

NUMBER 1 1993

UPBEAT

R2.00
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The magazine for youth on the move



THIS ISSUE

THE SISTERS
OF HIP HOP

COLLECTOR OF TREASURES—
NEW 5 PAGE COMIC

YOUR RIGHTS —
CHILDREN IN JAIL

DISCOVER THE WORLD OF
COMPUTERS

FREE CALENDAR ● WIN RECORD VOUCHERS

Dear Readers,

Welcome to Upbeat 1993! A new school year is underway. We all hope that the coming year will bring better things; new friends, an exciting romance, success at school and an end to the violence and uncertain future in our country.

We all have it in us to make change to our lives. Listen, learn and ask questions. Don't be left behind because you don't understand. That's the theme of our calendar this year. And it's FREE inside this issue of Upbeat.

Our leaders have said that there will be free elections this year. But many people don't know how to vote. Don't be in the dark. Upbeat will be running stories all about voting this year. Don't miss the first article on page 14.

For many people the world of computers seems too complicated. In a three part series, Upbeat will tell you all about the exciting world of computers. You could also win a fantastic IBM computer worth R3 000. Discover the world of computers on page 20.

And don't miss our great new comic on page 26. *Collector of Treasure* is a classic African short story by Bessie Head. It tells the story of Dikeledi, a young woman who lived in a village in Botswana. For many years this story has shocked readers. The comic captures the drama and horror of Dikeledi's remarkable courage.

Don't be without Upbeat this year. We've got lots of great new stories lined up. Subscribe or get Upbeat delivered to your school. Find out how to get Upbeat quickly and easily each month, on page 6.

Enjoy the issue!

Harriet

Upbeat is published by SACHED.
SACHED is an educational organisation, committed to building democratic education in South Africa. SACHED runs a number of educational projects. Upbeat is one of them.

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Salif Keita

the singer from Mali

*Meet Cathy, the
schoolgirl mum*

Pimple Problems

*Win a Salif Keita
cassette*

*Fabulous fashions
in Durbs*

issue

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OUR RIGHTS - CHILDREN IN JAIL
OVER THE WORLD OF COMPUTERS

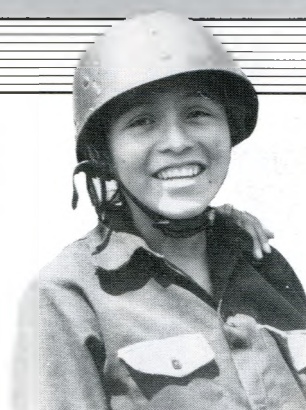
WIN RECORD VOUCHERS

Cape Town rappers; from left to right: Berenise, Joanne C, Monna.
Photograph by Anna Zieminski

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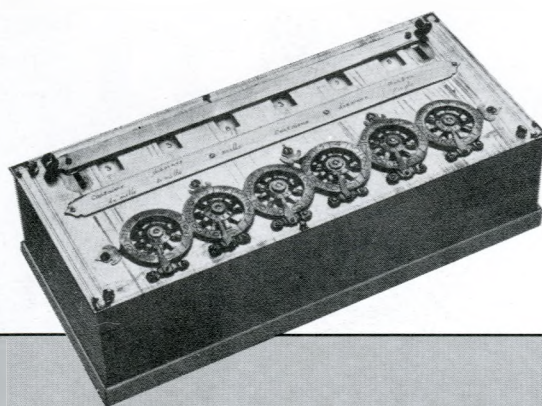
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CHILDREN

By Michelle Saffer

There are more than 4 000 children in jail in South Africa. They are being held in terrible conditions. Upbeat reports.

Two twelve-year old children were waiting for their mother outside school. Suddenly the police arrived and arrested them. The police said they had stolen a bicycle. Twenty-four hours later Priscilla McKay of the Child Welfare Society saw them in police cells. The children were terrified. They were crying. They had been put in a cell with adults who had beaten them. Later that day, the children were released. The police dropped all charges against them.

Jack is in Pollsmoor Prison in Cape Town. We have changed his name to protect him. 'I'm here five months awaiting trial,' says Jack. 'I was afraid when I first came to prison. Prison is a very dangerous place for young people. When something happens here, you are not allowed to talk. You just say

you never saw anything. I just want to get out of here. I want to go home.'

'Children who are awaiting trial shouldn't be in jail at all,' says Rosemary Shapiro of Nicro in Cape Town. Michelle Morris of the Youth Advocacy Unit agrees: 'Children are not protected when they are in jail. There are many reports of rape and assault. Buzzers and alarms in cells for calling the warders are useless. When a child is overpowered and threatened with death, there is nothing he can do. There is no way of making children in jail absolutely safe.'

LIVING IN A CAGE

Conditions for children in prison are very bad. Often cells are overcrowded. Lawyers and social workers found 60 children in one cell at

Child-care workers are saying, 'No child should be caged.'



IN JAIL

Most of the information in this story comes from a report called *Justice for Children*, by Michelle Morris of the Community Law Centre at the University of the Western Cape.

Pollsmoor. There was just one toilet in the middle of the grey, cement floor.

Children have to sleep on the floor, often with only a used and dirty blanket for warmth. Children usually have to wear the clothes they were arrested in, even when they are ragged and dirty.

'It is like a cage in jail,' says Rosemary. 'Children are allowed only half an hour of exercise out of their cells. And when they go out, they go into a courtyard with four high walls and not a blade of grass. In the cells, there is nothing for children to read. They are given their last meal at 2 or 3 o'clock in the afternoon. So they do things they shouldn't do like selling their bodies for food.'

IN COURT

Neville Snyman was 13 when he was arrested for stealing. His mother couldn't come to court but his aunt was there. The magistrate refused to release Neville into the care of his aunt. So he was kept at the Robertson prison. A month later Neville was dead. He had been raped and beaten. He died when his cell mates jumped on him and injured him internally.

In court most children do not know or understand what is happening to them. This is wrong. Michelle Morris says, 'We think that most children's cases should be heard in the children's court. People in the children's courts, know best



Often children are kept in jail in crowded and unhealthy conditions.

how to deal with children's problems. More cases would go there, if children had lawyers to represent them.'

GET US OUT OF HERE

The way the law works for children does not stop crime. Rather, it results in child abuse and turns children into hardened criminals.

'We are saying the police and the prisons are not doing their duty. They must care for the children in jail,' Michelle explains. 'We want to see emergency children's courts. We want ALL children to have lawyers in court. We call on the government to do something about the number of children in jail. We call on them to hear the plea of the children in jail. The children all said, "Please get us out of here."'◀

What the Department of Correctional Services says:

'The Department is aware that jail is not a good place for children. At the moment there is a high-level government investigation into children in jail. We try, by all means, to find other places where awaiting-trial children can be held. But when children are held in prison, we try to keep them in cells with children of the same age. They are definitely not kept in groups of 60. We call on parents and organisations that work with children to help us to stop crime. This is the best way to limit the number of children in jail. About Neville Snyman's case - he was held with 8 other children at the Robertson Prison. Their ages ranged from 12 to 18 years. A case of murder is being investigated against four of these juveniles.'

WINNING SCHOOL



There were great celebrations at Pudimong High School, in Taung. They were the lucky winners of the Upbeat subscribers competition. Now they are the proud owners of a Sony radio cassette worth R300. Upbeat travelled to Pudimong High in Taung, to present the prize to the school.

UPBEAT
DELIVERS
TO SCHOOLS

Can you sometimes not find the latest copy of Upbeat? Here's some good news! We can arrange for Upbeat to be delivered to your school! All you have to do is collect the money beforehand and we will deliver the magazine to your school. So teachers and students, don't delay! If you are interested in this scheme, contact Amanda De Lilly at; Upbeat, P O Box 11350, Johannesburg 2000. Tel: (011) 333-9746.

HOLIDAY FUN



UPBEAT DAYS UMGENI RIVER

Students from Injoloba High and Merrivale Intermediate School had a fun day at the Umgeni Valley Project at one of Upbeat's holiday events. Conservation officers Dumisani Koalane and Wayne Peddie, helped to

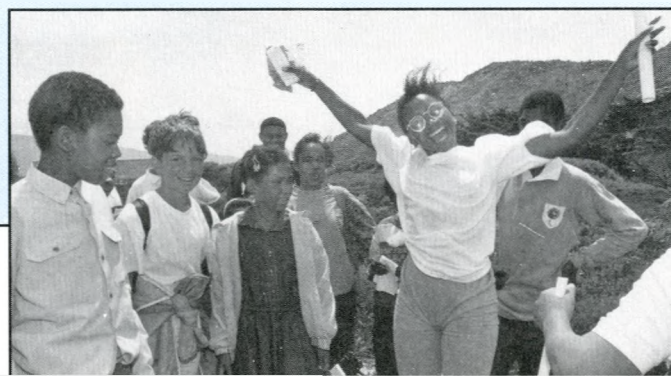
make the day exciting. Students learnt about the nutrient cycle, parasitism and different types of plants. Patrick Zuma, one of the students, said, 'This was learning that did not seem like school at all!'

CAPE TOWN

During the holidays, Upbeat readers came from all over the Cape Peninsula to have fun and learn about the environment. There was an exciting treasure hunt at Kommetjie, where students had clues

that led to a prize. Patrick Downing, the organiser, used the hunt to explain how nature works.

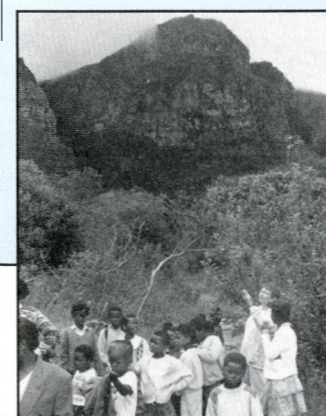
Other Upbeat readers were at the Kirstenbosch National Gardens. Joy Abrahams showed students how she and



Upbeat, together with the Weekly Mail, organised two fun film events last year. Young people from Soweto and Alexandra townships enjoyed watching Charlie Chaplin and his antics on screen. But the best part came when the students tried making films themselves. After a little practise and a few false starts, the films were done. Then it was time to watch them. Everyone had lots of laughs.



her friends were cleaning up the gardens. They have been trying to get rid of alien plants. Later they went on a hike through Newlands forest and enjoyed a delicious lunch.



UPBEAT WINNERS

Mcebisi Totobela won Upbeat's Senior Short Story Competition.

When we told him that he had won, Mcebisi said, 'You're pulling my leg. It can't be true.' But it was true. Mcebisi is looking forward to his R100 prize and the book pack he won for his story called, 'The Neighbourhood'. Read Mcebisi's winning story on page 22.

Last year Upbeat/ The Story Teller Group ran a comic competition. Here are the lucky winners.

1st prize of R500:

Saaid Rahbeeni, Kensington Cape

2nd prizes of R250:

S'fiso Inose Ngobo, Hilton

10 runners-up

Tendani Ramovha and

Gladwin Ramaboe, Venda;

Blossom Mavuso, Kwa-Dlangezwa;

Robin Hermanus, Brackenfell;

Richard M. Moholola, Lonsdale;

Craig Masters, Vredehoek;

Donald Ngunyana, Saulsville;

Std 9 students at

Barnato Park High School, Hillbrow;

Russel T. Ngobeni, Soekmekaar;

Ndvebo S. Gqomo, New Brighton;

Ignatius Koena, Sebokeng.

FREE OFFER FOR TEACHERS

With every issue of Upbeat, you can get FREE teachers' exercises. These are fun classroom activities which develop reading, writing, comprehension skills and much more. They will help you plan and prepare lessons using Upbeat. For your FREE copy of teachers' exercises contact:

Amanda de Lilly,
UpBeat
P O Box 11350,
Johannesburg 2000

WELL DONE TO ALL THE WINNERS!

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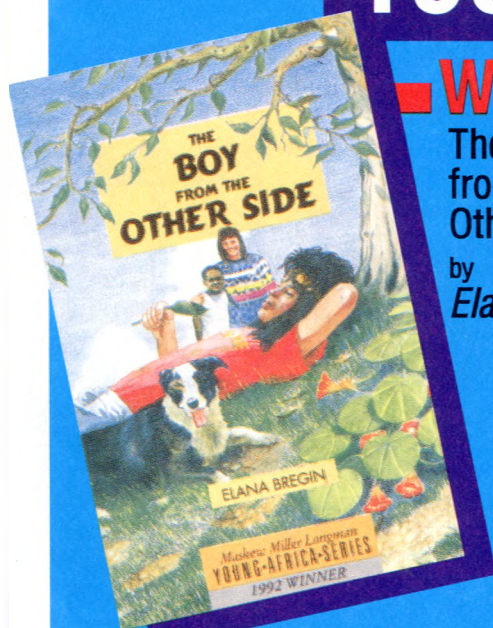
Young • Africa • Awards

1992

Winner

The Boy from the Other Side

by **Elana Bregin**



Lora has to learn that running away from life's problems only turns one into yet another casualty of a divided society. But taking care of things on your own is not that simple either. This is the story of how Lora, her 'brother' Sparrow, and Gabriel, the stranger from Nomansland, cross the divides of fear into friendship.

Runner-up

The Red Blanket

by **Nellie de Swardt**



Available at bookshops now!

As a small boy, Mvulani, the son of a murdered chief, had to flee from his home to save his life. This book tells of a young man's long and difficult road back to his people and his birthright. His journey through two worlds is one which many South African readers will recognise.

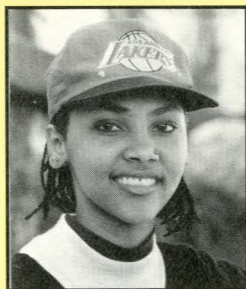


Maskew Miller Longman

For further information or entry forms for the 1993 competition, phone Fairuz Parker (021) 531-7750

THE SISTERS OF HIP HOP

BY SHAMIEL ADAMS



Berenise, - rap singer with E=MC2

Popular female rap singers. From left to right: Joanne C, Berenise, and Monna

The Cape Town hip hop scene is bustling with talent. But there is something missing - women rappers. Where are they? Upbeat went to find them.

