

# RHODEO

rhodes' most rosy paper      may '88



THE MERRY  
MONTH OF  
MAY?





# ALTERNATIVE LECTURES

The series of "alternative lectures" provided by Nusas-SRC aims to provide all students with topical information on areas that are not always covered sufficiently on TV, in the commercial press or in our normal university courses.

Prof Peter Vale opened the lecture programme in the first term with a lecture entitled "Why Generals are inevitable: White Power in South Africa", which was an introductory overview and assessment of the South African political and social situation.

The second lecture was presented by visiting American researcher Dr Dudley Weeks and dealt with the lessons South Africans could learn from the Nicaraguan experience.

Dr Jeff Peires, a senior lecturer from the History Department, rounded off the first term with a discussion of truth versus fiction in South African history.

This term the alternative lectures kicked off with a seminar entitled "Afrikaner Nationalism - Political Passion, Cultural Compulsion, Economic Enthusiasm: which?". The seminar was presented by

head of the History Department Prof Davenport.

Lectures coming up this term include discussions of:  
(i) The homelands system and migrant labour, to be presented by Monty Roody of the Sociology Department;  
(ii) The trade union movement in SA to be presented by Eddie Webster from Wits (speaker still to be confirmed);  
(iii) Repression of the media in SA, presented by Tony Weaver, ex-news editor of the Cape Times; and  
(iv) The Southern African Region, to be presented by Prof Peter Vale

Topics to be dealt with in the third term include the crisis in the SA economy, Inkatha, extra-parliamentary politics and organisations, sanctions and international problems eg Aids, the depletion of the ozone layer and climatic changes.

All the alternative lectures are to be held in Zoo Major at 7.30 pm on Thursdays (a change from the previous Tuesday night slot). The programme as it appears in the last SR Scene has been altered due to some minor problems. A new publication of the revised timetable is currently being prepared.

Dr Alex Oulton, new lecturer in the Psychology Department, is a man of kaleidoscopic experiences - the facets of which range from studying in Belfast and Nottingham to living in Denmark to lecturing in Zululand. Of particular interest to Rhodes students, however, are the five years he spent lecturing at the University of the North, Turfloop.

He was lecturing at Turfloop in '85 and '86 when unrest was rife on the campus and the army was camped there.

How did the turbulent conditions affect him? Sometimes he would hear the loud singing of marching students; army vehicles would invade the campus, accompanied by sjambok-wielding policemen.

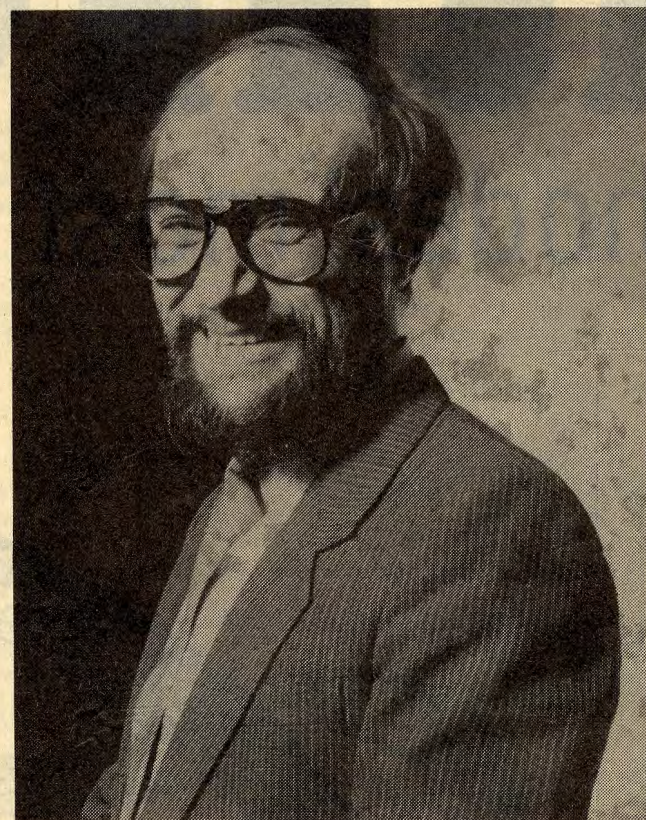
Students would flock into his lectures seeking refuge (record-breaking attendance at stats. lectures!). "Please give us a lecture", "How about Hebrew?", "Anything!"

These conditions made lecturing very difficult and almost non-existent. Student boycotts of lectures compounded the problem of dropping standards at a university which had, until then, attempted to maintain a high academic standard.

With its scenic and climatic beauty and its modern buildings, Turfloop is a government showpiece with excellent facilities as a part of the pretty package. But the polarised nature of the university's hierarchy with its ultra-conservative whites and highly politicised blacks is the cause of much dissension. The almost irreconcilable extremes could sadly be described as a South African microcosm.

The tense and fearful conditions are hardly conducive to successful

# OULTONATIVE LECTURER



learning. Dr Oulton sympathises with those students who attempt to overcome the difficulties of their deprived backgrounds and disadvantaged Bantu Education, and respects those who are determined to achieve against all odds.

After Turfloop, Dr Oulton lectured at Bophuthatswana where, he says, the standard was shocking. Matriculation was not an entrance requirement and as a result students couldn't manage, as

they were not used to hard work. He was forced by the officials to be satisfied with a very low standard. When he refused to comply with the farce, he was deported.

Dr Oulton was very impressed by the brotherhood and optimism at a recent NAMDA (National Medical and Dental Association) congress, and believes that this spirit of goodwill and resilience is necessary to pave the way for a better society.

## TOWARDS A HEALTHY FUTURE

A FOCUS ON COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAMMES

DOCTORS must equip community health workers with medical skills to empower disadvantaged communities to control their own health, the fifth national conference of the National Medical and Dental Association (NAMDA) was told last week.

Dr Diliza Mji, president of NAMDA, told the conference that the solution to the health crisis lay in the fundamental restructuring of the socio-political situation.

He said the political situation in the country continued to be the single most important cause of ill health and disease.

The theme of this year's conference was "People's Health, the Way Forward".

The conference, which was held in Port Elizabeth, came at a time when the Cape is hard-hit by the killer disease, tuberculosis (TB) - with more than 2 600 cases reported in the Western Cape in 1986.

The conference also focused its attention on the training of people from the community in first aid to deal with crises that might arise.

Another speaker, Rev Mcebisi Xundu, chairperson of the East Cape Council of Churches, urged medical professionals to guard against being alienated from disadvantaged communities by the class interests of their profession.

A Transkei village health project, which trains health

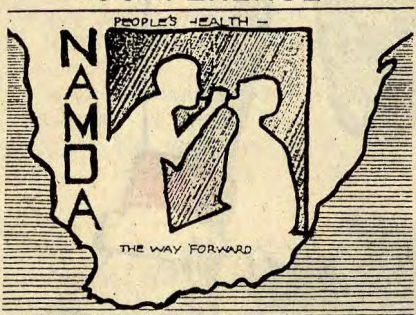
workers, was also represented at the conference. Melanie Alperstein, said the project had been extended to improve the economic base of the community and included gardening and water projects.

The work of the village health worker was to be mainly preventative as specified by the Transkei Department of Health, the conference was told.

Another notable speaker was former Robben Island prisoner, Govan Mbeki. Mr Mbeki had been invited to deliver the keynote address but because of his restrictions, he could not.

His presence, however, symbolised the presence of the "entire national leadership including your comrades in arms, Nelson Mandela, Oliver Tambo and all others in jail and in exile," according to Dr Mji.

4TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE



GUEST SPEAKERS: Prof. G Mattison DMD, MS  
University of Florida USA.  
DB Werner, California,  
Director Hesperian Foundation.  
DATE: April 8-10 1988.  
VENUE: Port Elizabeth.  
ENQUIRIES: Office (041) 411618, 546876  
After Hours: 815001.

OPEN TO ALL - MEDICAL AND NON-MEDICAL

## Did You Hear ?

\* The Eastern Cape region of Capab will have a new director.

Mr Alistar Cockburn, a master's graduate, has been appointed to the position to replace Mr George Loopuyt who has been promoted to director general in Cape Town.

The new regional director, who is the head of the department of music and senior teacher at Pinelands High School, has been the regional vice-president for

the regional vice-president for the Western Cape of the South African Society of School teachers. Mr Cockburn will take up his duties on July 1.

\* The SABC TV's Cliff Saunders received a foreign award for his documentary on liberation theology. The award came from the ultra right wing Association of Religious Broadcasters. All cranks love Cliff it appears.

\* The South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) released a statement describing the Botha visit and proposals as "just an extension of the ongoing clamp-down against democratic and anti-apartheid organisations in South Africa itself."

\* "We do!" say 69% of Nationalist Party voters in Natal. They were interviewed as part of a survey asking white voters which leaders they would like to see in a

"Kwa Natal" government. Inkatha's Buthelezi was the favourite among Nationalist Party voters.

\* The State President, P.W. Botha, announced proposed extensions to the powers of the Administrator General in Namibia last week. These extensions allow for restrictions on the Namibian media and progressive organisations.



\* P W Botha's suggestion at the Huguenot Festival that schoolchildren should recite the preamble to the 1983 constitution means asking schoolchildren to subscribe to principles not upheld in the legal system, said UNISA law lecturer, Prof Marinus Wieders.

Wiechers added that the problem was that the constitution lacked fundamental acceptance as the majority of South Africans were not involved in drawing up and adopting the constitution and that it therefore lacks legitimacy.



\* Visiting the SADF display at the Rand Easter Show this year was like walking into a full-scale war zone.

The prize winning display showed off a number of riot vehicles as well as the new and not so familiar Olifants and Water Buffels. Police control was evident in the paintings which showed white citizens at the mercy of black hoodlums, and a mural which depicted a "police to the rescue" situation in black township.

Children were able to watch theatre production in which "terrorists" were apprehended after plotting to kill a security policeman.

\* The biggest exporter of manufactured goods in SA today is ARM SCOR. Last year alone the company exported R1.8 Billion worth of military equipment to 23 different countries.



# Living on a shoestring

ON MAY 1 this year, it will be 102 years since American workers demanded an eight-hour working day - a demand which modern-day South African workers are still fighting for.

The workers in this country have been fighting for other things apart from the eight-hour working day. They have also been fighting for a better wage - a "living wage" as COSATU had campaigned for last year.

RHODEO spoke to some workers in and around Grahamstown to find out if these two basic demands have been satisfied.

"I work 12 hours every day of the week, getting every second weekend off. At the end of the month I take only R150 home," claimed one Rhodes res cleaner, who did not wish to be named.

Ms X says her job includes cleaning rooms for male students, cleaning toilets and helping in the dining hall.

"I am looking for another job but work in Grahamstown is very scarce," she added. "My problem is that cleaners from other universities earn at least R500 per month and those universities are not as expensive as Rhodes."

The minimum wage for workers at UCT was R512 per month in August last year.

A worker in one of Grahamstown's hotels, told RHODEO that she earns R160 a month for 18-hour working day. She works every second day. Put differently,

The worker, who wished to remain anonymous, says she has been working at the hotel for the past 25 years.

Wages for domestic workers are also known to be notoriously low. They work for long hours and earn very little. It has been reported that an ordinary salary for a domestic worker in Grahamstown is as low as R30 a month for seven-days-a-week's work with one day off once a month.

These are some of the most shocking figures. Other workers earn better wages but the difference is not much.

In general, workers in the Eastern Cape have gone through bad experiences - from being told that "blacks are babies" by one firm in East London to being replaced by robots.

But it seems the traditionally militant workers in this region will never give up. As they done in the past, they will reiterate their demands on May Day. Who can blame them? They have suffered enough.



Res cleaners work up to 12 hours a day, some earning less than R200 a month

## Hope for conscripts

PAUL TEETON talks on alternative national service

The National Catholic Federation of Students (NCFS) has taken up a national campaign proposing alternative service for conscripts through the church.

The campaign envisages churches employing conscripts on missions, in church schools and on agricultural schemes for two years at a private's pay. If the proposals are accepted they will extend to other Southern African countries such as Lesotho, Zimbabwe, Namibia and Botswana.



