC mid-year Jorl seemed to do much more than provide some social entertainment last Friday evening. For a few enjoyable hours, the skin colour didn't seem to matter. People were there for one reason - to party to the sounds of Radio Ciskei and RMR. And good sounds they were too.

As with all Great Hall Jorls, things got off to a slow start.

Not for long though, with the opening beats of a fairly well known "ditty", and one puff of smoke from the smoke machine, people soon got the idea.

It was difficult not to notice the professional skills of the Radio CKI D-Jays. Although the variety of music was predominantly "Hip-Hop", this seemed to meet the approval of all people in the hall. Dancing didn't cease for

the entire night; neither did the cheering when a favourite tune pounded through the crowds.

The hall was comfortably full, and there was a consistent flow of alcohol throughout the evening. Most people's preoccupation was just to "get on down". And that's what they did.

Radio CKI's initial visit to Grahamstown was to play soccer against our RMR crew. Fortunately the event coincided with that of the SRC mid-year Jorl. What better opportunity to make their visit more than just a soccer match.

At last, with RMR and CKI's assistance, the SRC was able to do something that they've been trying to do since August last year...unite all students on campus on a social level. There is no doubt this was done successfully.

Perhaps this is just the start of good things to come for Rhodes? Let's hope so.

Human Rights and Rainbows

Janet Roche

THE month-long Arts and Cultural Festival to be hosted by the SRC in the third term, is set to be the biggest Rhodes has yet seen.

The Rhodes Rainbow-fest will be held from July 27 to August 16 and will include art exhibitions, jazz evenings, poetry readings and much more.

The idea for the festival evolved from SRC discussions around the annual Societies Week which was felt was not stimulating enough to capture students' imaginations.

SRC President Daryl Lee said the festival

aimed to provide students and student groupings with an opportunity to unite and build a creative, vibrant campus culture.

The SRC will be organising bands and artists, and has invited cultural groupings from Port Elizabeth, Fort Hare and Unitra universities. Rhodes societies are planning to present plays, debates and a jorl or two.

The Rainbow-fest will culminate in a human rights week from August 9-16.

The Human Rights week, jointly organised by the SRC and Students for Human Rights (SHR) will feature panel discussions, debates, speakers, a Children's Day, a Green Day, a human rights concert and other projects.

The week will begin on National Womens' Day with a performance by Jennifer Ferguson, and (still pending) an address by Cheryl Carolus from the ANC on "Women and a free society".

Rhodes Rainbow Day on August 15 will involve a human rights parade and a Kaif lawns craft market, an outdoor concert and finally a Great Hall party.

The heart of smoking is suicide in slow motion

Alison McLachlan

SPEAKERS from the South African National Cancer Association (Sanca) and the Heart Foundation came to speak to students during the SRC's "Smoke Break" campaign, from the 4 to the 8 of May.

Although the meeting was not well attended, those that did participate were quickly made aware of the damage that smoking does to us all.

Sanca's John Skeltermeyer and the Heart Foundation's Liz Monroe said according to World Health Organisation (WHO) statistics, smoking will be the number one killer in the world by the year 2000. In the USA at present, 500 000 females start smoking every year. Eight thousand all over the world. By the year 2015 the number of deaths will have increased to 28 000 per day.

The myth that you are only likely to get lung cancer or die from smoking if you are "old", was quickly destroyed. By the year 2015, 200 million people below the age of 20 will be dying as a result of smoking.

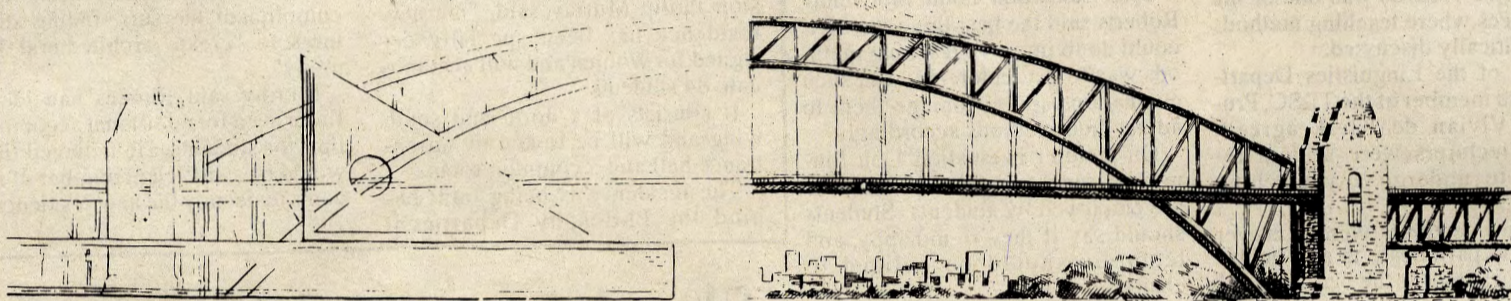
Not only does smoking put you at the risk of getting lung cancer, but also of having a heart attack. At the moment, heart attacks are the biggest killer in the world; and particularly in South Africa where it corresponds with very high cholesterol levels.

Non-smokers that are in a room with smoking people run just as high a risk of being affected by lung cancer. Cigarettes contain 400 chemicals, 20 of which can produce cancer.

The Heart Foundation and Sanca attempt to work with groups that assist people in trying to give up the habit, however there is a definite lack of funds and person power to be really effective. These groups also have to work against rich tobacco companies, and the power of advertising and the media in order to be successful.

Nicotine is addictive, and thus "it is very difficult to just quit smoking," said the Sanca spokesperson. "You often need medical assistance, a support group, very strong will-power; but most of all you need to change your attitude towards smoking. Giving up is not impossible however," they said.

As far as John Skeltermeyer of Sanca is concerned, "smoking is slow-motion suicide". It's definitely something to consider.



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Grahamstown goes agrarian

First we had Pigs in Digs, then there were Rats in Res, and now we give you **Goats in Gardens**. Collect them all - your favourite animals and more!

New on the scene, Empty Vessels played their second gig to bumping audience in the monument's B2 arena last weekend. Jonathan Davis gives his impressions on their music and performance.

THE Empty Vessels have never made any secret about their sources of inspiration. If the now characteristic runes on their flyer was not enough warning, then the Led Zepp emerging from the PA system down in the B2 arena should have confirmed one's suspicions about the band.

The B2 Arena, a smallish arena situated in the netherworld beneath the 1820 Settlers Monument, proved to be an exciting venue for the gig. The intimacy of the arena challenges both audience and artist.

The band's four instrumentalists kicked off the set continuing to lament the fact that they didn't grow up during the '70's, with three blues-rock "jams".

What immediately strikes one is the strength of the Vessels' guitar work, with the bands two highly talented practitioners, Dave and Paul, first alternating, then weaving dense rhythms between them.

The two defy the labels of lead and rhythm guitar. Both appear equally competent, though I would venture from my position of ignorance to suggest Dave's playing revealed a stronger blues strain, particularly in these first few numbers.

This was all anchored by 'Weasel' on drums, and Drew on bass and vocals. Drew's vocals failed in overcoming the muscular guitar sound; but as he explained, their lead vocalist was "taking a shower".

One instrumental later, and the room was blacked out while we were presented by a falsetto rendition of a poem, the meaning of which must have been infinitely deep and profound. Why else sing in the dark?

It might simply be that Richard had an incomplete understanding of where his shower ended and his set began, or it may be he wanted us to know that he really did suffer for his art. Nevertheless, Richard in his nude crucifixion pose as the lights came up, will stay with many people for quite some time -

Full frontal rock at the monument



Empty Vessels revealed... Weasel, Drew, Richard, Dave and Paul

not least of all, with the rest of the Vessels themselves.

The band kicked straight into their next number, and Richard was soon launching into the vocals of "Knocking on Heavens Door" with loud check trousers restored to their rightful place.

The band's set was almost exclusively cover versions, and mostly hard or blues rock. The Vessels played favourites like "Cocaine", "Honky Tonk Woman", "Hey Joe", "Gloria" and "All along the Watchtower".

Splash down at the fen

Nicolette Brown

To sum splashy Fen up in a solitary yet impressive adjective is an incredibly difficult task - one I'm not going to undertake simply because Splashy Fen was more than just 'amazing' or 'far out' or 'cool' (meaning the weather) or 'groovy' or whatever.

As far as comparing it to Woodstock - well, I suppose I'd be able to do that if I'd made it to Woodstock - but hey, what would you call over 3000 people from all the country sitting in the open, mellowing out to the tunes of some of South Africa's well-known (and unknown) folk, rock, blues and 'all-sorts' bands for three days?

The music festival which happened on 'Splashy Fen', a farm near Underberg, featured acts like Steve Newman and the Tananas, Plagal Cadence (an up-and-coming Durban band), old time favourites Syd Kitchen and Edie Niederlander among others like The Earthlings, who have been nicknamed South Africa's Aborigines, and a Hare Krishna Band to name a few.

But the festival wasn't only about big time bands doing their thing. Folk club representatives and inspired amateurs pulled out their guitars and strutted their stuff while it was not unusual to walk through the camping



Young and old, bare bottomed and soaking up the sun at Splashy Fen (PIC: Toby Shapshack)

ground in the evening and hear the good old 'camp-fire sing-a-longs'.

As wonderful as the music was, Splashy Fen was sometimes more about experiencing the magnificence of the winter country-side, squizzing out the diversity of the festival followers (which was far more interesting than campus), tasting the 'karma-free' vegetarian Hare Krishna munchies, praying that you would live through the cold night to hear the next day's music and knowing that this care-free oblivion would last only three days before it was time to hit the books again.

If there is anything more to say, it can only be that if you didn't make it to Splashy Fen

pecially when a well known song is played.

As vocalist, Richard may lack an experienced voice, but his showmanship and enthusiasm abounds. His rendition was always completely uninhibited and expressive, but never without charm. His voice tended to stray off the tune on a number of occasions. Normally, the power of the band is enough to sustain him, but problems seem to creep in on the more sensitive numbers.

This was very evident in the bands attempt to cover Cream's classic "Tales of Brave Ulysses". Richard was unable to capture the real sensitivity of the song's lyrics, a fact that was made worse by guitars that seemed simply too loud and too fast. "Tales of Brave Ulysses" was never meant to be a thrash metal number.

