

RHODEO



SASPU
Affiliate

Rhodes University's Official Student Newspaper



Gito Baloi of Tananas at the Lion Lager Roadshow.

Pic: Adam Welz

Striking a chord

About half the Rhodes student community gathered in a united spirit of music-loving, dancing camaraderie at the Rhodes Lion Lager Roadshow two weeks ago. The event not only marked one of the biggest music events seen at Rhodes but drew over 2000 students into a successful non-racial vibe. In 1991, Rhodes students elected their first non-racial SRC and in 1992, the new SRC promised to work towards a unified campus, with united campus jorling high on the agenda. Students partied to sounds from the funky reggae beat of Frank Sande to the Afro-Portuguese paella mix of Tananas. Despite the variety of music catering for different tastes,

most students were jiving to all rhythms cooked up by the organisers of the event, the SRC, Rhodes Music Radio (RMR) and Rag.

In the aftermath of the concert's success, whispered rumours have done the campus round of unco-operativeness on RMR's part in playing music to cater to all students' tastes at their mobile discos.

RMR, having strongly denied this, have reputedly said: "The majority of students at the jorls are in any case white" Perhaps one of the successes of the Roadshow concert was its failure to segregate the audience into racial components.

Turn to pages 8 & 9 to see the Roadshow

NEWS

Forgotten War

Someone is supplying arms to Jonas Savimbi in Angola. Unita's recent offensives would have been impossible without outside help.

But in the New World Order following the end of the Cold War, the conflict in Angola is insignificant, and the escalating bloodshed is going largely unnoticed by the world.

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CULTURE

Aaarrgh!

Thinking Strings broke on Campus last week in an explosion of loud sound, attitude and underground media. Thriving on fear and aggression, the fiercely unimpressed Strings are all things to all people.

RHODEO unravels the story. Page 14



FEATURE

No-go zones

RHODEO puts campus sexual harassment on the map, showing the dangers and pinpointing the problem areas. Parts of campus are very unsafe with repeated attacks and cases of harassment. Students need to know where these areas are, and Admin needs to be shown the extent of the problem.

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SPORT

Tricky Wicket

The South African cricket team faced up to their fastest, meanest, crookedest competition yet in the Total International Cricket Series - Pakistan and the West Indies.

How did the South African's fare. Our sportswriters call the shots. Page 16



Sasco moves for united action

Daya Coetzee

THE South African Students' Congress (Sasco) declared March 8 the 'National Day of United Ac-

tion' for equitable and fair funding of education.

The day will assume various forms of protest such as demonstrations, marches, class-boycotts, sit-ins and pickets on campuses across the country.

Sasco has formulated a list of demands including:

- An immediate end to subsidy cuts.
- Emergency funding for institutions of higher learning to be provided by the state.
- The disbandment of the Independent Development Trust (IDT) after failure to resolve the financial crisis in education.
- The establishment of a National Forum on Education and Training consisting of students, academics, workers and the community at large.
- The establishment of a national loan bursary scheme.
- A reduction of upfront/registration fees.

Sasco head office said there was a need for protest as institutions of higher learning were engulfed in a deep-seated "crisis of colonial education".

Sasco listed many problems with educational institutions: there have been both academic and financial exclusions and a lack of accommodation and funding at cer-



Sasco members during mass action in 1992.

tain institutions. Students have not been admitted into historically black institutions due to overcrowding, while traditionally white institutions are not filled to their maximum capacity. Victimisation of student leadership has occurred with the entire SRC at the Vista Mamelodi and Lehurutshe College of Education being suspended. Certain campuses, including Mamelodi, have been closed.

Sasco called for student unity on the issues and called on students to act decisively.

Police harass students

PRETORIA - Students from the South African Students' Congress (Sasco) at the University of Pretoria were prevented by police from participating in the annual Rag procession at the beginning of February.

South African Police members allegedly stopped and harassed the students, saying they were "politicising" Rag.

Sasco was protesting against the alleged killing by police of a university worker, Daniel Mash-

shi, on January 13. They also protested the "continual harassment" of black students on campus by police and rightwingers.

The Conservative Party and the Afrikaner Student Front were allowed to participate in the procession and "parade their racist slogans", a Sasco representative said.

Sasco warned the SRC, its Rag committee and the administration against siding with "Nazi fanatics". They threatened to target the sponsors of Tuks Rag, Pick 'n Pay. - Sasnews

Red ribbons for AIDS

Michelle Willmers

THE Sexual Tolerance and Education Programme (Step) at Rhodes have launched a campaign to raise awareness about AIDS on campus.

Metres of red ribbon have been distributed in the form of lapel bows and Step aims to make the public more aware of the AIDS problem through this visual medium.

The campaign was launched in conjunction with the National Primary Health Care Network, which is running an AIDS awareness campaign in April. Organisers

hope it will serve as a constant reminder of the AIDS epidemic.

The idea of the ribbons originated in the United States, where celebrities wear them at high profile events such as the Academy Awards.

According to Step chairperson Andrew, there have been one or two strange responses to the ribbons on campus, but he feels it is essentially because of a lack of understanding.

"Wearing a red ribbon doesn't mean you're gay and it doesn't mean you have AIDS," he says.

"It's just a way of saying that we see AIDS as a real problem and recognise that something has to be done to change people's attitudes about the disease."

The red ribbon concept is not unique to Rhodes, but he feels that

**Trial run
for meal
card
system**

Scarlett Cornelissen, Tam-syn Pillay & Alouette Ernest

DROSTDY Hall has introduced a unique meal booking system whereby students can book their meals two days in advance.

It began on February 15 after previous SRCs campaigned for the implementation of a meal card system in all halls.

If successful, the system will be introduced in the other dining halls.

The system's purpose is to ensure that students only pay for meals eaten.

It works on a compensation basis whereby students are reimbursed bi-annually for meals not booked. An amount of R2335 is credited to each student's meal account if all meals are taken.

However, the same day the meal booking system started, there were a few hitches much to students' frustration. The paper power feeder and the computer both gave problems after which students had to book their meals once again.

"The machine is constantly broken, so what's the point of having the system?" one first year student said. A few students felt they were being refunded less per meal than they should have been receiving.

Students in the hall are denied 'seconds' unless they book and pay for two meals in advance.

One second year seemed to convey many students' feelings when she said, "They're shitting us!"

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it has been more successful here than at Wits where a similar campaign is underway.

"People in general have responded really well to the idea and Step will continue to distribute the ribbons," he says.

Quo Vadis, The Untouchables Angola?

Pierre Beaudet - A Montreal researcher, Saspu Montreal Correspondents and Jonathan Davis

The biggest hole in the local newsgrid is the lack of information about what is happening in Angola. It's being called the latest casualty of the New World Order. In a world where the Yankees have gone home and the Russians are no longer coming, the Angolan conflict will not be the last war that CNN forgets to cover...



LAST Wednesday 15000 Unita troops were poised to replace the 4000 Angolan government (MPLA) troops who have been holding the city of Huambo. Unita tanks and heavy artillery have almost destroyed the city, which once housed half-a-million people, and Unita missiles have apparently shot down two MPLA planes.

Observers in Angola are certain that Jonas Savimbi's Unita is being supported with armaments and provisions. Suspicion has fallen on both Zaire and South Africa.

"The current offensive would be unthinkable without a major operation to supply Unita with a wide range of goods, from ammunition, to food to communication equipment," said a French diplomat in Luanda.

MPLA forces claimed they shot down a South African Hercules C-130 transport airplane in January, but were unable to produce evidence. The South African government denied they were involved. There have also been reports of white mercenaries in and around Huambo and in the northern province of Cabinda.

Much of the supplies are thought to have been flown into Angola from Northern Namibia.

"Private air-traffic is incredibly intense here," an aid-worker based in the area said. A private Namibian air-carrier, Namibia Commercial Aviation, seems to be involved with much of the activity.

Diamond trafficking out of Angola is also apparently increasing.

Unita agents are reported to be in the Namibian Capital, Windhoek, where they have been buying goods in bulk. The materials range from food and clothing to four-wheel drive vehicles.

Journalists who have tried to investigate the dealings have reportedly been threatened...

The greatest tragedy of the war in Angola is the total lack of interest from the rest of the world. When hostilities broke out in 1975, foreign powers were involved in a

manipulative struggle to wrest control of Angola's strategic oil resources, culminating in an American-backed invasion by South African forces.

Angolans are furious at the way the international community has virtually ignored the latest fighting in Angola, now that Angola is no longer a stake in the global balance of power associated with the Cold War.

The so-called New World Order lacks this polarised ideological balance. Countries are concerned primarily with their own interests.

About 500 000 people have died in the conflict in Angola over the last 20 years. The United Nations declared the MPLA to be the legitimate government of Angola after democratic elections were held last year, despite some irregularities in the voting procedures.

Many Angolans are unhappy with Nelson

Mandela's recent statement citing his opposition to any South African military intervention.

"Non-intervention is not enough," said a Luanda academic. "We want intervention on our side to recognise the legitimate government, and to threaten and sanction Savimbi."

Foreign powers are keeping close tabs on developments in Angola. According to a French Diplomat, the US would be able to produce photographic evidence of the operation to supply Savimbi, using their spy satellites.

"Obviously, at this point, the Americans do not want to weaken Savimbi," the diplomat said.

The Clinton administration has yet to recognise the MPLA government, despite election promises.

The US has warned Savimbi not to launch any offensives in the oil-rich Cabinda province. Nevertheless, Unita is reported to be massing troops along the Congo river inside Zaire, adjacent to Cabinda.

Ingrid Salgado

DESPITE vehement denials, owners of the Victoria Hotel have allegedly tried to undermine fierce competition from the Rhodes Union Club by collaborating with the Grahamstown Liquor Squad.

These allegations come after a recent raid by members of the Squad on the Union. The Club was fined R150 for using the wrong forms to sign Union-goers into the venue.

Two Squad members, one identified as Manie van Dalen by Union manager, Terry Jackson, entered the Union on a Thursday night.

"Van Dalen's first words to me were, 'Some of the hotels have lodged complaints that they're losing business because of the Union'. I told him that losing business had nothing to do with the police," Terry Jackson said.

According to the Director of the Vic, Toinette van Niekerk: "The Vic is definitely in competition with the Union. It would obviously be more beneficial for us if the Union were to close earlier," she said.

However, the Vic has strongly denied any collaboration with the Liquor Squad in the Union raid.

"Mr Jackson has his facts wrong. My brother (Kenny van Niekerk), the owner of the Vic, is upset about the Union being open so late but he didn't have anything to do with the raid," Toinette van Niekerk said.

University regulations stipulate the Union must close at 10.00pm every night except Friday evenings. Their Liquor licence, however, only requires them to close at 2.00am the morning after a function.

Suspicion of connections between the Vic and the Liquor Squad were raised the night after the raid when Manie van Dalen was allegedly seen unlocking the Vic bar with managers' keys.

Toinette van Niekerk denied Van Dalen was employed by the Vic. However, she admitted they



ID please!

Pic: Rycherde Walters

knew "basically all of the police officers who come here".

"There are about six or seven of them, mainly from the Liquor Squad," she said.

There have been no fines imposed on the Vic through Liquor Squad activity in the last year since Kenny van Niekerk became the Vic owner.

"Half an hour before the raid on the Union, Kenny van Niekerk and an assistant came into the Union," Jackson said.

"I definitely suspect him of informing the Liquor Squad. There is a fair sized cake in the entertainment market in Grahamstown, and enough of it to share in it," he said.

Kenny van Niekerk has claimed responsibility for phoning the Grahamstown municipality to check out a popular student entertainment venue in Cuyler Street which opened late last year. As a result, the municipality declared the venue a health hazard.

"My brother did not tell the municipality to close down the venue. He merely asked them to investigate," Toinette van Niekerk said.

- At a recent party hosted by the Rhodes SRC and Rhodes Music Radio, organisers were advised to request proof of identity from students to ensure that underage students were not caught drinking at the venue.

This came after suspicions that the Squad was due to raid the party.

Many under-18 Rhodes students fresh from school were potentially in danger of being caught drinking if ID was not requested. As a result, the party was segregated into a drinking and non-drinking section.

This has caused concern amongst under-18 students about their general legal safety at Grahamstown entertainment venues.

Ready for a sound blast

Liz Kirk

FIVE intrepid RMR DJ's have set out to smash the existing record of 336 hours for non-stop broadcasting.