Rhodeo spoke to NCFS President Paul Teeton about his views on the programme:

"I believe that the movement to combat military conscription in SA has come up against a brick wall. Due to repressive action by the state, the voice of ECC has been silenced.

"This alternative service programme has potential to give the anti-conscription movement a shot in the arm as a viable, structured and planned alternative.

"Even if the government doesn't accept the church's proposal, the fact is that young men will have given two years of their lives towards a worthwhile cause which involves great sacrifice."

Paul and National Co-ordinator Brian Leong outlined the proposed alternative service programme in a lecture given last night. This will be followed up by an executive conference from 6-8 May where a more comprehensive strategy will be formulated.

## Marching to Pretoria

The NUSAS National 'Ban Apartheid not Democracy' Campaign recently drew together 70 students and academics from over the country in a single-file procession on the Union Buildings in Pretoria.

The procession was held in protest over the bannings of 17 organisations, including SANSCO, a student organisation, on 24 February this year.

Students from all the English campuses, as well as RAU, Tukkies and Stellenbosch, presented petitions calling for the unbanning of the organisations, and endorsed by over 200 student societies to a policeman outside the Union Buildings for delivery to the State President.

To avoid being classified as an 'illegal gathering' (two or more people), students in academic gowns walked up the path through the Union Building gardens in single file 50m apart, while

small groups of riot policemen dotted around the lawns watched and made derogatory comments.

On presenting their petitions, students had to give their names while a police photographer and cameraman took their pictures.

Rhodes SRC President Patrick Tandy said the procession had been successful as a protest but that opposition to the bannings could not end there. The banning of SANSCO had, he said, been clearly designed to cripple the non-racial alliance between NUSAS and SANSCO which had strengthened considerably during the past year.

Only by actively carrying forward a program of non-racialism on campus, in co-operation with Black Students' societies, could the government's action be meaningfully opposed.

## One day in May

"EIGHT hours for work, eight hours for rest, and eight hours to do what we want."

This was the initial demand which united American workers in 1886, and which is now internationally recognised as May Day.

A hundred and two years ago the demand for an eight-hour day had strong appeal, and was able to unite the working class across many countries. May Day became a symbol of working class unity.

May Day has always been celebrated by workers, trade unions and workers' political parties. The 1st of May has become a symbol of the workers' struggle for a new society, where workers will enjoy political power and control over their lives in the factories and in their communities.

In South Africa, May Day was first celebrated in 1904. In those days, it was only the white workers who were organised in trade unions.

After 1948, the Nationalist government tried to repress black trade unions and political

organisations. However, during the massive 1950 May Day, the call was "Down with Apartheid! Down with Passes! We want Freedom!"

The 1950 celebrations were to be the last big May Day event for many years. More and more the government cracked down on workers and political organisations, and for 32 years, May Day was not celebrated.

During the 1970's, black workers in South Africa began building their trade unions again. Since 1982, workers have started celebrating May Day with meetings and rallies in many parts of the country.

In 1986 the giant union federation COSATU, with the help of the United Democratic Front (UDF), demanded that May Day (as well as June 16) be declared paid public holidays.

Twice within weeks, between 1,5 million and amillion workers paralysed large sections of the economy by supporting these demands, and attending mass rallies.

The political climate in general served largely to strengthen

COSATU's industrial strength and worker militancy continued to express itself despite massive unemployment, recession and repression.

Part of this repression included a bid to "incorporate" May Day into the Apartheid calendar when on March 23 last year, PW Botha announced that the first Friday in May would be regarded as a public holiday - called "Workers Day".

He thus attempted to side step recognising May Day, but conceded a holiday on his own terms. Many employers, however, had already been prepared to give their employees a paid holiday on May Day.

Workers nationally, have rejected "Workers Day", and intend to continue the push for May Day.

This year, workers are faced with two problems: (i) COSATU has been restricted to handle only "union-related matters" and (ii) May Day falls on a Sunday.

But it is common knowledge that workers will never sacrifice May Day for anything - even if means being harassed by the government. May Day is one of the rights.

## Creepy complaints

What do a fly, cockroach, worm and a Rhodes student have in common? They all eat res food.

Some enjoy it so much that they lose themselves totally in their meal - only to be discovered by more hungry predators - Rhodes students.

In the space of one week, one dining hall had the dubious honour of being surprised by a cockroach in the quiche, a worm in the salad and a fly on the fish.

This was much to the envy of another dining hall, whose victims only managed to find a cockroach under a pizza and another in the syrup.

Judging by this invasion of the creepy crawlies, it can be deduced that an insufficient food budget has forced the catering staff to use this alternative protein source.

Most students feel that not enough research has gone into this novel food supplement, as many of them have suffered the side-effects of very unusual bowel movements.

Let's hope there's no truth in the saying "you are what you eat!"





# Formal dinners split Smuts Hall

A petition recently circulated in an Smuts Hall has reopened a debate around the issue of formal dinners.

The formal dinner last year was replaced by a special buffet meal to accommodate black students, who believe formal dinners carry the "vestiges of imperialism".

The Hall Warden wrote a letter to all students in the hall last year informing them of the proposed alternative and asking them to indicate whether they were willing to try the buffet supper as an experiment.

44% of the 60% of students in the hall who replied were in favour of the experiment and last year's buffet became the first hall function in three years to be attended by both black and white students.

The petition recently circulated called, however, for "urgent steps to be taken towards the resumption of this important tradition".

The initiator of the petition said "this university is supposedly run

in the Oxford tradition - I see a formal dinner as part of my university experience."

"It is an occasion where the whole res, ideally black and white, should get together for a sort of civilised occasion."

We'd like to try and emphasise that we do not see formal dinners as representing apartheid and colonialism in any way."

The Jan Smuts House committee has sent out a survey to gauge student opinion and will then negotiate with the BSM in an attempt to reach a settlement.

According to Smuts Hall SRC representative Jon Rees, the meeting between the house committee and BSM would hopefully "find a compromise and solution which is not merely acceptable but also appealing to the whole hall."

"Jan Smuts, as a community, live together and all need to recognise each other's aims and desires."

A BSM spokesperson said that the issue of the petition was still under discussion but that BSM members would still attend buffet meals, if they were held, in the meantime.

# Oppies advice

Is the monthly rent you are paying for your digs too high? The Oppidan Board and Nusas-SRC investigated what could be done.

Their original goal was to try and co-ordinate a rent control assessment for each particular student house, as requested.

From the first phonecall, however, this was shown to be impractical. The Rent Control Board, situated in Port Elizabeth, supplied the Oppie Board with the following information:

- They do not have records of all the houses in Grahamstown at hand.

-They do, however, have some records of Grahamstown. So if you are thinking of investigating your rent, check to see if your house is among those which have come up before.

-Rent Control applies to all houses built before 20 October 1949.

-It is not applicable if the house is furnished, or if the monthly rent includes, for example, lights, water or food.

-Members of the Rent Control Board will travel from PE to Grahamstown to assess the house.

-They only respond, however, to

requests made in writing. The address is:

Regional Representative  
Rent Control Board  
Private Bag 3930  
Port Elizabeth  
6056

The Oppie Board can thus at best provide students with information as to the correct channels to follow, according to a spokesperson for the Board. Students who are experiencing problems should feel free to approach either Nusas-SRC or the Oppie Board.

\* \*

If any Oppies wish to rent out their rooms, houses or flats during the July Standard Bank Festival, the Oppie secretary is acting as a liaison between Oppies and festival-goers.

If you are interested, contact the Oppie secretary Chloe O'Keefe in the Oppie Office (student union), soon. She has a list of festival-goers needing accommodation during the festival. She can also advise you on rent to charge and precautions to take for safe-keeping of your property.

# State vs Tutu

A confrontation between the church and State started when the State President PW Botha accused the Archbishop of Cape Town, Desmond Tutu, of preaching under South African communist Party's flag.

Tutu denied this accusation and challenged PW Botha to provide proof to back his statements. Archbishop Tutu said that he supported the aims of the ANC, but deplores their methods. Tutu said to Botha: "I want you to know that I have never listened to Radio Freedom nor do I have the opportunity to read Sechaba (an ANC

publication).

Archbishop Tutu said that apartheid is unchristian immoral and evil. He said that he is committed to work for a united non racial just and democratic South Africa.

Tutu said that PW Botha must lift the state of emergency, unban political organisations, release all political prisoners and permit exiles to return and sit down with the authentic representatives and leaders of every section of our society to negotiate the dismantling of apartheid and drawing up a new constitution that will be acceptable to all.

A year ago, 250 black students marched to the administration buildings and presented a number of demands around the bursaries issue to university officials.

Essentially the Black Students Movement (BSM) claimed that the University was discriminating against black students when awarding bursaries. RHODEO interviewed a BSM spokesperson about the present state of the bursaries issue and whether any of the demands have in fact been met:

RHODEO: How does BSM view the bursary issue?

BSM: We believe that our campus cannot be divorced from the broader dynamics of South African society. The structures of control on campus reflect those in the broader community. Students have no control over their affairs, just as communities in the wider society have no control over their lives. So the bursaries issue is a manifestation of the tensions that exist in the broader community. For instance, a lot of students who have the requisite capabilities and drive to succeed at university cannot finance themselves and are then faced with this type of discrimination. It should be up to Rhodes to provide for these needs, but many students get turned away.

When students approached the BSM for support on the matter, the administration was consulted, but when admin failed to respond, a concentrated bursaries campaign was launched.

RHODEO: Could you outline some of the major demands of the campaign?

BSM: For one thing it was decided that black students would no longer deal with Mrs Mills (the

# Bursaries- nothing much has changed

bursaries officer) because she has no understanding of problems faced by black students. This is not a reflection on her as a person, but of the society we live in. We demanded that a new person with credibility and understanding be appointed who would act as a student advisor and a bursary officer for black students.

RHODEO: Was this demand met?

BSM: Well on a superficial level, it appears as if they have been met but on closer analysis, nothing has really changed.

For example, our demand for representation on the bursaries committee in senate was "met". We were allowed two representatives, but as students have no voting rights on senate sub-committee, we have no real influence on decisions taken there.

We have not got anywhere in extending student control over affairs that affect us directly.

Similarly our demand that the bursary forms be changed has not been met. At present, the criteria for getting bursaries are financial need and academic

merit, but this does not take into account the broader dynamics of South Africa's education system.

Bantu Education is grossly inappropriate and inadequate, and this puts black students in a disadvantageous position with regard to acquiring bursaries. It is therefore inappropriate to place so much emphasis on academic merit.

The bursary forms have actually been changed but only in so far as more emphasis was placed on the role that students had played in their communities. The criteria are therefore still unsatisfactory.

RHODEO: Does the University see it as its duty to provide funding for particularly needy students?

BSM: Senate issued a statement which agreed that the university should take it upon itself to provide funding for needy students. But there has been no fundamental change since last year in this regard. There are still long queues in Mrs Mills' office, the fundamental problems remain.



some much-needed liquid sustenance. They say the way to a person's heart is through their stomach, but this is ridiculous....

\*

Still on the subject of the Settler's Marathon, we've heard that SRC president Patrick Tandy entered but didn't manage to make it all the way to the finish. Running the SRC is probably enough exercise to keep one man fit.

\*

Dedicated reggae fans who attended the recent Clubfoot reggae jorl were horrified when a large group of drunk and aggressive Despatch rugby fans decided to broaden their horizons and pop in for a bit of fun. Unfortunately their idea of fun didn't fit with anyone else's, least of all the Clubfoot management, who have fun when they're earning money from people who pay the amount that they're supposed to. To everyone's great relief, the intruders were bounced out as quickly as they'd bounced in, with the help of irate women who were insulted by their behaviour.

\*

After a weekend of being tapped on the head by Ian Mikenzie and showing off newly acquired degrees at the graduation garden party, 400 of Rhode's graduates discarded their academic gowns and headed for the 1988 Grad Ball.

200 couples x R25 = R5000! For this staggering sum of money our intrepid graduates were greeted with one bottle of semi-sweet plonk per couple, drinks, snacks, and high energy muzak. No wine glasses were provided and only one corkscrew was in circulation. Many students suspected that the snacks consisted of leftovers from the grad garden party.

In addition, if the newly-grad wanted to leave the Great Hall after 10.30 pm, they were not allowed back in again due to over-tired door staff.