However, this was the exception. The band played a lot of good covers, like "Jumping Jack Flash", "Wishing Well" and Gary Moore's "Parisian Walkways".

The band has been together since the beginning of the year. Richard is working at improving his vocals, according to Manager Doug Hardman.

Does the band only play covers, or do they have original stuff? Hardman says the band does have original material, which it plans to perform during the festival. At present he says the band is "doing stuff they enjoy, before moving into original stuff".

"Basically we're getting it together and going to move on from here," he explains.

The band certainly seems to have the technical musicianship to go far. But the present approach to music in the band seems to be based on imitation rather than self-expression.

Hopefully they will soon develop their own distinct styles and bring their own expression to the way they play.

Nevertheless, anybody who was down in the B2 Arena that night will agree: the Empty Vessels provide the best interpretation of the practice of Rock and Roll we have seen for a very long time. Almost as if they were inspired.

War criminal or Man of

Chester Crocker has got his degree, Dr Derek Henderson has received the student petition, the "war criminal" posters have been taken down and many people have been left wondering what the fuss was all about. **Thabang Motsoasele** compiled two contrasting views about Crocker's role in Southern Africa. The first is from the editor of the Eastern Province Herald. The second is a response to it from two Rhodes academics.

The article below was part of an editorial in the Eastern Province Herald's May 4 edition. It comments on the open letter which was signed by 57 Rhodes academics, in which they distanced themselves from the university's decision to award Dr Chester Crocker an honorary doctorate.

"WE said at the time he was patiently beavering away to rid Africa of the Cubans and to convince South Africa to release its grip on Namibia that Chester Crocker deserved the Nobel Peace Prize. Nothing has happened since then to change our mind.

The pity is that the only recognition coming his way is an honorary doctorate in law which Rhodes University plans to bestow on him later this month in East London.

For Chet Crocker, after all, was a master diplomat.

It is thanks largely to his efforts that Namibia is free under democratic government today; that the Cubans have gone home and that Angolans at last have the opportunity to elect a democratic government.

It is well to remember that when Crocker took over as Under-Secretary of State for Africa, an unelected Angolan government was being kept in power by the Soviet Union's Cuban surrogates. And near the border with neighbouring Namibia, Sam Nujoma was talking of taking power through the barrel of the gun.

Thanks to Crocker, Swapo is legitimately in power, with an elected opposition, and Jonas Savimbi will soon have the chance to prove his claim that Unita enjoys majority support in Angola.

But if 57 Rhodes academics are to be believed, Crocker was the embodiment of most things evil. One of his greatest crimes in their eyes was his policy of so-called constructive engagement with South Africa.

Loosely translated, that simply meant using diplomatic pressure and influence to convince South Africa to comply with the famous UN resolution 435. Hand in hand with that went another much-discussed concept - linkage. That meant: South Africa out of Namibia and Angola; Cubans out of Africa. It worked.

Another Crocker sin, in the eyes of the academics, was the anti-sanctions component of the constructive engagement policy. This newspaper's views on sanctions are well enough known. Suffice it to say that hundreds of thousands of unemployed might well be in jobs today if Crocker's policies had been universally accepted.

We say Rhodes could not have chosen a better man to honour."

The letter below from Professor Roger Southall and Dr John Daniel was published in the EP Herald of May 13 in reply to the above editorial.

"IN response to your editorial "Man of Honour", the case against the award of an honorary doctorate to Dr Crocker by Rhodes University is based upon two propositions. First, the Reagan Administration - with Crocker at the head of its Africa policy - actually torpedoed the implementation of Resolution 435 (whereby the UN Security Council spelled out internationally agreed steps for granting independence to Namibia) in the early 1980s. Second, via the introduction of 'linkage' - 'South Africa out of Namibia and Angola, Cubans out of Africa' - the US not only delayed Namibian independence but also grievously extended the Angolan

civil war, in which 300 000 people died.

By Resolution 435 in 1978, the US under the Carter Administration and the other members of the Western 'Contact Group' (Britain, Canada, France, and West Germany) committed themselves to pressing South Africa into withdrawing from its illegal occupation of Namibia and holding elections.

By January 1981 (when the Reagan Administration took office) events had moved forward to the holding of a pre-implementation conference in Geneva. However, it was at this point that the carefully crafted Western scheme foundered upon Pretoria's calculation that the incoming Reagan Administration would deal with it much more leniently.

The upshot was an immediate loss of momentum in the Namibian independence process. Worse, this was now linked to the military involvement of South Africa, with covert US assistance, in the Angolan civil war. This had originally broken out between the three liberation movements, the MPLA, FNLA and UNITA in 1975. By 1976, with the logistic support of the Soviet Union and the direct engagement of Cuban troops, the MPLA had emerged as the widely recognised government in Angola. But a much weakened UNITA now saw the presence as an opportunity to elicit US and South African support for its continued occupation of Namibia.

And so it was that by 1984 the Contact Group's push to implement Resolution 435 had been effectively thrust aside as US negotiators, led by Crocker, now came to insist formally upon linking the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola (where they now increasingly provided a defensive backstop for the MPLA against South African aggression) to any Namibian settlement.

The Reagan Administration thereafter secured the repeal of the Clark Amendment, whereby any US administration had been barred from sending troops or war material to southern Africa without the consent of Congress. It then agreed to deliver US Stinger missiles to UNITA and thereby laid the basis for the escalation of the Angolan war to massive proportions. Meanwhile, Pretoria interpreted US constructive engagement as granting tacit consent to its launching of destructive attacks upon neighbouring countries such as Mozambique and Lesotho, as well as upon Angola itself.

It was only by 1988 - when time was running out for the Reagan Administration, after the failure of the SADF and UNITA to defeat the beleaguered MPLA at the celebrated battle of Cuito Cuavanelle, and when the military balance had turned against South Africa - that a peace settlement was brokered. This at last led to Namibian independence, an eventuality which would have occurred years

before had the work of the Contact Group not been scuttled by the Reagan Administration.

So, in response to your editorial. First, the Contact Group had negotiated SWAPO into accepting internationally supervised elections long before Crocker came on the scene. It was South Africa, not SWAPO, which was reluctant to engage the Namibian electorate.

Second, Crocker was the personal instrument of the Reagan Administration's policy which prevented the implementation of Resolution 435.

Third, linkage may have "worked", but only after the Reagan Administration had fanned the flames of a regional war which, without South African involvement and external support for UNITA, might well have died a death.

Chester Crocker may have helped to forge an Angolan/Namibian settlement, but he could have done this in the early and not the late 1980s. Instead, he was party to a Reagan Administration which let loose the dogs of war."



Former United States Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, Dr Chester Crocker (left) receives his Doctorate in Law (LLD). Crocker was met by picketers from Rhodes Grahamstown protesting the award of the doctorate to Rhodes Council.

Varsity life and the

Joasia Tomecki

IT is common knowledge that people (especially students) lead stressful lives and improvise ways in which to deal with it. People who don't cope are rejected as unbalanced, weak and maladjusted. Most of us seem to cope - but what mechanisms have we adopted to give the outside world that impression?

Increasingly, people are turning to alcoholism and drugs or prescription pill-popping in order to survive everyday pressures. It is also apparent that many people who have grown up in affluent, urbanized, western households are turning in increasing numbers to yet another addictive substance to help them cope. Food.

Most people do not regard eating disorders as problems which are worth taking seriously and generally dismiss pre-occupation with food as "frivolous" and "shallow". Surely food can't harm a person in the same way that alcohol or drugs can? Doesn't an obsession

with food and dieting indicate vanity and a lack of interest in more "serious" problems in the world around us?

These attitudes need to be thoroughly re-examined.

Eating disorders are as serious a problem as any other and are causing a large proportion of people severe distress and trauma, as well as real physical harm.

There are three forms of eating disorders: anorexia nervosa, bulimia, and compulsive eating. Although these three disorders are characterized by different ways of relating to food; all are cause for alarm.

What is also frightening is that these people abuse food, and therefore themselves, as an alternative to expressing emotions in a healthy and constructive way.

Emotions such as anger, depression, anxiety, insecurity, and loneliness are perceived as too painful, or too powerful to be expressed or felt directly.

Feminist writers have expressed the view

of Honour ?



leaves the Rhodes East London graduation last Saturday where he received an Honorary
ting the decision to award Crocker the degree as well as the undemocratic nature of the

e politics of food

that eating compulsively can be a woman's statement to society at large that she will do with her body as she pleases, as western society places tremendous pressure on women to be thin.

It is only when a woman is thin that she is considered attractive and desirable. This stems from the emphasis patriarchal society places on a woman's body, and it is through this that she gains love and security. She must therefore do anything in her power to ensure that it remains attractive (i.e. thin). This is problematic for obvious reasons.

Putting on weight can thus be a means of rejecting societal expectations, whereas becoming anorexic means complying with society's expectations; to the extent that one begins to starve to death.

Eating disorders have become an increasingly serious problem in western society. They are not, by any means, "frivolous" or "shallow", but a destructive means of coping with psychological needs and feelings, and a response to the pressures of the outside world.



A bill to right wrongs, and to make some rights wrong

What implications would a bill of rights have for South Africans in general, and for us at Rhodes? Thabang Motsoasele talked to Donald Leyshon, Constitutional Law Lecturer, to get the low-down on this potentially explosive issue.

SOUTH Africa has been attempting to deal with the question of a bill of rights to ensure that all its citizens receive fair treatment, not only from each other but from the state.

Leading parties in negotiations, the ANC and the NP, have come up with drafts which are designed to address what are seen to be the main areas. The ANC's was drafted by its Constitutional Committee, whilst the NP, as the party currently in the governing seat, got its Law Commission to come up with a draft.

The members of this commission were drawn from South Africa's judiciary and were appointed by the Minister of Justice. And since the Minister of Justice is a National Party member, it would not seem inaccurate to refer to their draft bill of rights as the NP's.

Rights are normally put into three groups - first generation rights (civil and political - for instance the right to life, the right to equality before the law, the right to vote); second generation rights (like land, property, welfare and education); and third generation rights (like the environment, women and children's issues).

Both drafts protect every person's right to life - the ANC goes one step further by proposing the abolition of capital punishment.