The record attempt, which will take place from the February 24 until March 12, forms part of M-Net's Red Nose Book of Records. All money raised will be donated to Child Welfare.

The five DJ's are Tony Lankester, Adam Neill, Glenn van Loggerenburg, Naveen Singh and Spicko Dickson. They will be on air for 24 hours a day, running competitions, presenting news, and informing students and the general public about the work of Child Welfare.

Station Manager, Tony Lankester said the marathon broadcast was a "national first" as the station had been granted permission by the



Donations to Child Welfare

Department of Home Affairs to broadcast on an FM stereo frequency throughout Grahamstown for the last nine days of the event. This is the first time such permission has been granted and this watershed decision has put RMR at the forefront of campus broadcasting.

"It's a good opportunity for our jocks to work for a good cause and push themselves to their limits at the same time", Tony said.

In addition to broadcasting non-stop for 394 hours, the five RMR jocks will be encouraging the local community to contribute via pledges, challenges, and by "arresting" local celebrities and having their friends raise "bail" for their release.

People are welcome to pop into the studio to make requests and to swell the Red Nose coffers.

Sasco meeting bust

BOPHUTATSWANA - About fifty armed police disrupted a meeting of the South African Students' Congress (Sasco) at the University of Bophutatswana (Unibo) last month.

The police arrived five minutes after the meeting started and gave students five minutes to disperse. The police were accompanied by Unibo's Chief of Security.

An hour before the meeting, Unibo's acting Vice-Chancellor issued a statement that no student activities would be allowed without his approval.

According to Sasco chairperson, Solly Bokaba, other student meetings held at the same time had not been disrupted.

He called on the Unibo administration to sever its links with Lucas Mangope's government and to "side with the cause of the freedom-loving people of our country". - Sasnews

STRIKE OUT

By Taryn Cass.

A group of 35 female students have started gathering at the HMS gymnasium to attend self defence classes every Sunday afternoon.

The classes are run by senior Kung Fu instructor and third year psychology student Marc Kahn.

They were established in 1990 in response to a growing need for security on campus.

Marc, who has been involved in martial arts for 11 years, told the students: "what you learn here is practical, and it works...you also learn what does not work. The course will make you aware of your weaknesses."

The course has a strong psychological emphasis, and was researched in conjunction with Grahamstown's Rape Crisis Centre.

Both Marc and his assistant, Graeme Morgan, have taken rape counselling courses.

Learning basic self defence is very important because "if you've prepared yourself before, getting through the aftermath (of rape) is much easier," Marc said.

"The best self defence is learning how to be aware of and avoid dangerous situations."

When asked why they were doing the course some of the students replied: "because its free", "because its a fun way to spend a sunday afternoon", and "because it is important to know how to defend yourself".

The classes run at 16:45pm every Sunday and may be joined at any time throughout the year.



Marc demonstrates on Graeme: "Come on, make my day!"

Rhodes' very own four R's

THE FOUR R'S
Eugene de Klerk

IMAGINE these words which you are now reading melting into meaningless pigments on a page.

You are surrounded by symbols you don't understand because reading is taken for granted by the educated and as something for granting by educators. For the uneducated, it is a gift.

Reading, writing, arithmetic and Rusco: these are the four R's which form the basis of the Children's Literacy Project in Grahamstown.

The project was initiated in 1990, under the supervision of Ms Nobengazi Kamana. Ms Kamana trained for six months in Cape Town prior to becoming involved in the Grahamstown Project. She received instruction on how to organise the street children and attract them to the school.

"The most difficult part of all is winning the children's trust", Ms Kamana says with regret, "they have lost all their faith in adults, and in doing so have become them." To win their trust Ms Kamana visited the children daily, with gifts of food and clothing. At this time she was still negotiating with the Masifunde Educational Project for a venue for a school.

After much effort she was granted an unused resource centre along with a video machine and television. Combined with a feeding programme, this "luxury" drew the

children from the streets and gradually they were introduced to the previously hidden art of literacy.

Subsequently, a public meeting was convened where individuals volunteered. It was here that the relationship with Rusco (Rhodes University Students' Community Organisation) was forged, a relationship that was to strengthen and continue until today.

"The main aim is to return the children to their families and formal schools, stable environments," Ms Kamana states. After their return, progress is monitored by social workers, in order to prevent any peer group pressure or abuse. Most exploitation occurs on the streets though, when the children are offered money in return for dagga purchases or sexual acts. Most exploitation occurs in and from an "enlightened", literate community.

"We returned twenty children to their homes and formal schools last year", Kamana says, and one can't help detecting a sense of almost maternal pride. "It may not seem like many, but it is our success story", she adds.

However, the Literacy Project still searches for a permanent venue. Noble causes do not by their nature alone receive funding.

"Small change" is all these children ask. Let us, along with Rusco, give them more. Let us give them "great change", the gift of literacy.

Where's the food?

Jen Koen & Sandi Thompson

LEFTOVER food from the Rhodes Catering Division is allegedly being thrown away at the expense of donations to welfare organisations.

This was said by a St Mary's Hall junior caterer who added that as there were "officially no leftovers", they could not be given away.

Only one catering employee admitted there were leftovers - what students and staff did not eat after second helpings was merely thrown away. She hoped the leftovers could be taken to a welfare organisation.

No senior caterer would make a formal statement without the administration's permission. As a result, **RHODEO** encountered unhelpfulness and disinterest.

A Drosty Hall caterer claimed the recently computerised system has ensured no waste because students had to book their meals in advance.

A Founders Hall caterer said what little was not eaten was put into soups and stocks.

Although the senior caterers at one hall would make no official comment, they drew attention to ongoing outside the kitchen - rubbish trucks were carting away boxes of left-overs.

New societies stretch the mind

Vanashree Chetty

GOTCHA - just when you thought it was safe to get back to your complacent little lives, life takes an unexpected turn for the better.

Some new societies have just arrived on the Rhodes scene and they promise to be just the cure for anyone who wants something different from campus life.

Not everyone is a Michelangelo (and I don't mean the turtle) but everyone is someone and that's what the *Thinking Strings* are all about.

They're about bringing together "someones" to create something al-

ternative. The *Strings* plan to host alternative bands, show cult movies, hold parties and generally get strings of thinkers together.

So even if you sing like Michelangelo (and I do mean the turtle) or paint like my Aunt Edna, the *Strings* offer you a creative wonderland to live in.

And if that doesn't make you see how Rhodes is changing, the new society for people with alternative lifestyles, *Step*, is definitely something to be reckoned with.

Step is an acronym for Sexuality, Tolerance and Education Programme. Ah yes, you say to yourself, but what does that mean?

Hmmmm.... no, you mutant turtle, it's a society that aims to create a comfortable environment for people to explore issues involving sexuality and sexuality in general. *Step* is the only society on campus that allows everyone to be open about sensuality and sexuality.

The society plans more campaigns like the Red Ribbon Aids Awareness initiative as well as holding social get-togethers for its members. *Step* allows students to be themselves whether they lead alternative or conventional lifestyles.

So if you're daring enough and wanting something different, these two societies could be just what you need.

In the words of the Nike corporation and at least one SRC president, get there and "Just Do It".

So long for now and (with apologies to Douglas Adams or Arthur Dent) thanks for all the fish.

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Drying up...

Karen Kallman

THE serious drought facing the Grahamstown area has led to the drying up of many Rhodes boreholes and the death of many plants and trees.

The last good rains that fell in the area were in 1986 but there are presently no water restrictions except for gardening purposes.

Water again became the centre of a crisis when at the end of February there was no water in Joza township for one and a half days. Residents received no advance warning this was due to happen.

This posed serious health risks on personal hygiene - there was no water for washing, toilet flushing or cooking. There were also risks of dehydration in Grahamstown's scorching heat.

The Rhini Town Council said they had nothing to do with the cuts and it was related to other projects going on in the area.

However, a potential crisis was faced because residents were unable to prepare sufficiently for the cut-off due to lack of notice.

One wonders what would have happened had Rhodes' water been cut for one and a half days at this time of the year.

Ways to save water

- Take short showers instead of baths and capture the excess water to flush the toilet and water the garden
- Use and re-use water in a washing-up bowl instead of a sink to wash dishes
- Place an object like a brick in a toilet to raise the water level and use less water when flushing
- Capture rain water from drains for general household use.



Life blood - Grahamstown faces a potential water crisis

Pic: Rycherde Walters

Undressed to live

RHODEO Reporter

THE End Conscription Campaign (ECC) is calling for a suspension of all prosecutions of people under call-up laws.

This follows the announcement by Minister of Defence, Gene Louw, that July intakes would continue despite his previous statement that the whites-only call up system would be phased out this year.

Furthermore, two Transvaal Commando members are facing charges for refusing to do further camps, and another person for refusing to complete his community service.

Other people are being threatened with prosecution for not reporting for their initial service in January.

The ECC is attempting to organise campers in support of those facing charges and prosecution. As part of their campaign, they will be making a collection of SADF uniforms and kit during the coming month.

Campers will take this collection to one of the SADF units and publicly hand it back, indicating they have no further use for it.

A press conference has tentatively been set for March 10, at the end of which the uniforms will be taken to the SADF unit.



Kathy Moloney

ALTHOUGH the number of burglaries has decreased from this time last year in Grahamstown, there have been over 90 robberies reported for January alone.

Thirty-six of the burglaries occurred in the townships and 55 in digs and private homes.

According to Captain Terreblanch of the Grahamstown police station, the high number of burglaries can be attributed to the high unemployment rate. Over 80 percent of the Grahamstown population are unemployed.

Captain Terreblanch feels "digs burglaries can be avoided through increasing security and by getting involved in neighbourhood watches or joining up as reservists".

The owner of a digs burgled over a week ago, Doug Hardman, said, "There was no reason why the house should have been burgled because it had an alarm, panic buttons and security gates, but the resident students had gone to a party, not switched on the alarm and because they only had one key between them, had left the security gates open."

Approximately 64 percent of burglaries in Grahamstown are solved and most of the stolen goods recovered, Captain Terreblanch said.

Lucy Warren

Grahamstown thieves have again cashed in on the opportunities provided by unoccupied digs over the three-month holiday.

It appears empty digs are open invitations to beady-eyed burglars as soon as oppidans leave town.

However, Warrant-Officer George Green of the Grahamstown Police and Police Public Relations Officer for the Albany District, stressed that students can help to safeguard their property by taking certain precautions.

From a checklist compiled by the police to advise the public on protecting themselves and their property, Warrant-Officer Green selected these measures students should take before going on holiday:

- burglar bars or a burglar alarm are essential.
- sliding doors can be lifted from their frames, so holes should be drilled through them onto the framework so that pins can be inserted to secure them.

- locks which are opened by three-lever keys should be replaced by four or five-lever locks, as keys fitting the former can easily be bought.
- no keys should be left in key-holes surrounded by glass panning, as burglars can easily break the glass and reach inside for the key.
- ensure that you record the serial number of expensive goods, or engrave specific names or numbers.
- never give house keys to your domestic servants, and photocopy the identification documents of all employees.
- Inform the police that your digs will be unoccupied, specify your departure and return dates, and leave a contact address and phone number for the vacation period.
- If any people will be staying in your house while you are away, advise the police of their full details and their arrival and departure dates.

Students bite back

GA-RANKUWA - The Setlogelo Technikon's administration and the Students' Representative Council (SRC) last month reached agreement that lectures should resume after a week-long class boycott.

This followed a dispute about increases in meal prices on the campus and an accommodation shortage. Students boycotted the dining halls, and embarked on a class boycott and sit-in after they felt the administration had not responded adequately to their demands.

Although classes were to re-

sume, students continued their "self-catering" arrangement until the governing council met with the SRC to reconsider the cost of meals, according to a joint statement by Acting Rector Redvers Miller and SRC President Sammy Ranyawa.

The subsidy for each meal has been reduced from five to one rand, requiring students to pay up to 100 percent more for meals than last year, according to the SRC. However, the administration maintains all meals are subsidised as they were in previous years - with

an additional subsidy for lunches.

The accommodation shortage arose after this year's intake of students exceeded the amount of accommodation available on campus. Rooms with four beds were being used to accommodate up to six students, with some sleeping on the floor. In some lectures, students had to stand outside the lecture venue due to lack of space.

The administration agreed to construct additional accommodation within three months. Until then, temporary measures were agreed upon. - Sasnews

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An end to unemployment?