Mark Bunting of "Mental Health" was heard to announce over the PA system, "This has been the best Grad Ball in years". On wonders what they did last year. chain them to the walls?



# RMR expands

Rhodes Music Radio is to extend its transmission this term, with expansions to Alan Webb Hall by the end of the month and new re-vamped transmitters that will broadcast your campus music station to the tiniest of corners.

And talking of transmission, RER (Rhodes Educational Radio) will be on the air soon, between 7 and 10pm on weekdays and on Sunday mornings.

Amongst other programmes running concurrently with courses in various depts., classical music, comedy, documentary slots and language courses, RER will be running an "Academic Problem Line". Any hassles you may be having in understanding your course could be answered by RER. All you have to do is send a note to the Problem Line - RER will contact the dept/s. concerned, and try to get someone to come on air and explain the problem area.

Dunno if you've seen the new RER studio, right next to the RMR one. RMR has now

become a studio complex, with its office moved up to Room B32, sharing with SASPU and Timo Fey (SRC Education Councillor). Many thanks to John Coombes, who spent his Easter vac. on campus putting the skeleton of the RER studio together, and his continued work this term.

Rock 'M Roll, the new RMR magazine should be out on campus shortly, infact, approximately a week from the date this issue of Rhodoe is out. Just to let you know so you don't miss it...copies are limited in number, so hurry to get yours before someone else does!!!

Anyway, with RMR's transmission extensions, the start of RER and the birth of Rock 'M Roll, your campus radio's communication channels remain as open, if not more so, as they ever have been. Lots going on and more to be happening in our little corner. Stay tuned (reading) for details...

by Philippa Robb  
RMR Chairperson



Gunter Marx and Cathy Fincham living it up at AIESEC's 21st birthday ball held last Saturday.

## Vigilante murder-Ciskei MP jailed

A CISKEI MP who was personally instructed by Ciskei President Lennox Sebe to set up a vigilante band, was jailed for eight years when the group's terrorisation and brutality culminated in the murder of a Zwelitsha youth.

Ciskei MP for Zwelitsha, Kolisile William Matsheketa, and 57 other vigilante group members were charged with culpable homicide, 23 counts of assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm and 14 counts of malicious damage to property.

Evidence showed that the group had been formed in October 1985, after President Lennox Sebe issued a call for residents to take action to protect their homes. In a speech, President Sebe said that residents who did not protect themselves should not expect help from the police.

A second MP, Nomakhosazana Gonya, who was warned as an accomplice, testified that Matsheketa had told her he had received a telephonic instruction from the President to set up the vigilante group.

The group, known in Zwelitsha as "Inkatha" or "Amafanikosi", operated with government vehicles, was billeted on a state-owned farm, and was given money from the ruling Ciskei National Independence Party.

It reported regularly to the now defunct Committee of Four, a kind of "Super Cabinet" in the Ciskei.

The brutal murder of Zandisile Matyolo, in October 1985, finally led to the group's arrest.

Evidence was that the vigilantes were patrolling when they were attacked by a "group of boys". After fetching reinforcements from their camp, the group moved from house to house looking for youths, and any they found were beaten up.

Matyolo had been found in his house and chased to a nearby brickfield where he was cornered and beaten with sjamboks and sticks.

A witness to the killing said that the vigilantes had "finished him off" with a stone, saying: "This dog takes a long time to die".

# ANC murder: ex-Rhodes student held in Paris

LIKE many young white South Africans who leave the country due to conscription, ex-Rhodes student, Martijn van Geems, decided to start a new life in Paris in 1984.

Martijn, who once kicked sand in a weakling's face in the SABC-TV advertisement for Black Cat Peanut Butter recently found himself being hauled out of bed at 6 am by six heavily armed members of the French political police.

He was grilled and then dumped in a Paris prison which was a small heated cell with 27 other people.

He was believed to have been involved in the assassination of ANC representative in Paris, Dulcie September.

He denied any complicity in the assassination and was released 36 hours later after much interrogation.

Still seething with anger, Martijn said the police had cleared him completely. "They said I was a victim of a dirty trick," he said.

"Who would want to do this to me? I'm just a musician. Sure, I am politically aware. That is why I fled South Africa in 1984 and came to live in France as a political refugee.

"But my sympathies are entirely on the left. Someone set me up and I want to know who.

"They concocted a whole story about how I was sent the money to pay the assassin, the lot. It seemed as if it was a sophisticated and planned move," he continued.

"The presidential elections in France are affecting everyone, and when there was no sign of any arrests after Dulcie's murder, pressure was placed on the cops.

"One would expect this sort of thing to happen in South Africa, not here in France," he concluded.

## Cross-border raids: diplomacy SA-style

ON DECEMBER 9, 1982, troops raided Maseru in Lesotho killing 42 people, 30 of whom were allegedly ANC members, while the rest were Lesotho civilians including women and children.

The ANC, however, denies that the homes attacked were ANC headquarters as the SADF has claimed.

On the other hand, Lesotho accused South Africa of murdering women and children.

\* ON MAY 23, 1983, SA Air Force planes bombed what the SAAF claimed were ANC houses in the Maputo suburb of Matola.

Six people, including two women and two children, were killed. The SADF said its planes destroyed six ANC bases, killing 64 people, including 41 ANC guerillas, and destroyed a Mozambiquecan missile site.

However, foreign journalists touring the scene reported that the targets were a Jam Factory, a day care centre and ordinary suburban homes.

\* ON OCTOBER 17, 1983, five Mozambicans were injured when South African forces attacked an apartment block close to late President Samora Machel's residence.

The SADF said the building housed offices from which the ANC was "planning a series of attacks in South Africa".

The ANC said the flats did house some of their members but the attack also hit a clinic and a library used by refugees and had injured only civilians.

\* JUNE 14, 1985, the SADF attacked 10 houses and offices in Gaborone killing 12 people and wounding six others.

The SADF claimed four of the dead were ANC operatives.

Gaborone reports said not one of those killed had ever been a member of the ANC military wing and only five had any dealings with the ANC on some cases only extremely tentative links.

\* ON MAY 19, 1986, the SADF launched a triple-pronged raid into Zambia, Botswana and Zimbabwe.

The WEEKLY MAIL reported at the time that there was "little" evidence that more than minor military damage was done to the ANC.

Some of the many attacks are carried out in the form of letter bombs and hit squads.

In extreme cases, there is suspected collaboration between the SA government and a foreign government. For example, the killings of ANC guerilla Mazizi Attwell Maqukeza in his hospital bed in Maseru and Mrs Dulcie September in Paris, and the attack on exiled lawyer Albie Sachs in Maputo.

## 'Z-squads': SA repression abroad

IT HAS been said in Paris that the South African Government, has a top secret weapon known to Western Intelligence Services as "Z-Squads Incorporated".

British, Belgian, French and United States Intelligence officers based in the French capital, say the squads are highly efficient bodies that are mostly autonomous.

"We believe the squads are often used without clearing the action first with the SA government," an informed intelligence source said from Paris.

The assassination of ANC "ambassador" Dulcie September

in Paris on March 29 unleashed a flood of information about the squads.

It is claimed that they have a "hit list" of 20 ANC members and sympathisers. Lawyer Albie Sachs, victim of a recent car-bomb blast in Maputo, was on the list say sources.

A "Z-Squad" operating in Western Europe is headed by a man with an Afrikaans name. He was questioned by British security offices in London's Heathrow airport in company with another South African, whose name has not been released. One of them had a list of ANC members' names.

The British authorities allege that they alerted their French colleagues about Dulcie September but she was not informed nor given special police protection.

Reports in Paris say the "Z-Squad" was supported by a French group of extreme Rightists who have been named in the French press and who, it is alleged, have links with South African officials and the French Interior Ministry.

The weekly "L'Evenement de Jeudi" said that the squads next target were ANC members living in Switzerland, who had been warned by the authorities.



# YCS - action theology

YCS is a new and dynamic society of students. Rhodes - RHODEO spoke to coordinator David Qotile Mbeki to find out what it was all about...

What is YCS?

YCS (Young Christian Students) is an interdenominational organisation of students. Our theology developed from the NCFS and Young Christian Workers, however ours is slightly different to the others. YCS has essentially emerged from the development of critical theology in our country.

What distinguishes YCS from other student Christian organisations on campus?

We believe that to be Christian means to act. We build the Kingdom of God through our actions. This differs from the theology of many other Christians who emphasise that God brings the Kingdom. Because of this our theology of action is expressed by YCS members being the salt of the earth and the light of the world" (Matt. 5)

In pursuit of this theology YCS becomes engaged in politics - is there any incompatibility between politics and Christianity?

We in YCS do not see politics in abstraction. What you call politics, is to us an opportunity to exhibit our Christianity through action. Our involvement in the struggle is an attempt on our part to build the Kingdom of

God today. We reject the "pie in the sky" theology. What you call politics is part of our daily practise as Christians.

It has been argued that YCS is an exclusively black organisation - what is your reply to this?

YCS has adopted the option of non-racialism. This explains the need for brotherly and sisterly love as we refer to One God as Our Father. Non-racialism talks about one country, one people, not a society divided by greediness and racism. In this situation we need to act and assert our position as Christians irrespective of race and colour.

What is YCS's relationship with other Christian organisations on campus?

We don't have formal relations with any particular organisation. We do, however, have working relationships, particularly with organisations of Theology students and Cathsoc. Moreover we have working relationships with other religious organisations such as the Moslem Student Society and the Hindu Student Society. An example of this working relationship was our joint commemoration of Sharpeville Day.

How do you see the future of your organisation?

YCS has an important role to play on campus. Our future will be determined by the extent to which we succeed in carrying out this role.

UNIVERSITY of the North (Turfloop) was closed by the Admin because of stayaways on the 18th of March (the day the Sharpeville Six were to be hanged) and on 21st of March (Sharpeville Day).

They were also complaining about food conditions. The Vice-Chancellor and rector of the University, Prof Pothinus C Mokgokong, said the university was closed because students were not interested in studying.

Although lectures proceeded, the hostels were later closed. The Admin alleged that hostels were used as a base for "disrupting the academic work".

The students saw this as an attempt by the Admin to coerce them into submission. Most of the students live far away from the Northern Transvaal.

The stayaway succeeded despite the presence of a contingent of security forces, SADF, SAP and Lebowa Police.

Many students were accommodated at the nearby Mankweng township. The majority stayed at the local Methodist Church.

The Northern Transvaal Council of Churches (NTCC) provided food to the displaced and discarded students.

Female students who returned to the University after it was closed suffered sexual harassment from "wolves in sheep skins".

The students were forced to sleep in the veld as a result. They faced sexual demands from people who offered accommodation for them after Turfloop hostels were closed.

## Turfloop hostels close - students homeless

Those who slept in the veld said that they feared going to churches and houses in the township because they were usually raided by the security forces. They were held and prosecuted for trespassing.

One of the students said that she had found a tree where she and her friend slept. "I was very scared of what might happen to me. I thought of snakes and other dangerous animals. We spent the whole night with ants crawling all over us", she said.

The student said that she had approached one university official the following morning for help, but he told her to go back to the tree.

Other students said that male students who had rooms outside the campus had a "field day" with stranded girls. One girl said that she and four others were offered accommodation by a staff member.

"He went out and got four of his friends", she said. Towards midnight the host said to them, "as we were five men and five women we should all behave like

adults and pair up for the night"

When they refused he told them to go, they went next door where they were accommodated for a night.

Students who were accommodated at the Methodist church in nearby Mankweng township were raided and arrested for alleged trespass. Some paid admission of guilt fines while others had charges against them withdrawn in court.

The secretary of the Northern Transvaal Council of Churches, the Reverend A N Maja, said that the council and its member churches were faced with big problems every time the university closed the hostels while the academic programme was supposed to be continuing.

The rector, Prof P C Mokgokong issued a circular in which he said a meeting will be arranged between students and Admin to discuss students' grievances.

"Firm action will be taken whenever necessary. Shame on the dastardly and faithless activists who care less about causing so much suffering and expense to innocent students", he said.