The NP concentrates mainly on first generation rights - personal liberty and protection, like the rights of an arrested person, while the ANC's draft puts a lot of emphasis on second generation rights, which no doubt stems from the current imbalances in the ownership of land, welfare payments and education.

Second generation rights are more difficult to realise as they require investment in the economy to ensure equality in the quality of life. They are worked up to gradually, rather than immediately enforced by an incoming government.

In its draft the ANC sets out what the languages of the country are and says the state must ensure are all further developed. Furthermore, no language should be used to dominate or divide peoples. However, it is possible for languages to be used regionally or nationally.

The two parties differ on the issue of freedom of association. According to the NP's draft everyone should have the right to freedom of association, provided no law would force people (individually or in groups) to associate with others.

This means that die-hard racists could, for example, bar blacks from their schools and neighbourhoods, without explicitly stating the reason was race.

The ANC's position is that people be free to think, speak and offer opinions, including the press - which is also cautioned to respect the right of others to reply. People are also free to assemble without arms and to submit petitions "for the redress of grievances and injustices".

The NP does not deal with individual rights in any of its proposed articles - it seems to assume disputes would be with the government only.

The NP says the right to equality before the law would not mean women would be expected to do active military service.

A serious problem in implementing the bill of rights as part of a new constitution is that the judiciary is drawn from a narrow pool of white men at present.

From past experience, one doubts their ability or eagerness to challenge government.

A judge is required to interpret a law, using either the letter (literal meaning) or the spirit (intended meaning) of the law.

How would the ANC, NP, or any other party deal with the problem of having a few white legal beagles from which to select?

Constitutional Law lecturer, Donald Leyshon suggests they might bring in judges from other countries, to add to the variety of law people. It would take a long time before South Africa could hope to have enough lawyers, black and white, to be able to choose its judiciary from a bigger, more representative pool of possibles.

The need for a judiciary unhesitant to challenge the government when necessary is clear. The judiciary would also have to realise that the manner in which laws are applied depends on the times.

An independent, impartial judiciary would be a step in the right direction.

A South African bill of rights would affect Rhodes University in a variety of ways. It would set the scene for admissions policies - nobody could be refused admission on



the grounds of race, gender or any other discrimination.

Students would be free to take up cases where they felt they were being discriminated against.

There would have to be a revision of institutions trying to stifle grievances brought against them by students and staff. The students or staff would be able to charge the institution with transgressing their right to freedom of speech.

There would be no fear of harassment for stating one's beliefs. Workers could demand a living wage, based on the ANC's assertion that everyone has a right to a minimum wage. According to their draft bill of rights, unions would be recognised with no bias and this would empower workers' collective bargaining power.

Students with children could demand the establishment of creches on campus and married students could demand adequate accommodation. Handicapped students could demand facilities which took their disabilities into consideration.

Different academic standards would have to be set. Universities would have to ensure their assessment methods did not favour one group over another or that there was any "cultural bias" in the syllabi content.

The language of instruction would have to be considered. Since both ANC and NP drafts endorse affirmative action, the university would have to address this question seriously.

Mr Leyshon suggests South Africa's attempt to draft a bill of rights be as "unambitious as possible".

"If they try draft the ultimate bill of rights to be a shining example to other nations, it will be a shining disaster," he said.

A bill of rights should be confined to civil and political issues, addressing questions like the abuse of prisoners and detainees, and criminal procedures to ensure fair trials in all cases.

Many accused in South Africa today do not know what they are charged with, or that they have access to competent defence. Sometimes people do not fully understand court procedures.

Addressing these issues is essential if South Africa hopes to have a bill of rights that would be acceptable to the majority of people.

Editorial

Deeds of Honour

The deed was done when Chester Crocker strode from the Guild Hall on Saturday 16 May. Despite all the protests, all the press coverage, all the letters to the editors, all the signatures, Chester Crocker still received his Honorary Doctorate from Rhodes University; or those who claim to represent it.

The deed may be done, but the crime has not passed away. The problem with Chester Crocker lies not only in who he is, but how he was chosen - in a blatantly unrepresentative and undemocratic manner. It is a prime example of how an overwhelmingly white, overwhelmingly male, overwhelmingly middle-class group of people can take decisions for the university, despite the real nature of both the university's students and its workers.

Admin would like it very much if the matter were allowed to fade into obscurity. If along with the workers living wage, the condom-vending machines, the unfair admissions policies, sexual harassment on campus and all the other symbols of our disenfranchisement as functioning members of Rhodes University; the Chester Crocker issue were simply absorbed into Council's bureaucratic melange.

The matter must not be allowed to drop. The Chester Crocker issue must be remembered and added to the roles of the undemocratic and autocratic decisions which the university has made in our name, and continues to make every day. It must be further evidence to this truth. That Rhodes University will remain an unrepresentative and elitist institution until its pediments of power are made the platforms of democracy.

Words and Deeds

Impediments to democracy were found to run further and deeper than the stumbling blocks in Rhodes Admin. Codesa's second plenary session in Johannesburg burst the big working group bubble which has been growing over past months. It seems the groups rapid progress was not indicative of any great degree of consensus. The failure of the session to ratify any of the decisions taken by the groups questions the Conventions ability to provide an authentic basis for real change. Even Mandela and De Klerk's unscheduled dinner date on Friday failed to resolve matters. It seems Codesa is a lot more hesitant to get to grips with the real bones of contention.

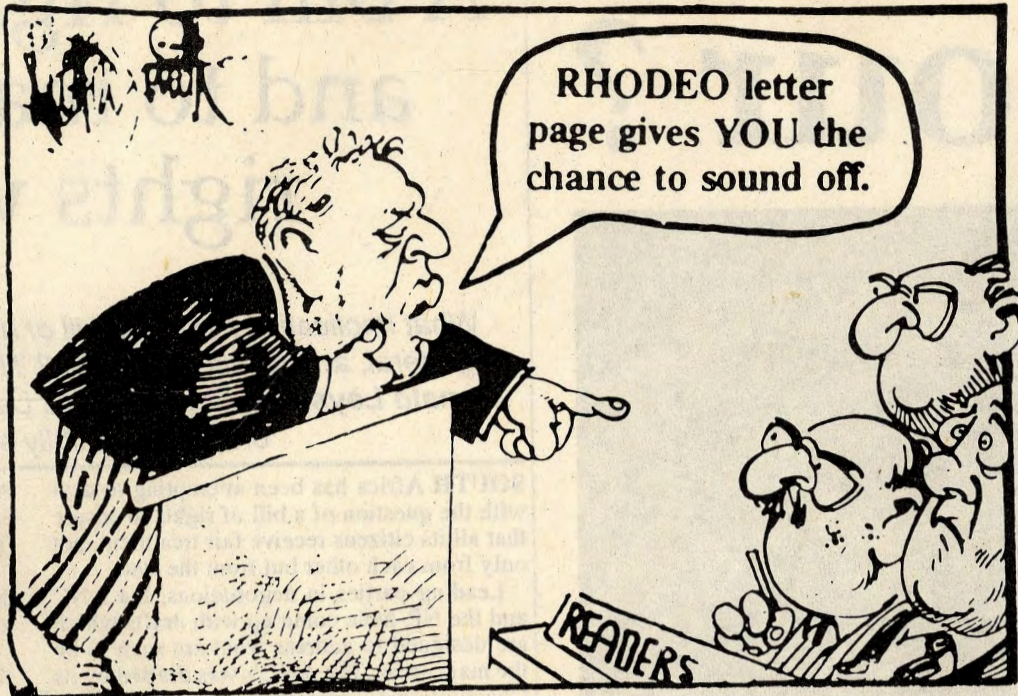
They failed also to keep what was really worrying people off the menu - large scale government corruption and more of those covert operations we were told the government had come clean on.

The full extent of a "country-wide" network of secret SAP bases remains to be seen, given the hasty legal footwork of the police to block media disclosures. And Revelations of how SADF intelligence hunted down and removed Eastern Cape activists "from society" make government demands that MK be disbanded as a private army sound decidedly partial.

Creditorial

Steyn Speed, Alison (Aufwiedersein!) Melachlan, Sarah Letcher, Brigitte Engler, Valdimar Budeli, Megan Duff, Michelle Willmers, Sarita Ranchod, Julia Pole, Shannon Simon, Judy Elliott, Nerisha Baldevu, Bruno Jubase, Pia Stockenstroom, Sally Kingwill, Leizl Mattison, Kathy Carr, Janet Roche, Kimberly Farrow, Sanja Goehre, Michelle de Bruyn, Paddy Hozack, Ross Edwards, Kendal Claassens, Marc Bovim, Biddie Rorke, Llewelyn Roderick, Jonathan Davis, Ingrid Salgado, Thabang Motsoesele, Joasia Tomaki, Dror Eysel, Xolisa Mhongo, Adam Welz, Toby Shapshack, Chris Campbell...and all those who we have failed to name (out of pure exhaustion).

Photo-credits for "The Week in Pictures", page 3, to Dror Eysel, Adam Welz and Victor Rau.



Conservation and the role of the cigarette

Dear RHODEO

RECENTLY I went to a meeting of GEAR, a newly established society at Rhodes. It was good to see so many "non-scientific" people who were genuinely interested in the plight of our planet, and that they were prepared to do something in an attempt to rectify the status quo. The society is holding drives on campus to encourage recycling of paper and glass, and will be having litter clean-ups in the township. It also intends to improve the quality of water in some of the local rivers; the planting of trees is also envisaged.

All the above activities are to be commended and I am prepared to give my support wherever possible, but I do have a few problems with the attitudes of the people in the society. The problem is perhaps one of pure education, and an awareness of the threat humankind poses on its environment. I am not a rabid conservationist, screaming that we should not use plastic bags and walk around barefoot because leather shoes are made from innocent cows. But I do make sure that when I go shopping I use as few plastic bags as possible, and carry my groceries in a haversack. I never litter, a habit picked up in my youth after my mother severely reprimanded me and explained to me the reasons for not littering.

I am aware that being environmentally friendly is the in thing, but my question is, what happens when it is no longer in, or you become bored with the whole concept and decide to become more interested in self-defense? After all, the crime rate is increasing and who has time for 'conservation'. My problem stems from the feeling that too many people go green because it is what the Smiths and the Joneses are doing; they are not really interested in the state of the rain forests, as they cannot perceive how the disappearance of the flying monkeys is going to have an effect on their lives. The screening of "Loving" will surely continue.