Berenise and Nicky perform with the rap group, E=MC2. They say that there are no local female rappers who have made it big. 'And we just can't identify with female singers like Karieka Kuesenkamp. I am sure she doesn't even know what hip hop is,' Nicky says.

E=MC2 makes their point even more strongly in their song 'Revenge.'

what they want.

Cosmo, another female rapper, has just finished her matric. 'I think women allow themselves to be stepped on,' she says. 'They have talent and there are opportunities. Women must stand up for themselves. They must use the talent they have.'

Hip hop activists, male and female, agree that something needs to be done. So, in August last year, they organised a girls' only show at The Base. It was a great success! Hip hop fans keep asking when they will do it again.

So look out, Prophets of the City and Dominator of All Sound, the sisters are rapping on your door. ◀

*'Taking revenge on all you guys
Prepare for a sister who's too damn wise.
I won't be fooled by the tales you sell.
This here sister is straight from hell.
Brace yourself 'cause I got the juice.
Respect what I want, watch me get loose.
You know what it is you've done to the sisters
Whipped us, kicked us, now it's time for some justice.
Get with this, beware, male supremists, take care.
The story of my life could become your worst nightmare.'*

3rd Party is another popular all-girls rap group. They have been around for 18 months. Joanne C and Monna, two members of the group, say, 'We are determined to spread our message of liberation for all women. 3rd Party takes 'no shorts'. In hip hop jargon that means, they go after

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Win a R30 music voucher and buy your favourite music cassette. All you have to do is answer the following easy questions:

- 1** Who does Nicky perform with?
- 2** Name two rap artists who perform with 3rd Party.

Send your answers on a postcard to:

**Upbeat Hip Hop Competition
P O Box 11350
Johannesburg 2000**

CLOSING DATE: 31 MARCH 1999

TIME

Photographs by Anna Zieminski



Send your letters to:
UPBEAT
P O Box 11350,
Johannesburg
2000.

Dear Upbeat

You are doing your best for all the youth. You try to publish all our letters, poems and stories. I think there is no discrimination in Upbeat. You have realised that young people are oppressed. Thank you for telling us about our rights. We respect you. Keep on satisfying us.

Frans Mongalo, Ga- Mabitsela

Dear Upbeat

I am glad for the opportunity to state my views. Why does Upbeat not come to the Transkei? You can write about how the youth of other places live and behave. Please come and advise us on how to cope with life. Your advice on other issues has helped us. Your magazine is very important. I never miss an issue.

Zodiswa Makalima, Umtata

Dear Zodiswa

Why don't you write and tell us about some of the interesting things happening in the Transkei? Tell us about what's happening in your school, youth group or community. We would love to publish a story about youth in the Transkei. If we publish your story you will get R30. Send your story to; Upbeat Reporter, P O Box 11350, Johannesburg 2000. Send photographs or drawings too, if you can.

Editors

Dear Upbeat

I want to talk about teachers having affairs with students. I did not believe this happened, until I saw it personally. Away with teachers destroying the futures of young girls! Girls, remember

love is a wonderful thing. But not with our teachers.

Pauline Ndlovu, Vosloorus

Dear Upbeat

I am a girl of 14. I am doing Std 6 at Centurion High School. Boys and girls must be treated the same way. Parents let boys do what they like, but they tell girls what to do. So girls will run away from home. Many boys are very rude because their parents did not teach them to treat girls properly. They will then treat the girls in their lives as their workers. I come from a family where girls are treated like this.

Audrey Ntshembeni

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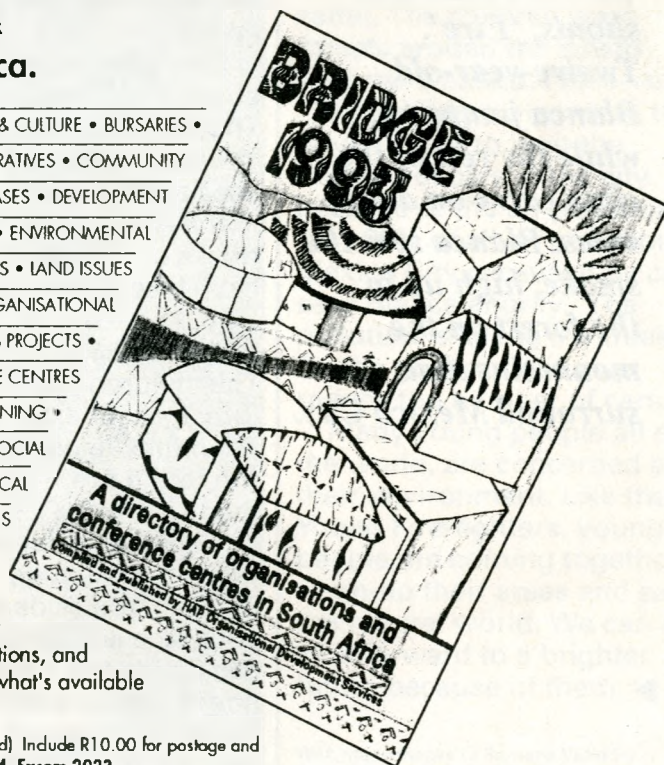
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BLANCA, THE MEXICAN FIREFIGHTER

By Monica Zak

In the middle of the school day, someone opens the door of the Std 4 class and shouts, 'Fire'. Twelve-year-old Blanca jumps up, while the rest of the class carry on doing sums. Blanca sees the smoke, high up in the forest on the mountains that surround Mexico City.

Blanca knows she must hurry. She jumps on her bicycle and pedals home, as fast as she can. She changes into her fire-fighter's uniform, with its helmet and thick boots. Then she rushes to Don Pepe's house.

There she meets up with about thirty other children. They are all members of the Young Fire-fighters. They are specialists in putting out fires in the forest. They do not have trucks or firehoses. They only have bikes, spades and axes.

Forest fires

The children ride up into the forest, as far as they can go. Then they leave their bikes and run to the fire. Four hours later the fire is over.

'You always feel so good when it is all over,' says Blanca. 'You're dead tired and your face is pitch black. You can't even talk on the way home - you are too tired. But often people stand on the pavement and clap, as we walk back to the fire-station.'

Don Pepe organises the



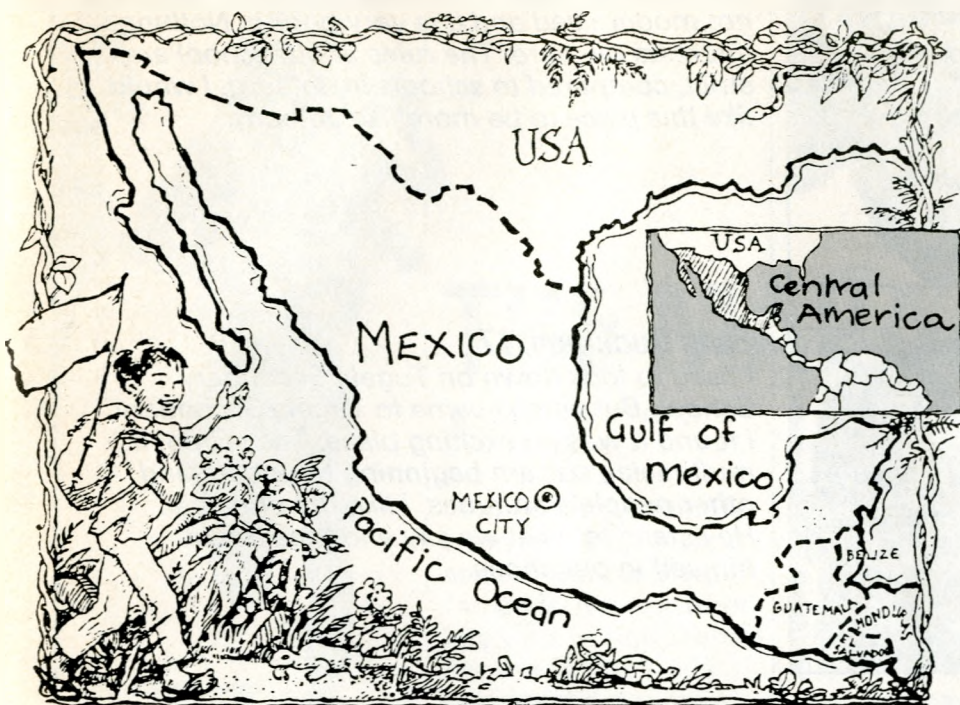
Blanca in her fire-fighting uniform

Young Fire-fighters. He is a truck driver. He lives in a little house on a plot. 'When I was nine,' says Blanca, 'Don Pepe told us about the Young Fire-fighters. He asked if anyone wanted to join. I put up my hand immediately. But my father said that I couldn't. He was afraid I would get burnt. But I finally managed to get him to agree.'

I was 11 when I fought my first forest fire. And I have fought many fires since then and never been burnt. We are specialists in fighting fires high up on the mountain, where the real fire brigade cannot get their trucks.'

The children train for two years before they are allowed to fight real fires. They go on long trips through the forest, so that they learn to find their way. 'We learn how to jump through small fires,' says Blanca. 'We are careful not to wear synthetic clothes and we tuck our hair very carefully under our helmets. If you jump quickly, you don't get burnt.'

Young Fire-fighters learn to jump through fires. ►



All the Young Fire-fighters are from poor families. Nobody gives them any money. 'But we are collecting money,' says Blanca. 'We need to buy new spades, picks and helmets.'

Save the forest

The Young Fire-fighters do not only fight fires. In December they guard the forest. They stop people from chopping down Christmas trees. And during their summer holidays they plant new trees wherever there has been a fire.

The Young Fire-fighters also went to the Mexican parliament. There they handed in a letter demanding that the government stop cattle-breeding around Mexico City. The cattle breeders want to chop down the forests. They need the land to graze their cattle. The children want the forests around the city to become a national reserve.

The children also want the government to limit the number of cars in the city because of the air pollution. '70 - 80% of all air pollution in Mexico City is caused by cars,' says Blanca angrily. 'The pollution is killing the trees. So the government must reduce the number of cars.'

Many young people all over the world, are concerned about their environment. Like the Young Fire-fighters, young people are coming together to clean-up their areas and save the natural world. We can all look forward to a brighter future because of them. ◀

With many thanks to Barnens Värld for permission to use this story.

LIFE AT TUGELA RAIL

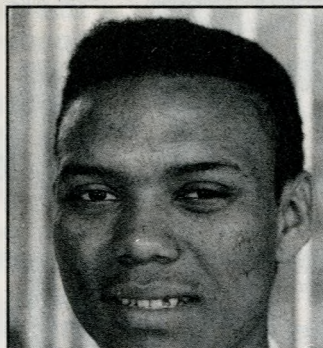
Upbeat spoke to students from Tugela Secondary School in Tugela Rail in northern Natal. We asked them what it was like living in the countryside, far from a city. This is what they told us.

By Cedric Nunn



Zaida Suleman, 16

The only advantage in living here is privacy. It is not modernised and it is very boring. Nothing interests me here. The rules at our school are strict, compared to schools in Jo'burg. I would like this place to be more like Jo'burg.



Elvis Buckham, 17

I used to look down on Tugela Secondary School. But when I came to Tugela Secondary, I found it was an exciting place. The school is multiracial, so I am beginning to understand other people's attitudes. I like the principal. He listens to what we say and tries to put himself in our shoes.



Reshika Laldas, 16

This place is pretty boring but I cope. I get up, go to school and come back again. There are no facilities here but there is lots of privacy. I spend most of my week-ends in Durban with relatives.



Dolly Kasipershady, 16

Living on a farm is great. There is peace and quiet. I have lived on a farm my whole life and I wouldn't choose to live in a city. I prefer country life. I find it easier to study. I have lots of friendly neighbours with whom I get on well.



Hubert Mdletshe, 18

I want to talk about prejudice at Tugela Secondary. At our school students have a low opinion of us black students. I understand that it is difficult for them to change, as they get their ideas from their parents. But our being at Tugela Secondary will help. Through us they will learn that we are no different. We are just human beings, like them.



Few can beat Melk once he gets going.

THE MARATHON MAN

Melk grew up on a farm near Bothaville in the Orange Free State. He went to the local farm school. But Melk was forced to leave school last year in April, when he was in Std 5. His parents did not have enough money to keep him on at school.

Now Melk is a general worker at the President Brand Mine in Welkom. With the money he earns, he helps his parents. He pays the schoolfees of his brother, Gert, who is finishing matric.

On the mine Melk runs for the Striders Club. He trains with the famous Xolile Tawa. And he has learnt a lot. 'In my early days at school,' says Melk, 'I never did very well when I raced. I started running seriously in 1989. Since then I have beaten most of the runners in my age-group. Now I am ready to take on anybody, anywhere, anytime.'