Winnie Mandela congratulates veteran anti-apartheid activist Helen Joseph on the occasion of her 83rd birthday  
Picture: ANNA ZIEMINSKI, Afrapix

## 16 from East Cape on death row for political crime

A TOTAL of 16 people from the Eastern Cape are presently on death row - including one facing a triple death sentence for killing two police informers.

This is according to the records of Save the Patriots Campaign which was launched by the South African Youth Congress (SAYCO), in solidarity with the 'Sharpeville Six'.

According to the records, Golondile Gxexwa, received a double death sentence in February, after being sentenced to death last year.

On both occasions, he was facing charges of killing an informer.

Gxexwa's crimes, like those of the 15 others, are politically inspired.

Also amongst those scheduled to hang are three men from Grahamstown. They are: Mxolisi Malgas, 35, Micheal Mambukwe, 28, and Lulamile Maneli, 27.

They were sentenced late last year for "necklacing" three women in Stutterheim.

Vuyani Jacobs, who appeared with Gxexwa in February this year, received a double death sentence for the murder of an informer.

The 11 other people on death row are:

\* Thembisile Bancti, 35, of Alice, to be hanged for killing a vigilante.

\* Mtutuzeli Ngqanda of Uitenhage, to be hanged for killing a policeman.

\* Mzwandile Gqueba, Wanto Silinga, Lunki Wana, Thembin-kosi Feet, Mzwandile Mningi, Monde Tihgwe of Queenstown.

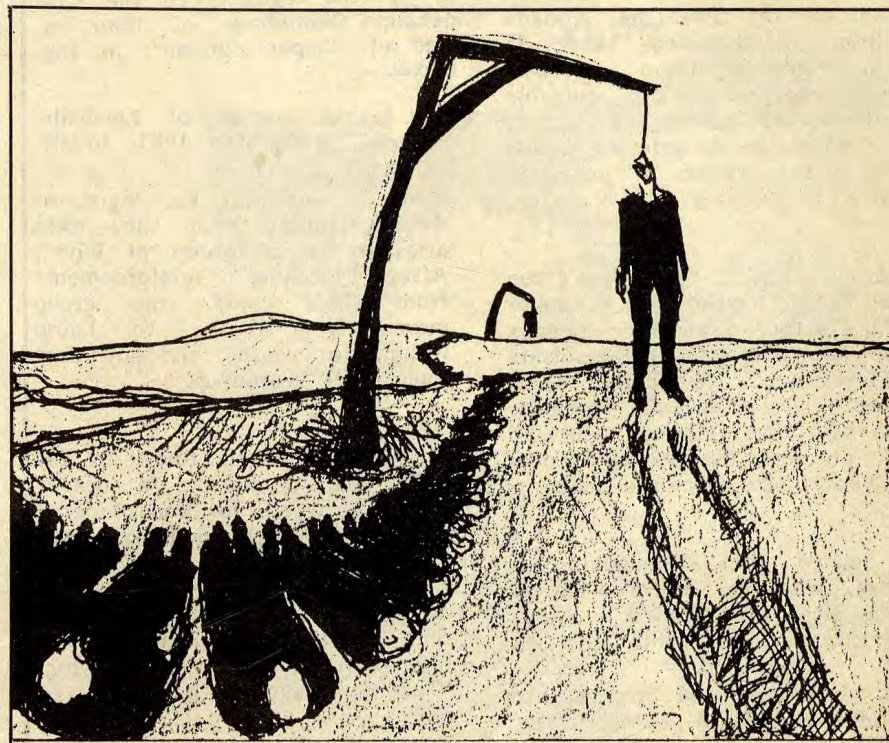
\* Mlondolozzi Gxotiwe of Port Elizabeth, to hang for the

murder of a policeman.

\* Also to hang is Tozamide Mooi and Xolani Stuurman.

There has been a marked increase in the number of people hanged for politically related killings - killing informers and vigilantes among others.

At the moment, there are close to 50 people in South Africa on death row.





## CREDITORIAL

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Hugh Callaghan  
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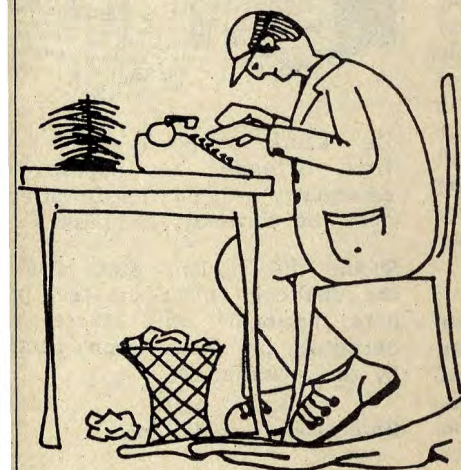
PIX  
Jackie Cameron  
John Hodgekiss  
Jackie Murray



Post-pasteup portrait

Nicky Newman and Marijana Baleta (eds)  
Rod Amner (features, SASPU)  
Vusi Khama (national)  
Noel Ndhlovu (regional)  
Pam Sykes (campus)  
Nanti Steyn (arts)  
jackie Cameron (pics)

RHODEO is the official student newspaper of Rhodes University. The editorial board are under contract to the SRC but are given full autonomy. It is published by the SRC and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the editorial board or the SRC. Correspondence may be addressed to: RHODEO c/o SRC Rhodes University Grahamstown 6140. Telephone 27171



# Editorial

The political vacuum left by the banning of 17 anti-apartheid organisations in February this year has resulted in increased pressure being placed on the church as the last hope for continued resistance.

This transition seems not to have passed unnoticed by the state: recent attacks on prominent church leaders have strategically isolated them from their religious constituencies by implying links with Moscow.

After Botha's recent threats to Archbishop Desmond Tutu, one wonders how far state repression of the church and freedom-loving institutions will go. When Cosatu's political strength began to become a source of anxiety to the state it promptly curtailed the congresses political activities - will the same be done to the church? Are we soon to see legislation defining Christianity in such a way that the church's activities will be limited to non-political activities only?

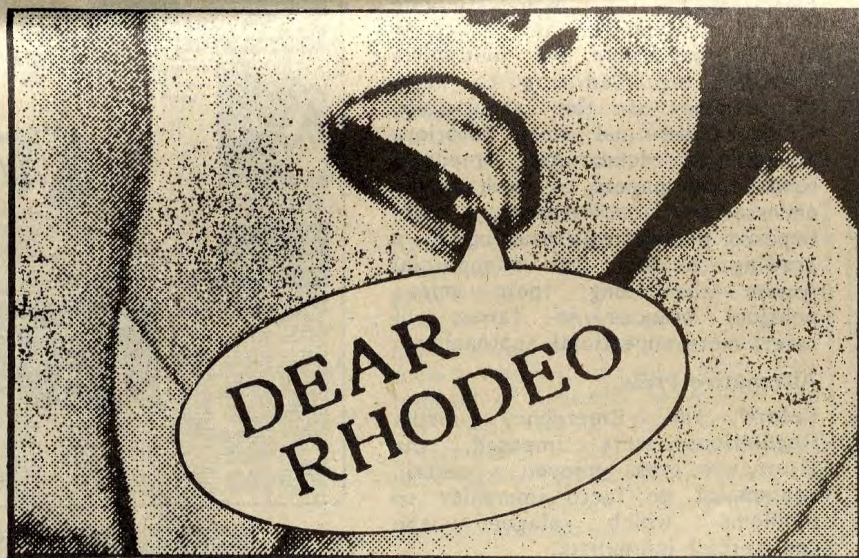
We doubt that a definition of church activities which excludes politics is possible even for the South African Government - but at least Botha's running battle with the churches can only tire him out sooner.

Grahamstown's new R41-million bypass was recently opened by Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning Mr Chris Heunis, amid a blaze of publicity and mutual congratulation for all those involved.

But the negative effects which had been feared from the beginning are already making themselves felt. It was claimed that the bypass would open the Eastern Cape for tourism, but for Grahamstown all it means is that people drive straight past without noticing. Grahamstown businesses reported a large drop in turnover on the weekend the bypass was opened.

This is on top of complaints about bad signposting, bumpy surfaces and the dangerous nature of the offramp below the 1820 Settlers' Monument.

From George Street one can see the new bypass, in all its glory, paralleled by rows of unpaved township streets. With all the state's talk of reform and upgrading, one wonders how they could justify spending R41-million on an unnecessary road for some while ignoring basic issues such as food and shelter for others.



DEAR RHODEO

On the 3rd of March 1988 Rhodes University held a procession to voice its protest against the governments banning of 17 organisations.

Although the procession was attended by over 1500 staff, students and academics, the absence of many students and especially academics was noted.

The procession was one way in which academics and students alike who aspire to liberal values could voice their disapproval of the bannings. With increased government repression and the crushing of government opposition there has never been a more apt time for those who can still protest to make their presence known.

I can only assume that all those academics and students who did not take part in the procession approve of the government regulations or just as bad, are apathetic towards them.

For all those who were not there, De Klerk is proud of you.

Yours sincerely, Simon Kirk

## IF THIS IS DEMOCRACY, THEN I'M THE POPE

I ask you one question: "Is this newspaper of yours really democratically-orientated? "

Yes, I've been as sarcastic as I could possibly be. I've let this type of thing pass over my head for five years now. You, the supposedly anti-apartheid-cum-pro-democratic-rulers of the future, call this democracy?

(taken from RHODEO March 1988 edition)

"Another noticeable thing about the protest was the refusal of administration to support the procession. Administration's refusal to support the procession should be challenged."

Now, ask me the same question. I'll tell you exactly what my answer will be: "Do chickens have lips?"

And You want liberty, oh please, man. If this is freedom of choice, then what in the hell do you call democracy. If administration refused to support the procession, who the hell in the world do you think you are to challenge this "free choice.

If you are so democratic, etc. etc. etc. then I would like to see you put this letter into the next edition of RHODEO, and in bold letters too, and word for word.

You can quote me on all of this.

(One thing I've learned during my university career is to be critical, to accept criticism as well as give it. The old Head of department of mine would be happy to see this in the next RHODEO from one of his ex-students).

"Anti-this-type-of democracy" student,

Andrew Fraser

(P.S. you can put name and nom du plume in for all I care).

Dear Pope Fraser

We too hope that your "old" Head of Department sees this letter. We think you missed the point entirely. The whole issue surrounding the protest was the curtailment of freedom of choice. Admin has far more freedom of choice than the 17 banned organisations. About 1000 people at Rhodes were involved in the protest against these very bannings!

## CLUBFOOT REVISITED

- (i) Vulgar Idiot
- (ii) Mislead Twit
- (iii) Nitwit

These are the only words that come to mind about Anthony Collins and his typical snide scribbles of misinformation he has the gall to call a crit.

Anthony Collins...I shudder to use the words, perhaps your ailment can be put down to foot and mouth. Your case of terminal cynicism will only make the obituary, for you I must sink to your level. I hate a bloody fool who is too lazy (or smart) to do his homework and expects to make everybody believe - hoping they'll lap it up - perhaps swaying their opinion.

Perhaps you should have considered the following facts before you put your sweaty, ink-stained paw to paper: Winthrip Mindwarp and the Mangleheads have been playing together for seven months, and have been at the Carlton Cellar in East London since January. They play three sets every Friday night, two of an hour, and the last being and hour and a half in length. Certainly hardcore by any standard! To date WMM has twelve of their own songs which are spiced with variety and the best local goods that you've heard for years.

Perhaps your reaction can be put down to the fact that your favourite group is being threatened. Sorry, Winthrip doesn't do the opposition thing, they'd rather see artists uniting.

Well Ant, sorry I have to dash your hopes of becoming one of the most renowned music critics of all time - who did you think you'd do next, U2? Don't despair, the grannies of Grahamstown and the missionaries of Misleadom are behind you all the way!

I could not find the name or address of the editor of your newspaper - must be hiding - but in the true spirit of freedom of speech, defence of misrepresentation and all that jazz - I'm sure this letter is destined to arrive on your desk; if you feel tooththreatened to print it you may as well take your stock of papers, wordpro etc. and donate them to a worthy cause.

By the way, I hear WMM is writing a new song called 'Foot and Mouth' - I guess you should listen for your name!

WINTHRIP LACERATES!!!  
AN ARDENT SUPPORTER OF WINTHRIP

Les Wilmers  
East London

Do you think he's angry? (eds.)