Now, to get to the actual meat of my argument. Two of humankind's greatest excesses - which also happen to be two of my pet hates - smoking and the consumption of alcohol, rear their ugly heads. In the student community at Rhodes these two activities are to be found at every corner and, no, not between every corner. Sitting at the GEAR meeting, it was very evident that members of this society do partake in these activities. Now, I believe in freedom of religion, expression, and whatever else, but one cannot start educating people when one's own house is not in order. I would like to ask every person who smokes to have a close look at a cigarette's construction. Notice the paper which covers its ugly length, the butt on the one end that holds this lethal object together. I dare you, then, to tear open the cigarette and look at its contents. Notice the finely chopped tobacco leaves, all treated and ready to give you your next kick.

What a lovely plant this must have come from, it must have grown beautifully with its many other friends in the millions of acres of land sown only for tobacco production. What a shame a few rain forests had to be chopped down in order to make space for this fine crop, one that humankind could not possibly live without. Sorry, Mr-Beggar-on-the-street, we don't have any space to grow subsistence crops, crops that will feed you and your family. We will have to cut down some more of the natural vegetation in order to do this, but hell, tobacco earns me more money. So perhaps the money earned here will trickle down to you when you pick the tobacco leaves for me, and then you can buy your food from some other farmer. After all, this planet is so big and there is plenty of space for monocultures. I light up that cigarette and puff its noxious contents to the four directions, while thinking that I could never cause pollution, and how dare those factories make all that pollution. Once you have finished your poisonous pill and dropped all the ash on the floor, why not drop the stompie on the ground. Me? Pollution? Never! A poor unsuspecting seagull swoops down from the clouded heavens and swallows that out whole.

I will not bore you, then, with the beer bottle and its woeful story, but what I will ask you is to approach conservation with a level head, to actually do something constructive, and not attempt to bolster your reputation, or improve your CV.

Leon Herbert



To express your views, whether brickbat or bouquet's send your letters to The Editor, Rhodéo, PO Box 94 or via Internal Mail, c/o SRC. Otherwise you can find our postbox upstairs in the Union Building opposite the SRC offices and if that's not easy enough, your veivs will never be heard. All letters will be printed if signed, pseudonyms accepted. We reserve the right to edit letters.

Rhodéo will not be held liable for any of the views expressed here, since they are not necessarily those of the Rhodéo staff members.

Not sorry about perve list

Dear RHODEO

IN RESPONSE to the letter "Disgusted at Perve List". I would firstly like to say, although it was my childhood dream to get into RHODEO, I would have done something a little more intellectual than writing a few names on pieces of paper and sticking them up in men's loo's, to earn my place (although this did earn me a place as the wierdest Welsh wench on campus!). Secondly, I would like to thank the writer of the letter for not blaming all of society's evils on me - much appreciated! (I could, however take the blame for the increasing number of condoms on campus - or would that imply I'm a sexist superficial slut?)

I will not apologise for writing the Perve List which was merely a humorous reflection of the thoughts of the majority of students on campus. If the list did cause contention (as it obviously did, judging by the writer's response) then my aim was achieved because it made students less apathetic and consciously realise how sexually repressed they are and are thus forced to look at everyone else as a "potential fuck".

By not signing your name under your letter I can only assume you were actually flattered by the Perve List and only "contended" it as a "publicity stunt" to get into RHODEO. Unmask yourself, phantom perv! Then I can take your pretentious name off my Perv List!

To the rest of the Perves who didn't find the list amusing - don't take yourselves so seriously (the rest of us don't).

Yours in perversion
Liz Kirk

Motara not under fire

Dear RHODEO

I AM writing in response to your article, "Motara under fire" (RHODEO April 1992). I was surprised at the sensationalist manner in which the least important issue discussed at Leadership Weekend was highlighted. I therefore wish to clarify the SRC's position regarding the motion about the Dean of Students.

Firstly, the aim of Leadership Weekend was not to launch a "full scale war" on Dr Motara; this issue was raised as a result of comments and criticisms made by some delagates concerning the Dean's actions and powers. The aim was to enable the SRC to investigate any complaints it might receive about him, and to take these complaints to Dr Motara, or anyone capable of dealing with them. I would like to invite all students who have grievances relating to the Dean of students to contact the SRC.

This year's SRC has prided itself on having established good relations with the Senior Administration, which has made our task as students representatives easier. The article placed considerable strain on these relations and has forced us to explain our portrayal as "anti-Motara campaigners" (as they saw us!) and re-build ties with the administration.

Again, we urge any students who wish to complain about the Dean of Students to approach the SRC so that the situation may be rectified.

Yours sincerely
Jenny Roberts
Leadership Weekend Coordinator

Improvement in RHODEO

Dear RHODEO

CONGRATULATIONS on the significant improvement of RHODEO in recent edition. It has become infinitely more relevant and readable. The lay-out and design is also better than has been seen in a long time.

All that is needed is better reproduction work on the photographs which do not do the rest justice.

Keep at it.

Dominic Thorburn
Head of Graphic Art Section

Preventing political prostitution

Fred M'membe, Zambian editor and political figure currently embroiled in controversy, spoke to Michelle Willmers and Sarita Ranchod about the sacrifices that are made in truthful reporting.



THE editor of Lusaka's *Weekly Post* and one of the founding members of the Movement for Multi-party Democracy (MMD) in Zambia, Fred M'membe, visited Rhodes last week.

Part of his campaign was to gain the support of the international media community. During his stay he spoke to journalism students on the role of the independent press in Southern Africa.

M'membe was instrumental in the MMD struggle which brought about the fall of President Kaunda's one-party state regime, after the Zambian elections in November 1991, when the MMD gained a 75 percent majority vote.

He emphasised that his political loyalties did not influence his editorial policy, which aimed at expressing all minority views.

"The independent press is a party of the world," with an obligation to report the different angles of stories on all political parties, he said.

M'membe demonstrated his dedication to a free and unbiased press when his newspaper recently ran an article criticising Zambian President Chiluba's acceptance of a luxury BMW motorcar as a gift and is at present under attack for his refusal to apologise for the editorial policy which exempts no one from exposure.

free and unbiased press

M'membe helped bring President Chiluba into power and is a personal friend of the

president. However, he said that "an independent paper is not an ideological tool, it exists to promote democracy and report the truth".

On the topic of press freedom, M'membe said freedom of expression should never be limited in any way as "the truth is there for the individual to determine". He believed objectivity was possible and necessary in today's press, but that "political prostitution" where journalists became too involved personally in certain party politics, was the greatest obstacle in achieving this freedom.

"political prostitution"

M'membe highlighted financial independence as another problem facing the independent press and an essential aspect in maintaining editorial independence. The *Weekly Post* in Zambia has achieved this independence by not allowing any of their 27 shareholders to own more than 15 percent of the newspaper's shares.

Despite M'membe's MMD loyalty, he used his newspaper's exposure of the Chiluba scandal as an example of the sacrifices made in the free and independent press. This contradicts *The Weekly Mail* which last week quoted M'membe as saying, "There was no way I could distance myself then from the MMD I had founded." It further said M'membe was no longer a member of the MMD.

About the new alternative

The alternative press will be the media prepared to take risks in a future South African press - editor of South, Guy Berger, speaks to Nerisha Baldevu on his perception of the press, and his life as a detainee and returned exile in South Africa.

THE new-style alternative press and their investigative reporting, features, satire and wit are going to be the quality minority circulation press of the new South Africa, as they are the only ones who are still prepared to take risks.

This is according to Guy Berger - old Rhodesian, ex-detainee, returned exile, and current editor of *South* newspaper in Cape Town.

Berger said the independent press was originally set up as an alternative to the commercial press which was being manipulated by the government in the mid-80s. The alternative press was to change South Africa.

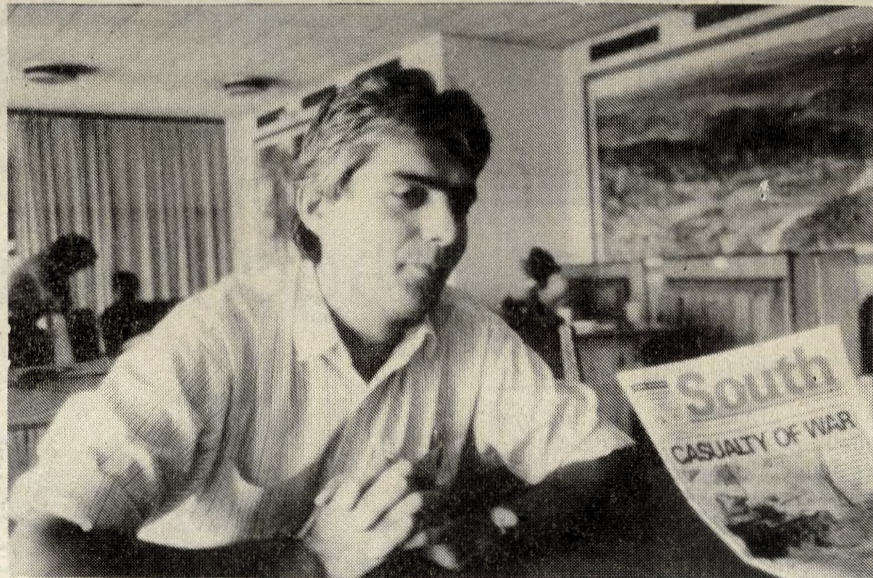
However, since FW de Klerk's famous February 2 speech, the role of the alternative press has been somewhat changed. The mainstream press has begun reporting on issues they previously would not have covered, and this has forced the independent press to reassess their roles, he said.

fringe press

The alternative media is currently a fringe press and the papers are still small. They are not owned by large companies, which means they are not accountable to shareholders, he said. They can therefore take the risks involved in investigative reporting, even if this is expensive in terms of resources and personnel. This, along with the original angles the alternative media has been forced to find due to competition, is the way forward for the alternative press.

Berger said media was a commodity which catered for the all-rounded person. It had to be enjoyable first and foremost, and then informative and educational. Media would not be read if it did not entertain, he said.

Berger was a student at Rhodes University in the mid-70s. It was around this time that an Africanisation programme was launched to



try and convince people not to emigrate or give up on South Africa. It was also the time of the Soweto uprisings.