Iona Cameron

BEHIND the scenes of begging children and soaring petty crime in Grahamstown, lies a greater problem.

The cause might be that 16 000 people are without jobs. An unemployment rate of 60 percent was estimated, in a survey conducted by Professor Bill Davies of the Institute for Social and Economic Research at the end of last year.

Mr CS Muller, the town clerk of Rhini, submitted an official unemployment figure of 80 to 85 percent in greater Grahamstown to the Joint Negotiating Forum (JNF).

The total African population in Grahamstown is estimated to be at 70 000 in Professor Davis's survey.

According to the survey some 28 000 people are economically active. This means that 40 percent of the total population of Grahamstown either have jobs or are looking for jobs. The total number of jobs available is a mere 12 000.

The four problem areas that were isolated are: the supply of labour is greater than the demand; little new investment or job creation; the skills available don't match the jobs available and limited chances for unskilled or semi-skilled people to find work.

The sources of work in Grahamstown can be broken down into two sectors. The formal and informal.

Although the informal sector is more likely to provide job opportunities in Grahamstown, it does not offer much prospect for growth.

The formal sector includes the industrial sector of manufacturing, construction and electricity. This area offers few jobs and is not growing.

The same is the case in the financial, transportation, commercial and accommodation and catering fields.

Service industries like education, domestic workers and non-governmental organisations also offer few jobs although this field is more open than the industrial sector.

Because the formal sector is not likely to grow, the problem of unemployment will remain unresolved.

The informal sector has a higher percentage of jobs available but these are often short term and do not offer much scope for growth. Jobs in this sector include hawking or street selling, small scale manufacturing, building and transport.

"The informal sector provides the appearance that there is employment but it is not sustainable," said Professor Davis.

He said that there are no solutions he can think of and the problem is likely to get worse as the population grows.

According to Grocotts Mail, a sub-committee to study the creation of employment opportunities is to be set up by the Grahamstown Chamber of Business.



Pic: Elnett Oelofse

Alive and well on campus

Sapna Navsaria

RHODES bureaucrats seem to have accepted that sexual harassment is alive on campus with the establishment of a committee to investigate all forms of harassment.

"Any form of harassment is totally unacceptable," said founder member of the Sexual Harassment Committee, Jenny Roberts.

"It affects the victim's academic and social life, it causes psychological damage causing the person to withdraw from the people around her or him," she said.

The committee was formed at the end of last year and it consists of students, staff members and workers, thereby representing the entire campus. The committee members are all volunteers.

"It is not something that some raving students have coughed up, but rather a collective effort by all sectors of the university who are concerned about what is happening," Roberts said.

'totally unacceptable'

Previously, if an harassment incident was not reported to the administration, their attitude was that it simply did not happen. It seems as if people are scared of reporting harassment, she said.

"Many are afraid of being seen as 'over-reacting', and they also feel guilty about what has happened. They feel responsible and feel they have done something wrong, even though they have not."

Victims of harassment that are put in contact with the committee will be referred to counsellors who can give them the help they need.

The committee has ideas to set up an educational programme on campus to promote a general awareness of harassment and to establish a definite definition of harassment.

If you have been sexually harassed, whether you are male or female, student or staff member, contact Jenny Roberts at the Linguistic department, Jane Welsh at the Social Work department or Kendal Claassens at the SRC offices.

Stepping on sexism

JOHANNESBURG - Wits University has joined the growing number of tertiary institutions where sexual harassment is receiving official censure, by implementing formal procedures to combat it on campus.

The university has set up a Sexual Harassment Panel to resolve complaints of sexual harassment and formulate policy for the university.

Members of the panel are trained to advise people of their rights and to counsel harassment victims. They can also assist students or staff to lay charges through disciplinary procedures or mediate with the people involved.

In a recent document the university defined sexual harassment as "unwanted conduct of a sexual nature, or other conduct based on sex/gender affecting the dignity of women and men working, studying or living at this university. This conduct can include unwelcome physical, verbal or non-verbal conduct". Sexual harassment has become a prominent issue in tertiary institutions in South Africa in the last few years. Rape and attempted rape in residences have been isolated as a major problem, although other forms of harassment have been rife on some campuses. On several campuses commissions of enquiry have been formed to look into the problem.

"Rape and attempted rape in residences have been isolated as a major problem."

A member of the Wits panel, Dr Cathi Albertyn of the Centre for Applied Legal Studies, said: "We are not the gender police who are going to go around campus knocking people over the head. Rather, we aim to create a climate of tolerance and diversity among the university population."

- Sasnews

Over the hill

Gerhard Hope

ONE of the reasons for refurbishing Jan Smuts Hall is to upgrade its facilities, though the rumour that it is being converted into a Spur Steak Ranch is probably too good to be true.

Everybody has heard of artists suffering for their craft, but students suffering for their academic life?

Pity the poor members of Jan Smuts House, whose placid lifestyle has been disrupted by building operations, throbbing generators and the banshee-like wail of a hooter that sounds off in ample time for the 7:45am lecture.

In case you overslept. Or are deaf.

To crown it all, Smuts members have to eat at Kimberley Hall, which is situated at the top of a fairly precipitous hill. This has come as a shock to people who don't like to wander far in order to be fed.

Imagine if you have a lecture in the Journalism department which ends at 13:05. Considering how far you have to walk in order to enjoy lunch, it is no wonder that people are losing their appetites.

The denizens of Kimberley Hall reply that not only do they offer incomparable grub, but also ambience and a terrific view.

Besides, the negligible toil of trudging up the hill will get the lymphatic system going and improve digestion. Bon appetit!

Mixed feelings

Mark Egan & Bridget Lydall

ADAMSON House has the distinction of being the first mixed residence on campus.

A plan to make Adamson an all male res met with opposition from last year's occupants. The female residents objected to being forced to move to other reses. It was then decided to allocate the bottom floor to men, whilst the top floor remained women's only.

Adamson has entered mixed teams into various sporting events. They managed a first round victory in the touch-rugby against an all male team, and finished runners-up in the Hoot Olympics on February 21. Head Student Christine Campbell says the social interaction in the shared common room helps

foster the community spirit in the res.

Adamson is regarded as a single res, yet the visiting hours and restrictions placed on other reses still apply. Chris Campbell feels "we have made a special effort to function as a single res."

Residents, it seems, are pleased with the change.

"There is improved spirit in the res, because of the mutual encouragement between the guys and girls, and the smaller numbers create unity on both floors," a Second Year student said.

Rhodes still lags behind other universities in its policies regarding mixed-sex accommodation. Wits and UCT have had mixed reses for quite some time now. Even so, all parties seem to agree, this "experiment" is a step in the right direction.

Labels?

RHODEO Reporter

ALLEGATIONS that RMR's mobile disco caters only for white students have been strongly denied.

RMR Station Manager, Tony Lankester, said DJ's were trained to play to the crowds and to play music which got students going. "If 200 people want rock music and one person wants house music, we'll go with the majority," he said.

"RMR does not apply labels such as 'black' and 'white' music," Tony added.

He also said that RMR was a non-racist and non-sexist organisation and DJ's were selected on merit.

Charlie John Laundry

13 Spring Street

Grahamstown Tel: 24231

At the bottom of High Street

Best rates for students

Bring this ad along for a discount

First year

Impressions

OVERHEARD...All Rhodes, it seems, lead to Grahamstown, and as several hundred first years swarmed into Grahamstown last month, the comments overheard in corridors, queues and nightclubs provide a telling commentary on life in the ubiquitous G-Spot.



One-donkey town

There were a few startling first impressions...
"Wonderful, but no UFO's"
"Groovy"
"Haven't seen enough to comment but the beers are cheap"
"Love it, absolutely love it!"
"Not close enough to P.E."
"Fucking quiet!"

First encounters

The necessary process of acquainting oneself with Grahamstown can sometimes prove a bit embarrassing, as those who escaped merciful amnesia quietly revealed...
"My most embarrassing moment involves three naked people and a donkey cart in High street on a Sunday, then I passed out"
"I am sitting in His Majesty's, Coke in left hand. Someone asks me the time, Coke in lap."
"Sentenced to being Mr Fresher for my res."
"Being set up with another male for the blind-date ball"
"Being serenaded by Skid guys while still in our PJ's"
"Bashing down my Sub-War-den's door and putting her py-jamas on whilst sleep walking"

Venue menu

Where do people pay to play? Surprisingly enough we came up with some unusual places
"Late night Al's"
"The Vic"
"The place where beer is the cheapest"
"The tree outside Drostdy Dining Hall"

Mouse-traps

They're calling it a rat's life. What do the new Rhodents feel about their unfamiliar life-styles and accomodations?
"I never slept in my own bed before"
"Rooms are too large and spacy"
"Fewer parents but no cars"
"Less money, always broke"
"I never have clean clothes"

Energetic Night Life?

Overrun by 5000 students 8 months a year, one would expect Grahamstown to boast energetic Nightlife. Not everyone agrees...
"I dislike crawling home at 4.00am"
"52 churches and only one dance floor?"
"Social life, where?"
"Plenty of sex, drink and fun"
"I dislike interrupting my social life for four hours of sleep at night"

Eat, burp and feel funny?

And then there's the transition to res food, easier for some than others...
"It's very versatile, you can use the macaroni to stick up your posters"
"Ah, so that's what it is!"
"We don't get enough food. Some of it is literally soaking in fat. We get blobby eggs daily, I hate it!"
"It's great"
"Food, what food?"
"It's not as bad as it could be but not as good as it should be."
"I will like it even more when I am in digs."

The dating game

Socialising definitely has its ups and downs. How do Rhodians see each other?
"Medium to dry"
"The guys are hot and very easy"
"The guys have such cute toes"
"A lot of potential but need some moulding"
"Not enough guys to go around"
"Sex is sex!"
"The guys are obnoxious and drink too much"
"Can't tell the difference"
"Don't think - just do!"
"Rhodes is heaven on earth as far as girls go"

Room for change?

Through the eyes of the would-be educated, Grahamstown has much potential for change. Here are some of the suggestions...
"Add a few deserts and volcanoes"
"Do away with studying"
"Change the speed limits"
"More churches, bottlestores and pharmacies"
"Wipe out the police station and change it into a pub!"
"Introduce moving pavements"
All in all, it seems Grahamstown remains a living paradox - a cultural haven dominated by churches and bottlestores. It's not quite what you expected, but more than you hoped for.

Tess Naidoo

THE sleepy ride down from Durban consisted of open rural stretches, occasional towns and winding roads that seemed to go on forever.

I saw enough goats, sheep, horses and obnoxious cows to last me a lifetime. I remembered someone telling me that Grahamstown was laid-back and mellow and anxiously started asking myself: "This?"

Eventually there I was, on a Saturday afternoon with my Mom and Dad, looking at what was to be my new home for the next eight months. It looked more like the site of a deserted colonial movie except with more churches, and bottlestores.

I fell in love with the trees, birds and the quiet peace that is conducive to learning. It is a beautiful place.

At last I was settled into my room and hugged my parents goodbye. I was not exceptionally sad - just very eager and optimistic about starting fresh and getting acquainted with this place and its people.

This was a major leap from Durban with its hustle and bustle, I thought, but I could do with a change even if it means you're speeding when you're driving at 42km/h, with no robots or a bus service. I do realise that Grahamstown is unique. It is a university town - multifaceted and rich in its cultural heritage. It has so much to offer with so much potential for change or to change those who experience it as a whole, giving us so much and more.

After three weeks, I am definitely happy here and hope that other first years are too!

Catherine Hofmeyr

THE transition from matric to university is never an easy one to make, especially when you are making it over a distance of 991km, without parents to tell you that everyone else is strange and that you are a perfectly acceptable human being.

It was with these thoughts, and with reservations caused by comments like "Where is Rhodes?", that I arrived in Grahamstown.

The first thing that struck me was the beauty and character of the trees. They seemed to reflect the whole mood of this quaint, disarming town. The winsome architecture was like something out of a storybook and the friendly attitude of the people was the perfect seal on my expectations.

Coming from hardcore Jo'burg, it was a new experience for me to be greeted by so many open, friendly faces, unclouded by the preoccupation of meeting a deadline. It is this quality of the people, coupled with Grahamstown's laid-back, accepting air that allows even a "Vaalie" like me to feel totally at home.

Compiled by Tess Naidoo, Julie Roberts and Cathy Hofmeyr.