Although running is important for Melk, his biggest ambition is to go back to school. 'I want to finish Std 5,' says Melk. 'And when I have finished Std 5,

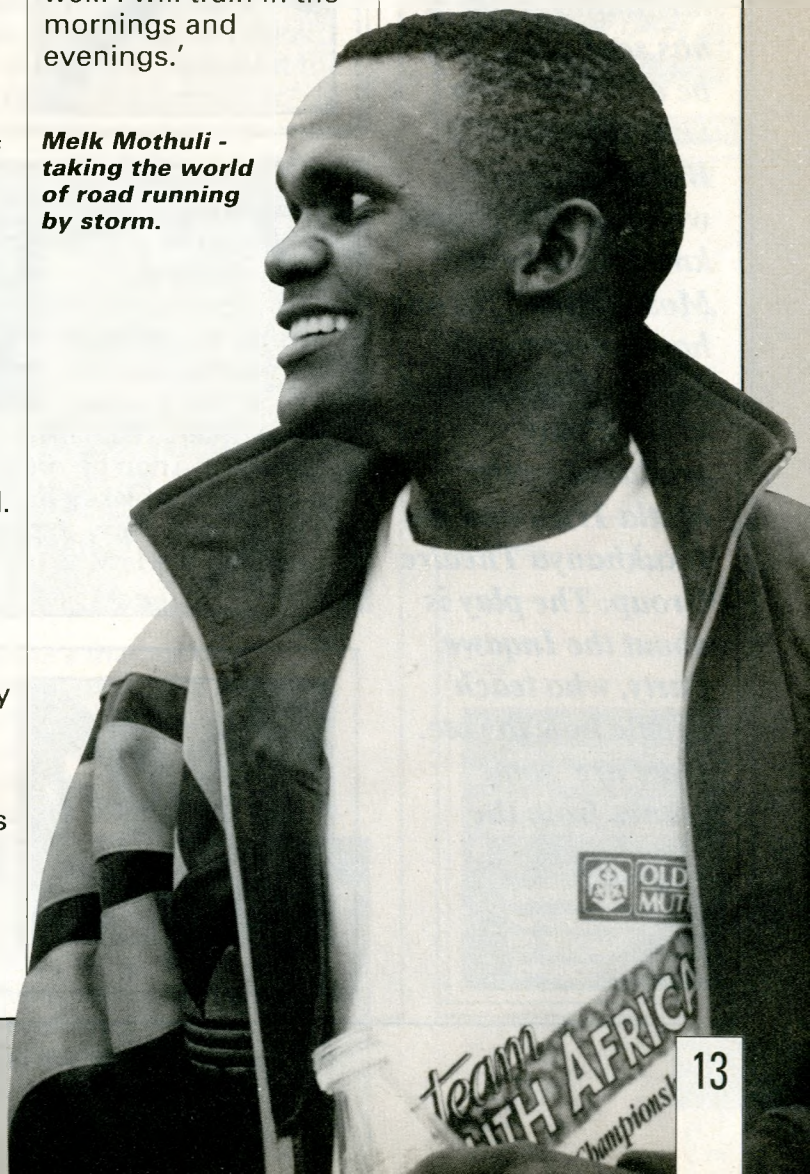
I want to continue with my secondary schooling. If possible, I want to, at least, get my Std 10 certificate.

'My coach says the people of the mine want me to remain at the mine. They say they will pay my schoolfees. So I will continue working, but I will attend classes as well. I will train in the mornings and evenings.'

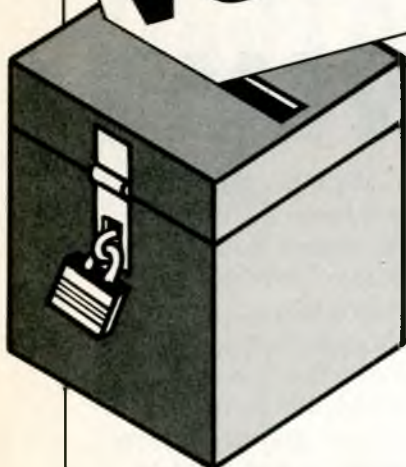
Melk hopes that he will have a chance to represent South Africa at the next Olympics. There is a good chance that he will make the team, if he continues to run as he is now doing. We are going to see a lot of Melk on the race tracks in the future. ◀

Melk Mothuli - taking the world of road running by storm.

Melk Mothuli is only 16 but he is well on his way to becoming the king of South African road running. Few people had heard of Melk before the World Junior Championships in England during September 1992. But the young South African took second place in the half-marathon race. Now everyone wants to know more about him.



HOW TO VOTE



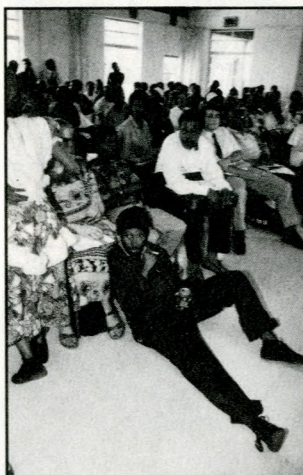
For years people have fought for the right to vote. Now the State President has said, there will be a free election later this year. But everyone is worried. Will people know what to do? Most South Africans have never voted before. Upbeat went to see a play produced by the Matla Trust and the Ukukhanya Theatre Group. The play is about the Inqawe Party, who teach people how to vote. Here are some scenes from the play.

1 The Inqawe Party has lost the elections.

Some members want to give up. But others say no. They say perhaps they lost because people did not know how to vote. The Inqawe Party say that they must teach people about voting. Then, when the next elections come, people will know how to vote correctly.



2 Educators from the Inqawe Party visit a school. They speak to the students



4 The Inqawe educators speak outside a shop about voting. When they start, everyone wants to argue with them, especially the drunkards.

5 'How do people vote if they cannot read and write,' people shouted. What about criminals and policemen, can they vote? The educators explain that people who cannot read and write can vote using symbols. Policemen can also vote but people in jail cannot.

7 Meanwhile out in a farming area, a

farmer is getting his workers ready to vote. He teaches the workers the name of the party he supports. Then he promises them R10 and a bottle of whiskey if they vote for his party. The Inqawe Party explain that the farmer is breaking the law.



8 The day of the elections has arrived. An official from the



9 The voter places his ballot in the ballot box. Once he has finished, his hands are marked with a special dye and off he goes.



about voting. They say, 'solving violence with violence is no answer to our problems.' Instead, they encourage the students to make their voice heard by voting.

3 The visitors tell the students how voting works. Voting is private, no-one knows who you vote for. It is a crime to force someone to vote for a particular party. And they speak about democracy. 'Democracy is a country that is governed by the people for the people,' says one student.



6 Slowly the Inqawe educators manage to answer everyone's questions. They say, 'The most important think to remember is to put a cross next to the name of the party you are voting for.'

Department of Home Affairs explains what is happening. 'I am here to make sure that no-one cheats,' he says. 'There are also people from the different political parties to make sure there is no cheating.'

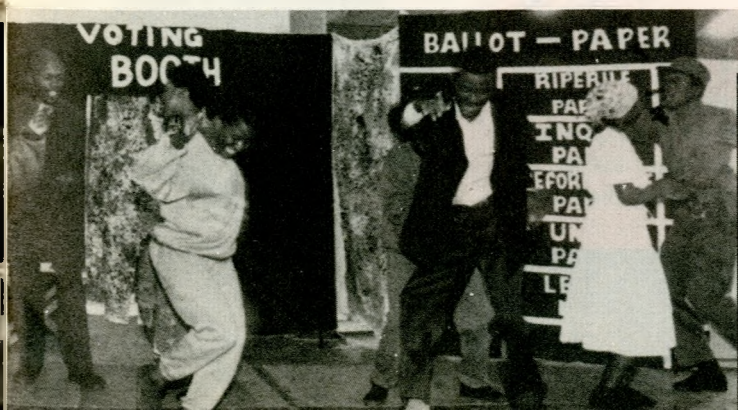
Someone checks voters' identity books to make sure their faces match their photographs. Then the voter puts his hands under a special lamp which shows whether he has voted before. Next the voter gets his ballot paper. His name is crossed off the voters' list. His identity book is stamped to show that he has voted. He goes into the voting booth. There he makes a cross next to the name of the party he is voting for.



10 To make sure that no-one forgets what to do, the play ends with a song that goes, 'Put a cross next to the name of the party you are voting for.'

CONTACT

Would you like this play to be performed at your school? Contact the Matla Trust at: (011) 834-5301. Ask to speak to Monde Mditshwa.



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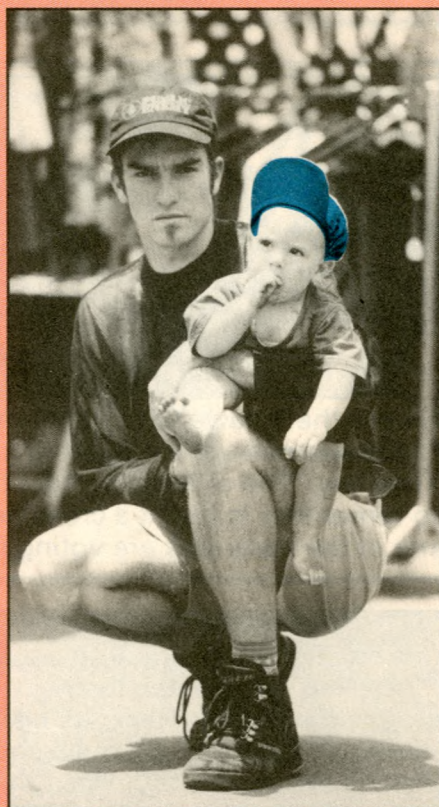
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PANTSULAS



& HIP

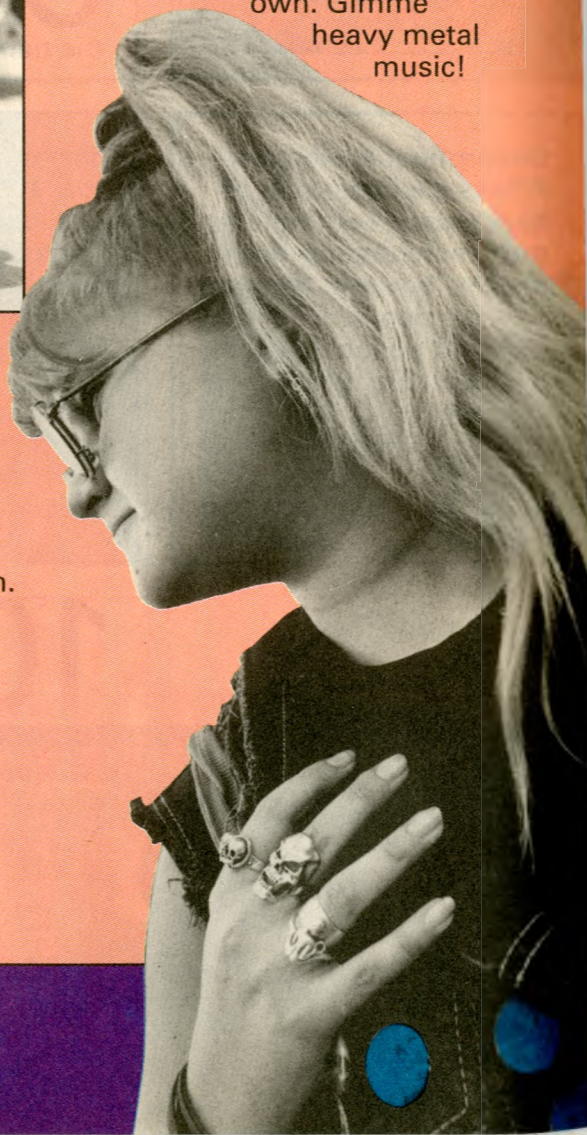
Pantsulas, rastas and space-cowboys - some of the latest gear, that is hitting the streets. Upbeat met youngsters in Johannesburg, who talked about the styles they follow.



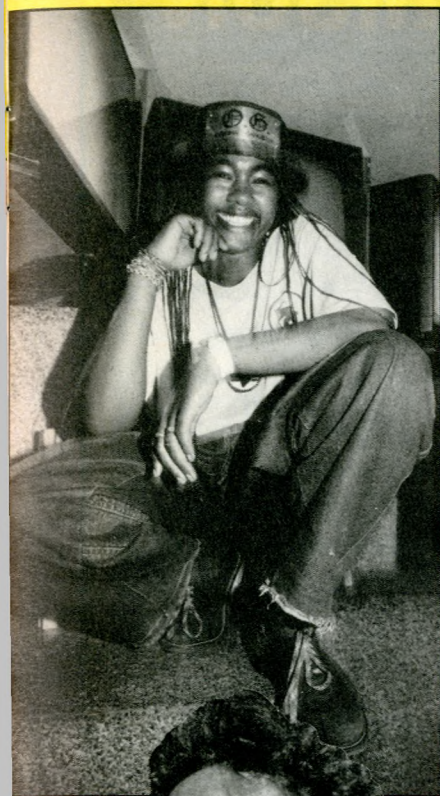
◀ Peter, 20
I am a space-cowboy.
I am visiting this planet.
I was surprised to hear fast-rave-digital-techno-music in your world. You've never had fun until you have jolled with me!

▶ Patricia
I don't follow any fashion. There are many clones in the world. I just follow a style of my own. Gimme heavy metal music!

◀ Thulani Zwane
Rastafarianism is not a fashion. It's culture, it's religion. I am a rasta. You can call my dreadlocks fashion because dreadlocks have become popular these days. But I am not following fashion. I'm a practising rastafarian!



HOP STYLES!



Ronel Bowers

◀ I used to wear punk clothes. But then the baggy clothes hit the streets with a big bang! So I changed loyalty. When I look back on my previous punk style, I think I was childish. I suppose I am part of the hip hop culture. Yeh, I think so!