"Living in, and experiencing the Eastern Cape could not leave people untouched. With its poverty and unemployment, it was and is a view of what South Africa really is," Berger said of his time here.

Berger was instrumental in the formation of Delta, which did developmental work with displaced people in Ciskei. Although Delta did not achieve much in Ciskei, it managed to get Rhodes students involved.

One of the many highlights of Berger's university career occurred when Pik Botha came to speak to students at Rhodes in 1977 to test English support for the National Party. This was shortly after the NP had banned a number of black political organisations, as well as two newspapers.

Guy Berger, the student radical, shocked Rhodes' rather right wing student body by standing up at the beginning of the meeting, and saying Mr Botha should not be allowed the freedom to address people, since the NP disallowed others that freedom. However, equilibrium was regained when it was decided Mr Botha should not be treated in the manner the NP treated its opposition, and that he should be given the chance to express his views.

the student radical

Berger began lecturing at Rhodes in 1980. In 1981, a Zimbabwean student who had been kicked out of the country, asked Berger to do some research for the South African Congress of Trade Unions (Sactu). The information on Sactu was sent to Mr Berger through letters

via couriers. However, the police had been watching him and decided he had become dangerous. He was thought to be distributing ANC literature through his university study groups and was arrested.

Berger was detained for seven months, then sentenced to jail for four years on four charges: possession of ANC literature, distribution of ANC literature, furthering the aims of the ANC, and membership of the ANC.

Berger's jail sentence was reduced to two years, and he was released in 1983. He went to work at a community media centre in Johannesburg which worked closely with the UDF. He was arrested again in 1984 after a large and very successful stayaway in Johannesburg. Pamphlets calling for this stayaway were found in the offices where Berger worked. The police, however, were forced to release him due to insufficient evidence.

With the imposition of the State of Emergency in 1985, Berger, who was being watched and constantly harassed by the police, decided to go into hiding with his wife and child. The terror of harassment and discovery caused a high degree of strain and tension with the families who were hiding the family. So, in 1985, Berger went into exile.

He went to Britain, and continued his media career in television and newspapers in London. His reception in Britain was rather divided. Some British believed blacks in South Africa were getting their "just desserts" and commended him for what the whites of SA were doing. Others thought him a part of the privileged class of oppressors and condemned him. Mostly, however, the British held a pity approach to the situation in SA.

"just desserts"

Berger returned to South Africa in November 1990, when he went to work for the *New Era* magazine which was run by collective editorship. After a fall-out with the rest of the editorship concerning an interview, Berger left *New Era* and went to work for *South*.

"Being a journalist is a privilege. It is the best job. It's fun and rewarding because it produces instant feedback, and it demands a social commitment. It just fulfills all sides of a person," Berger said.



Tony
Lankester
TUNED
IN

I remember the lines of a song from way back that went:

"Sex and Drugs and Rock and Roll is all my mind and body needs, Sex and Drugs and Rock and Roll is very good indeed."

While these profound words neither help to unravel the careful enigma that surrounds the meaning of life nor offer a guide to world peace, there is a hint somewhere there of what it means to be a successful rock star of the 90s.

Sex is the key to success of many "non-artists". Without it the charts would be clear of the likes of Madonna and Eartha Kitt. This is not entirely a bad thing, but when you consider that their fame rests firmly on their backs or beneath their underwear, it shows just how much emphasis we put on the allegedly attractive.

Drugs. Now there's a concept. They're what make Rodriguez drone, Mick Jagger slobber and Bles Bridges wince. All the best people use them - that's what keeps them on top. They help in the lyric-writing process too. Just think of all the "Aaaaaaargh"s you hear in songs these days: Joe Cocker, Guns'n Roses and of course Def Leppard. Don't think for a second that they're spontaneous outbursts on stage. Nope, these are carefully prepared "Aaaaaaargh"s that took hours of thought in a smoke-filled studio to get just right.

So what's left in this magical formula? Just good old rock and roll. Yep, nothing could be more straightforward than you think. A few years back a journalist writing for the magazine ROLLING STONE wrote, "I have seen the future of Rock and Roll. His name is Bruce Springsteen." I rest my case. There is little sanity left in the music world. Definitions change over the years, so do tastes and standards, but Bruce Springsteen endures as the aimless hero of our time. His current musical direction is confusing. He releases two albums at once - neither of which have anything more than a few tuneless dirges and a couple of tear-jerker "remember when we were in love"-type songs. Is the future of Rock and Roll from a few years back?

He should take a tip or two from the latest sensation, *Right Said Fred*. With their third single, *Deeply Dippy*, firmly pulling up the charts around the known world, including Grahamstown and a fourth close on its heels, the mindless serendipity of this close-to-camp artist is helluva catchy. You can't help singing along and tapping your feet to the bouncy beat. But do yourself a favour next time you hear his newest offering, "Swan" - the words actually make sense. Now there's a thing...

One can't help thinking that music is turning a slow corner and is about to zoom off in a totally new direction toward clean, contagious and (God forbid) tasteful number one singles. It's a journey I'm willing to go along with. Keep sex in the bedroom, drugs in Cuba and the exhumed version of Rock and Roll in the graveyard - we're too sexy for this generation.

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Van Hemert for Hamlet

Biddi Rorke

BEFORE meeting *Hamlet* director Ilse van Hemert, I expected a flamboyant, energetic, articulate extrovert with henna-ed hair.

I wasn't disappointed. And I hadn't counted on the extraordinary smile.

Using her hands to illustrate certain points,

Ilse speaks of her current challenge - directing a student production after ten years of professional theatre.

"The raw enthusiasm of the *Hamlet* cast is amazing, no-one sticks to any acting 'recipe' they're incredibly willing to learn. And their attitude is so generous and uncorrupted."

However, she does caution that many of the

drama students don't take their voice and movement training seriously. "Stage theatre requires excellent technical skills, you don't have cameras and microphones to fall back on. It's only you out there, and the people in the back seats also paid for the performance."

Despite this initial limitation (largely rectified by the cast's intensive voice session with Dave Alcock) Ilse is very positive about the production as a whole.

"I'm treating *Hamlet* as if it's a first-time performance, which means I'm not trying to be different, just new." Operating on a shoe-string budget, Ilse is dealing with what she terms 'cardboard theatre', and she's quite happy about it. Because "actors are more important than paraphernalia," she has not included any clever tricks or surprises. Besides, "limited funds will be a reality for future theatre, so we might as well get used to it."

Unfortunately, money restrictions have limited Ilse's interpretation of the play. She wanted it set in the early Middle Ages with *Hamlet* "emerging as a Renaissance thinker," but because only Elizabethan costumes were available, the idea has had to remain an idea. "Hopefully the audience will get the message though," she laughs.

As the play is a matric network this year, the production is targeted at school children. "I want to present *Hamlet* as a muscular thinker rather than a ponderous one. He must be in tune with the young audience, they've got to be fired by his ideas."

"It's terribly difficult to speak Shakespeare so that it's not just musical noises. If actors play the meter, it just becomes a form of spoken opera. It's elevated and inaccessible, just what we're trying to avoid."

Ilse leans back to light a cigarette. She draws a sharp distinction between TV, "which is entertainment," and theatre, "which can be entertaining".

"People should see plays as an evocative experience, an opportunity to see behind closed doors. TV doesn't give you that chance."

"An audience must certainly come critical, but definitely not judgemental. Too many people automatically want to deconstruct theatre, they only feel comfortable once they can say 'Oh, I know what's happening here'. If I can leave an audience with more questions than answers, then I think I've succeeded."

Hamlet starts on Friday 22 at the Rhodes Theatre - find out for yourselves.



Ilse van Hemert - flamboyant, energetic and an extraordinary smile (PIC: Toby Shapshak)

FOOD REVIEW: Chinese

Looking for dragons in the chowmein

Kathryn Carr

ARMED with a group of very willing food tasters, I made my way to Dragon Pearl to try the delicate Chinese cuisine.

We strolled in and declared ourselves Rhodeans, secretly hoping for bigger portions and better service, and were seated right beneath a gleaming dragon.

After surveying the restaurant and the only two other customers we came to the conclusion that the walls were in dire need of paint and the tables could be placed more intimately.

Our over-friendly waitress introduced herself and gave us menus, demanding to know who was paying for our meal and how much we had to spend. Bad start.

We kept open minds and looked over the menu. The choice was excellent and the prices very reasonable. We tried a pot of Jasmin Tea. For those who don't know what it is, it can be very adequately compared to luke warm water with a subtle aftertaste.

The soup starter was delicious. The portion was large and stimulated the taste buds.

Not long after, the main course was served.

The Hong Kong chicken received a unanimous yes vote from everyone - as did the sweet and sour pork. Both dishes were tantalisingly perched on a bed of hot rice.

The chopstick dilemma was a good laugh. Fortunately cutlery is willingly supplied to those who are "culturally clumsy".

The chicken was very tender and melted in our mouths. We decided both dishes deserved recommendation.

We ended the meal by squeezing in some traditional homemade "bow-ties". They were just crunchy and sweet enough - a perfect way to end a lovely meal.

On leaving the restaurant, we had a chat with the owner, Gary Junkin. He has been

running the restaurant with his family's help since the 1970's.

Although the restaurant does not have a license Mr Junkin still holds functions where guests are more than welcome to bring their own alcohol - a definite plus for broke students.

The take-away menu is even more reasonable and just as varied as the main menu. You can even take away a Shanghai steak which, according to Mr Junkin, is very popular. The student discount available on Mondays and Tuesdays entitles students to 10 percent off all food - on producing a student card. The restaurant is open seven days a week and is an exciting change from res food and burgers.



Adam on the eve of Hamlet

Theatre lovers will be smiling this week as the cast of "Hamlet" gets ready to put on what promises to be one of the most entertaining productions of the year. A rather naive and Shakespeare-shy RHODEO reporter, Kim Jurgensen, spoke to Adam Neill who is playing the title role.

Very happy, very tiring, little sleep," was how the cheerful student-cum-actor-cum-DJ described his experience in *Hamlet*. "I was very surprised to get the part. I hadn't really prepared and all the male auditions had a good chance," he said.

Director Ilse van Hemert chose people purely on their auditions and not on any previous performances. When I asked Adam about her he laughed and said, "One of the first things that struck me about Ilse is she always seems to be right! She's very disciplined - but very fair and easy to work with."