Tananas - to wet the teeth, to take a sip. Durban and Cape Town slang for having a drink.

Jonathan Davis and Thabang Motsoasele caught up with the band for a sluk of the completely alternative, organic and ozone-friendly Tananas home-brew...

"We are like children, we have to trust things to chance," says Steve Newman. "We are citizens of the universe."

It's a good thing *Tananas* have such a holistic view of life. When the band finally took to the stage at the Lion Lager Roadshow, their intricate rhythms and complex interplay was largely lost on a beer-drenched crowd, who wouldn't have known the difference between Ravi Shanker and Alice Cooper.

Tananas is a lot of things, but it's not arena music.

Anyway, the citizens of the universe were definitely getting down on the distinctively rural flavour of a hot day in Grahamstown. You could almost see the framework of Steve's perfectly anarchic, alternative technology society taking shape in his mind.

In the interview Steve is aggressively laid-back, if that's possible - "Ja, so let's go."

Gito Baloi lets him do the talking, occasionally nodding agreement or just enjoying the impenetrable streams of rhythm everyone suspects continually course through his head. Ian Herman rushes in and sits down. But he's got to track down a congo drum, so he leaves almost immediately.

"Suddenly we had a gig..."

"We're a band, simple," says Steve. "We're not creating music. We just play with whatever ideas come up. The ideas evolve within themselves."

"For us to add any of the obvious things would make us not a band," says Newman. "Although we might add some strings and an Indian flute for the Grahamstown festival."

The origins of *Tananas*, like their creative method, seem to be a combination of chance and some mystic earth-force. They just kind of met and jammed, and then they were *Tananas*.

No-one would have been surprised if Steve had turned round and said: "On the seventh day God rested while *Tananas* jammed."

"God rested while Tananas jammed..."

Tananas has been together since 1988 - in European time, that is.

"We never decided to be a band. We just jammed together, then suddenly we had a gig, then we had two more. One in Durban on Thursday and two in Jo'burg on Friday and Saturday."

The band's sound is based on Gito's bass and vocal combinations - strings of mingled Spanish, Portuguese and African languages, and Steve's guitar, backed by Ian on drums.

Gito seems to tap into a mysterious lyrics pool rather than physically constructing the words.

"The feeling for the lyrics just comes," he says. "Often I work out the words only after I have begun singing the tunes."

"I also like rearranging the lyrics just before recording a song, because then it's recorded like that forever."

He started in Maputo. He came to Johannesburg where he played with Pongola and people's poet Mzwakhe Mbuli. He met Steve and Ian through the independent Shifty record company.

Ian is from the Cape Flats. He cut his teeth playing clubs in Jo'burg's flatland.

Steve remains Cape Town-based, but spends a lot of time in Johannesburg rehearsing with *Tananas*. His style sounds classical.

"No, it's not classical guitar. I don't actually have classical training," he says. "But I do have a lot of classical techniques which I picked up from books."



Tananas' Steve and Gito - citizens of the universe.

It seems *Tananas* are not musicians who count pocketbooks and day-planners as the instruments they have mastered.

"We're not a band that's in it for the money," explains Steve. "Financially, there's not much support for us."

"You can't plan ahead like an ordinary person. It's quite nice, you don't have to plan. We are like children, we have to trust things to chance."

Gito, in sympathy, continues his study of the Kaif ceiling.

The band members have to do extra work to support themselves. Gito and Ian do composing and production work, and Steve "sometimes teaches guitar".

"'Anarchy' means no killing..."

Workshop teaching is the way of the future, Steve explains. It's a solution to the education crisis. "All the information is available - you can basically blackmail people into paying attention."

Steve's idea of the definitive education experience is to have a series of lectures on the world, which everybody can attend.

"Just get the best information technology, which people wouldn't be able to afford individually, put it in a place the community can have access to it, and anyone can study whatever they want, whatever their age."

Is *Tananas'* music perhaps an example of a 'new' South African culture?

"There is no 'new' South African culture," says Steve, shaking his head. "We don't play South African music. We draw from all the cultures available to us. We don't have to be limited by borders. We're into global culture."

"Western technology has just got us into trouble..."

"We don't want to deal with bureaucracy and passports and borders and visas, or regionalism or nationalism. After all we are citizens of the universe."

Is this what the media has been calling World Music?

"World music has always been there. It's folk music from all over the world. The industry and media have just decided to jump on it and make it look like it's their own concept."

Steve's refusal to categorise *Tananas'* music strictly forms part of a vision he agrees is anarchic. "Anarchy," he explains, "actually means no killing. But we have been led to believe it means chaos and all sorts of negative things."

"I believe, somehow, that everything fits into a bigger picture. People should have the freedom to say and do what they want. Ordinary people can go anywhere they want. This is a universal culture, not an isolated culture."

"Western technology has just got us into trouble. But all culture has a role to play. We need proper communication, not war or violence. We need to look at traditional science and medicine."

"We impose European values all the time. It's all about controlling people. Why should we believe they know better than anyone else. No person other than yourself gives you freedom, there is no written constitution for life."

"The overseas culture which floods South Africa," Steve says, "is broken."

"Here we're still telling the original people how to run their lives in terms of Euro-American culture. It's bullshit. It's all about controlling people."

The future, for Newman, is based on alternative technology and the use of free resources. The state and land ownership will give way to self-sufficient local communities.

"Society will be small self-contained villages. Education and industry will be community based."

Replace timber forests with marijuana plants...

The school system will be scrapped. All information will be available to everyone who cares to attend the relative workshops. We'll replace timber forests with efficient hemp-producing marijuana plantations.

Predictably, *Tananas'* future is also based on alternative technology, and any free resources they can get their hands on.

Technology has advanced far enough to allow bands to record broadcast quality music themselves at home.

"That's the way we ultimately want to go," says Steve. "There'd be no problems with copyright or royalties."

In the meantime they hope to record an album overseas.

"This is the fun of it, like, we just say, we'd like to record our next album overseas. We don't know where or when, it could be three years from now. We don't worry about it because it will happen."

Gito, if you can get him to interrupt his contemplations, has more concrete plans for the future.

"The first big bucks I make," he says, eyes gleaming, "I'm going to buy a studio. If I can have it at home I can write slowly. If I don't like it I can just change it."

Tananas needed to rest before the show, they said. We dropped Steve and Gito off at the Graham, and stayed long enough to see them heading off down the road, looking for alternatives.

The

Pics: Adam Welz

Day Rhodes rocked

RHODEO Reporter

THE Lion Lager Roadshow paid a visit to Kaif lawns last month and kept a 2000-strong crowd rocking 'til late with a diverse mix of local music.

The first band up were Grahamstown lads *The Lost Men* who kicked off with an impressive performance.

Ella Mental, and more Lions, followed as the sweltering day's heat cooled down. The granddaddies of the SA music scene got the crowd going with some good original material and impressed the crowd with their professionalism.

At this stage there was panic behind the scenes as Frank Sande had not yet arrived due to a transport breakdown.

Only minutes before, *Ella Mental* bowed out he rushed in but still managed to douse the crowd with some really good reggae.

Compere Barney Simon was up again to present *Tananas*. Their musical skill was exceptional, sounding out some brilliant Jazz-fusion.

Last up were *The Rasta Rebels*, pumping up some top-notch reggae covers and really getting the crowd up and mad with *Iron Lion Zion*.

A bit of a comedown was the number of bouncers lining the stage (a bit overzealous - this is Grahamstown we're talking about.) What really made the show, however, was the atmosphere - the music, 2000 plus people off their heads on a summer evening, no fights, no police/Vic closure of the gig. Just loads of people having a good time.

The Lion Lager Roadshow was organised by RMR, SRC and Rag and will hopefully become an annual feature on the Rhodes calendar. In all, the night was a tremendous success.

Mental mania

Ross Scheepers & Daya Coetzee

ELLA MENTAL have come a long way since the group was formed in 1983.

The group evolved after Tim Parr, lead guitarist, met Heather Mac after splitting with his former group Backstop.

Three of the original members, Tim, Heather and Herman, are still playing for the band. The bass guitarist, Teejan, met up with the group during their six years in Ireland.

Ella Mental reached the height of their popularity in the mid '80s.

Commenting on whether or not they still appeal to crowds as much as back then, Tim said that they had just played to full houses for six nights at *Tandoors* in Rockey Street.

When asked if the pressures of the music business ever motivated him to influence his songwriting, Tim replied: "I just write songs. I'm a songwriter, whatever comes out of me I use. I don't follow a trend."

Whilst in Ireland the group played several clubs and did some studio work. They also performed at the 'Marquee' just outside London and one of their shows in Dublin was attended by U2.

Ella Mental toured the USA in 1991 and released an album in conjunction with the tour. Tim also had the opportunity of touring the US with *Tribe After Tribe*.

The band felt the music scene in Ireland was more established than the SA scene. They said musical equipment is cheaper

and there are many more venues where bands can perform.

Irish audiences are more receptive as they are exposed to more meaningful music and music plays a more important role in their culture.

Ella Mental does feel that the SA music scene improved while they were away. Tim said: "It's the beginning of the beginning of change, but it's not enough change. It's a skull duggery."

Tim said he would like to see more venues for live music (where all cover versions are banned) open up in SA.

The group seems set to split up as Herman heads for Switzerland and Teejan back to Ireland.

Both Tim and Heather now have solo projects lined up. Tim felt he needed a break after eleven years with the group and is set to perform with *The Zap Dragons* and *Vuka Afrika*.

Heather has a really viby and energetic dance routine. She hopes to be able to spread some of this energy as she feels that she "has to give something back" and wanted to become involved in "giving out love".

She is involved in projects in Cape schools that are designed to boost pupils' self esteem through music and drama.

When asked what the future held for SA, Heather felt that political proceedings alone would not help. "People should release their fears and begin believing that this world isn't really a shithole".



FRANK SANDE arrived late for the concert due to a breakdown. But his lively, friendly stage personality had students beating out his rhythm on their feet.

Editorial

Music - Food for Unity

AFTER the high most of us experienced at the Roadshow Concert, it comes as a disappointment to hear Rhodes Music Radio's reply to allegations of not catering for all students at their mobile discos.

Firstly, if the majority of students at their jorls are white, as they have said, then we need to ask them: "Why?". Secondly, if Rhodes can pull off a concert in the way that the Roadshow turned out, with the majority of students having fun with all the diverse sounds that were organised, it indicates to us that Rhodes students have, to some degree, found non-racialism a lot faster than some student radio stations have.

RMR can constructively contribute to building campus unity. We hope they take heed of the signals campus is sending them.

Issues and Opinions

We have introduced two new columns into **RHODEO** in this edition: *OUTward Bound* and *Cut The Crap*. *OUTward Bound* will be dealing with gay and lesbian issues; we feel that this is a long awaited necessity in **RHODEO**. We hope to start debate on campus and welcome your contributions. Which will hopefully not simulate a comment gleaned from a fascist in the administration buildings: "But are there really people like that on campus?"

Our other new column, *Cut The Crap*, will tell you what you think. It's about you, for you, giving you a feeling of what students on campus are thinking.

Freedom of Speech

Speaking of telling you what you think, some people/societies/organisations on campus have taken it into their heads to tell **RHODEO** what we should and should not write about them. If we feel it is necessary, we allow people interviewed to see the story before it goes to print but we refuse to be intimidated. We are responsible journalists, and will provide important information to campus whether some people like it or not. Our information is and will be substantiated.

Creditorial

Thabs, Daya, Jon (Black), 'Mapule-Ing, Taryn, Gerhard, Liz, Nerish, Sanjah, Mich, Stacy, Vanashree, Pam, Julie-anne, Samantha, Andrea, Anita, Beth, Carmel, Swapna, Mike, Karen, Sandi, Luce, Eugene, Collette, Ntokozo, Roski, Rossi, Rown, Iona, John, Mark, Bridget, Kathy, Sarah, Linda, Scarlett, Tamsin, Robin, Dror, Alistair, Kerry, Rob, Glenn, Slimon, Rycherde, Bobby, Elnett, Adam, Melanie, Wanda, Kamy and anyone we may have forgotten (As Eric Clapton is saying right this moment, it's late in the evening - except it should actually be 'it's early in the morning!') Thanks to Madge, of course, and the ever (ever?) helpful Sasnews. May it always Speed up the process. To RMR: (aaargghhh!) we wouldn't have survived without your 24 hour service - please can we have it always? Welcome back, Sarita. May your week-ends cease to exist. To the green disk: die! you floppy thing!