Vusi, 18

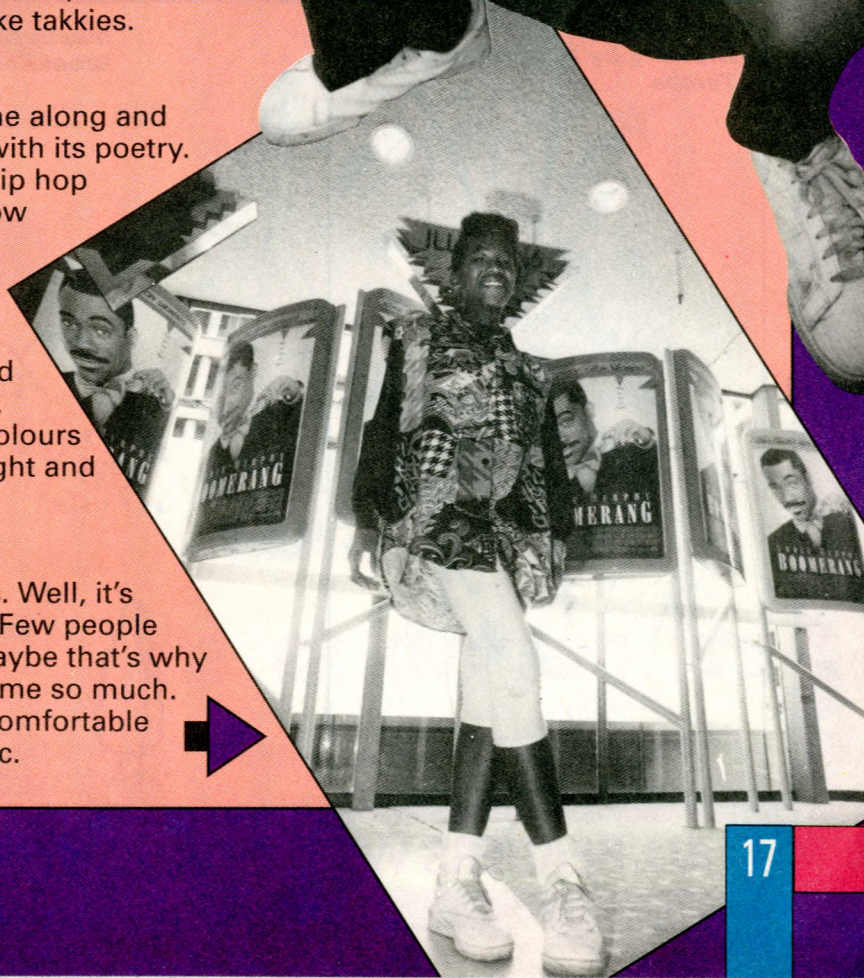
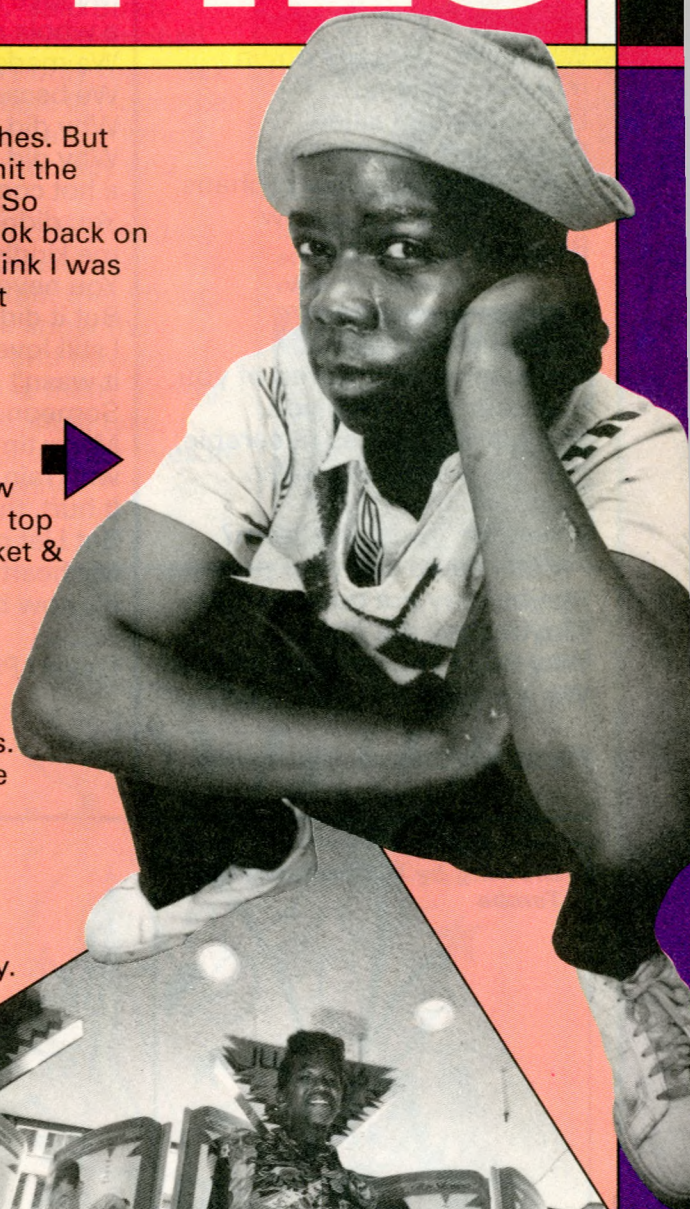
▶ I am Pantsula! Pantsula - makoyo mpintji yam' (fellow brother). Our clothes are all top quality from the USA, Crocket & Jones shoes, Brentwood trousers and our favourite Tycoon suits. You see everyone in takkies nowadays. Takkies were discovered by the Pantsulas. The way we walk and dance with All Star takkies, made other people like takkies.

Haroon (14)

◀ Rap music came along and it swayed me with its poetry. It made me a hip hop fanatic. And now wherever I go, I am in baggy trousers and a shirt or a hooded-top and relevant shoes. I like hip hop colours as they are bright and colourful.

Nthethi, 13

▶ I am into tights. Well, it's the style I like. Few people wear tights, maybe that's why they appeal to me so much. In tights I am comfortable and feel athletic.



THE KILLER

When the sun goes down
 It is time for you.
 Last night you killed
 One of our neighbours.
 His children are now orphans,
 And his wife is a widow
 Because of you, killer.

We hide ourselves
 Behind strong doors
 Because we are scared of you.
 Even our dogs fear you.
 You make our lives miserable;
 You are a terrifying killer.

Where do you come from?
 I wish I could see your parents;
 Maybe they are good people,
 Maybe they are not.
 Why don't you leave us in peace
 We are scared of you, killer.

Portia Makhanya, Clernaville

A HEALING HEART

I saw you for the first time
 So handsome, confident
 and cool.
 You looked at me and smiled;
 My love for you grew
 a whole mile.
 We made such a great team.
 We became two-in-one.
 Why did you shatter my dream?
 Why did you dump me like
 a hot coal?
 You didn't always treat
 me kindly.
 You never gave me flowers,
 But it didn't matter at all
 I still loved you anyway.
 It wasn't really me you loved.
 Someone else stole your heart.
 Many times my tears mingled
 with rain,
 It hurt, the pain grew deeper.
 But I let myself grow for a while
 My heart was ill
 It's now beginning to heal.

Liyett Pietersen



ANOTHER PRISON

I went to school to learn
 Only to find myself in prison
 When I first came to school
 I had no scars
 But now my hands
 and buttocks
 Are like the body of
 a crocodile
 Because of the sjambok
 And Die Rotang
 When will this stupid
 beating end?

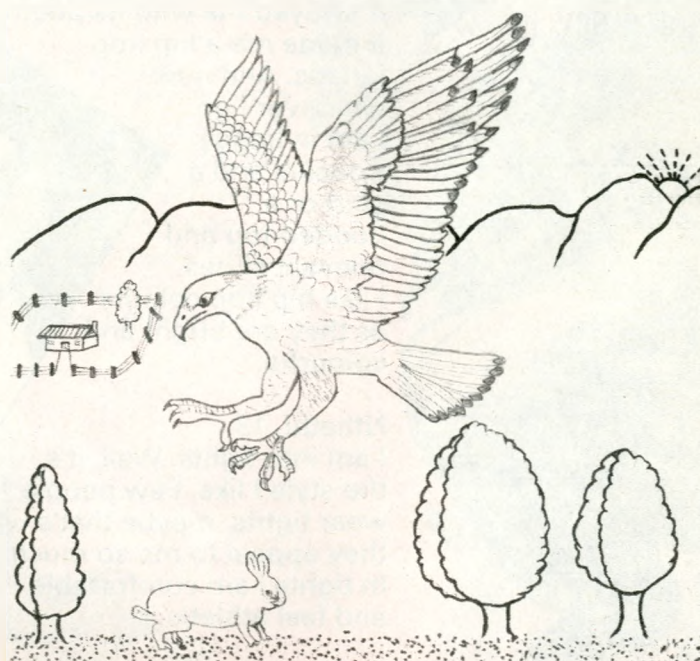
Titus Mdluli

Drawing by V. Aaronter (17), Temba



Illustration by Johannes Bhuda, Bronkhorstspuit

AN EASLE TRIES TO CATCH THE HARE.



YOUTH

SOWETO YOUTH CLUB ON THE MOVE

There are people, who care about the future of young people. Sindi Sithole and Sizakhele Malinga of Soweto are two such people. They started the Ubuhlebembhali Teen Club of Zola and Mndenitownships in June last year. They want to keep the youth strong.

The crises in black schools is making the youth idle,' Sizakhele explained. 'Out of boredom and frustration, many youth are turning to drugs. Teenagers are also experimenting with sex. Our project aims to educate young people about the potential dangers of these things.' Ubuhlebembhali has 20 regular members. 'We run workshops on the use of contraceptives, AIDS awareness,

health education, abortion and child abuse,' said Sindi. But Ubuhlebembhali doesn't only teach sex education. In November they ran a workshop on democracy and voting.

'With the changing political situation, it is important that young people know their rights and how to exercise them. Young people must take control of their lives in every way.'



Sindi and Sizakhele - started a great youth club in Soweto.

CONTACT

You can contact the Ubuhlebembhali Teen Club at:
**Sindi Sithole, 314A Zola North,
P O Kwa-Xuma 1868
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As ek die son kry
deur Sonja Engelbrecht



THE WORLD IN A BOX

Computers that draw, computers that talk, computers that teach and computers that walk! Where did all these amazing machines come from? In this exciting three part series we will take you on a journey of discovery, into the wonderful world of computers.

Computers are everywhere; at home, in schools, in offices, cars and shops. Computers are machines that store information. They can re-arrange, match or change things. Computers can do sums or drawings. They can send information all over the world. Here are some of the amazing things that computers can do.

SOUNDS

Michael Jackson uses computers for his concerts. Computers are often used in recording studios. They can add drums, flutes and pianos to a song. They can also record music and print musical notes on paper.

Sounds are very important to Jeanne Chambers. She is blind. She has to rely on sounds to read. Special computers make that possible. A reading machine helps Jeanne to read a book. One computer photographs the page, another identifies the words and a third reads it out!



SPORT

At major sporting events computers are responsible for recording distances and keeping the times of the athletes. Scorekeepers use computers to enter the results of races. Huge screens show spectators a close-up view of the race.

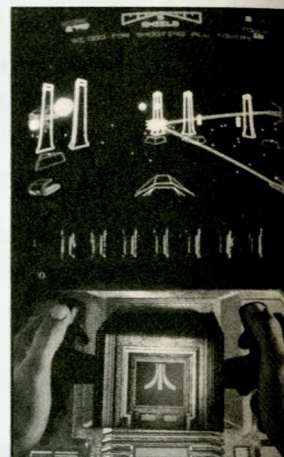
At the Barcelona Olympics underwater cameras filmed the swimming events.

The cameras were controlled by computers. Little computers were even fitted on to boxers' belts. This gave off a signal, every time a point was scored.

VIDEO GAMES

Teenagers love competing for the highest score in video games. Inside the video game there is a computer.

The computer is programmed to start a game, when money is put into the machine. The picture that you see on the screen of Pac man, Star wars or Nintendo, is made by the computer.



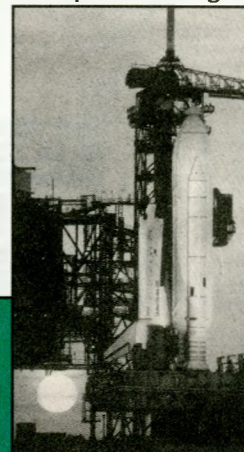
MONEY

Banks use computers to calculate and check everyone's money. ATM's, like Autobank or Bob-T, are computers that, at the press of a button, will give you money. Business people use computers to send and receive information from all over the world.

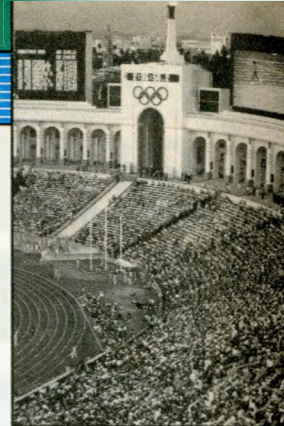
AIR TRAVEL

'Three...two...one... lift off. We have a lift off!' The space shuttle Columbia blasts into space, leaving a trail of fire behind. Every part of the shuttle's flight is controlled by computers. Astronauts rely on computers to get them safely

home to earth.



Computers



HISTORY OF COMPUTERS

are used to fly aeroplanes. On a long flight, computers can make up to 325 000 calculations per second!

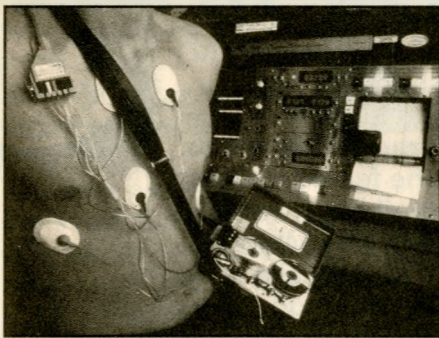
LEARNING AT SCHOOL



Many schools use computers to teach maths and reading. Computers can make lessons lots of fun!

MEDICINE

Doctors use computers. This machine keeps track of a man's heart beat. A computer records and stores the information. Then the doctor uses the information, to find out what is wrong with the patient.



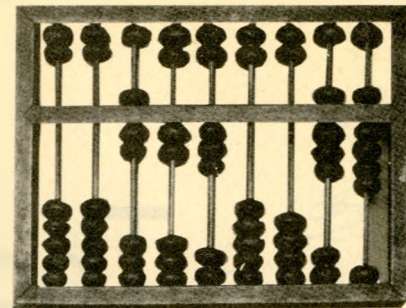
CARS

Robots help to make cars. In some car factories, robots are used to paint and weld cars. BMW uses robots on the assembly line to weld cars. These moving computers don't get bored or hurt!



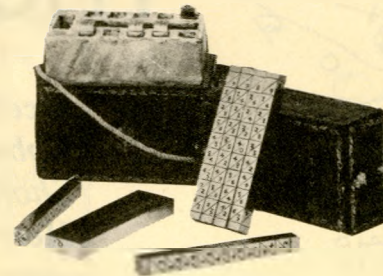
The idea of computers comes from a very simple need - the need to count. People from all over the world have had different ways of counting.

The very first kind of computer was built by the ancient Greeks about 2 500 years ago. It was called the abacus. The Greeks used it to do long sums without writing down the numbers. The abacus could add, subtract, divide and multiply sums.