He described the cast as strong and experienced and said, "The atmosphere has been great, we work really well together."

Adam said he has never worked on Shakespeare before but performing as Hamlet was just "another aspect to the discipline of acting."

I asked him how he managed to learn all his lines and he chuckled and told me he's usually very bad with learning lines. "But the way Ilse directs the play the lines are established in your mind. When you start to understand what Shakespeare is saying everything else just follows. It surprised me how much I learnt," he added.

"How would you describe Hamlet?" I asked. [laughs] "Oh no, I was afraid you would ask this." [pause for a while] "Hamlet is your 20 year old bloke who loses his father and feels betrayed by his mother, so he starts off with great grief. He has a hard time justifying corrupt actions. This should appeal to university students because they are all already thinkers.... I hope." He said many students at Rhodes were interested in Shakespeare, especially after the film *Hamlet* with Mel Gibson.

"I'd like to think students at Rhodes are not narrow minded - this is not just another play," Adam said. At the same time he added that people should not go see *Hamlet* because it is a Shakespeare production but because they will get a "good night of solid entertainment."

For someone as ignorant of Shakespeare as myself, Adam Neill certainly opened my mind. He dispelled the myth that Shakespeare is inaccessible to 'ordinary' students and said in his opinion it is a fallacy that *Hamlet* is the demi-god of the theatre. "Shakespeare wrote so brilliantly. If you read his plays and understand what he is saying it becomes very real theatre. It's not a heavy thing."



Danish princes, fight scenes and leather jackets... Hamlet (Adam Neill) wrestles with Getrude (Ana Cavillho) in the Rhodes Drama Department's production of the Shakespearian classic. The play opens in the Rhodes Theatre on the May 22 and runs until the end of the following week. (PIC: Hepburn and Jeanes)

He put a lot of blame on schools for frightening people away from Shakespeare, saying his plays are actually a pleasure to read.

I asked Adam how he relates to Hamlet. He said his mind has to be very versatile - one part is himself and the other (the bigger part) is the character. "You take away parts of the character when the play is over. You get very

involved, especially if it's a hectic play."

He added it is sometimes very draining because he goes through such a wide range of emotions in one evening. "I am a very emotional actor. For the first two weeks I had to think what the meaning is behind each line - now the emotion gets pulled from behind each line."

Finally, the lead actor said he plans to continue his career in the theatre. "My prime passion is the stage - biggest adrenalin high I've ever experienced!"

Don't miss Hamlet next week. Shows start on May 22 and run until the end of the week at the Rhodes Theatre.

Ten spanish women do their thing commendably

Leizi Mattison

THE house of Bernarda Alba, written by Spanish playwright Federico Lorca and directed by Reza de Wet was performed in The Box Theatre last week.

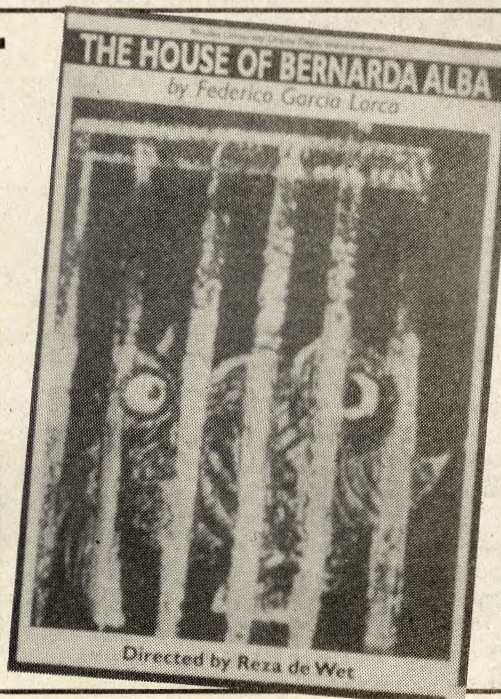
The play, consisting of an all female cast, raises feminist issues and shows women's social repression.

The cast of ten women was commendable in their performance of somewhat difficult roles. Kim Rooney came across naturally as the energetic and seeking Adela. Catherine de Cock as Amelia and Nique Cloete as Magdalena were both controlled in revealing their characters' suppression. Cal Volks played the

aggressive Angustius and Cait Pocock the hunched and sinister Martiro.

Bernarda was powerfully portrayed by Nadia Salerno. The two servants presented a contrast with the bitter Rosa played by Ronae Joliffe and an ambivalent Poncia convincingly played by Freda Findlay. Bronwyn Eagle who played the grandmother added to the macabre atmosphere with her sometimes excessive, screams.

Occasionally the dialogue was inaudible and dominated by sound effects. The simple set and uncanny lighting were highly effective. The production was well directed and the cast displayed a high level of concentration. Congratulations to the crew, cast and director on a worthwhile performance.



Sub-ed deserts

RHODEO'S sub-editor has allegedly deserted a page that he was designing, leaving a space unfilled by either copy, pictures or headlines.

His action was described this week as both inconsiderate and irresponsible. Fortunately a colleague of his had the good sense to fill the space with a bit of in-house intrigue. It is not widely known, but he (the sub-ed) does not in fact have any scruples. He cleverly disguises this fatal character flaw by offering to design full pages. In certain circumstances however he fails to completely execute his undertaking. It is in such instances that his moral baseness becomes apparent.

It has recently been revealed that the unscrupulous sub-ed is on the run from a large chunk of white space which occupies ten pages of a History essay. If anyone knows of his whereabouts, they are advised to fill any white spaces he may leave behind him.

Birds of a feather. . .

A migratory guide for all culture vultures attending the 1992 Standard Bank National Festival of the Arts in Grahamstown.

Kimberley Farrow looks at a random selection of the pitfalls and pleasures encountered during the festivities.

Wake up on the second day of the festival, prise open a smoke-gummed eye, peer at the frost on the window pane, and you know that you have made the right move.

By joining the annual migration of culture vultures to the Standard Bank National Festival of the Arts, you will have joined the elite ranks of the flocking 'festivite' world.

This annual orgy of the arts is as traditional as potjiekos, and attracts a great variety of people countrywide. For the uninitiated it can also be an experience as murky, smelly and dangerous as two-week old potjie!

Many fledgling vultures flock into Grahamstown and land like albatrosses. Most first-time festivites are ludicrously optimistic and willing to plunge gleefully into pits of their own construction. Granted - some suffer more than others, but fate needs no encouragement to deliver the low blow.

Bertoldt Brecht once said, "He who laughs has not yet heard the bad news." That being so, he or she who cometh unprepared will be easy prey for the entrepreneurial Grahamstown resident.

Although the Grahamstown genius is for eccentricity, this does not necessarily go hand-in-hand with stupidity. So, be wary of the exotic plumage of the local pigeons, especially when they offer a place in their roost.

There are three species of Grahamstown inhabitants. Firstly, those that leave town between July 2 and 11 for no apparent reason. Secondly, those that gleefully open home, hearth and heart and join in the revelry. And finally, those that will take you for every penny and pound that you possess. Never in the history of commerce have so many attempted to profit from the gullibility of even more.

The easy virtue of Grahamstown ensures that, with cash in hand, almost every crevice is open for accommodation.

Experienced 'festnest' finders caution seekers to be wary of landlords that ask, "Can you sleep standing upright?" True, your nestling site does not have to be a palace, as there is little time for sleep with over 400 shows crammed into 10 days. A full day of sitting on stone steps and none too flat wooden benches is not ended well by sleeping in the kist at the



foot of some predatory Grahamstownite's bed.

Potluck is not the way to go, unless you fancy yourself as the next Camel man, or are simply insane. Be warned: it is easy to step on a banana skin and end up face down in the mire of Grahamstown nest sites. Just because the nice PhD student offered accommodation at a measly R25 per night (shared bathroom) doesn't mean that he will be averse to presenting you with the eight other folk sharing the bathroom. After all, the poor lad does have course fees to pay. To ensure that you soar like an eagle above the festnest fiasco: buy a tent.

If you are the jolly honeysticks type, then bed down in one of the many dormitory halls. Cheapo accommodation and promises to recreate that boarding school "Oh my God, why am I here" feeling.

And then of course there are the Rhodes University residences. A veteran lady warden has many an interesting tale of the antics of the tenants. Most guests generally follow the residence rules, with the exception of the late night curfew. She fondly remembers an old buzzard of 80 years of age, demurely arriving to stay in her residence for the duration of the festival. With his bright blue button eyes, dressed in tweeds, he was the very model of gentlemanly decorum from a long forgotten era. She later discovered him at 2am trying to open the front of the residence with his ward-

robe key. He was also indulging in a healthy rendition of language newly learnt at an Ian Fraser show.

University residences are perhaps the best place to stay to meet the stars. They accommodate both visitors and performers. Most reliable types of accommodation are listed in the festival bible: the booking kit. Highly recommended!

In the crackling, ice blue dawn light, festivites can be seen propped up against the booking stalls like a row of psychedelic Kool-Aid ice lollies: frozen solid in the cold, with pinched red faces, hoping the last ticket to that special show hasn't been sold. The owl's hindsight of the once-bitten and now more experienced festivites sets them apart and makes them clearly distinguishable. Flat shoes are the order of the day, even at the opera. It is painful to watch a squawking chick planted in the middle of Fiddler's Green by her three-inch heels. In fact, most show goers look like shabby stage hands.

"Grahamstown is the festival," so says Lynette Marais, Festival Officer. "It is performance and event. Grahamstown becomes the stage and platform."

There is a continual sensation of being on stage, only retiring to the wings to sleep. The festival is infinitely alluring. A chance to not only be a spectator of the arts, but also a mass

gathering of the Who's Whos and the wannabes. Mundane events like eating at a boerwors stand can be exciting. Who knows if the guy with mustard on his chin is Paul Slabolepsky, or if the lady looking at lizard stockings is really Trudi Taljaard!

Beware of the buskers and bandits. Out of pocket visitors have been known to cling to the frayed tassels of the fringe festival, flinging down their felt hats and making cigarette smoke shapes in the glow of a street lamp to raise funds for their next show ticket.