Mao You Knoa...



Political power
flows from
RHODEO's
letters page

Dear RHODEO

Ivory tower attitude

RHODES' admissions and exclusions policies come under scrutiny in the first few months of every year, yet very little progress is ever made in changing them.

Rhodes continues to cling to the past despite the progressive changes on other campuses. Admissions are still based on the Swedish point system which disregards differing standards of the various matric boards. Rhodes does not have a clear policy on affirmative action, nor does it have entrance examinations which could relieve some of the pressure on matric results.

Rhodes is also the only large, well-known university in South Africa that does not have bridging courses. And in the meanwhile, hundreds of students continue to be excluded from Rhodes every year. With no proper academic or financial assistance to students in one form or another, we regard these exclusions as a disgusting reflection of Rhodes' attitude to the future.

Students for Change

Exploitation

Employment in Grahamstown, as everyone knows, is non-existent. It is also the reason why there seems to be a growing rash of exploitation of staff. I am a waitress in a restaurant in town, and we are being treated, to be frank, like shit. I think that **RHODEO** should look into the whole situation. It is difficult for us to come forward because if we lose our jobs, there are always lots of willing people to fill them.

Name Withheld

RHODEO is in possession of the facts and will be looking into the case. Report back next issue.

Mean threads

THINKING Strings enhances the meta-physical side in the fabric of our very humanity.

We strongly recommend that any up-standing Rhodian comes along to our informal and chatty meetings and shares their thoughts on contemporary matters such as

global interconnectedness and the general total being of nature.

For more information bury your head in the nearest privy and flush three times for service required. Spiritual inspiration for those of you who feel they're not getting enough of life come along to Thinking Strings and down some thinking potion.

Luke, Kim and Errol

...to boot

I would like to thank the organisers of the Thinking Strings cheese and wine (cheese not included) for making it the reality-defying experience that it was.

Long live the Thinking (Drinking?) Strings, mosh on, etc. May the next meeting celebrate the joys of death, destruction and decay even more! Feel free to join the apathetic corpses if you're irrational enough and remember: CONFORMITY IS DEATH.

TranceWave

Sexual equality

I have been waiting, for some time now, for some responsible male to write this letter but I realise now that it has been in vain. I feel that this letter to your esteemed publication is long overdue.

In such a forward thinking and democratic world that we find ourselves in, a world where equality has become a by-word, it grieves me intensely to find that South African males, despite being at the forefront of the dismantlement of apartheid and the levelling of racial standards seem to have overlooked one fundamental notion...that of sexual equality.

No better example can be illustrated than the sexual discrimination that exists at Rhodes University. I am neither for chauvinism and feminism, but instead believe that the female populous of our cherished institution is being handed a raw deal.

The double standards that are in play seem grossly unjust and, more importantly, wholly unjustified. Why is it that in other advanced nations women are treated with equality and are judged not by their sex but by their ability to perform the tasks society demands of them, whilst the South African male, generally speaking, treats them as inferior and ill-qualified for playing their role in this commonwealth?

The immediate demands immediate consideration, by both women and men alike. The days of the woman's place being in the kitchen, barefoot and pregnant are long gone, and to endeavor to suppress the natural rights of women is as prehistoric as it is asinine. The intense freedom enjoyed by the males on campus directly opposes the inhibitions experienced by their female counterparts.

As the majority of students at this institution are over the tender age of eighteen, which permits them to kill and be killed for their country, to drive a vehicle, to choose their own government and to stand alone in court and face up to the consequences of their own actions, it appears that the rules and regulations imposed upon women in residence have been passed down from the age of Feudalism. The system of signing male guests in and out borders closely on the edge of sheer stupidity. Surely the all-knowing board members of Administration are not so naive to think that what should not happen after midnight will not occur before half past eleven. Why should a woman's residence be locked and bolted at midnight, like some pious nunnery when mens' are open twenty-four hours a day?

We are, one hopes, all mature and responsible adults and should be treated in such a manner. I am not for one moment suggesting that our honorable establishment be converted into an anarchistic ordinance but I do feel that some of the rules and regulations that mollicoddle and cosset women should be reconsidered in the light of the wave of equality that has swept aside sexism in the world but seems to have left South Africa dry and unaffected.

Concerned Male

An inner glimpse

Ever wonder who writes these letters? Some concerned citizen who believes that the pen is mightier than the sword?

It is 2 o'clock, and Adam Neill is whining on the radio like a fly in a bottle with its wings plucked off.

The coffee from the vending machine is starting to taste like burnt newspaper, and we have run out of Prestik to use as a tantric mantra.

The computer has developed an attitude problem before it has even mastered artificial intelligence.

A disgruntled member of the Collective is being pursued by a blob of murderous white space demanding to be filled.

As Adam Neill hits decibels as yet unknown to the human voice-box, the admonitory face of Madge urges us all to get face-lifts.

The esteemed editor is bowed over a keyboard like a penitent at an electronic shrine, while insomniac staff grapple with lay-out as if it were a live basket of snakes, squirming all over the page and refusing to fall into place.

A low mist of stale cigarette smoke clings to the ceiling, and all we need to complete the picture is a gambling table. Though chips would be nice.

Madge is looking uglier as the evening (morning?) progresses, and the way the DJ is squealing it sounds as if she has broken into the studio and has removed her false teeth.

Contrary to popular opinion, **RHODEO** does not write its own letters. This is just a temporary glitch/aberration/space-filler.

The no-go zones

Rhodes campus is a dangerous place. Many people are lulled into a small-town mindset that "it doesn't happen here". It does.

THE CASES of rape and sexual harassment reported form a minority of the actual incidents taking place. Many students do not feel comfortable walking alone on campus.

Campus Security has failed to contain the problem to any real extent. Incidents have not decreased.

Late last year, graffiti was found in the library quad claiming the area was dangerous after several incidents of harassment apparently took place. The graffiti read: "Rape Zone - Admin wake up!"

Earlier this year, a group calling itself Woman Against Rape (War) put posters on campus warning students about rape. The poster includes the slogan: "Dead men don't rape."

Many students remain unhappy with the lighting provisions on parts of campus, especially near areas like the Great Hall, the Union buildings, the library, the Botanical Gardens, the Sanatorium, St Peter's Lawns and parts of the Hill.

The trouble spots

In the interests of safety, and to illustrate the extent of the problem, **RHODEO** has produced a map showing the dangerous and poorly lit areas, and the places where confirmed incidents of rape and sexual harassment have occurred.

The message, however, is that sexual harassment is pervasive on campus. Pressure must be put on admin to improve lighting and safety on campus. Everyone should feel safe on campus.

In the meantime, carry mace or a weapon, and call Campus Security if you have to move around late at night. It's all we've got.



The War Poster

A new generation of Rhodes women have moved into a residence which places severe restrictions on their freedom of movement. Pamela Ntshanga puts the case for a major rethink on res rules, curfews and interviewing policies...

I HAVE noticed how, in the past decade, women have progressed rapidly to high positions in the society. But there is still a notion that women should be protected. The question is: "What is it that they are protected from?"

Why is it that women are always the ones to be depicted powerless or unable to readily make their own decisions about things that concern them? Surely we are beings who are capable of handling and managing our lives and we certainly do not need a handbook to guide our lives. After all it's our lives we are talking about. Why should we be treated differently as if we are a threat to society.

In the residence, female students:

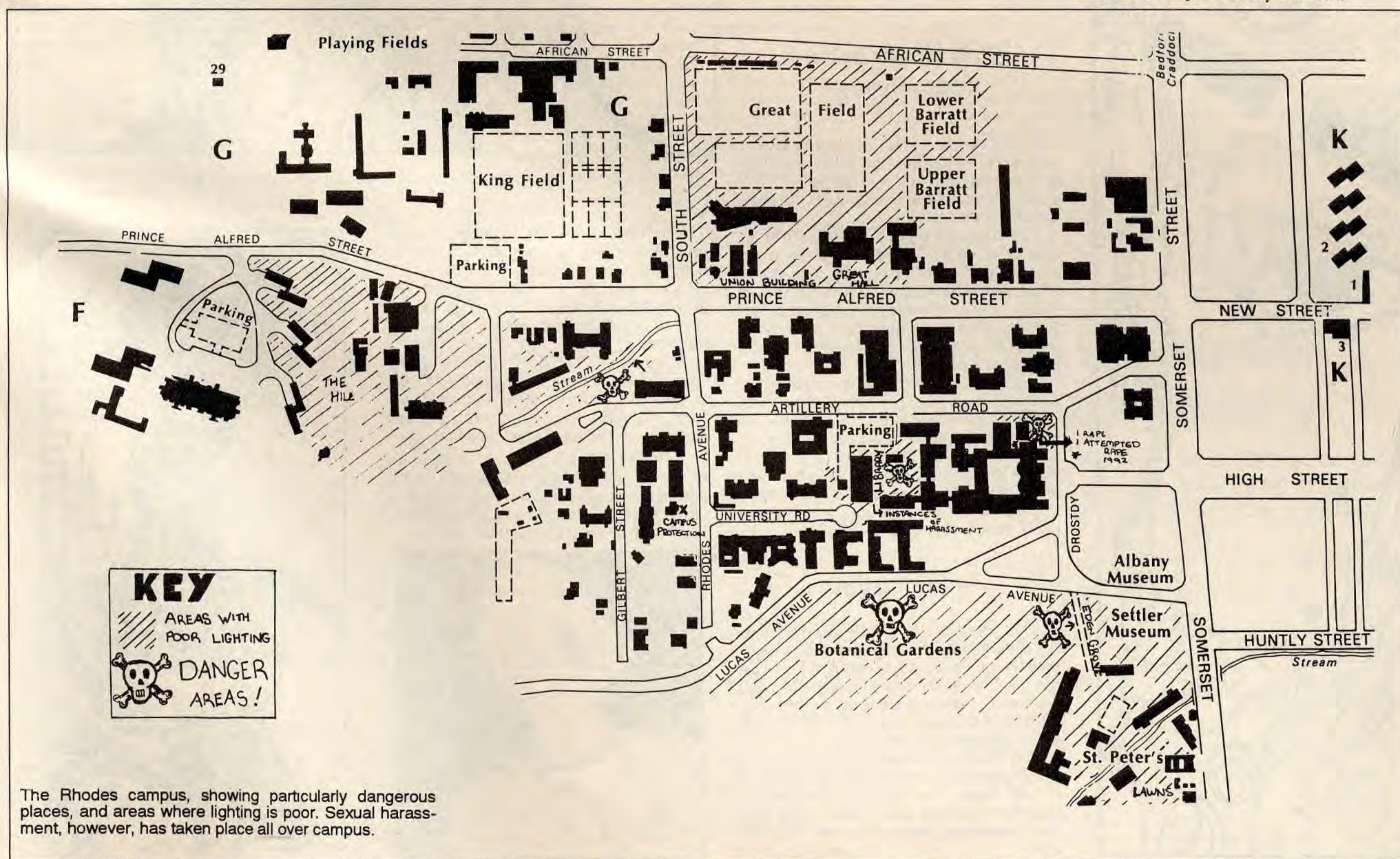
- have to be indoors by 3am while no curfew is imposed on male students
- may only have male visitors between 7pm and 11pm
- have to do unpaid evening duties
- under the age of 19 and a first year, have to obtain permission from parents to spend a weekend away from residence.

All in all male students have freedom to go where they please and come when they choose while female students are under a careful and watchful eye.

If I do not protest this blatantly sexist behaviour, it simply means that I have denied myself the space to be who I am.

I cannot go anywhere I please or come back when I like because I have been caged by the concept of "being a lady", and so unfortunately I have to comply by these rules.

The bad news is that I have to "be a lady" at the expense of my freedom.



The Rhodes campus, showing particularly dangerous places, and areas where lighting is poor. Sexual harassment, however, has taken place all over campus.



Zoned out

MIRACLE upon miracle. It finally happened. Grahamstown had a concert. And all the bands arrived. And the police didn't close it down. And nobody died. And the population didn't turn into raging lunatics. And no one burnt any crosses. And all the churches are still standing. And everyone better get down on their knees (facing in any direction they please) and pray for another one.

Put each of the bands at a different point of the compass, one in the middle, and choose your Deity.