# The Threat Grows

"This could be the last edition of the New Nation for three months", read the front page of this newspaper on the 17th of March. And so it was.

The suspension of New Nation follows warnings from the Minister of Home Affairs in terms of the new press laws under the Emergency Regulations.

Three weeks later, another newspaper, South, received a final warning threatening to suspend it.

According to the government, both papers are guilty of publishing material which "promotes the banned African National Congress" and other "subversive propaganda".

In an open letter to Stoffel Botha, South's editor, Rashid Seria, said: "It is true that your government is a white minority government which does not represent the majority in South Africa. It is true that South Africa is a racist oppressive society that needs to be fundamentally changed. It is true that our people are engaged in a struggle for freedom, justice and human dignity. It is true that the ANC is a force to be reckoned with."

"These are basic truths, Mr Minister, that South did not create, but that South must report to be true to itself."

In the last issue before its suspension, the two-year-old Catholic owned New Nation, outlined its objectives. Among other things, it had been briefed to "accurately reflect the daily struggles and the social and political reality of an oppressed people".

"For newspapers to be relevant to the people, they must reflect their social reality," editor of New Nation, Zwelakhe Sisulu said before his detention over a year ago.

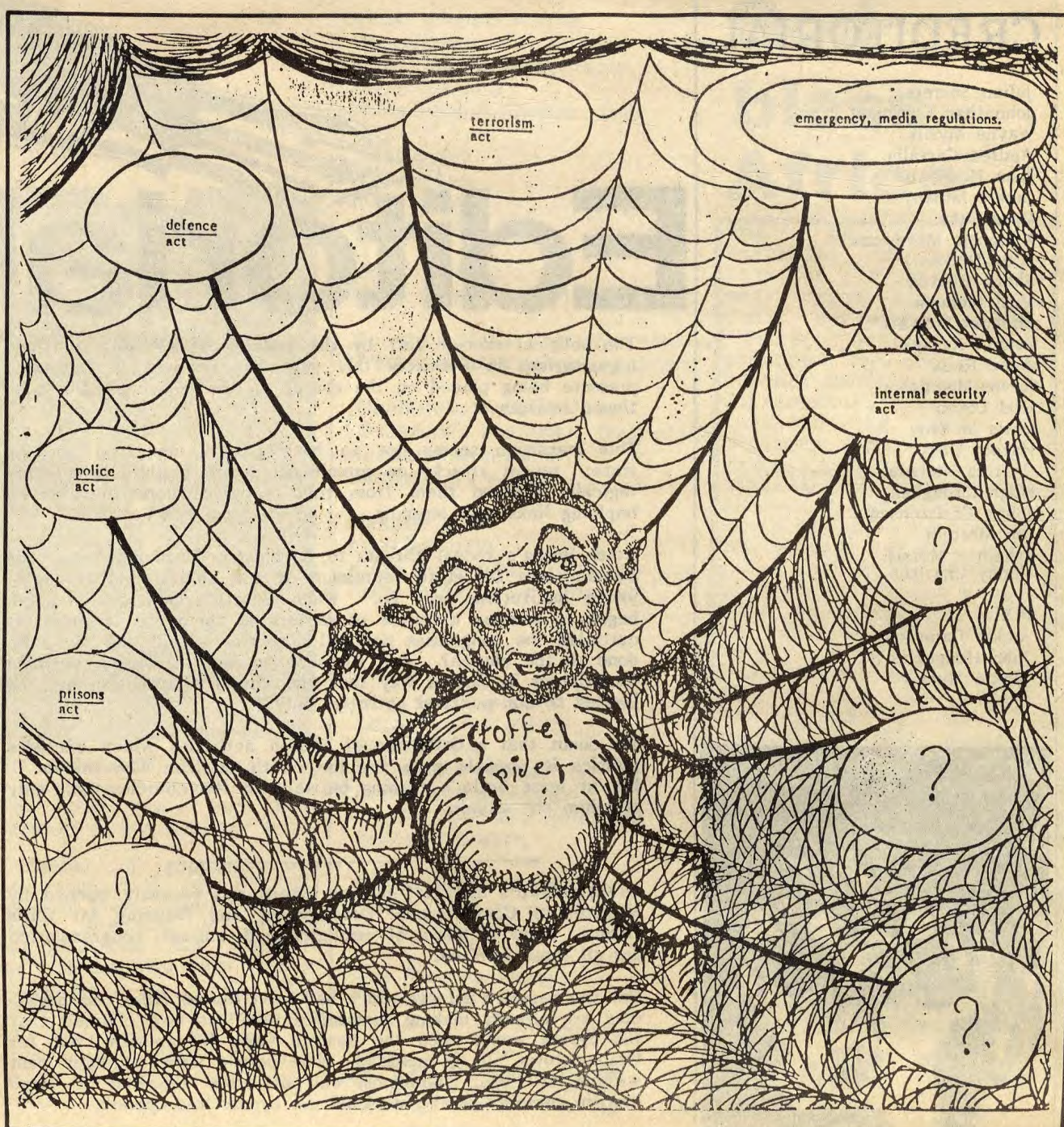
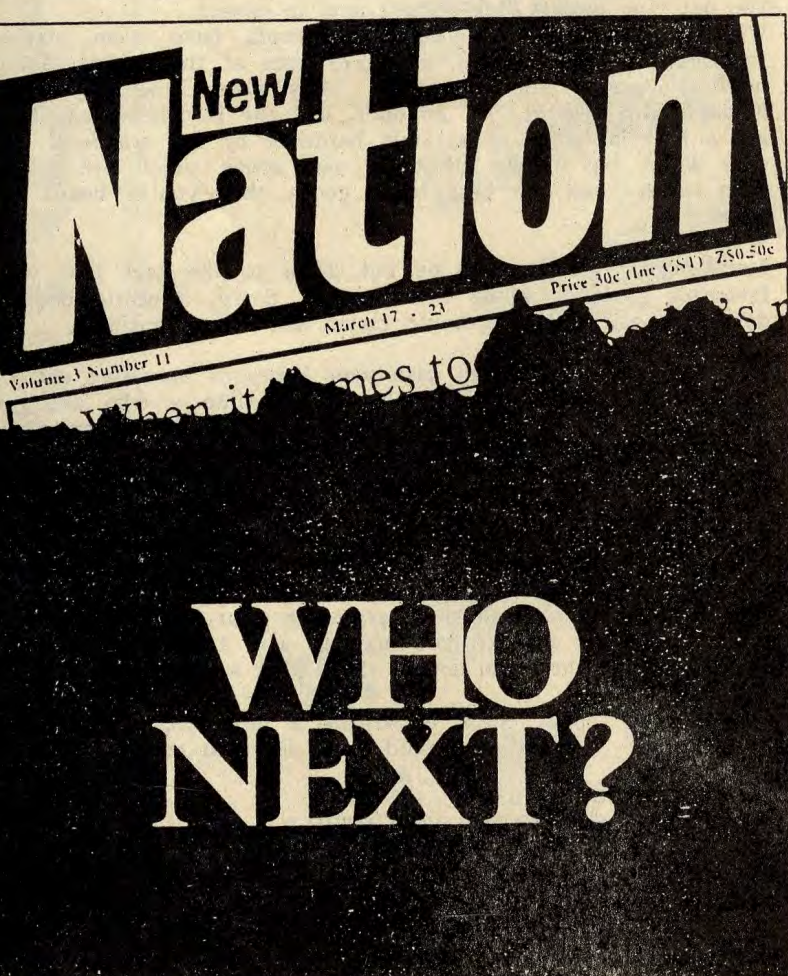
The suspension of New Nation could mean that its registration is terminated by the government in terms of the law: a registered newspaper must publish at least one edition every 30 days. This would also mean that the paper will forfeit its initial registration fee of about R20 000 and it could be asked to pay up to R40 000 next time it wishes to register.

In terms of the new emergency press regulations, the Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Stoffel Botha, has power to give a paper a warning if he thinks it is publishing "subversive propaganda". He may give three warnings and then decide to either suspend it for three months or appoint a censor to make sure the paper does not produce any "propaganda".



The list of "subversive propaganda" cited for warning South, includes: an advert by the Cape Teachers' Professional Association, an advert by the United Women's Congress, and a report under the heading "Lift the Curbs- Clergy Petition Vlok". A huge outcry followed the suspension of the New Nation and the threats to suspend others. In Johannesburg, a number of journalists held a lunch-time placard demonstration around the streets of the city. Messages of support were placed in many newspapers.

Apart from South, other newspapers like Grassroots, The Weekly Mail, and Saamstaan have also received warnings from the government. An implicit question in newsrooms around the country is: WHO IS NEXT? The threat faces all of us.



## Spinning a Web

totally clouded." The addition of completely non-justiciable discretionary powers have made it all but impossible for journalists or their legal advisers to know the limits of the regulations. These latest and most notorious attacks on democratic freedoms have forced papers to work within necessarily conservative, self-imposed boundaries, resulting in a growing number of commercial papers abandoning their strong political stances in favour of safer, more superficial approaches.

### Alternative Press.

Before the Emergency Media Regulations were imposed, the alternative press enjoyed a certain amount of de facto immunity to problems which plagued the commercial journalists.

This was primarily due to factors such as the many advertising and readership concerns faced by commercial papers; but the government's perception of the paper's national importance had also played a part in determining whether it would prosecute.

Furthermore, statements made by the alternative press were often not the hard news reports typical of commercial papers. Tending more towards political commentary rather than 'hard' news, they often fell within what Grogan describes as "a murky area of propaganda not hit by the law".



The State of Emergency, however, constitutes a significant change in the position of the 'alternative' press. The streamlining of the banning process, placing enormous discretionary powers in the hands of the Minister of Home Affairs and Communication, Mr Stoffel Botha, along with a corresponding extension of power to lower officials has made it considerably easier for the government to act against alternative papers. In addition, many of the loopholes which created that "murky area" have been tightly closed by the extremely broad and vague regulations.

### Student Press.

The student press in South Africa has traditionally been aimed at particular concerns of the campus on which it is published. This has created a special problem for university newspapers. Committed to informing and politically challenging the students in its readership, campus newspapers must take care not to alienate

their limited readership.

This can be extremely difficult, as the student body may not be strongly committed to, or even aware of the ideals which the paper is trying to present. The recent crises facing papers like the New Nation have raised questions about the future of the student press. These questions include whether it will be able to fulfill the role of the 'alternative' press, should the latter be neutralised as the commercial press has been.

Though the student press has not, to date, been harassed by threats of legal action to the extent of the commercial and alternative presses, it is by no means immune to assaults on its freedom of expression. Although knocked down by the courts, the



De Klerk Proposals were the first attempt to impose the emergency regulations directly onto the university campuses.

Should the student press rise to the challenge of a greater, perhaps national role, there will certainly be more such attacks by the government.

### Emergency Regulations.

South African legislation prior to the State of Emergency was characterised by two significant features. Firstly, despite the



# The Emergency Facing The Press

In the light of the recent banning of the New Nation and the threats levelled at other papers, such as South African, an assessment on the position of the South African press is necessary. The issue of press freedom in this country is not a new one. For four decades, South Africa has witnessed the gradual decay of what has so often been labelled the freest press in Africa.

## History of Press Restrictions.

The systematic legal control of the South African media began shortly after the 1948 National Party victory when the Official Secrets Act was implemented. This act, now called the Protection of Information Act, controls reporting on "any military, police, or security matters".

The 1950's followed with a considerable amount of legislation, such as the Criminal Law Amendment Act (1953), prohibiting incitement to contravene the law. This act has important implications for journalists who could be seen as "promoting" the strikes and boycotts on which they report. The Defence Act of 1957, which amplifies the Official Secrets Act, enabled the government to keep the South African public almost completely unaware of troop removals in Angola through the 1970s, while European and American papers closely followed their actions.

The Police Act and Prisons Act of 1958 and 1959 prohibited reporting on prisons, prisoners, and police action without taking "reasonable steps" to verify the truth of the report. Significantly, these laws placed the onus of proof on the defence. The prosecution need not prove that the journalist failed to take these steps; the journalist must prove that he/she did. The concept of innocent until proven

guilty seems conspicuously absent from these acts.