People do not greet in the standard fashion during the festival. They say things like, "What have you seen?" as an opening line, commonly animated by a lift of the eyebrow copied from an Andrew Buckland mime show. The true vulture would reply, "Don't know, doll. Lost count! Let me check my fest diar (diary)." This comment usually floors most attacks. It is also a common example of 'festspeak', just what we need in the Eastern Cape to blend with the elegant established dialect.

The festival is not for crows, as the path to an event never follows a straight line. There are a myriad of side-shows, buskers, art galleries, kitsch and junk to distract even the most restrained of magpies.

The maverick festivite is a rare species. Most flock together under street lamps, in smoky cabarets or around the foundation fountain.

The arts festival has been linked to that of the prestigious Edinburgh festival. Indeed it is: we have mud, too.

Many productions are excellent and the rest are in various stages of development, ranging from boring, neurotic to captivating, magnanimous and just plain stinking. And there is always the show that leaves the audience wincing with embarrassment. What to see is a gamble and the best critical guide is the 'word on the street.' There is a constant feeling of "What am I missing?" that reduces many culture vultures to running around like chickens without heads.

All in all, the festival is a bizarre experience.

Festival fever grips with the first bite. It lasts for 240 brilliant, time-warped hours and then leaves a host of memories, empty pockets and a sense of having been absorbed into something very unique, very surreal and very special.

Over-tired, over-stimulated, with drooping and bedraggled wings, the festivites flock homewards. Hopefully not too many of them would have been plucked.

If you survive the festival and live to fly again, then you have truly earned your cultural wings.

Letters to ghosts

Published author and poet, Rhodes English professor, Don MacLennan, has recently released a new collection of poems in "Letters".

Christine Campbell spoke to him about poetry and imagination.

WHY do people die when they have just learnt to live? is a question that *Letters*, a collection of poems by Don MacLennan, asks.

These recently published poems address the haunting past of this Rhodes English Professor, and are in the form of letters to significant people in his life, who have died.

They range from those reaching out to loved ones for answers to the enigma of death, to depicting his life in instances.

The poems also voice his intellectual response to other people's self-expression. As in the case of Shelley's poem "Ozymandias", for which Professor MacLennan offers an alternative to what he says is restrictive poetry.

He takes an imaginative view of life in his poems, saying that "imaginative literature is the most important thing in the world, begin-

ning with fairytales and nursery rhymes, and becoming a part of the big permanent unfolding story that can't be used for political purposes, but needs a response".

This imagination exists not only in his poetry but also in his teaching, which he incorporates, so they are like "two bows to my string".

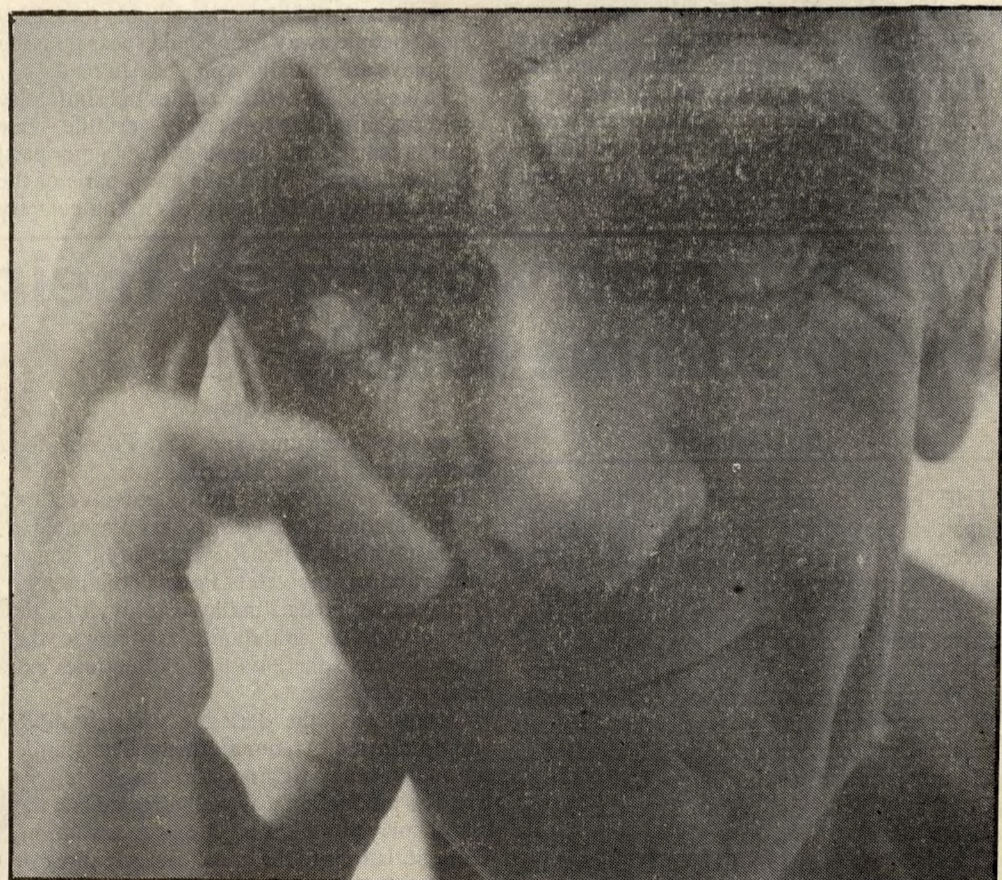
Professor MacLennan went on to say, "I never did kid myself that I could make a living out of poetry". Teaching is an important part of his life from which he derives great pleasure.

His writings to date include nine novels, which he burnt because he claimed them to be "a load of rubbish", seven plays and numerous short stories which he "didn't think were very good."

Although he is the only published poet in the English Department, Professor MacLennan does not lecture in poetry.

He says, "The department has people who can teach the fundamentals of poetry better". So he administers the African Literature course and he teaches various classes.

"In the future," Professor MacLennan said, "I don't know if I will write any more poetry, it is not something I plan or can count on".



Poet and Professor... Don MacLennan talks about his poetry. (PIC: Toby Shapshak)

Stoeptalk

Peaceful protests, the mother of all pickets, swinging parties and scandals galore - what-a-lot-we-got-at-Rhodes! Once again the city with the shiny new police station as big as Robben Island has been a hotbed of scintillating social activity and students have been square in the middle of the hullabaloo.

Just when you thought it was safe to watch television news (?!?!), along comes this uppity political organisation of Rhodes students with more news coverage of one peaceful march than Chester Crocker has had in his entire lifetime. It truly is a sick world when you cannot open an Eastern Cape newspaper or switch on the telly without being inundated with pictures of students marching to admin, students handing petitions to admin, students haggling admin, students haggling campus security, students haggling Crocker, students haggling ice-cream vendors Who do these students think they are anyway? Do their parents know what they are up to? And where do they get off calling Chester Crocker the "mother of all criminals"? Now if Rhodes had been giving an honorary degree to Gerrit Viljoen on the other hand...

And as a result of Thursday's march a new terror is stalking the corridors of power. Admin visibly crumble in her presence, secretaries run screaming and even the Rhodes receptionists are roused from their slumbers when she announces her arrival. Although quiet, elusive and intensely private, this pocket-sized package of progressive politics packs a powerful petition when she's in the mood. Just ask Dr Henderson who had to confront his greatest fear on Thursday as the blonde living legend declared her disapproval of the Crocker award on behalf of almost one thousand stu-

dent signatories. Rumour has it that this human dynamo is also a Rhodeo reporter and has tackled such heavy-weights as Aids, Homophobia and the Dean of Students! There must be something in the Hobson Hall food: first, Miss Good and Clean and Fresher Personality and now, Rhodes' own Joan of Arc.

The last news from Rhodes' resident protestors is a marvellous anecdote from the East London Graduation picket. It seems a rather unhappy and stern-faced police captain marched up to the picketers and demanded to know where their leaders were. To which one quick-witted student replied: "Ours are at Codesa, where are yours?" Judging from the latest Weekly Mail expose perhaps this question is best left unanswered until all information about a nation-wide network of police destabilisation and assassination squads has been verified!

Has anyone checked a departmental notice board recently? If you had you might have read the best piece of satire ever to emerge from the Registrar's office. At least, I hope it's satire. Anyway, judge for yourself, here's a snippet from the 1992 Safety Regulations:

"If cut off by fire: Close the door and any fanlight or other opening into the room. Seal any cracks. Attract attention from the window. If compelled to escape before assistance is available, climb through the window, lower yourself to the full extent of your arms and drop feet first to ground level. N.B. If above first floor level, drop only as a last resort."

Really, they can't be serious. What are you supposed to do? Dangle from the window ledge for eternity? And as for the crack-sealing, isn't there a more appropriate time for building repairs? I'd also be interested to know how one goes about attracting attention from a window that one has just closed. Mime, perhaps? Some sort of graphic sexual act? Sign language? But wait, there's more:

"When faced with a noisy crowd: DON'T

panic, provoke crowd, gawk, interfere, pass comments, call police - this is a decision for top management."

Notice that students are in no way instructed not to JOIN the crowd. Of course, everyone knows which noisy crowds the Registrar's office is referring to and they are not the ones watching intervarsity! Still, I suppose "noisy crowds" are a damn sight better euphemism than the sledgehammer anecdotes of some senior Hall wardens concerning "hordes of savages swarming down Prince Alfred Street and swamping the campus" during the unrest of the states of emergency!

Anyone who is still wondering what you can do when faced with a noisy crowd, now that most of the obvious and enjoyable options have been excluded, read on from the gospel of safety:

"Disperse if: it is safer to do so than to stay where you are, e.g. take the back way out."

The eagle-eyed observer would have had first-hand experience of this quite nerve-tangling dispersal operation during the recent workers' strike. When workers dared intrude into the hallowed halls of Rhodes bureaucracy, women and children were hastily evacuated from the building while the men stood guard. Rumour has it that a certain middle level management Rambo was seen brandishing a fire extinguisher at the licentious labourers as they marched around Admin. It seems he must have got his drills mixed up or perhaps he was just practising how to attract attention in case of an emergency!

Scandal rocked Rhodes this month as posters advertising a social for gay, lesbian, bisexual and "other interesting people" flooded campus. Reactions ranged from shocked disbelief to outrage to disgust...and a couple of people thought it was quite a cool and long overdue event. Stories

abound of whispered staff-room conversations, students furtively taking down the phone number on the poster and much closet-cleaning going on at every level of the university. Alas, the posters also prompted campus homophobia to raise its ugly head, casting considerable doubt on Rhodes's claims to being an "open, liberal" university.