Those going with *The Lost Men*: your loyalty is impressive and you're probably not deaf, but it is going to take some time. Those in the *Tananas* department: watch you don't burn your fingers on that 'roach. *Ella Mental* devotees: you'll probably get to know the words if you ever hear them again. Those on *The Rasta Rebel's* bandwagon: enjoy the ride even if you feel you're not really going anywhere. The Frank Sande crew: didn't anyone ever tell you not to fall in love with strangers?

The concert was a rip. A great big rip in the almost (but not quite) opaque veil of apathy that is rumoured to hang over Grahamstown. At least somebody hauled butt. But will it ever happen again? It had better. We need a social enema from time to time. The event prised out, from their corners, some faces that even our favourite hotel's staff wouldn't recognise. That in itself is reason enough for another.

Since we're all down on our knees and praying anyway, some of you might be wondering What God Wants... ask Roger Waters. At least listen to someone else's copy of the new cd. If you don't, the enema probably missed you too.



Sequentialists: minds in motion

Stacy Hardy

"HMMMM, stretches the mind doesn't it," said Vice-Chancellor Derek Henderson after looking at Komiksoc's works on societies evening, and Komiksoc have been stretching, challenging and blowing minds for a living for the last four years.

Trying to escape from the typical Judge Dredd-style we all grew up on, their work is a toxic mixture of sequential art and the poetry of a child's tortured imagination trapped in the body of an artist.

Komiksoc were created in 1989 when they joined forces with the Alternative Media Society to form a concept challenging front. Together dedicated to bombarding campus with anti-apathy literature, homemade fanzines and propaganda orientated posters.

In 1989 Rhodes was confronted with their groundbreaking first publication, *Zombie Bird House*. Since then *Hardcore Whimsies* (1990), *Greasy Hedgehogs* (1991), *Kervsjni bikinjik* (1991) and finally *Frontal Labotomy* (1992) have continued in the sequentialist tradition to challenge the accepted concepts of art.

bombarding campus

Over the years a series of lunatics and artists have added their brand of Thalidomide to the toxic mixture. Many have fallen by the wayside, and the current survivors number two: Jessie Breytenbach and Petr Sorfa.

Jessie first crashed into the Komiksoc scene with the release of *Zombie Bird House*. Because this was her first experience in comics, Jessie was untouched by the normal diet of Dredd violence and Crisis mayhem and able to explore the disjointed poetics of her own mind.

Komiksoc's work is by no means conventional and they are often greeted with "but what does it all mean?"

Thalidomide to the toxic mixture

Petr's answer is that their comics are like poetry. No matter how much you try to dissect or analyse it, all you end up with is a small glimpse inside the luridly lit corridors of the artist's mind.

"This is the shape of things. Silver nitrate holds the smile, but time has no continuum. Now, now, kotch up this scene. More, more, the shape of change holds the whips." The essence of sequentialism? Movement in focus rather than the stagnant visuals we have come to identify as art. "In sequentialism lies the future of art".

Despite Komiksoc's success and the art quality, the Rhodes Art Department is still strangely unwilling to accept comics as an art form. According to Jessie: "If they accept comics as art they'll realise that what they're doing in the department just doesn't matter anymore. People aren't interested. Sequential art is alive and moving and that's what holds attention."

whirlwind trip

This year Komiksoc will also be stocking Bitterkomics, a Stellenbosch University production. Following in the tradition of artists such as Koos Kombuis and Johannes Kerkorrel, these comics form a part of the satirical Afrikaans Alternative movement which sprung up in late 1980's.

Surprisingly, Stellenbosch University's Art Department is more open to comics as an art form. Not only is *Bitterkomics* funded by the department but students may also contribute comics towards their art crits.

a TANGLED WEB

Liza Taizis

HERE WE THREAD, IN HER SILKEN HAIR, THROUGH TIME'S INNOCENCE UNTRIED, SECRETS UNTOLD, THE BEAUTY UNIMAGINABLE OF HER FACE; OUT FROM THE WOMB OF OUR DEATH.



AND MAN AND WOMAN, NEVER ONE, ALTHOUGH SOMETIMES, IN FALSE PRETENCE, ALONE, PREOCCUPIED, NOURISHING A FALSE FREEDOM, UNITE, TURN AWAY, NEVER ACKNOWLEDGING THE OTHER'S PERFECTION.

WHILST FRAGILE, SHE HOLDS, DEEP WITHIN HER GRASP, TIGHT INSIDE HER, SAFE, WARM AND UNATTENDED BY US, HER SEED. WITH SICKLE, PLOUGH AND GROPING HANDS, WE TOUCH HER, ENSHROUD HER WITH FOUL MISTS AND BLACKENED LAND. BUT STILL HER SEED WILL GROW, HER ANCIENT BODY MOVEN INTO THE DUST.



Komiksoc's *Frontal Labotomy* - challenging the accepted concepts of art

Komiksoc is always looking for contributions, scripts, artwork or the disjointed ramblings of your mind in the form of comics and insanity. They don't feel that you have to be professional, just good. All you need is originality, artwork, a photostating machine and a mind.

"Comics aren't difficult, you can draw a frame over breakfast," says Jessie. "As long as you do your own thing and aren't affected by what you've already seen and read" (ie: no budding Judge Dreddlings!)

Komiksoc's latest addition to their arsenal of frenzied, full frontal assault on the ageing bastions of apathy and tradition is *Crisp Whore*. Due out soon it promises to be a whirlwind trip in sequential insanity.



Michael Carlin

THE arts were firmly placed on South Africa's agenda when a broad number of artists gathered at Wits University in December last year to launch the National Arts Initiative (NAI).

A number of staff members and students from Rhodes attended the historic meeting.

It is quite an awe-inspiring experience to see a genuine attempt at making democracy work, and this was clearly one of the aims of the South African arts community. The National Arts Policy Plenary (Napp) was the gathering which launched the NAI, bringing together nearly 1000 arts practitioners, educators, organisations and institutions.

These delegates met with the aim of putting into motion a process to formulate recommendations for arts policies, structures and funding mechanisms to develop and protect the arts in a democratic South Africa.

The diversity of people attending the Plenary was striking: actors, directors, dancers, musicians, writers, film-makers, teachers, students, creative groups, representatives from the Performing Arts Councils, museums, galleries, community arts centres... They came from all over the country, from the big cities and the tiny townships.

The Plenary was only the starting point of a long process, and perhaps one of the most exciting outcomes of the meeting was the organisation of regional meetings to be held later this month, and the establishment of working groups and networking committees.

The regional meetings will attempt to draw in a much broader range of participants into the process, and it is here that people will be elected to each working group.

Working groups have been set up to examine and research nine areas, namely:

Focus on arts

Theatre, Music, Literature, Dance, Film/Video, Visual Arts and Crafts, Funding of the Arts, Arts Education Policy, and Art in Community Context. Rhodes Drama Department head, Prof Gary Gordon, has been elected as the National Convenor for dance.

The process will culminate in a National Convention of the Arts to be held in December 1993.

The Plenary was opened by the chairperson of the Steering Committee, Professor Njabulo Ndebele, who suggested that the NAPP was about freedom, democracy and equality in the arts.

He pointed out there was a sharp contrast between the 'powerful' and the 'powerless' in the arts today, the former being "manifest in extravagant architecture like the Nico Malan, the State Theatre and the Civic".

He suggested the time was drawing to a close for a concentration on buildings with huge maintenance costs, rather than on people.

Obstacles to allowing maximum participation in the Plenary were eliminated. Delegates who could not afford transport or accommodation in Johannesburg could apply for "bursaries" from the steering committee, thanks to generous sponsorship of the Plenary.

A Statement of Intent, adopted by 90 percent of delegates, was read in six different languages before discussion took place - English, Sotho, Xhosa, Zulu, Afrikaans, and Shangaan.

In adopting the Statement of Intent, delegates committed themselves to five basic principles, including the resolve that the

arts "should not be dictated to or controlled by the state or party political interests".

According to the Statement the NAI also has a "commitment to freedom of expression, freedom to criticise and freedom to hold opposing views without fear of victimisation or censorship".

The Statement was not adopted without raging debate; some semantic detail, and some clear political powerplay. The Federation of South African Cultural Organisations (Fosaco) attacked both the means and aims of the plenary, accusing the steering committee of attempting to "railroad through" the whole process.

It soon became clear, however, that Fosaco had its own agenda, wanting to control the process themselves. As this became increasingly obvious, they were rejected by the other delegates and boo-ed from the microphone.

This was probably the greatest threat to the democratic process, but it was handled sensitively by the chairperson, and the Statement was finally adopted.

Besides adopting the Statement and agreeing to the briefs for the working committees, delegates also established discipline-based networks, and elected a new steering committee for the NAI. Prof Ndebele was re-elected as chairperson.

Regional committees were also elected to organise the regional conference. The Eastern Cape meeting will take place on March 20 in Grahamstown. All people involved in the arts in any way are welcome to attend, and should contact Carl Johnson at 25117.

Outward bound

RHODES campus finally rolls into the 20th century with RHODEO's first regular gay and lesbian column. 'scuse the pun. In the coming months we plan to inject some much-needed understanding about sexuality into all you thinking main-liners. The plan is to expand mid-year into a beefy supplement, if reaction is positive. (or even if it isn't.)

Anyone who wonders why we need our own column need only have glanced at the EP Herald on Thursday, February 25. Headline news: "Police Captain charged with homosexual activity". The evidence, which stood up in court, was acquired by hiding in a closet, and at the opportune moment, bursting out and photographing him giving his lover a blow-job. Whatever happened to privacy? Check your closets folks, you never know who might come tumbling out. 10 to 1 the pictures go missing too.

Homosexuality is still illegal in this country. While the rest of the world moves toward greater tolerance, once again we stick doggedly to archaic Calvinistic ideas. It has to change. If we are to be anything better than we have been, we need to chuck out all this judgemental nonsense and start accepting individuals as legitimate human beings. Black, white and, yes, pink. Enough! Let's just get on with it. There is fun to be had too.

Contributions for the column will come, not just from here, but from correspondents in the UK and the US as well. Your dedicated team is presently setting up an exchange of articles with a Canadian campus, and we hope to include a regular cartoon in the next issue, so budding pixie artists, give us a call at RHODEO. We want sedition.

Helping to keep the Aids issue alive, the Red Ribbon Initiative continues, distributing ribbons to wear as an acknowledgement of the continuing tragedy. It culminates in an Aids Awareness Week at the beginning of April. The Grahamstown Aids Forum will be co-ordinating the week, and anyone wanting info can get hold of Kevin Kelly through the Psychology Department.

Next month we want to highlight incidents, both good and bad, involving gay people on campus or in town. So, feed that RHODEO postbox. There will also be a report of the Sexuality Tolerance Education Programme's first get together and party, as well as details about the next one. So, as the pixies might say, stick around and spread... the word.

Then there were the serious societies (for those fanatics or slightly-more-than-insane individuals out there).

Photosoc, Filmsoc, Ballroom Dancing, Bridge, Bell Ringingsoc, Hang Your Tortoise From The Nearest Streetlightsoc, and the I Want To Learn How To Repair Garters And Gutters Soc.

Oh yes, and apparently Rhodes now has a Literary Society (I can't wait for the Ill-Literacy Society - then again there's always Zimsoc). The list goes on.

Bellringing Soc

They all attracted a fair amount of attention, showing students' typically diverse (and perverse) interests.

I was quite surprised to see a couple I had noticed earlier signing up at the Thinking Strings table also join the Ballroom Dancing society. I guess I didn't think hard enough. Perhaps they were just Dancing puppets on a String.

As I was about to give my ballpoint pen and a piece of dry wots to someone else and go home, I overheard a comment that seemed to wrap it all up. Passing the BDI table I heard somebody complain: "It's such a struggle doing all this". The reply? "The struggle is relative." Why, naturally.

Strings, struggle, sosaties

Taryn Cass, Liz Kirk & Ross Edwards

AFTER stumbling around Grahamstown's only campus for an impromptu tour - the hundredth on another hot and sweaty armpit day - I arrived at the seventeenth wonder of the world, Rhodes' Great (looking) Hall.

I was proud of myself. I found it in under 40 minutes.

I took the advice of some of the posters put up in all the usual and unusual places on campus. Astrosoc had me looking up (gave me something interesting to do in all those boring Arts Major lectures), BD-eyes opened my mind and the Thinking Strings invited me to decipher their graphics.

All requested me to be there. They called it Societies' Evening. A couple of biltong-wielding friends from near the Vaal called it Sosaties' Evening. Frankly I didn't know which to expect.