The abacus

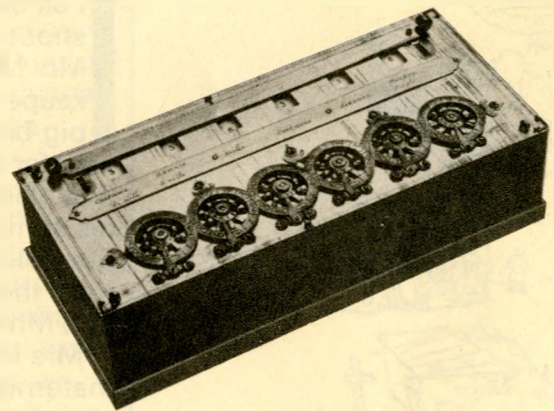
Then in 1642 Blaise Pascal a French mathematician wanted to find a way to calculate long, boring sums. So he invented the calculating machine. Later, the calculator was invented. Many people today still use calculators to do sums.



A calculator

After many years, scientists started to make electric circuits. This helped make computers easier to use. In 1942 the first electric computer was developed. But it was so big that it filled a room. It also gave off lots of heat! So pipes had to be built to keep it cool.

Twenty years later two engineers solved the problem. They invented a much smaller electric circuit. This made computers smaller and easier to use.



All photographs from; *Computers Those Amazing Machines* by Catherine O'Neil, Published by National Geographic Society.

New words ~

electric circuit - electrical parts that are joined up so that an electric current can flow through them.

to programme - a set of instructions entered into a computer to make it do certain tasks

calculations - to count or to make sums

Don't miss our
NEXT ISSUE

We will take you inside a computer to find out how it works.
You can also win a fantastic IBM computer worth R3 000.

The Neighbourhood

Mcebisi Totobela won Upbeat's 1992 Senior Short Story competition. Here is his winning story for you to read.

It all began with the shooting of the little pigs. Mrs Mhlongo, the store-keeper's wife, believed in pig-breeding, not in a big way for she had not the time. She also helped Mr Mhlongo in his store, for he was not much of a salesman. Most women from the village waited for Mrs Mhlongo to serve them.

Mrs Mhlongo did a little maternity work as well. When she was young, she trained at Nompumalanga Hospital. All the women in the village had infinite faith in her. Mrs Mhlongo was very good-natured. She was always ready to do a good turn for anybody. But when it came to her professional midwifery work, a fixed fee had to be paid. She was firm on this point.

Mrs Mhlongo kept her pigsty in good order. She loved her little pigs. She often invited her customers to come and see 'her little darlings' as

she called her piglets. Usually she sold them, but she had kept one lot until they were big enough to be troublesome to her neighbours.

One day the pigs found a way through the fence into Mr Moyake's sweet potato patch where they did much damage. Mr Moyake was not happy about this. He wanted to shoot the pigs. But his wife begged him not to. She feared it would spoil her friendship with Mrs Mhlongo.

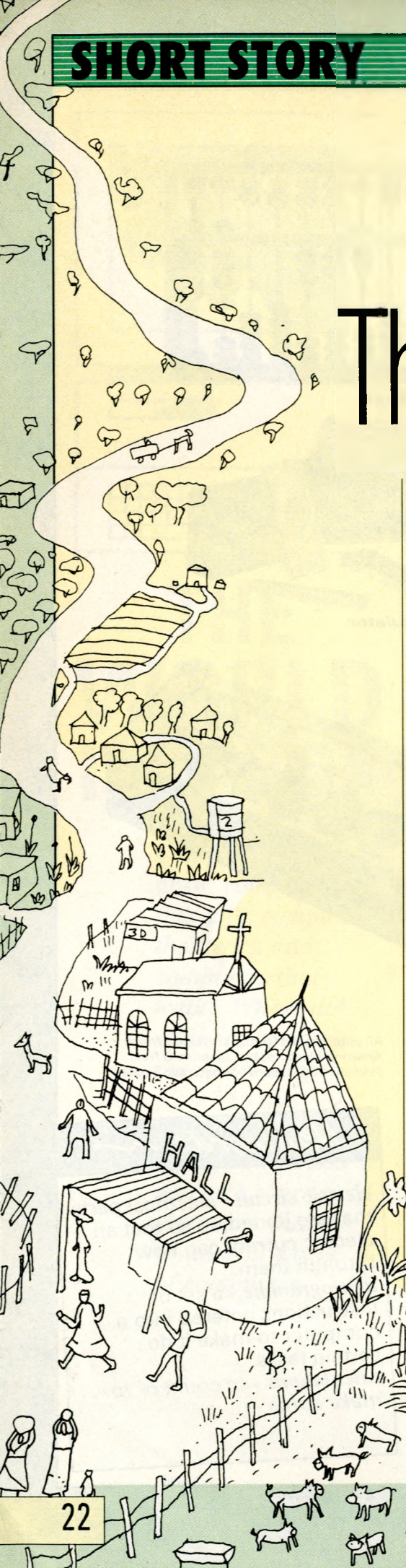
Mr Moyake spoke to Mr Mhlongo. He warned Mr Mhlongo that if the pigs got into his garden again, he would shoot them. Mr Mhlongo promised to mend the fence. But he was very busy that morning, so he soon forgot all about his promise.

The pigs, however, had not forgotten the sweetness of the potato patch. And when Mr Moyake found them in his garden that afternoon, he was furious. He fetched his gun and killed the lot. Then he picked up their carcasses and threw them over the fence, into the Mhlongo's yard.

Mrs Mhlongo's helpers called her. She cried. Then



MRS. MHLONGO



she said some hard things about Mr Moyake.

The case of the pigs went before Mr Lubisi, the acting magistrate. Half the village supported Mrs Mhlongo. The other half supported Mr Moyake. Mr Lubisi said the first time the pigs had trespassed, Mr Moyake had warned the Mhlongs. So Mr Moyake won the case.

Mrs Mhlongo was very angry. She said that when the Moyakes' baby came, they could look elsewhere for a midwife. This was a cruel blow for Mrs Moyake, as she was expecting her third baby. Mrs Mhlongo had delivered her first two children.

And Mrs Moyake believed that no-one had Mrs Mhlongo's skills. No-one else could deliver her child.

Mr Moyake tried to comfort his wife. He told her to get Dr Zondi for her confinement. The months passed quickly and the time drew nearer, not only for Mrs Moyake's confinement, but for a much more important event in the eyes of the villagers – the annual sports meeting.

Dr Zondi took part in this big event. He rode in a horse race. But unfortunately he fell off his horse and broke his arm. Dr Zondi had to be taken to the hospital near the village. That evening there was a dance in the village hall.

When the dancing began,

Mrs Somyali, one of the villagers, went

to have a look at the supper tables. While she was standing there, Mr Moyake arrived. He said his wife's time had come. He said she was in a bad state and that she was crying for Mrs Mhlongo.

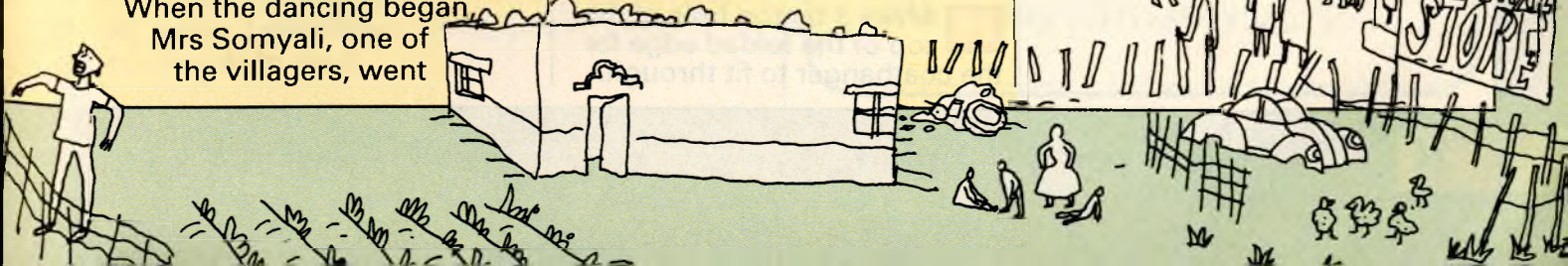
Mrs Mhlongo was just beginning to dance when Mrs Somyali came and asked her to listen to Mr Moyake's problem. Mrs Mhlongo listened carefully until he finished. Then she said, 'Come, Mr Moyake, we must first go to my house and fetch my things.'

Mrs Mhlongo went to the Moyakes' house. The next day the village heard that another baby had been added to the population and that

all was well with the mother. When Dr Zondi came back, he was very pleased with what Mrs Mhlongo had done.

A fortnight later, Mr Moyake went to the shop and asked to speak to Mrs Mhlongo. Mrs Mhlongo was very pleased to see him in the shop. They talked together for a while. When Mr Moyake was to pay her, she refused. Instead, she asked him to send her a couple of pigs. Mr Moyake did that and they became good neighbours once again. ◀

Look out in Upbeat No. 2 for the winning story of the Upbeat Junior Short Story competition.



MAKE A WALL POCKET



Make a wall pocket to store your treasures in. Or use it to keep your room tidy. Make it bright, to put some colour in to your room.

YOU NEED:

- a piece of material: 60cm x 37.5cm
- 4 different pieces of material for the pockets
They should measure:
Pocket 1: 35cm x 9cm
Pocket 2: 35cm x 13cm
Pocket 3: 16.5cm x 18cm
Pocket 4: 20cm x 18cm
- a child's wooden hanger

HOW TO MAKE IT:

- 1** Start with the biggest piece of fabric.
 - 2** With the right side of the fabric facing you, make a flap (fold) of 7.5cm at the top of the fabric. Look at Figure 1.
 - 3** Make a 2cm hem at the bottom of this flap.
 - 4** Sew down the sides of the flap.
 - 5** Turn the flap inside out and iron it flat.
 - 6** Sew a 2cm hem along the other sides and the bottom of the fabric.
 - 7** Measure and cut out the other four pieces of fabric for the pockets. See Figure 2.
 - 8** Fold in and sew a $\frac{1}{2}$ cm hem on the long side of each of the four pockets.
 - 9** Carefully pin each piece of fabric on to the backing piece. Position them according to the numbers given. Make a small fold at the bottom so that the rough edges are hidden. Look at Figure 3.
- Pocket number 1 is below the flap. Leave a 1cm gap between the bottom of pocket 1 and the top of pocket 2. Put the sides of the deepest two pockets next to each other. Leave a 3cm gap at the bottom of the fabric.
- 10** Stitch the pockets into place.
 - 11** Make a button hole at the top of the folded edge for the coathanger to fit through.

Figure 1: Backing

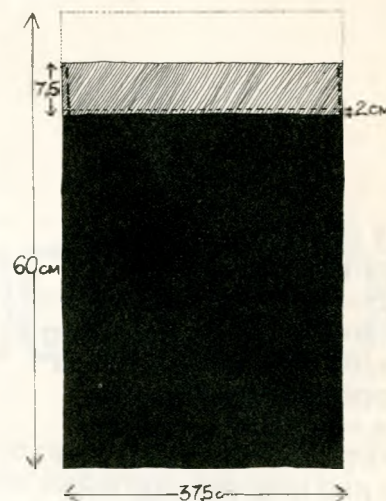


Figure 2: Pockets

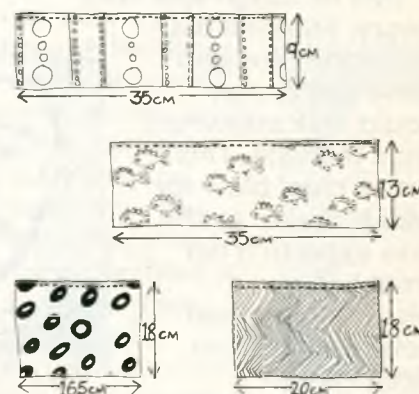
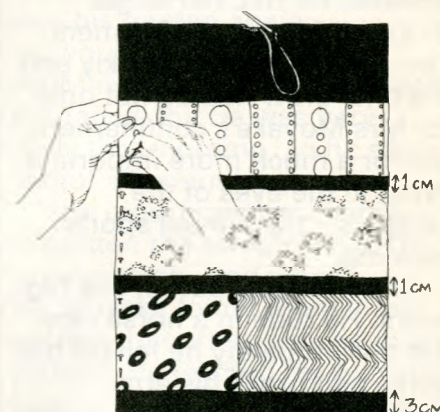


Figure 3: Sewing the wall pocket together



DRAMA

THE ACTOR WHO HATED ACTING

Eric Miyeni never really wanted to act.

Eric Miyeni hated acting. But he never managed to escape it. Today Eric has stopped trying to run away from his talent. He is now a very successful actor.

Eric's first stage performance was when he was in primary school. 'I was a small boy. I played the part of an old man,' says Eric, 'The audience liked the part that I acted.' But Eric didn't like the stage.

In high school Eric was forced to take part in a play again. 'I was just too scared of acting. I resented it with all my heart, when the teachers chose me for the play. But at school we had no choice at all,' Eric told us.

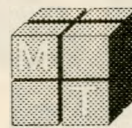
Last year things changed. Eric wrote a short play. It was only a page long and it took him three minutes to act it out. 'I gave it to my friends to read.

They thought it was great. So I reworked it and presented it at the Potpourri drama Festival. The play was called *Twisted and Vile*. It was a great success and I was invited to perform at the Grahamstown Festival. Since the Festival, I have not looked back,' Eric said.

Eric has just finished doing a movie called *Bopha* in Zimbabwe with Danny Glover. 'I now know that I belong to the world of acting,' he said. 'Often people worry about what other people say. But our best contribution to society comes when we use our talent to the full. So, explore your talents. If you explore what you are good at, you will be successful,' Eric says. ◀



Advertisement



Matla Trust

ARE YOU READY TO VOTE?