In 1959, Laurence Gandar, then editor of the Rand Daily Mail, learned the power of these acts in a court case which financially damaged the paper to such an extent that no one dared report on the prisons system for over 15 years afterwards. More recently, the Eastern Province Herald has been convicted twice in the past year under the provisions of the Police Act.

The decades following added, among others, the Terrorism Act (1967), long considered the nation's most onerous law. It provides for indefinite, incommunicado detention without trial for acts under the broad term of "terrorism". The Internal Security Act of 1982 requires a deposit of up to R40 000 for a paper to register, if it is believed that that paper may break the law in the future. This act has been used heavily against the 'alternative' and black presses, which often do not have the capital for the deposit, or do not dare to risk losing it.

Finally, the Emergency Media Regulations, implemented under the State of Emergency since 1985, and particularly Regulation 123, give the Minister of Home Affairs and Communication almost unlimited discretionary powers to ban newspapers deemed to be "revolutionary". Such a paper need not have violated any laws

By Wayne D. Myslik, Research Assistant to Gavin Stewart, Head of the Journalism Department, who is writing a book on the Rand Daily Mail

to be banned.

## Commercial Press.

The closing web of legal restrictions has had a serious effect on the South African commercial press, particularly since the imposition of the State of Emergency. The emergency regulations have resulted in an entirely new degree of self-censorship in commercial papers. In the past, journalists have been able to interpret the complexity of the laws restricting their profession, and have often dared to push the limits of the law to inform their readership. Papers such as the Rand Daily Mail developed international reputations for refusing to tacitly accept the governmental attempts at silencing political opposition.

The information scandal of 1979 which resulted in the resignation of John Vorster as Prime Minister, demonstrated the power of the press despite the law, while the prisons scandal of 1959, though exposing the horror of South African prison conditions, resulted in a legal success for the government, silencing criticism of the prison system for 15 years.

However, as Mr John Grogan, a lecturer in the Rhodes Law Department points out; "through the extremely vague and sweeping terms of the emergency regulations, the dividing line between legality and illegality has been

## Journalists Unite Against Press Restrictions



Facing a growing arsenal of media regulations which restrict freedom of movement and access to sources, South African journalists find it increasingly difficult to fulfill their responsibility to inform their readership.

Furthermore, actions more specifically aimed at the journalists themselves, such as prosecution, detention, and the mysterious destruction of equipment, effectively hamper the ability to investigate and report on issues which confront millions of South Africans on a daily basis; issues such as boycotts, strikes, and vigilante actions.

These problems have resulted in a growing need for journalists to build unity and strength amongst themselves. The Association of

Democratic Journalists (ADJ) is a new force which, when launched officially in May, will attempt to answer this need. Committed to a non-racial, democratic South Africa and an end to censorship and state harassment of the media, the ADJ has already organised street protests in Johannesburg against the suspension of New Nation. Over 40 journalists participated in these demonstrations.

The ADJ is currently engaged in a debate over the form of organisation it should assume (union or association) but it has already received support from journalists at various papers including the Star, New Nation, the Weekly Mail, Upbeat, Work in Progress, and The Other Press Service (TOPS).

# of Repression

harshness of the laws, the strict limitations on the disclosure of information, and the imposed self-censorship, the decision of what to present within those limits was left to the journalist.

Secondly, the journalist was provided with legal recourse, the courts. Under these laws, courageous journalists dared to test the limits, often publishing sensitive material. Often, the courts determined in favour of the newspaper, when it was seen to have acted within the law.

The State of Emergency, and the Emergency Media Regulations, however, have brought an end to two fundamental democratic rights; the freedom of expression and the right to a fair trial. In effect, the EMR suspend all previous laws, replacing them with the absolute prohibition of the release of certain information, an act which amounts to outright censorship and denial of democratic rights.

Furthermore, the Emergency Regulations seriously limit recourse to the courts. As it is particularly difficult under the vague provisions of the regulations to prove 'male fides', the Emergency Regulations remove the courts as a practical option for the press. The State President, the Minister of Law and Order, and the Minister of Home Affairs and Communication, have been endowed with all but absolute power over the press.

The question which remains to be answered is why the government, on top of such a comprehensive series of laws as already existed, saw the need to implement the Emergency Media Regulations. The answers are numerous. Clearly there was a desire to sidestep the normal parliamentary

processes and to limit judiciary interference, such as fair trials which might overturn orders of banning or closure. Similarly, there was the 'need' to develop much more widespread subjective powers, which would tighten the 'legal' web, closing any loopholes which persisted. The extension of power to lower levels in the political hierarchy also enable a much wider use of that power, rather than leaving the responsibility for all decisions at a ministerial level.

Thus the government found several motivations for granting itself sweeping powers over the life and death of what, ironically, it still describes as an essentially 'free' press.

to reach the people, thus ignores the most basic right and duty of the journalist; to inform the public.

Significantly, with a virtual monopoly of the electronic media and new, all encompassing controls over the press, this propaganda is on its way to going unchallenged. This has been described by Mr Grogan as the "most insidious consequence of the emergency regulations". These regulations, however, have much broader implications for the South African society as a whole. With the removal of freedom of speech and the right to a fair trial, the government has demonstrated once again its complete disregard for the principles of democracy and human rights.



The implementation of the Emergency Media Regulations has had a serious, potentially devastating effect on the ability of the South African press to maintain any semblance of independence and to function as a significant contribution in the South African political arena. Like a dog on a short leash, the press has only that freedom which the government chooses to bestow. This is not freedom at all, but suppression and manipulation. The South African Government, believing that only its own propaganda deserves

## 5 Major Laws That Restrict The Press;

### 1. PROTECTION OF INFORMATION ACT.

- Formerly the Official Secrets Act. Prohibits reporting in any "military, police, or security matters".

### 2. DEFENCE ACT (1957).

- Prohibits the press to "alarm or depress" the public - amplifies prohibitions on reporting of security matters.

### 3. POLICE ACT (1958) and PRISONS ACT (1959).

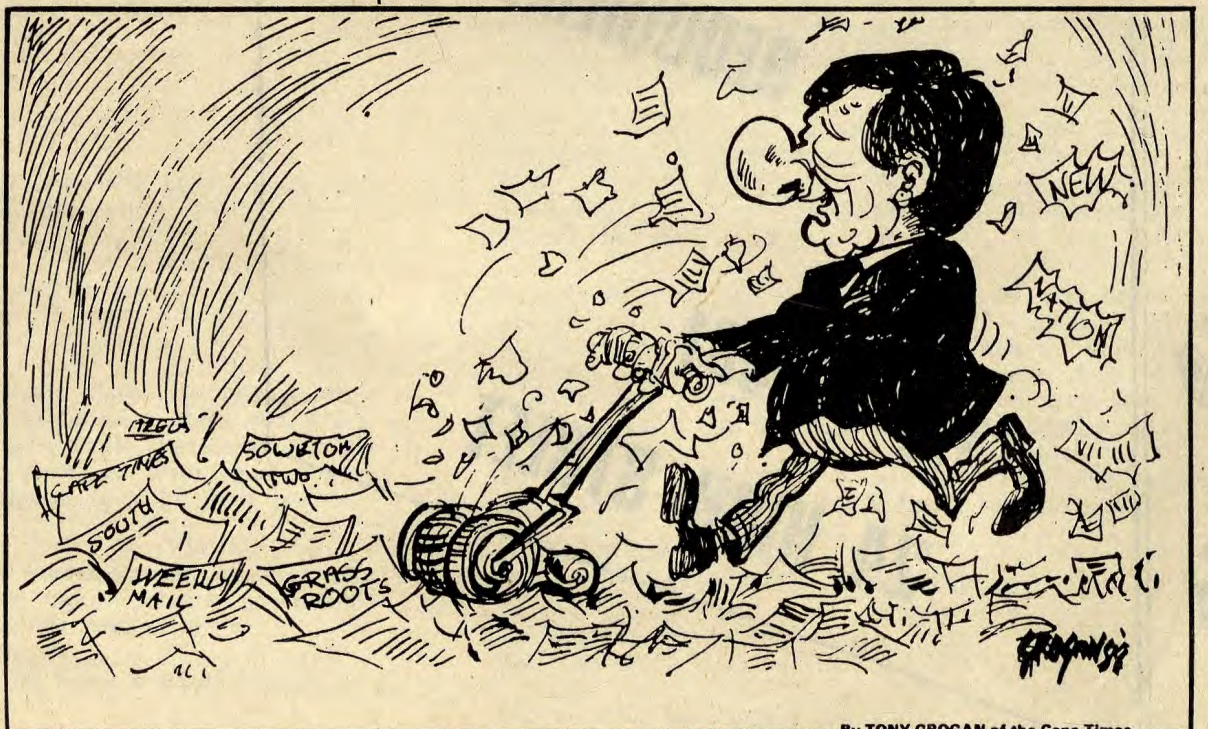
- Prohibits publication of reports or photos of prisons, prisoners, police action.  
- Requires "reasonable steps" to verify information, putting onus of proof in court on the journalist, not the prosecution.

### 4. INTERNAL SECURITY ACT (1982).

- Combines several previous acts, allowing for indefinite, incommunicado detention without trial. Also introduces up to R40 000 deposit for registration of new papers.

### 5. EMERGENCY MEDIA REGULATIONS (1985/86/87/88).

- Particularly Regulation 123; grants significant discretionary power to Minister of Home Affairs. Prohibition of vague action such as "promoting or fanning unrest".



By TONY GROGAN of the Cape Times.



# Die Stem' causes grad controversy



over 800 degrees and about 160 diplomas were awarded at a controversial Rhodes Graduation ceremony held during the short vacation.

The controversy is centred around the University Council's decision that 'Die Stem' should be sung at the ceremony. The decision obviously ignored the results of a questionnaire circulated by the administration to graduates, questioning them about whether 'Die Stem' should be sung or not.

The questionnaire showed that more students were opposed to its inclusion in the proceedings than those for it. Nevertheless, the council resolved to maintain the

status quo because there were a large number of students who were 'neutral' on the issue.

The administration has refused to release the exact results of the questionnaire.

According to one graduate, "the general impression was that 'Die Stem' was not going to be sung". The Rhodes Chamber Choir were told that they would definitely not have to sing it; they were only informed a few hours in advance of the Council's decision a few hours in advance of the ceremony.

According to SRC President, Pat Tandy, "the singing of 'Die

Stem' undermined the dignity of the occasion. It created tensions which could easily have been avoided by simply omitting it".

A number of graduates who were approached by RHODEO expressed their anger over the issue. According to one of them, "graduation was something that I should have been able to have been proud of. But I felt sad to be graduating under such sick conditions. For me, the ceremony epitomised all that I was not proud of in South African society.

"It was elitist and removed from the experience of the majority of South Africa's people", she added.

*Nkosi sikelel'i Afrika  
Maluphakamis' u phondo lwayo  
Yizwa imithandazo yethu  
Nkosi sikelela  
Thina lusapho lwayo (x2)*

*Woza moya  
Woza moya  
Woza moya  
Oyingcwele*

*Nkosi sikelela  
Thina lusapho lwayo*

*Morena boloka Sechaba saheso  
Ofedise dintoa lematsoenyeho*

*(Oseboloke) Oseboloke  
(Oseboloke morena) Oseboloke  
Sechaba saheso  
Sechaba sa Afrika*

*Makube njalo  
makube njalo  
Kude kube nguna phakade (x2)  
Kude kube nguna phakade*

*Lord, in your mercy  
bless Africa  
Lift up the horn of her  
power and strength  
In your love and kindness  
hear our prayer*

*Come, Spirit, Come  
Father, look on us and  
bless your family.*

*May it be so always  
For ever and ever.*

## God bless Africa

The haunting and beautiful 'Nkosi Sikele iAfrika' is regarded by many South Africans as their national anthem. 'Nkosi Sikele' was composed by the Xhosa teacher Enoch Sontonga at Johannesburg's Nancefield location in 1897. It reflects much of the sadness and conditions of degradation, squalor and disease faced by the many South Africans moving to the cities in the early years of this century. Several additional verses were subsequently added by the poet S.E. Mqayr. The song gained popularity at mission schools and was widely popularised by touring choirs. In 1925 it was adopted as the anthem of the African National Congress. It has been translated into a number of other languages and is the national anthem of a number of other Southern African countries. Along with other freedom songs 'Nkosi Sikele' has come to symbolize the struggle for unity and freedom in South Africa.