I walked into pandemonium. As I entered, a blast of Reggae music assaulted my ears. A red, green and yellow dreadlocked person attacked me. "Join the Reggae Soc, mahn," the Jah-rasta-disciple drawled at me, waving a form in my face and promising "all dem nights on a tropical island mahn, with green leaves and soothing smoke mahn."

This was the first of many form-waving individuals I had to wade through. You have to be fussy if you want to emerge with more than a few copper 10c pieces in your

soothing smoke

pocket. It costs money to join the Thinking Strings (Stinking Things?) - even if they do claim to be the only alternative society on campus, they still haven't come up with an alternative to money.

Societies ranged from the exclusive "No, you can only join Rotex if you have been an exchange student, we don't arrange overseas trips," to the almost aggressive "What will you say when your children ask



We want you!

what you did to further the struggle? Join Sasco and belong to a totally non-racial, non-sexist society dedicated to the formation of a democratic Ruth First University. Join now!"

For those of the religious turn of mind there were the SCF, Methsoc, Cathsoc, (not to be confused with the Traditional Catholic Association), Bahai', HSS and MSA (Hindu and Muslim students' associations respectively), and Saujs.

I was confused. I paused at the Bhakti Yoga and Vegetarian Society's table, tried

the rather nice vegi dish they had on offer, and caught my breath.

At the Gear table I was examined from head to toe to see if I was enviro-friendly before they told me I had to buy a calendar in order to Save Our Seas.

The calendar looked user-friendly so I bought it. Next move - out of there like a ceramic engine or a catalytic convertor choking on unleaded petrol.

the call of a bottle of wine

So, before they cornered me for wearing a synthetic fabric that probably cost three thousand feet of rain forest to manufacture, I did.

I was interested in joining the Wine Tasting Society, you know, get a little culture and make the parents proud of me. And maybe force myself into the odd piss-up.

The price scared (pissed) me off. Forty rand is forty rand, and the immediate lure of the Vic is stronger than the call of a bottle of wine. (Even if it is better than the dregs they give you at those "cheese and wines").

Then there was Zimsoc, the Ultimate Party.

"Mr Blak-Nadder, I have a cunning plan". Sound like a video from the British Humour Society? "No, Baldrick, this is the real world we're talking about and yes Zimsoc is a registered society".

Getting responses wasn't a problem even if the Zimsoc public relations officer did frighten off any eager (or veteran) potential members with the rather unexpected: "There will not be as much booze as usual this year".

Even more unexpected, he managed to string together a coherent sentence.

Taking the advice of at least three wise and all-knowing second years, who evidently remembered nothing from various Zimsoc functions in the past, I joined up.

Birds of a feather

A roving student-journo recently stumbled onto a collection of crazed-out University of Cape Town Students intent on bringing music of a whackier sort to near-comatose students.

RHODEO spoke to P-J Smith from *Penguins In Africa* after the final concert of the band's 'Beaching and Preaching' tour in Grahamstown.

How long has the band been in existence?

Since March 1991 with three members to the present group of six (since January 1992).

Who are the Penguins?

Well I'm 21, a Zimbo and a British National. There's also Colin Vincent, 20, Oli French, 20, Scott Marques, 20, a Portugese National, Audrey Kureva, 20, and Andrew Beared, 20. We're all Zimbabweans studying at UCT with degrees ranging from a BA, an HDE, Fine Art, a BComm and two BSc's.

Any previous tours?

Yeah, June/July 1992 in Zimbabwe. The 'Red River Tour'.

The run-down on the 'Beaching and Preaching' tour - where, when, what, how and why?

February 1993, the Eastern Cape. We played in Port Elizabeth, East London and Grahamstown to schools, universities, churches and prisons. It was a ten-day tour of 16 concerts. As an unknown band we had to work hard and be prepared to go and find a captive audience, show them our stuff, and only then expect them to come along to a main concert. The next time we're here it'll be easier, I'm sure.

P-J, why call yourselves Penguins in Africa?

Slips off the tongue easier than 'Hyenas In Mongolia'.

I've heard the Penguins called a "bunch of mad and hyperactive Zimbos" by some. Watching the way you leap around stage, swinging from ropes and singing anything from 50s swing to reggae blues I don't blame them. Do you think you have something unique to offer a specifically South African audience?

As far as music goes, we accommodate most people's tastes in a varied line up of reggae, blues, rock, ballads and a touch of rap. As far as stage-act goes, we just act ourselves, have fun and entertain the audience.

For relatively young people you seem to have done pretty well for yourselves, but wouldn't you make more money and gain a greater following by keeping religion a personal once-a-week Sunday affair?

Probably. But I don't want to "play church". I mean Christianity either radically changes lives or it doesn't. Either Hell, Heaven, Jesus and Satan etc are real or they aren't. Nowhere in the Bible is there any mention of a personal keep-it-to-myself religion.

Do you think you have anything different to say from all those other trendy young aspiring student musician bands out there?

Most definitely. Most other bands directly/indirectly promote an immoral, Godless lifestyle. We preach repentance from that way of life because sin ruins lives as well as separates us from God for eternity. Our message is that through being washed of your sins in the blood of Jesus you can escape the death penalty of sin and enjoy eternal life.

Well, do you ever get opposition to such a bold message?

People who speak the truth are never particularly popular and often get put in their place - with nails if necessary.

The songs. Do you write them all yourselves?

Yes, all the stuff we sing is ours.

Your lyrics come across as powerful and emotionally moving. Is that out of some deep rooted feeling in yourselves or just because it works for a live audience?

Thinking stings?

RHODEO Reporter

IT'S sick I know, but be honest with yourself: When that El Al jet hit those tower blocks in Amsterdam, did any part of you feel envy? Jealous that you didn't see it yourself?

Perhaps you'd been having recurring dreams for years about being in a plane as it crashed into a building, the fire, the smoke, the panic, the noise, the slow cold feeling in your stomach as your life flashed before your eyes.

If you're willing to admit this, than you're in some way closer to understanding the appeal of the tHINKING sTRINGS' cheese & wine (no cheese and very little

wine, but what do you expect on R100 a year budget).

Those who showed up added their sweat, fear and excitement to an evening which blew all normal conceptions of a cheese & wine away. An evening which easily vied with the Moscow Circus for the most exciting event ever seen in G-Town.

With an advertising campaign which rivaled that of Kwaga Lager (never heard of them either !!!), the sTRINGS managed to keep over 80 "dyed in the head metalheads, cyberpunks, techno-goths and the occasional Cathsoc member" waiting in the corridor as they fine-tuned their projectors, FX-boxes, PA systems and technophiles into an "alternative denial" machine.

I was sharing a cigarette with a cute goth binnet (translation:woman) when the nor-



mal computer chatter of the SRC offices erupted into a "gloomladen techno-core sound" - not unlike the exorcist being screened at a slaughterhouse.

The door opened and we were let in.

Inside the normally sedate RA Room, machines hummed and squealed in alarm, somebody had pressed the panic button. Reason was out to lunch and Ministry was back in control.

Without even a pause for digestive purposes, a merchant of hysteria with flashing red eyebrows (matched only by his tie), launched into a non-stop barrage of dislocated visuals.

The haunting vocals of a spanish medium contacting long-gone spirits then competed with Burroughs-like infinitive ramblings for attention in a limited space called a mind. Spectators' comments: "He probably got beat up too often at school and likes the feeling of hysteria".

Finally the mob, who had been restrained for too long, let loose.

Once again Ministry was in control and we were transported into a world where "Jesus is an architect of hot-rod culture". A world where young men and a few ladies ram their bodies into each other in a celebration of freedom.

Back in the real world it was nine o'clock and Jourgenson and Baker had to be home before bed-time, leaving us battered and bewildered by the ear-piercing silence.



No, not because it works live (although I'm glad it does). Our lyrics are funny, challenging and people wanna hear them; of course they will effect some emotions - life and death issues usually do.

Christians are often perceived as staid, cardboard and downright boring. Do you think that Christian musicians should be any different?

Well I think everyone should be different from staid, cardboard and downright boring. Christian musicians such as us must present our message in an unoffensive manner ie. not preaching hell and damnation but simply laying the cards on the table. I don't believe that a true spirit-filled Christian can be boring.

How do you feel about what you're doing - bringing a message of hope to a young generation that's become very cynical about things with any real meaning in life, basically anything that lasts beyond the next high - basically anything that lasts at all?

True christianity isn't a permanent high. A "penguins" concert lasts two hours. Jesus/Christianity lasts a lifetime. We aim to leave people with something that lasts.

Do you have any definite plans about the future, some sort of guiding philosophy about how you live your daily lives? Or do you just take each day as it comes (in that vague trendy musician sort of way)?

"Penguins" will never just quieten down into a musical band. We will always be on the radical fringe of Christianity. But there again, having the King of Kings as your best-mate is pretty radical.

With this tour complete, and a new university year begun, where do "Penguins In Africa" go from here?

We cut our first album in May 1993 in Port Elizabeth. That's the next step.

P-J, anything you'd like to leave to those adoring fans of yours out there with?

Yeah, a tape soon.

Review The Private Ear by Gerhard Hope

JUST when you thought that culture only descended upon Grahamstown during the Festival, along comes the Prompt Theatre Company to shake you out of your lethargy.

The Private Ear was billed as a "wacky, cracky, comedy about the nerd, the stenographer and the cook". The nerd is a bespectacled, beetle-like guy with a passion for classical music and Botticelli's Venus.

Awkwardly shy and burdened with a romantic nature, he thinks that he has found his ideal woman in the form of a young, bimbo-like typist. He invites her over to

his apartment.

In order to make the evening a success, the nerd brings in the services of his smooth-talking, womanising friend. A lovers' triangle quickly develops, with disastrous and yet strangely poignant consequences.

Leslie Erhardt, Viki Wilson and Robert McCarthy play their parts with gusto, but the material is limited, and there are awkward moments when the viewer feels that the characters have run out of things to say.

The funniest moment is the marvellous opening segment, and a hilarious scene at the end set to music from Madame Butterfly.

All in all an enjoyable production that made for a light-hearted evening's entertainment.



Enacting life

Samantha Keogh

THE mere mention of the Rhodes Drama Department seems, in the minds of many first year students, to conjure up images of a mystical, in-house society.

Once you have passed through the doors of the department you are deposited in a world of the unknown. The confidence of the more experienced members is disarming to the new student who gets the feeling of being out of place. Professor Gordon is however trying to omit this elitist attitude from the department.

I spoke to Professor Gary Gordon who told me about the happenings of the department. When asked the rather blatant question "What is going on in the department?" he replied, grinning: "A lot."

Various productions such as the Elizabethan Schools Programme, The Good Person of Szechwan, Edward the Second, the Dance Programme and the Children's Theatre Programme will give enthusiastic performers a chance to perform this year.

One of the Department's most interesting projects is the Adult Education Programme, an initiative to bring theatre to the people of Grahamstown.

Prof Gordon said dance classes started in the middle of February and this was the first medium to be used in this programme because of the number of teachers and post graduates available to teach it. The department also has the space to facilitate these classes.

The classes are presently made up mostly of Rhodes students but people from outside Rhodes are expected to join once word of the classes spreads.

Due to the relative seclusion of Grahamstown, Rhodes drama has received limited exposure. This makes opportunities such as the forthcoming Dance Umbrella in Johannesburg very exciting.

Gary Gordon, Lulu Kumalo and Andrew Buckland have all been asked to create works for this showcase. Lulu Kumalo was nominated Best Female Performer of 1992 and Gary Gordon is amongst only fifteen choreographers in South Africa to be asked to contribute a new work.

In closing, Gary Gordon said: "We like to bring the Grahamstown community to our theatre, but also go to the community provided we have the time because we do not like to spread ourselves too thin. That jeopardises the integrity of our courses."

It would seem not only the Department but all drama in Grahamstown is set for an explosive year.



Cut the Crap

by Robin Kelly

Besides the fact that few of the students interviewed on-and-about-in-and-out of campus knew enough about the station, I managed to get many opinions about RMR.

• The first question was whether or not RMR's musical choice actually catered for the students of Rhodes, and if not, how it could be improved.

Repeatedly, I heard the same old re"hash"ed, relaxed sphincter dribble:

"Too much techno"... "too much aciidd"... "too much house"... "uuuuuuu-"
"Um, yes, but, um, aah, they wouldn't take me."