Has anyone noticed that a certain Tony Lankester is now the resident music guru in Rhodeo? Wasn't this the same per-

son who used to rail against Rhodeo as a puppet newspaper of the SRC/Nusas/ANC/SACP/Fidel Castro? Wasn't this the same voice in the wilderness, nay, the veritable beacon in the darkness, who used to bless us with his views on everything from the number of spelling errors in Rhodeo to one person one vote? If you can't beat them, join them, eh Tony. His column is damn good, though. Witty, insightful and interesting, he almost makes Gus Silber seem boring. His comment in this edition is no exception although he is still on a bit of a Cuba-bashing mission. Will someone please tell Tony that the primary source of addictive narcotics is Columbia, followed by Mexico, and we all know which leader of the Free World has economic and political involvement in these two Central American countries, don't we?

Hot campus news includes the announcement of the winner of the best-dressed sports club award. And the winner is.... Rhodes Gym Club. Apparently, they were the clear favourites because of their quite spectacular instructors' jackets which cost the club a cool R1500 this year. I am quite sure the club members who contributed financially to their instructors' sartorial wardrobe will be more than pleased with the as-yet unofficial award. I mean who wants better equipment when you can have your club leaders setting the trend in campus fashion?

News from the university-on-the-beach, UPE, comes in the form of a request for the Rhodes SRC to furnish the UPE SRC with details of how much society leaders and SRC members are paid every month and of what other perks they receive, such as entertainment allowances, transport etc! Hmmm, I wonder if the UPE Jukskei Club is looking for a manager.

One last gem from the Registrar, courtesy of Rhodos, is the following extract from university minutes:

"The Registrar informed the meeting that Dr Crocker would not be preparing a speech and a stenographer or rape recorder would be required at the Ceremony."

I take back what I said. Perhaps Crocker is the mother of all criminals.

Poetry in motion, dance and mime

Biddi Rorke

"To see the expression on kids' faces change from reluctance to total captivation is tremendously exciting," says Mary-Ann Naude, who runs the drama studio at Rhodes. She is speaking about the Schools Poetry Programme which tours Eastern Cape high schools presenting prescribed poetry in wild and wonderful ways.

Drama students Darryl Nel, Tamara Rabinowitz and PJ Sabbanha, together with journalism student Chris Letcher, are the team responsible for this innovative and worthwhile venture.

"The aim of the project is to demystify poetry, and to bring it alive for the pupils. So much is lost when poetry is only read, it should be an active exercise," director Ms Naude said.

Although based on the "appalling" Cape Education Department English syllabus, Ms Naude has made a point of including local and feminist poetry in the programme. Both are largely ignored in prescribed matric textbooks.

Dance, mime and musical arrangements add atmosphere and interest, because the sets and costumes have to be simple to allow for travelling. A firm favourite with the school kids is Darryl's self-composed rap about the new South Africa.

Ms Naude stresses this type of performance requires incredible technical skill, because "there are no characters to hide behind. Also, you're finished if you forget your words, because you can't exactly ad lib poetry."

Unfortunately, the group doesn't visit many black schools, because of the fee involved. However, sponsorship by Murray Trust will allow for it later in the year.



RHODEO

Sporting Rhodéo is the Rhodes student's guide to campus and local sporting events. It also covers national and international developments. Sporting Rhodéo includes any issues which sporting Rhodians might find interesting. Anyone with contributions, suggestions or results can leave a message in the Rhodéo post box, or send a letter through internal mail to the SRC.



Clash of the Titans

AMID tension and a biased ref Rhodes Music Radio lost a friendly soccer match to Radio Ciskei this weekend.

As part of a public relations exercise, RMR and the SRC invited Radio Ciskei to Grahamstown to bring radio in South Africa closer.

A very well supported jorl was held in the Great Hall on Friday night, where Radio ciskei guys impressed the crowd with different style of disco.

The next morning, kitted out with hangovers and all, the RMR team showed an impressive start to bring the first-half score to 5-1. With the help of the ref, Radio Ciskei guys easily caught up in the second half and scored the winning goal seconds before the final whistle, winning the match by 6-5.

This RMR public relations exercise was the first in a series for this year and proved most succesful. So it seems The Sound Choice has really taken off.

Rhodes hockey to blossom International coach trains Hockey Club

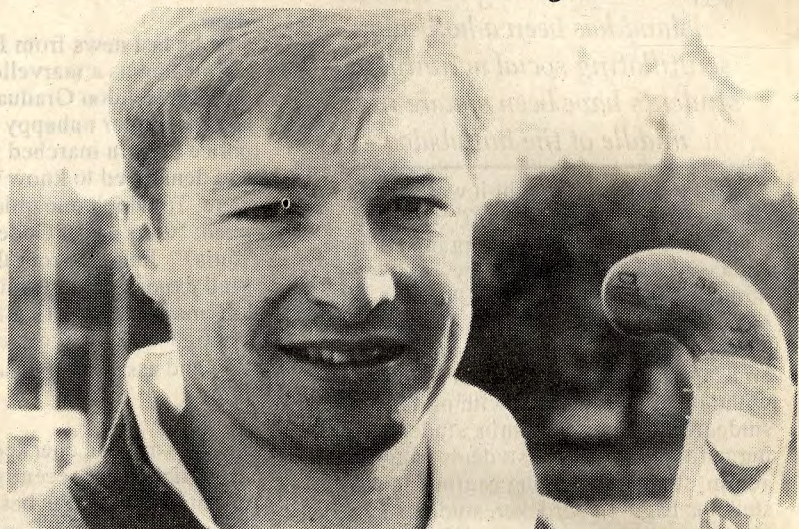
Sally Kingwill

RHODES Hockey Club is all set for an exciting season having England's most-capped hockey player, Richard Leman coaching the club this year.

Richard came out to South Africa at the beginning of May after securing an agreement with the Rhodes Hockey Club to coach here for four months this season.

Only 32 years-old, he has played for England 228 times, beginning in their under-16 side. Coming from Sussex, England where he has been playing for East Grinstead, he has played World Cup and Olympic hockey. In the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, he was in the British team which won the Bronze Medal.

Although only having been here a short while, Richard said he was impressed by the enthusiasm and willingness to learn that the people he's coached have shown. His contribution to hockey in this area is likely to be felt at all levels, as his coaching will extend beyond Rhodes to include developmental programmes in the township.



Stressing the need for an astroturf in this area, he pointed out that such artificial pitches were vital to the development of hockey in this country. Grass hockey had no future on the international scene, he said. Astroturf would both aid the learning process at all levels, and simultaneously provide a much-needed source of income for hockey in this region.

He believed that although isolation had left South Africans a little naive on the hockey field, with internationally-experienced coaches, up-to-date knowledge, the kind of enthusiasm seen at Rhodes and the correct facilities, South Africa should be able to compete successfully on the international scene. "An' a li'l bi' of luck, of course," he added.

Rhodes' springing bok to go down under

Alison McLachlan

SIMON van der Merwe, a recently selected Springbok trampolinist, is attending the World Championships in New Zealand at the end of August.

The selection took the form of three competitions, the last of which was held in Pretoria at the beginning of May. In order to feature in the competition, it is necessary to reach

a certain level of difficulty in the trampoline sequence.

Simon is studying Human Movement Studies at Rhodes, and is a coach in the Trampoline club which meets every Monday and Thursday evening. The club has about ten members at present, and uses St Andrews Trampoline club facilities.

RHODEO asked Simon what his plans for the future are; "To get to the 96 Olympics". That sounds fair.

Inter-res rugby competition kicks off

INTER-RES rugby kicked off this weekend with Oppies beating Smuts 22-3, Cory/Matthews beating Retief/Skidd 54-8 and Botha losing to De Beers/Walker Old Boys 10-20.

Matches will be played every Sunday until May 24 and from August 2 to 23 with semi-finals on August 30.

The seven-a-side tournament has been moved to the end of the season so that competitors would have more contact experience.

One of the organisers, Tim Gooding said seven-a-side teams would be open to anyone wanting to field a team. The tournament would be played on a day to be announced at a later date.

• May 24	CB vs Cory Matthews College vs Salisbury
• August 2	Retief vs Botha Salisbury vs Smuts De Beers vs CB
• August 9	De Beers vs Cory/Matthews Smuts vs College
• August 16	CB vs Botha Retief vs De Beers Oppies vs Salisbury
• August 23	Retief vs CB Oppies vs College Botha vs Cory/Matthews
• August 30	Semi-finals

Students don't dig Kaif lawns pool plan

Megan Duff

ALL sectors of Rhodes' student body voted "No" to Kaif lawns as a possible venue for a new professional swimming pool.

Rhodes University Administration approached the SRC to canvass student and societies opinion on the proposed pool to be built on Kaif lawns.

Hall Representatives conducted meetings in residences and the SRC approached the Oppidan Board, Rag and other campus societies to discuss the issue and put forward their conclusions.

The SRC took the "No" vote for Kaif Lawns as a venue back to the Senate Student Liaison Committee. Rhodes Administration then asked them what students felt about a pool as opposed to another sporting facility because the major benefactor did not specify that a pool should be built with the money.

As a result, the SRC has offered to



run a joint survey with the Sports Admin to canvass student feelings on the use of the funds for a competitive pool.

SRC President Daryl Lee said that because of the amount of money involved, students should at least have a say in what type of sporting facility was most needed at Rhodes at the moment.

Daryl added that some of the money was coming from student

amenities fees and that it seems reasonable that significant numbers of students should be able to make use of a new campus sporting facility.

Money for the facility is coming from an undisclosed benefactor, and from Sports Admin who have saved up part of their budget over the past years to be used in a venture such as this. Rhodes University is donating about R70 000.

Daryl said students voted "No" to Kaif lawns as a venue for the pool because of aesthetic reasons, as many people felt that it was the only green area on campus where students could relax.

Environmental Councillor Karen Kallmann said that a large amount of trees would have to be removed which would destroy Kaif lawns permanently.

Societies such as Rag opposed the venue as they use the lawns for functions, which they felt would not be as succesful if relocated to Prospect Field. Daryl said.

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