## Detainee claims of torture

One month ago president of the South African Youth Congress, Peter Mokaba, was detained under section 29 of the Internal Security Act.

Last week an urgent application for an interim order restraining the police from assaulting Mokaba was filed after he allegedly told his mother that he was being tortured. The police are opposing the order.

They denied assaulting him except for the 'necessary force' used during his arrest - hitting him twice on the head with a revolver and butting him three times in his side with a R1 rifle.

For a week police refused to confirm the detention of Mokaba. He disappeared under strange circumstances. South African Student Press Union (SASPU) was informed that, "Mokaba telephoned a Johannesburg activist saying he was being followed. During the call the phone went dead." Mokaba disappeared.

It was only after Wits SRC President Rose Hunter's public announcement that she had seen Mokaba at John Vorster Square

that the police confirmed his detention. According to Hunter, "he was handcuffed and covered in mud."

In terms of section 29, under which Mokaba is being held, he has no access to lawyers.

Three weeks ago Mokaba was moved to Potgietersrus in the Northern Transvaal. People who have seen him report that he has been beaten - his face is swollen and bruised. Mokaba claims in his affidavit that police have kept him in leg irons and hand cuffs for a long period and chained him to a chair. He says he has been deprived of sleep and complains of backache and ankle injuries.

Mokaba said he was assaulted on his head and body with rubber batons, sticks, fists and open hands. After having had Mokaba in their custody for a week the Northern Transvaal police detained his mother and sister.

Mokaba was vital in setting up SAYCO which launched in secret. Lawyers say it seems likely that he will stay in detention for a long time.

## Fedics strike

About 200 Fedics workers at the University of the North downed tools recently in a demand for the recognition of their union and a refund of mysterious deductions from their wages.

The workers are members of the Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union of SA (CCAWUSA)

A Fedics spokesperson Mr Wolf Lange denied knowledge of any strike. The University's public relations officer confirmed,

however, that the stoppage had taken place and said that all enquiries about alternative feeding for the students should be directed to Mr Lange.

A CCAWUSA official said that a meeting would be held with Fedics management to discuss the workers' grievances.

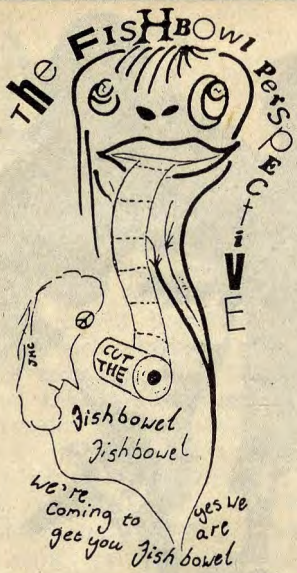
Fedics had earlier been the centre of controversy when students claimed they were being served stale and rotten food.

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'But I'm apolitical,' he whined. 'No you're not,' said someone wearing a NUSAS T-shirt. 'Have a T-shirt,' said another, shoving a black rag with 'Cut the ...' painted on it into his chest. 'Then why don't you join the Apolitical Society?' said a third. 'You don't have any views but you have to wear an apsoc T-shirt.'

Fishbowl finally managed to escape after joining 23 very different and diverse societies, left, right and radical, including some obscure names like Granny-soc, The Friends of Chipmunks Society and the Anti-Lettuce Eating Foundation.

Furtively looking behind him, he ran into the nearest toilet and had a nice quiet (uh-uh Chris, careful now - Ed.) nervous breakdown while reading the graffiti contributions on the wall from the many diverse points of view. 'They're all over the place,' he thought to himself paranoically, his mouth twitching and his eyes shifting nervously from side to side. 'There's no escaping them!' 'Hello,' said someone, knocking on the toilet door. 'Hey, listen, you wanna join Lavsoc?'

It was only a week later when Fishbowl learnt how trapped he really was. The realization arrived simultaneously with hundreds of little of little leaflets, all neatly stapled together and tucked away in his mailbox. This was Fishbowl's first exposure to a notorious phenomenon known as Internal Mail, a curse that would live with him throughout his res life.

Each day Fishbowl would fearfully pee into his mailbox to see a newly arrived batch of leaflets. This is junk mail with a difference, thought Fishbowl. They could send you as much of their crap as they wanted without ever giving you the pleasure of thinking about how much money they must have spent on the postage.

Fishbowl sighed resignedly: 'Will it ever end?' he thought.

Next Issue: FISHBOWL and the TERROR IN THE DINING HALL.

by Chris Mcevoy

## Seven Years for Student Activist

Peter Mnisi, a Wits student has been sentenced to seven years in prison on charges of terrorism.

Mnisi was detained on 26 May at Wits during the change between lectures. According to eye witnesses he was approached by three plainclothes policemen.



He was threatened with a gun and was told that if he ran away they'd shoot.

Mnisi is one of 12 Witbank activists who were convicted. The prison sentences range from three to seven years. The trial focussed on 'eruptions' resulting from school boycotts in Witbank townships in 1985. All the accused were members of organisations - the Witbank Parent Education co-ordinating Committee, Witbank Youth Congress, or the Unemployed People's Congress. According to one of the acquitted in the trial 'these organisations were formed in response to the turmoil of 1985/6. It was the efforts of these organisations which resulted in the resumption of classes in 1986 following an almost total boycott in 1985'. The prosecution argued that the accused attempted to make South Africa 'ungovernable by creating alternative structures'.

Mnisi was involved in church and youth organisation in Witbank. It is not known whether he will continue his studies in prison. He has appealed against the sentence.

# A Spear has Fallen

More than 7 000 people attended the funeral of a SANSO activist and community leader, Miranda Noncedo Ngwedu, at Peddie village on Saturday.

Miranda, 23, died in a car accident on her way to Cape Town. From 1983 to 1986, she was a student leader at Fort Hare, and was also involved in community projects.

Police harassment forced her to abandon her studies at Fort Hare and she went to University of Natal, Black section. A student representative of Fort Hare said 'Miranda fought for a united South Africa. As a student and community leader, her death becomes a national loss. A spear has fallen.'

Many people were turned away at road blocks by the Ciskeian Army. The funeral was heavily guarded by the sjambok wielding and gun toting Ciskeian police. The police presence was criticised by the community - it was seen as a waste of the tax-payers money and could have been used to upgrade houses and assist the community.

The funeral was marked by high discipline of the people who attended. Students from three campuses, Rhodes, Fort Hare and UNB, attended the funeral.

A UNB representative said 'We have lost a comrade of unquestionable loyalty to the community.' The speaker said it was up to the peace loving people of SA to take up from where she left off.



## Opening de beers

Many students have expressed disappointment that the official opening of De Beers House was not the memorable occasion they had hoped it would be.

The political affiliations of certain members of the official opening party caused a black students' boycott of the ceremony. Many found it ironic that Dr. Julian Ogilvie-Thompson, chair of

the Anglo-De Beers Chairman's Fund delivered an opening speech in which he discussed some of the problems and opportunities facing black students, to an audience consisting entirely of whites.

While House Comm members were showing guests around Rhodes' newest prestigious residence, one student claimed he was refused entry into the res

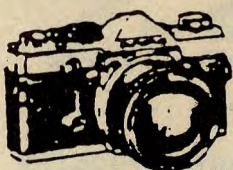
as he was not wearing a suit. He said that he was not allowed to go to his room and change.

Since the opening, it seems as if De Beers House has been plagued with complications, problematic door handles and breaks in electrical supply are amongst the many complaints made by residents of this, Rhodes' newest, architecturally perfect showpiece.

## butler's pharmacy and 1 hour photo lab

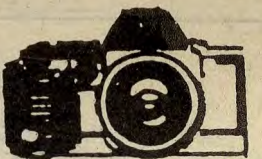
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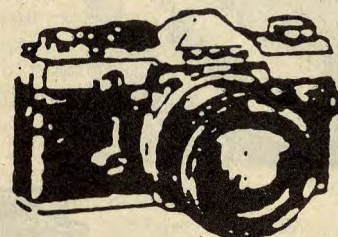


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# Win a Luxavia ticket to Europe

Two return tickets to Luxemburg are the prizes being offered in a South African Students Travel Service (SASTS) - NUSAS nationwide competition, and a single return ticket will be given to the person selling the most tickets.

The competition is being held to raise funds for both SASTS and NUSAS, which are non-profit making organisations.

SASTS was created by NUSAS, and because of NUSAS' strong anti-apartheid stance students have been provided with more travel benefits of this travel service.

Travel perks provided by SASTS include an international student discount card and reduction in flight prices.

Competition entry forms cost R2 and can be obtained from the SRC offices before the draw.



Exactly what did our lecturers get up to when they were students ten years ago?

Here Monty Roodt (left) and Larry Strelitz debate the pros and cons of spending the weekend in admin.

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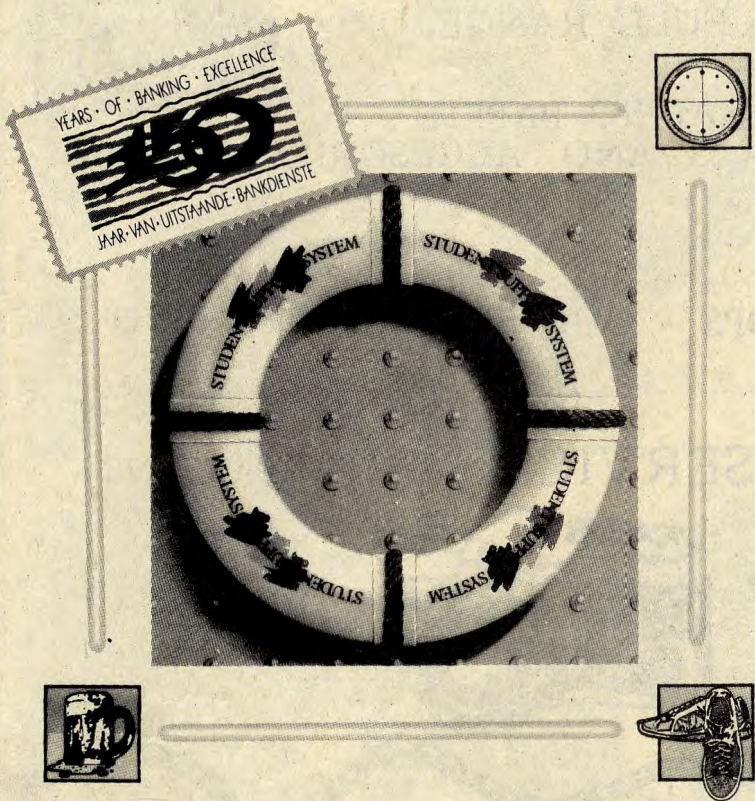
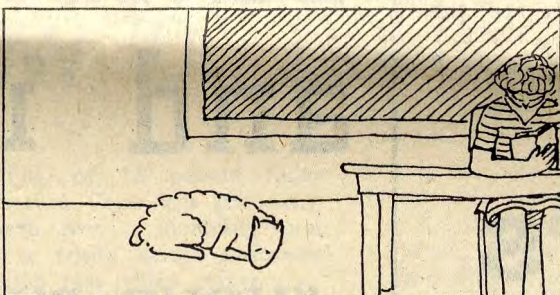
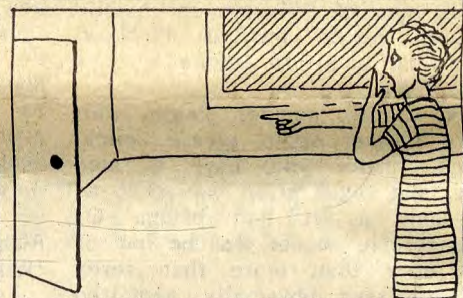
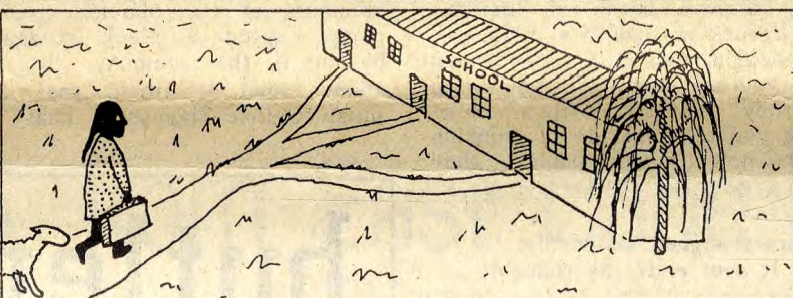
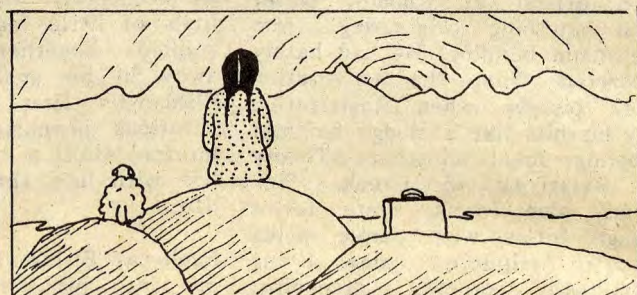
join us for the next newsgathering

**Tue 3rd May. 7.30**

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## BORN TOO LATE

YAH—I GUESS I HAD A **TOUGH CHILDHOOD...**  
TOO YOUNG TO BE A **HIPPIE**,  
TOO OLD TO BE A **PUNK...**





# RHODES BSM BLASTS NATAL

DURBAN - The BSM soccer squad blasted Natal University's Black Students Organisation soccer team in Durban recently by five goals to three.