"uurgghhh!"... "too black"... "too honky"
"...good music for all"... "bullshit!"...

Ahhh, I'm thrilled to be surrounded by student solutions. Maybe a collective whinge will move Kilimanjaro. Maybe.

The next question was especially designed for those who fell flat on the first. I somehow knew that when you ask about how to improve RMR's music, students regurgitate like diarrhoea-stricken sheep.

So I asked if anybody would like to be a DJ, and what they would play to appease the masses:

I wondered - who would want to hear consecutive "umms" "aahs" "ummmms" and "aah" drifting through the air? Frank Sande?

"Yeah! I can play my own music."

Well, that solves that, I guess.

"No, I can't speak english"

(PS - I translated this myself, from the English, to the English, so that you, the reader, can understand what he said - in English!) Actually, come to think of it, RMR could cater for the non-english, english speaking students, I guess?

"Yes, I'd cater for a wider audience..."

How wide I wondered? Gospel? Goombay Dance Band? The Pygmy House Quadraplegics?

"No, no, none of that bullshit. It isn't rage music..."

Well, what is?

"Revolting Cocks"

Right. You said it. But is that a self description or the collective title of a band of misanthropic vagrants? I dunno 'bout your sexual music preferences, but that caters for me, I guess.

Now, in light of the ludicrous attempt to broadcast for a consecutive 394 very long hours, I tried to find out how many students would tune into RMR, instead of, say, Radio 5.

"Of course I would, but if they play Please Don't Go again, I'm gone."

Agreed. Only pothole in the path is that it's difficult to find a frequency that doesn't lambast you with three-worded, three-chorded nursery rhymes.

"Yeah, I never listen to it but I would 'cause I've never really heard it and if they played pigshit I'd just tune back into Radio 5."

OK. But, the concept of artiodactyls hovering in the skies above and defecating on the airwaves, is a bit crappy that I'm sure no decent radio station would ever attempt it.

"Yes, it would be like that Pump Up The Volume movie. It would be nice if we could phone in and talk about what pissed us off during the day."

Great. Now RMR can broaden it's scope and broadcast the moans, gripes 'n groans of insomniacs, students and other sick people.

Once again the article ends, and I'm none the wiser for it. Kaif is deserted. Some DJ in the RMR studio believes that the final, brilliant glints of sunset must be spent over-dosing on slow, soft-cock (Shit! I mean Rock.) music. To conclude yet another instalment in our continuing series on the state of the collective mind... Deaf people do it without radio.

Twinkle, Twinkle RMR...how we wonder where UR?

Is it a piece of old chicken? Is this a cigarette butt wedged between my..., um, am I really sitting on an ashtray, or is this a chair? How am I ever going to concentrate on the lyrical sound waves of RMR, when I'm sitting in the nucleus of student armageddon - Kaif.

Conducting a vox on how desirable or disastrous RMR is, and was, proved a very difficult task.

Why? Well, finding students to interrogate proved to be no problem. But hell, everybody said that nobody really got to hear much of the station's music, messages or mysterious DJ's.

RMR is an excellent student radio station with well-chosen jocks, but are there no other places (besides the post-apocalyptic Kaif and the occasional, overcrowded union bash) where we can marvel over their transmitting talents?

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.

S P O R T I N G RHODEO

Paki power show Rugby - the cost of contact

Kameshnee Naidoo and
Karl Delport

CRICKET fans were treated to a feast of cricket last month when South Africa participated in the Total International Cricket Series with Pakistan and the West Indies.

The series kicked off in King'smead, Durban, with SA playing the world champions, Pakistan. The South Africans had worked themselves into a winning position with nine wickets in hand at a run-rate of over five runs in the last ten overs, before they were 'blitz-krieged' by the Pakistani pace duo - Waqar Younis and Wasim Akram. Younis bowled at the blistering speed of 144 km/h. Though Hudson top scored with a magnificent 93, the day belonged to Younis, who seemed to get better with each ball he bowled.

The South Africans proved their resilience and determination when they rose from the depths of defeat to win against the Windies at St Georges Park, only to succumb again to "Paki Power" after having once more worked themselves into

a winning position. Akram and Younis once more proved to be the danger men, getting the better of the South African batters.

After their exciting grandstand finishes on their previous matches against both Pakistan and the West Indies, the South Africans bowed out of the series with a fizzle when they lost by nine wickets to the Windies, with Brian Lara top-scoring with 111 not out.

Throughout the entire series, SA's weak middle-order has been exposed. The top batters have either been getting out cheaply or scoring runs slowly, thereby creating a pressure on the middle-order. Perhaps the most positive aspect of the series has been the maturity of Hansie Cronje, who has developed into an exciting all-rounder. His magnificent 81 in East London and again a brilliant 31 in Cape Town showed that he can face world class bowlers.

He is also fast becoming an important bowler in the side. His 3-27 against the West Indies, taking the crucial wicket of Courtenay Walsh, earned him "Man of the Match" award. He has no doubt developed

into a mature young player who will be a great asset to the SA team.

The South Africans' enthusiasm and "never-say-die" attitude surprised both the Pakistanis and the West Indians. They proved they could pull themselves out of the depths of despair when they rose from the ashes against the West Indians at Newlands.

West Indian skipper Richie Richardson said, "South Africa's fielders are the best in the world," with Jonty Rhodes no doubt at the forefront with great support from Cronje, Callaghan and Donald. With a stronger middle-order and strike bowlers in the calibre of Waqar Younis and Allan Donald, SA can develop into the leading one-day side in international cricket.

After having spent 27 years out in the cold and a hectic international series, the words of SA coach Mike Procter, best sums up the series, "We were up against two of the best sides in the world. In retrospect, we did pretty well to win two out of six."

Rugby - the cost of contact

Bob Jordan

A preliminary study conducted in the Rhodes Psychology Department has found that rugby players tend to score lower in tests of certain aspects of memory and dexterity as compared to participants in other none contact sports.

The Psychology Honours research paper, supervised by Senior Lecturer Anne Jordan, was conducted on a sample of 60 Rhodes University rugby players. Tests of short term verbal memory, working memory and hand motor dexterity, were used to investigate what effects the past rugby season has had on a group of players.

The tests were performed over a three month period during and after the rugby season, on compared to similar tests performed on people involved in none contact sports.

The test results provide com-

elling evidence of the damaging effect that contact sport can have on a player's mental functioning. Contrary to popular belief, even players who have not suffered from concussion are still likely to incur damage due to repetitive bumps on the head.

"In the case of concussion it appears that deficits are present up to three months post injury, and may in some instances be permanent," Jordan said.

She feels these findings are important, considering the integral role rugby plays in the upbringing of most South African men. She warned of the potentially hazardous effects on a student's academic achievements.

Rhodes Senior Sports Officer, Steve Olivier, said: "We will note the contents of Mrs Jordan's paper with interest, however, until we have been able to read the full paper, we are not in a position to comment."

The pump-house gang

Jane Fonda eat this!

Carmel Musiker

WHAT began with a select and motivated few puffing in time to the voices of Jane Fonda and Victoria Principal has grown into the jumping, pulsing mass-addiction of aerobics.

This fixation has been facilitated by the recent development of power bench, circuit training, and high and low impact aerobics.

A visit to any gym, whether a big city Health and Racket club or small town gym will bring one into contact with a mass of enthusiastic bodies caught up in the 'spell' of aerobics.

The appeal seems to be universal. Male and female, young and old, their initial curiosity rapidly develops into daily determination. What exactly are the attractions underlying this addiction?

relaxing and enjoyable

For the majority of fans, aerobics is a relaxing and enjoyable activity. It provides a chance to "get away from it all" - a form of escapism from tension and worry.

Qanita Rustin, a Psychology honours student, points out some additional bonuses:

"You can feel results, the gentle toning of muscles without the ache, the cleansing of your system as you drip with perspiration. Aero-

bics is personal not a team commitment.

"You can work at your own pace, on the body parts of your choice," she says.

public scrutiny

But the enjoyment and relaxation are not always shared by aerobics instructors. Some feel public scrutiny and criticism detract from the enjoyable aspects of the activity. There is continual pressure to look appealing and perform the movements correctly.

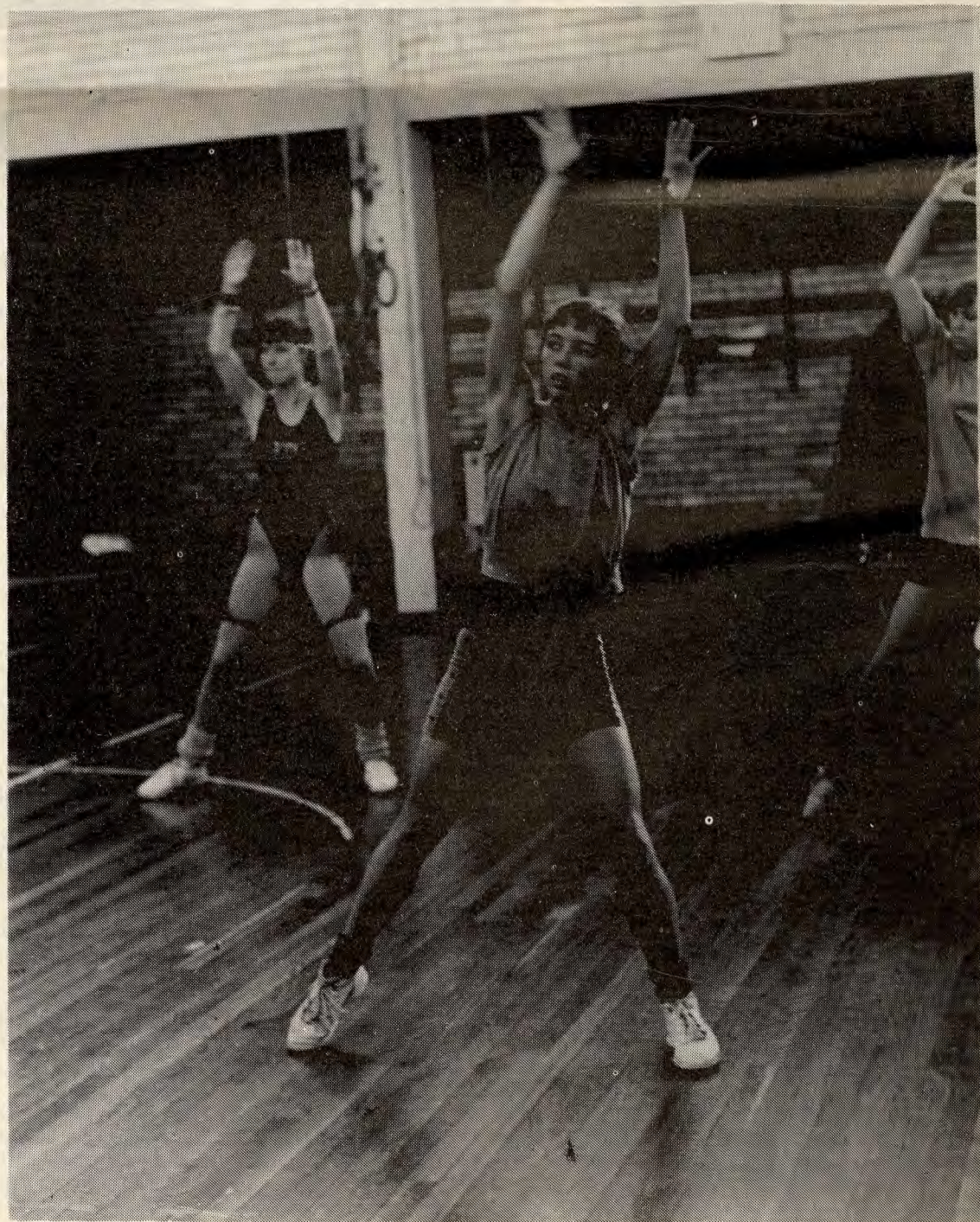
Simone Musgrave, an instructor at the Karate and Fitness Centre agrees, but she still sees aerobics as an excellent way of maintaining fitness and figure.

the 'high'

Perhaps what emerges as a dominant motivator is the feeling of euphoria accompanying the exercise, the so-called "runners' high".

There have been attempts to explain this 'high' in terms of factors such as endorphin levels. The research continues.

And so does the compulsion to do aerobics, and more and more aerobics.



Raising your hands and your heartbeat

Pic: Elnett Oelofse