Matla Trust is offering a play on democracy and voting. The play is an hour long and can be performed at community, church, school, workplace & other venues in the Transvaal

For more information contact

Tshidi Mokoatleng

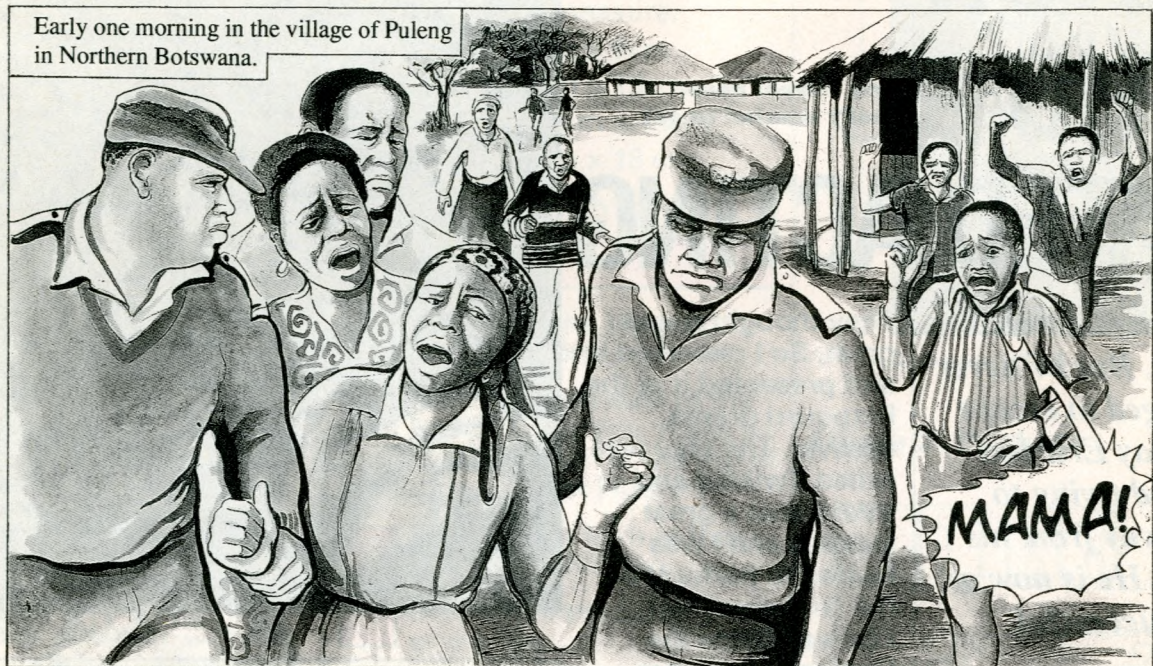
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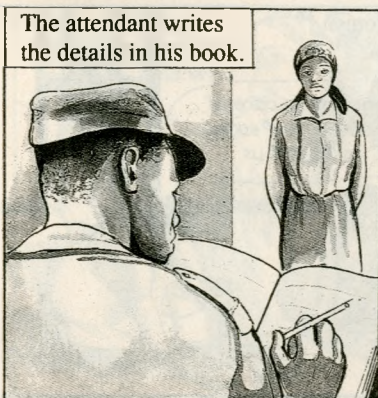
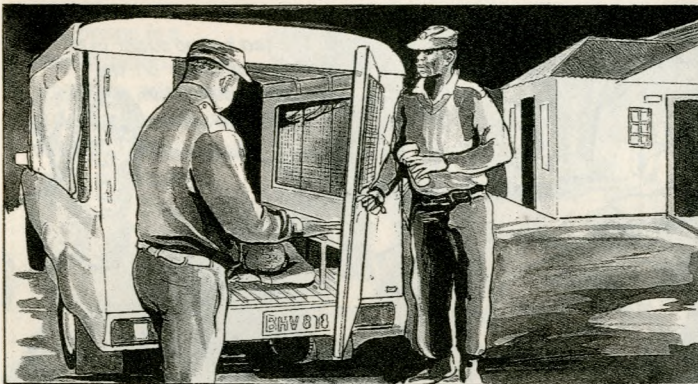
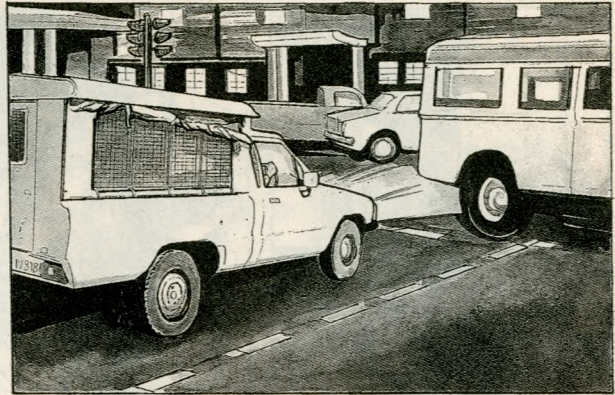
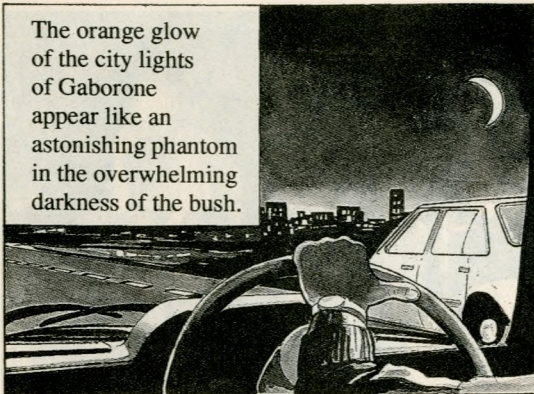
The Storyteller Group presents a classic
African short story by Bessie Head

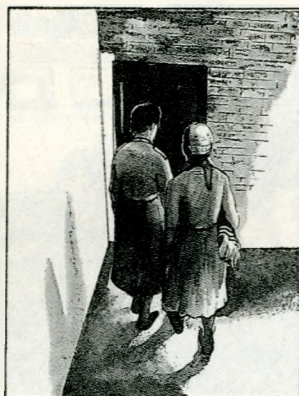
THE COLLECTOR OF TREASURES - Part 1



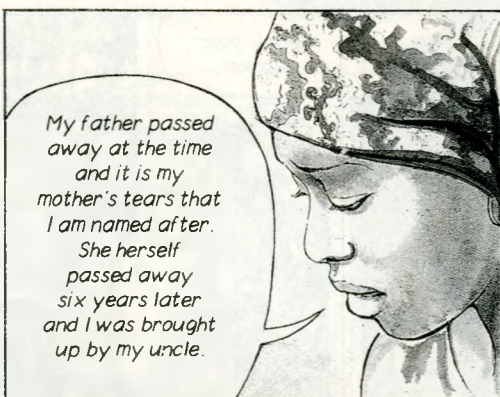
The long-term central state prison in Gaborone is a whole day's journey away from the village of Puleng.

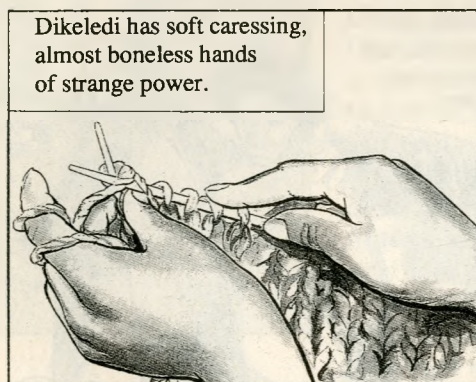
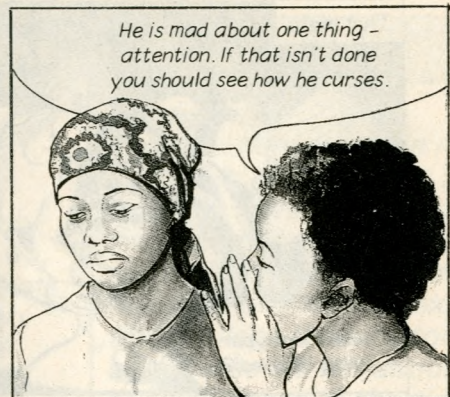


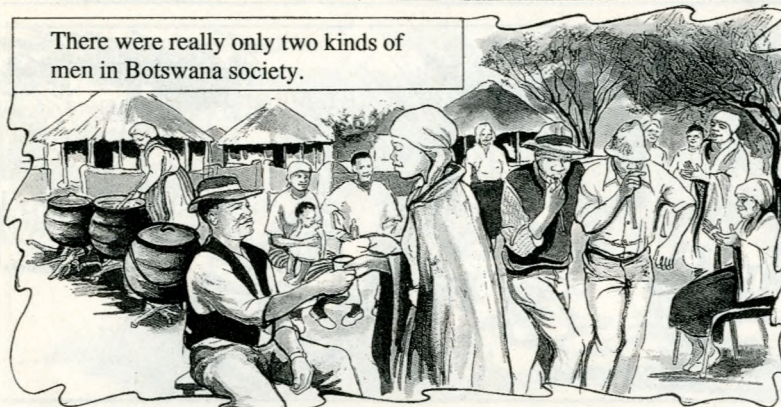




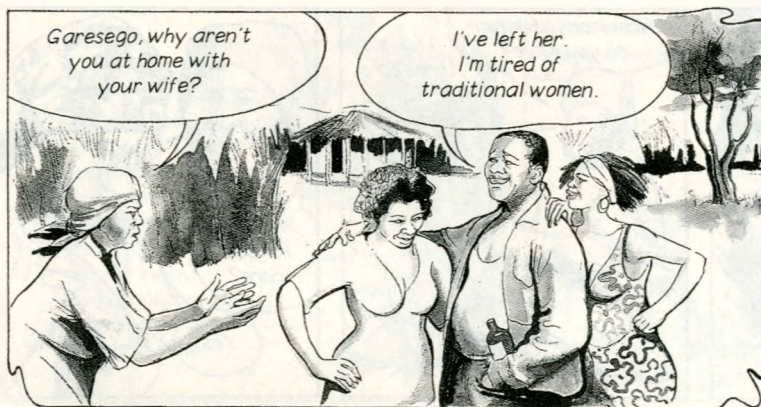
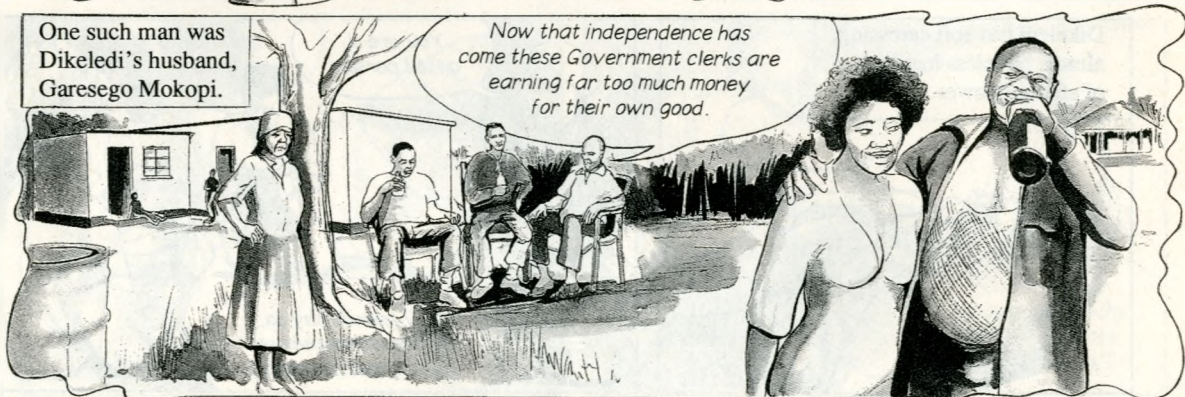
The next morning at breakfast







The first kind could be analysed over three time spans. In the old days he lived by the traditions and taboos of the tribe. Then, after the colonial invasion, he became the 'boy' of the white man. When independence freed him from this pattern of subservience, this kind of man could not cope. He was a broken wreck with no inner resources at all.



NEXT ISSUE: Find out more about Dikeledi's past. Why is she in jail?



Need advice and there's no-one to ask? Buti and Lindy, youth workers for the Planned Parenthood Association, answer your questions.



Write to Buti \ Lindy, Upbeat, P O Box 11350, Johannesburg, 2000

Problem skin

Dear Lindy

I am a girl of 15. I have an oily skin and lots of pimples. I don't know what to do about it anymore. The treatment given by my doctor is not helping. None of my friends have pimples. Please help me.

Lindiwe, Witbank

Dear Lindiwe

Most girls your age have oily skins. It is part of growing up. Your body is changing to that of an adult. Your skin is also affected by these changes. Most teenagers get pimples.

But there are some things that may help. You could use a face wash instead of ordinary soap. Don't eat lots of sweets and junk food. Eat well to cleanse your body from the inside. As you grow older, the pimples will eventually go away.

Lindy

Unkind girlfriend

Dear Buti

I am 20 years old. My girlfriend is the same age. When we are together, she is very attentive. But when she is with her friends, she behaves differently. She ignores me and makes fun of me. Her sisters and friends laugh at me.

She does not mind that I have a financial problem. We don't go out often. I only see her during school hours. How can I convince her that she means a lot to me? I don't want to lose her.

Worried boyfriend, Jericho

Dear Worried boyfriend

I think your girlfriend does care about you. Maybe she gets nervous in the company of friends. Perhaps she is scared she will lose her friends by giving you too much attention. Speak to her and tell her that she is hurting your feelings.

Try to organise time to be alone with her. Give her time to sort out her problems. If she doesn't change, then you must decide if the relationship is still worth it.

Lindy

Abortion

Dear Lindy

I want to tell you about my friend who is pregnant. She wants to have an abortion. I warned her not to sleep with her boyfriend. She ignored my warning. She may be expelled from college if the rector finds out. Please tell her about the consequences of abortion.

Millow Dlamini, Umlazi

Dear Millow

Your friend must be suffering a great deal. Here is some information that she needs to know. A legal abortion is done in a hospital. It is quite safe if it is done properly. In South Africa a woman can only get a legal abortion for one of the following reasons:

- The pregnant woman is very ill. Her pregnancy could cause her to die.
- The woman has been raped.
- The pregnancy is the result of incest.
- There is a risk that the unborn child will be badly handicapped.

But many women have unwanted pregnancies and turn to backstreet abortions. Backstreet abortions can be very dangerous. They are also very expensive. Some backstreet abortionists use dangerous instruments which damage the womb and cause infections. Some women need operations afterwards, to save their lives. Tell your friend to be very careful. She must seek help. She should talk to the nurses at the local clinic. Or call Lifeline: (031) 23- 2323.

Lindy

PENFRIENDS

OVERSEAS

**Enanders vag 12, S - 840 80,
Lillhardal, Sweden**

Dear Upbeat

I want a penfriend. I am a 16-year-old Swedish girl. My hobbies are writing letters, animals, travelling and listening to music. I don't mind if my penfriend is a boy or a girl, short or tall, thin or stout, just write to me. I will reply to you.

Carina Runmon

TRANVAAL

405 Harberth Avenue, Witbank 1039

Dear Upbeat

I am a girl of 15. I am doing Std 8. I want to correspond with girls of 15-17. My hobbies are playing tennis and listening to music. All letters must be written in English.

Portia Mokoena

P O Box 91, Sekhukhune 1124

Dear Upbeat

I am a girl of 20 in Std 10. I want to have penfriends of 20 -23 years. My hobbies are going to church, listening to music, singing and reading. I will reply to all letters written in N. Sotho or English.

Kgaugelo Mankge

Private Bag X4008, Seshego 0742

Dear Upbeat

I am a boy of 21. I am presently at a technical college. I want to correspond with girls and boys of 17-20. My hobbies are playing soccer, reading short stories and listening to music.

I will reply to all letters written in English or North Sotho. Send me your photo if you can.

Bernard Makola

CAPE

3 Mafungo Street, Kimberley 8335

Dear Upbeat

I am boy of 18. I am doing Std 10. I want to correspond with boys and girls of 15-19 years. My hobbies are reading novels, watching TV, writing letters and attending cultural events. I will reply to all letters with or without photos.

Please write in English.

Daniel Lekwene

43 Conrad Street, Lotus River 7945

Dear Upbeat

I am a girl of 18 and I am still at school. I want to have penfriends of any age. My hobbies are reading, dancing and singing. I am nuts about heavy rock music. Please send me a photo in your first letter.

Belinda Fritz

40 Sigcawu Avenue, Langa 7455

Dear Upbeat

I am a guy of 12 doing Std 5. I want to correspond with guys and girls of 11-12. My hobbies are watching TV and listening to classic music. I will reply to all letters written in English.

Bulelani Dondashe

NATAL

**University of Natal, Ansell May Hall,
Durban 40001**

Dear Upbeat

I am an 18-year-old guy. I want penpals of all ages from all over the world. My hobbies are listening to music, watching movies, playing table tennis and hockey. I will reply to all letters. Photos are welcome.

George Mfundisi

**Sacred Heart Secondary School,
Oakford Priory, P O Verulam 4340**

Dear Upbeat

I am a girl of 13 doing Std 6. I want penfriends of 13-15 years. My favourite singers are M.C. Hammer, Bobby Brown and Johnny Gill. I will reply to all the letters written in English or Zulu. Photos are welcome.

Phumelele Immaculate Nxumalo

**St Gregory College, P O Box 482,
Escourt 3310**

Dear Upbeat

Hi! I am a girl of 14. I want penfriends. Guys and girls of 13-15 can send me letters. My hobbies are netball, swimming and listening to music.

Le rato Senoko

ORANGE FREE STATE

P O Box 70, Tweespruit 9770

Dear Upbeat

I am a girl of 14 doing Std 7. My hobbies are cooking, singing, watching TV and reading. My favourite artists are Yvonne Chaka-Chaka, Chicco and Rebecca Malope. I will reply to all letters written in English or South Sotho. Please send me your photo.

Sebolelo Mokoena.

AFRICA

**Dahon High School, P O Box 10,
Mapoteng 250, Lesotho**

Dear Upbeat

I am a girl of 16. I am doing Std 8. I want to correspond with girls and boys of 16 - 20. My hobbies are watching movies, reading comics and novels. I also like fashion shows and dancing. My favourite artists are Rick Ashley, Whitney Houston and Kylie Minogue. I will reply to all letters written in English. Photos are welcome.

Florence Tseka

P O Box 424, Otjiwarongo 9000

Dear Upbeat

I am a 19-year-old boy from Namibia. I want to correspond with girls and boys of all ages. My hobbies are reading, soccer, listening to reggae and watching TV and videos. My favourite clothes are jeans, T-shirts and takkies. My dream is to become a diesel mechanic. I will reply to all letters written in English or Afrikaans. Send me a photo.

Marks Sporo Martins

**Balaka Oilcom Deport, P O Box 242,
Balaka, Malawi**

Dear Upbeat

I am a Malawian boy. I want penfriends from all over the world. Could you please put my name in your magazine so that I can find a penfriend? I will reply to all letters written in English

Kingston Zimphango

**P O Box 87, Morwa Village,
Gaborone Botswana**

Dear Upbeat

I am a girl of 12. My hobbies are watching TV and beauty contests, going to church, swimming and dancing. All letters must be written in English or Setswana.

Tebogo Evelyn Tladi



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PUZZLE

THE

Sandy Beach

CLEAN-UP SQUAD

Sandy beaches are good habitats for many animals. Some, like those shown on this page, help keep the beach clean by eating the bits and pieces that get washed up.

Find the names of all eight animals in the puzzle. The names run across, down and diagonally. Two clues run upside down!

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS ON PAGE 39.

B	D	R	W	T	G	B	A	R	C	T	S	O	H	G
L	J	R	H	W	S	A	N	D	S	H	R	I	M	P
I	I	Z	I	I	K	S	O	Q	R	I	T	L	V	J
A	H	R	T	N	D	E	H	S	G	S	D	R	M	A
N	A	I	E	A	H	K	L	M	T	K	R	M	A	F
S	L	W	M	P	S	T	A	P	L	C	Z	H	K	E
H	Y	G	U	I	P	E	Q	L	G	R	Y	T	O	G
G	N	A	S	E	V	O	A	A	E	U	F	A	Q	P
U	D	I	S	K	E	R	H	L	Y	K	L	J	B	Z
O	J	P	E	P	R	Q	L	D	O	A	S	L	H	E
L	U	Q	L	W	B	G	F	J	N	U	L	C	O	G
P	R	J	K	Q	Z	X	J	Q	B	A	S	K	Y	E
S	A	N	D	P	L	O	V	E	R	H	S	E	B	U



Kelp gull



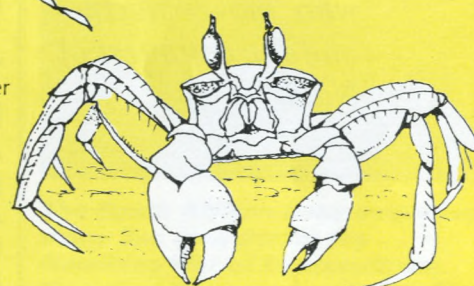
Sand plover



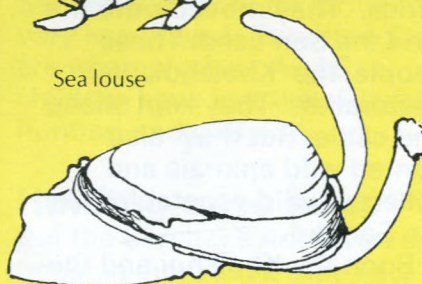
Sandhopper



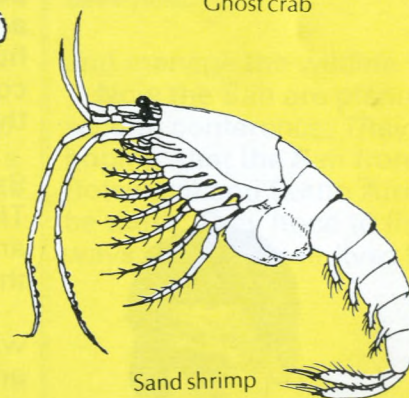
Sea louse



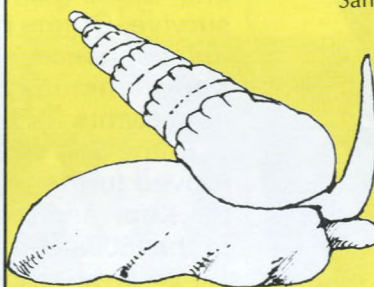
Ghost crab



White mussel



Sand shrimp



Plough snail

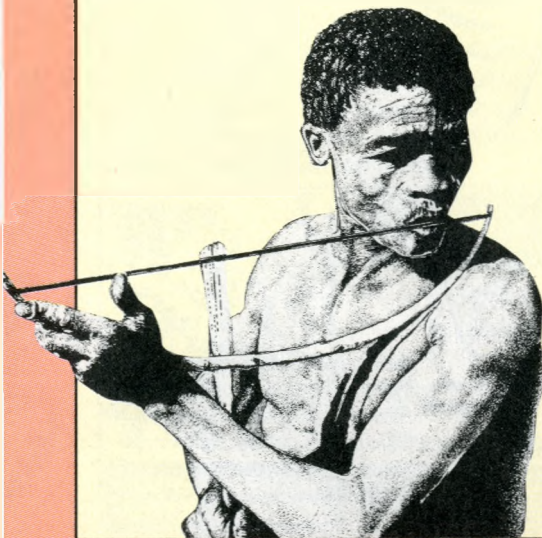
Acknowledgement

Taken from *Encounters with Sealife, Activities Book with colouring guide* by Lynn Hurry; Published by Shuter & Shooter

The San - SOUTHE

By Barbara Johannesson

History doesn't have to be boring. Come on an exciting adventure into the past. In our new series you'll meet the San and the slaves of the western Cape. We'll tell you about the settlers who moved north and the conquest of Natal.



Those who were first have come to be last.

The San or Bushmen were the first people to live in southern Africa. The way they lived is very different to the way we live today. The San were hunter-gatherers. They hunted animals and they gathered plants.

But today few San hunt and gather wild plants. Their lives have changed. They are no longer free and proud. They are weak and they depend on other people to survive. Let's look at what happened.

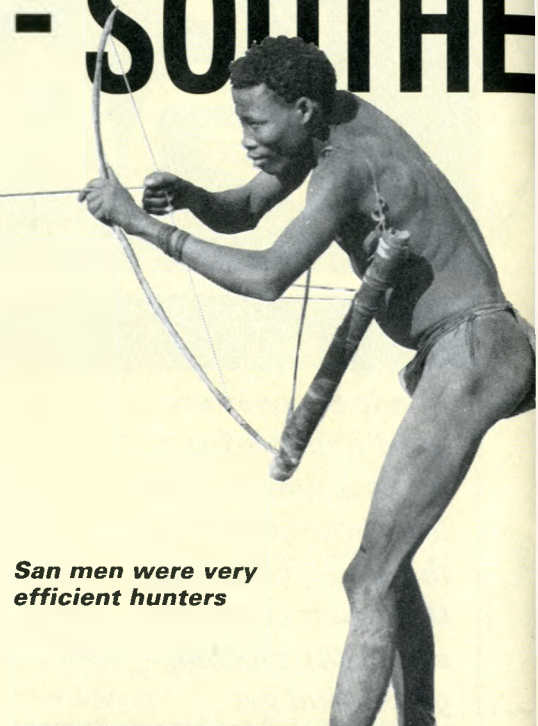
The arrival of the Khoikhoi

About 2 000 years ago, new people moved into southern Africa. They moved onto the land the San used. These people, the Khoikhoi, were pastoralists. They kept sheep and cattle. But they also hunted wild animals and collected wild vegetables like the San did.

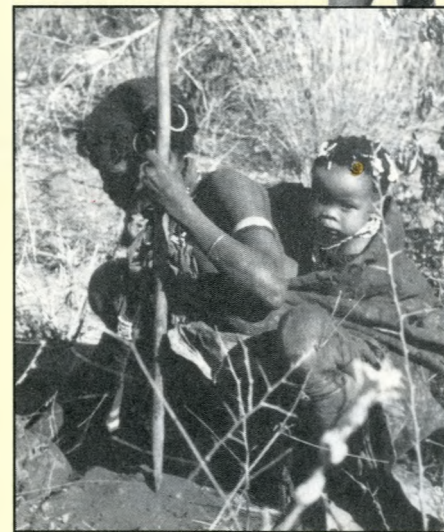
Soon the Khoikhoi and the San were fighting over land. The Khoikhoi won this struggle and took over much of the land the San had used.

The San could not survive without land. Some stole cattle and sheep from the Khoi to survive. Others gave up their independence and joined the Khoi community. They worked as servants for the Khoi.

Some San simply fled. They moved further north to escape the Khoi and their herds. Then in the 1600s and 1700s the Dutch arrived. Later the British settlers came. They pushed the Khoi off their land. So the Khoi



San men were very efficient hunters



Women gathered wild vegetables and roots, using digging sticks.

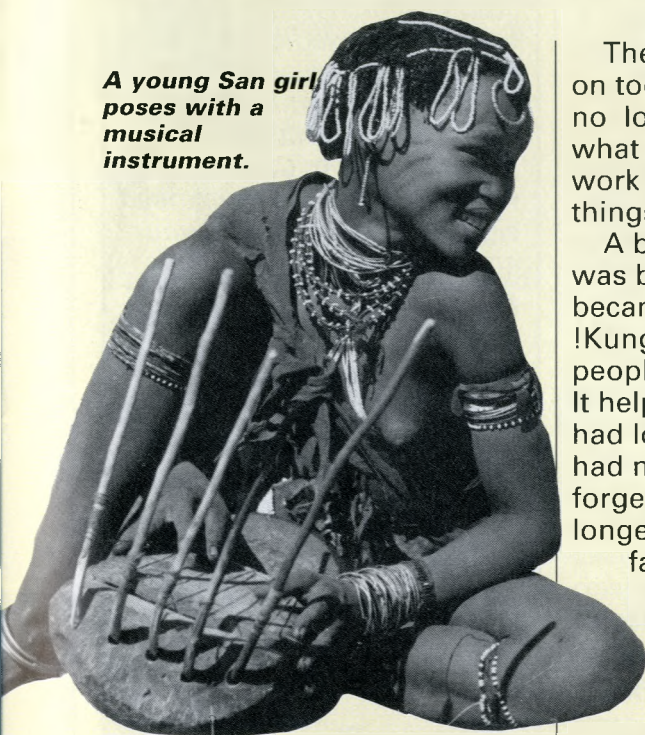
moved north, pushing the San ahead of them. Eventually the San found shelter in the Kalahari Desert. No-one else wanted this land; no-one else could survive there.

The !Kung of Nyae Nyae

One of the San groups who fled to the desert were the

RN AFRICA'S FIRST PEOPLE

A young San girl poses with a musical instrument.



!Kung. They lived in a place called Nyae Nyae near the border between Namibia and Botswana. Up until 1960 the !Kung were still hunting large wild animals with their poisoned arrows and gathering wild plants to eat.

Nyae Nyae was very difficult to reach. Cars and even trucks got stuck in the sand. Tyres were punctured. Or the seeds of the tall grasses caught in radiators and made engines boil. This helped to protect the !Kung's way of life. People from the outside could not get to them.

A place of sadness

In 1970 a very sad thing happened to the !Kung. The government divided the land around Nyae Nyae. The !Kung were left with only one third of the land they had used.

San women wait to vote in the first Namibian elections. Since then the San have organised a conference to talk about their problems.

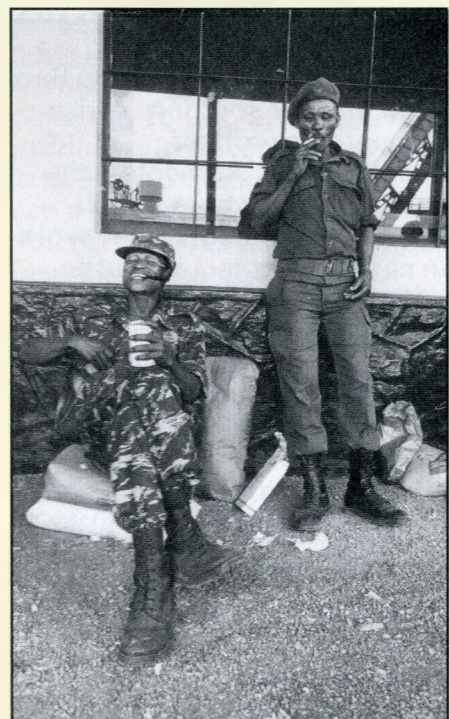
There were too many people on too little land. People could no longer hunt and gather what they needed. They had to work to earn money to buy things to live.

A bottle-store in Nyae Nyae was built. Drinking soon became a problem in the !Kung community. It helped people forget their problems. It helped the !Kung forget they had lost their pride as they had no work. It helped them forget that they could no longer provide for their families. The only work San men could find was working for the South African army in their war against SWAPO.

Today that war is over, there are no jobs. So some San people work on farms for very low wages. But most San are unemployed. And San children have lost the skills of hunting and gathering.

Holding onto hope

But the San have not given up hope. In June 1992 they held a conference in Windhoek to talk about their plight. The San from Namibia demanded better treatment. They want to control Bushmanland. And they want the Namibian government to help them farm



The South African army employed many San men during the Namibian War of Independence. Now that the war is over, few San have jobs.

and manage the wildlife there.

Now the San are planning a second conference. They are hoping that the San from Botswana and South Africa will be there. They hope to find ways to make their lives better. ◀



**EXPLORING
THE PAST**

**TURN
TO PAGE 36**

The San – EXPLORING THE PAST

Historians are like detectives. They search for clues about the past.

Historians know that the San lived all over southern Africa through the work of *archeologists*. Archeologists study places where people lived very long ago. They work in caves or protected places.

They dig around to see if they can find tools and other things, which were used long ago. They collect what they find and use these things to work out how people used to live. They also use rock paintings to find out about the San long ago.

In southern Africa, archeologists found tools similar to those used by the San today. That is why historians believe that the San were the first people in southern Africa.

Historians also use material

collected by *anthropologists*. Anthropologists study the way small groups of people live. In the 1950s an American anthropologist, Margaret Marshall, went to live with the !Kung. She wanted to find out how they lived. One woman called !u told this to Margaret Marshall:

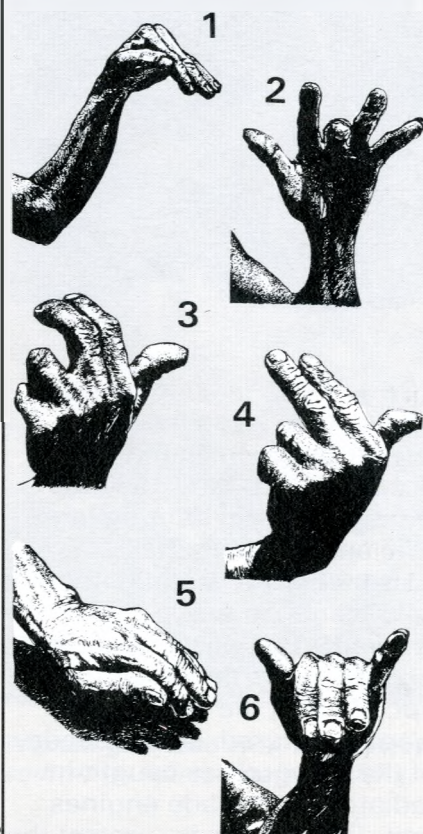
'We, like people all over the world, depend on our environment. We take care not to kill all the animals or use all the plants in one area. We do this by moving from place to place. This gives the plants and animals time to grow again.

'The custom of sharing is something we believe in very strongly. The idea of eating alone and not sharing is shocking to us. Lions do that, we say, not people. Nobody owns the land and everybody has the right to use it.' ◀

COMPETITION - TIME -

Win copies of 'The Broken String' and 'These Small People' by entering this competition. Here are six hand signs used by the San. Hunters often needed to communicate with each other silently and this is how they did it. Can you work out what animals these signs represent? Send your answers on a postcard to:-

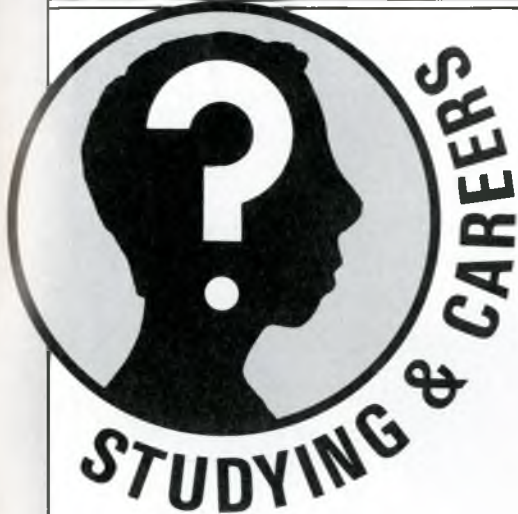
Upbeat San Competition
P O Box 11350
Johannesburg 2000



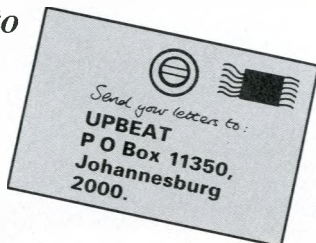
Closing date:
31 March 1993

The information in this article comes from two books. One is *The Broken String* by Emilia Potenza; published by Heinemann Centaur. The other is *These Small People* by Candy Malherbe; Published by Shuter and Shooter.





Problems with studying and careers? You are not alone. Write to us at:



Study tips

Dear Upbeat

I am a student in Std 9. I want to pass my matric exams so that I can go to university. I want to start studying from the beginning of the year. My subjects are; North Sotho, English, Afrikaans, Biology, Geography and Agricultural Science. Please can you tell me how to study effectively. My biggest problem at school is English. Do you know of any books that will help me?

Muriel Mello, Mphahlele

Dear Muriel

Thank you for your letter. It is a very good idea to start studying for your exams at the beginning of the year. But it is important not to work so hard that you are tired out by the middle of the year.

Practise speaking and writing English as much as you can. Ask your teachers if they will mark extra essays - or ask your friends to go over them with you. Listen to the English radio. Watch English TV programmes. Read as much as you can in English. Read the

newspaper and magazines like Upbeat.

For your studying subjects, try to study actively. This means that when you read through your textbook, you must take notes. Taking notes helps you to remember. You can also use your notes as a summary. This will help you when you revise your work later.

SACHED Books have two books that will help you with English. They are called *Read Well* and *Write Well*. You can order them by sending R15.00 each to Sached Books, P O Box 11350, Johannesburg 2000

Editors

Choosing a career

Dear Upbeat

I have just completed school and I cannot decide what to do. Please send me more information about these careers; journalism, clerking, computers and sales and marketing.

Elias Mdluli, Springs

Dear Elias

Thank you for your letter. Here is the information you asked for.

Journalism

Journalists work for newspapers and magazines. They collect information, interview people and write stories. To become a journalist, you must write well. You must also know how to collect information and how to interview people. You can study journalism at:

Rhodes University, P O Box 94, Grahamstown 6140, or at one of these technikons: Cape Technikon, P O Box 652, Cape Town 8000; Natal Technikon, P O Box 953, Durban 4000;

Clerical work

Clerks work in offices filing, typing and doing general administrative work. Commercial colleges train people to do this. You will find addresses of commercial colleges listed in the Yellow Pages telephone directory.

Working with computers

There are many different careers in computers from data input to computer programming. You can find out more by writing to:

Computer Society of South Africa, P O Box 1714, Halfway House 1685

Marketing

Sales and marketing includes door-to-door salesmen through to marketing managers who plan how to sell different products. To become involved in sales and marketing, you can be trained while you work. You can also do a diploma at a technikon or a Bachelor of Commerce at a university. To find out more, write to:- The Institute of Marketing

Management, P O Box 91820, Auckland Park 2006. Good luck

Editors

Finishing school

Dear Upbeat

I am 19. I work in a garden on a plot in Rietkol. I want to finish my schooling. I tried to stay at school but I had no money and no uniform. I did not even have a jersey for winter. So I left school after Std 5, in 1987. Now I want to go to St Gregory's. Please send me their address and tell me where I can get a bursary.

Johannes Maudi, Eloff

Dear Johannes

We are very sad to hear about your problems. You can write to St Gregory's College at P O Box 482. Estcourt. But I don't think they will help you because you are 19. If you want to study at an adult education centre, you can write to the Education Information Centre at P O Box 62270, Marshalltown, 2107. They will give the address of the centre closest to you. If you need a bursary, write to:- South African Institute for Race Relations, Bursaries Dept., P O Box 32597, Braamfontein 2017.

Editors

WILLIE WORDWORM

v = verb
adj = adjective
adv = adverb
n = noun

NEWSBEAT

to be grateful (v) - to be thankful for something



BLANCA, THE MEXICAN FIREFIGHTER

specialist (n) - someone who knows a lot about something

synthetic (adj) - material which is man-made

THE SISTERS OF HIP HOP

to admire (v) - to have a high opinion of someone

disrespect (adv) - to have no respect for someone



TALKSHOP

prejudice (n) - an unfair judgment of people based on race, sex or religion

PANTSULAS, RASTAS AND HIP HOP STYLES

to sway (v) - to make someone think like you



to highlight (v) - to emphasise an important area(s)

elections (n) - voting for a person or party

to cheat (v) - to gain advantage by tricking others

ballot box (n) - a box into which ballot papers are dropped after voting

dye (n) - a colouring substance

THE CAPE TOWN
TRADE UNION
LIBRARY

CHILDREN IN JAIL

to be terrified (v) - to be filled with great fear

charges (n) - wrongs that you are accused of doing

trial (n) - when you go to court and a magistrate decides whether you are guilty or not

cell (n) - a room in a jail

court (n) - a place where you go for a magistrate to decide your case

magistrate (n) - the person in court who decides whether you are guilty or not

criminals (n) - people who are found guilty of breaking the law

THE WORLD IN A BOX

to invent (v) - to make something new
eg. a machine

SHORT STORY — NEIGHBOURS



carcasses (n) - the bodies of dead animals

The actor who hated acting

festival (n) - a big show where actors or musicians perform



The San - SOUTHERN AFRICA'S FIRST PEOPLE

adventure (n) - an exciting experience

pastoralists (adj) - people who keep livestock, eg. cattle and sheep

hunter-gatherers (n) - people who lived by hunting animals and gathering fruit and roots

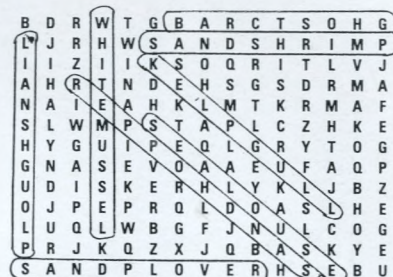
UPBEAT LUCKY COMPETITION WINNERS

Winners of the Tevin Campbell albums:

Busisiwe Mohamme;
Soshanguve
Jannie Wyngaard;
Ocean View
Brenda Jafta; Kimberley
Pamella Qalaga;
Fort Beaufort
Tandi Nkwadi; Transkei
C.M. Augusto; Sydenham
Duduzile Singeni; Daveyton
Alois Kassen; Namibia
Floyd Nelson; Katlehong
Peter Sebelo; Phokeng

PUZZLE ANSWERS

THE
Sandy Beach
CLEAN-UP SQUAD



Kelp gull



White mussel



Sea louse



Plough snail



Ghost crab



Sandhopper



Sand shrimp



Sand plover



Michael Jackson's concerts are a huge success. Two robots wiggle to the beat of the music. A laser beam flashes across the stage. All these special effects are made possible by computers. Four computers control the lights and sounds. Discover the amazing world of computers on page 20.