By playing champagne soccer and showing skill, the home side showed that they are a force to be reckoned with in Satisco circles.

The home side took an early lead when in the tenth minute Geoffrey "Current" Moloi squared the ball which was finished off by Zami "Let them Dance" Tshamase.

Three minutes later, the fast galloping Lincoln Mali surged forward with an amazing speed on the left flank and squared the ball which gave "Let them Dance" his second goal.

The third goal came in the 13th minute when Vusi "Computer" Kama easily beat the goalkeeper.

As the home side grew more rampant, Lungisa "Maradona" Mkhwetshana received a seater and with only the goalkeeper to beat, he shot wild and earned the wrath of the otherwise jubilant Rhodes students.

However, the hopes of the home side were kept alive when the aggressive left winger, Geoffrey "Current" Moloi scored the fourth goal. The half-time score was 4-0.

The second half was played with a fast pace and saw the coastal students playing with more purpose showing classy passes.

But the home side's water-tight defence which was well-marshalled by Ronald Ramabulana, Stambo Simisi, Boy Themeli and Dumile Mzaidume, refused to crumble under pressure.

The goalkeeping of Johnny Mahlangu was also of memorable proportions.

In the 65th minute, the coastal students registered their first goal. Their high-voltage spirit saw them pumping in two more goals.

In the dying minutes of the game, a coastal defender handled the ball in the penalty box and Wonder Siquhaza made no mistake to make the final score 5-3.

The BSM second soccer division lost 3-1.

## OTHER SCORES

RUGBY: Natal 4, Rhodes 16  
NETBALL: Natal 2nd Division 7  
Rhodes 2nd Division 16  
Natal 1st Division 11  
Rhodes 1st Division 10  
SOFTBALL: Natal, 20, Rhodes 2  
TENNIS: Natal 11, Rhodes 3

## Sports Briefs

### LADIES HOCKEY

The Rhodes Ladies Hockey Club has made a sound start to the 1988 season, with the 1st XI drawing 1-1 with the powerful Walmer XI in Port Elizabeth last weekend. In the other matches played, the 2nd XI drew 1-1 with UPE, while the 3rd XI beat Crusaders 1-0.

### LADIES SQUASH

The Rhodes Ladies 1st team played outstanding squash last weekend to beat Crusaders 1st team by 16 games to two. Rhodes Ladies with Springbok Cindy Roberts in their line-up, are the defending league champions.

### INTERHALL SWIMMING

The results of the interhall gala were as follows:

#### MEN

1st Kimberly Hall - 67 points  
2nd Oppidians - 59 points

#### LADIES

1st Hobson - 72 points  
2nd Atherstone - 54 points

### INTERHALL WATERPOLO

Oppies helped by many Rhodes 1st team players, won the interhall waterpolo tournament held on 13 March, with Kimberly Hall runner-up.

## RUGBY

The Rhodes 1st XV rugby continued their scintillating form of late, when they humiliated Swifts 45-3 on Saturday. Rhodes, in recording their best league result for many a year, ran in 7 tries. Bruce Andrew and Jason Venn bagged a brace apiece, while Nick Congden, Mason Cranswick and Grant Ford all dotted down once.

The other 17 points came from the prolific boot of Seamus Sergeant. With Rhodes in this sort of form, the Inter-Varsity against UPE promises to be a closely contested affair.

In the other games, Rhodes 2nd XV recorded a 15-6 win, while the 3rd XV went down 12-6.

## VOLLEYBALL

Four Rhodes Volleyball players have been selected to represent EP in the RSA cup (south) in Oudsthoorn this weekend. (21 - 24 April).

The players: Rico Clotz; Robbie Vlantis; William Hammond and Andre Botes will be playing in the EP 'A' and 'B' teams. The winners of this cup will go to Johannesburg to play in the national cup.

Rhodes league volleyball has been progressing steadily despite losses against UPE and Protea. Both these sides boast two springboks. Results in these matches were: UPE 3-1; Protea 3-1.

## more soccer news

The Rhodes soccer club has started the season with varying success.

The second team is playing good, pushing soccer, while the first team still has some problems to iron out.

Results so far this year for the first team are: Callies 1-1; PE Tech 4-2 (lost); Drosty 3-0 (lost). The second elevens results: Ibhanyi 3-0 (won), PE Tech 1-1, Drosty 5-1 (won).

An injection of new players and the return of old players has raised the standard of soccer at Rhodes. Players worth mentioning are Graham Rate and Robb Barlett.

Rhodes faces UPE on Friday (22 April) in its first intervarsity clash this year.

### RHODES INTERNAL SOCCER LEAGUE

Goldfields, Drosty and Law look like the teams to beat in the new Rhodes Soccer League.

The season began on Sunday at Prospect field. Drosty stamped their authority in the game against DeBeers, winning 9-1.

Goldfields, a new side in the league, showed their calibre by coming back from being down 1-0 to win 2-1.

Law school beat Oppies 6-1 in a tight game that belies the score.



## H O C K E Y

An EP hockey camp is to be held on King Field at Rhodes this weekend (23-24).

The camp's programme of exercises and games aims to improve the players skills. The EP annual general meeting will be held on Saturday.

Five Rhodes players have made the 'A' and 'B' EP sides and will be attending the camp. These players are: Dave Surmon (B), G Marx (A), Bruce Mitchell (capt B), G Kearney (B), and Ant Cowie (B).

Other Rhodes Hockey results are as follows: against Old Grey, Rhodes was outclassed by the six former and present springboks in the side and lost 9-0; Rhodes beat PE Tech 4-2 in a powerful display of pattern hockey. Goals were scored by B Mitchell, D Surmon, S Lubbe and A Cowie.

## GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP



The Rhodes Closed Golf Championship, was held from the 18-21 March, won by Rod Neave and Kassey Valentine in the mens and womens sections respectively.

The mens section was a battle between Nod Neave and Bruce Dickinson. Neave dominated for most of the tournament, with Dickinson only taking the lead on the second day. Neaves scores were 78, 77, 72, 75 for a gross of 308. Dickinson shot: 80, 73, 81, 74 for a gross of 302.

Kassey Valentine won with a gross of 89, the only lady to break 100.

The B and men's divisions were won by J Maree and Brent Jeffries respectively.



"Hitting the Lip" is becoming a growing sport at Port Alfred.



# Festival censored



Three Stanley Kubrick movies, *Full Metal Jacket*, *The Shining* and *2001, A Space Odyssey* have been shown in Grahamstown recently and perhaps a brief overview of these works by one of the most enigmatic masters of cinema would not be out of place.

In his other works, there is a fine line between the riveting and the tedious and few would call even the now classic *2001* a wholly unflawed film, often holding our attention without necessarily retaining our interest. However they must be judged as a whole if their greatness is to be recognised lest the awesome scope of their director's vision be obscured by substituting the director's eye-view for the frog's.

*2001*, long established as a flower child epic, is perhaps the pinnacle of Kubrick's achievement, one in which the vast sweep of human existence, its origins, nature and ultimate purpose, is dramatically portrayed in a gigantic space-quest metaphor.

The *Odyssey* is humanity's search for ultimate truth, symbolised by a featureless, inscrutable yet ominous monolith. The film probes the limits and possibilities of human knowledge, from the first primitive discovery (ironically not to immediate destructive use) to sophisticated Man of the future, dying amidst the sterilised, synthetic trappings of his material achievements but with the 'answer' as beyond his reach as ever.

But it is not a pessimistic movie of totality; the dying Dave strives for truth to the end and the famous final image of the movie, the dying Dave/Humanity transformed into a foetus hovering above the Earth, reminds us of the infiniteness of human potential and leaves us with a traditional image of hope and renaissance.

*The Shining* by contrast is intro-jective rather than prophetic and this time the *Odyssey* is



## Kubrick - travels into and beyond

into the mind of its anti-hero, Jack (played by Jack Nicholson in another typical bravura performance). The enormous, deserted hotel becomes a macrocosm for his increasingly tortured mind as he discovers the horror within himself and, by inexorable degrees succumbs to it. A recurring

This year's Durban Film Festival has been hard hit by the actions of the Publications Appeal Board. Of the 17 South African titles which were initially selected, only 13 remain; some of those are restricted to one screening.

Among the films banned is 'Necklace' by Sith Yela (pseudonym), which has been banned for possession as well. Others are Frontline Southern Africa: 'Destructive Engagement', a British documentary; 'The Dakar Conference' the 5th segment of the Granada TV series which was screened at last year's festival; and 'Girls Apart' by Chris Sheppard - withdrawn because of action taken against the festival. Nicholas Roeg's film 'Aria' was also withdrawn for the same reason.

The Mary McMurray adaption of Barney Simon's 'Born in the RSA' has been restricted to one screening. Most of the remaining SA titles are limited to a certain number of screenings.

Some of the recommended titles include 'The Cry of Reason' by R Bilheimer; 'Asinimali' by R Devenish; 'The struggle from within' by K Harris; 'A Brother with Perfect Timing' by Abdullah Ibrahim (alias Dollar Brand); 'The Ribbon' by H Gavshon; 'Mamma I'm crying' by J Seroke and B Wolpert, and 'Mapansula' by O Schmidt.

The director of the Film Festival, Ros Sarkin, was unable to comment on the interference of the Publications Appeal Board, and the withdrawal of films by Nicholas Roeg and Chris Sheppard.

labyrinth motif concretises Jack's horrifying journey into the darkest part of his psyche and the meeting with his predecessor who entices him into the void.

The final image of the film suggests they are one and the same, or alternatively that the evil that has overwhelmed them is faceless and eternal. The *Shining* is by no means another mad-axeman-on-the-loose cliché, but leaves us chilled and exposed before the unyielding blackness of its vision.

Kubrick's latest offering, *Full Metal Jacket*, is a Vietnam epic. Unlike others in the genre it attempts to focus on the concept of Man as killer rather than on ideological issues.

Its verissimo approach inclines us to compare it with Oliver Stone's *Platoon* and is only the latter's obvious sincerity that saves it from lapsing into cliché-ridden banality (indeed, Stone should be forcibly prevented from writing film scripts and left to directing

if *Wall Street*, which peters out in a welter of mendacious, sanctimonious drivel is anything to go by).

However, here the message is ambiguous, and although the film is distinguished by some extraordinarily powerful scenes (the lavatory episode, which brings part 1 to its logical climax, is particularly mesmerising), Kubrick's intentions are hard to fathom and the film lapses at times.

The final words of Joker rings strangely false after the climatic preceding scene where Man-as-Killer and Man-as-Compassionate confront each other. Perhaps the final shot, in which the surviving marines march jauntily into the wasteland of the ruined city, is meant to be interpreted as the triumph of the killer in Man before which compassion and humanity must ultimately bow. It is a bleak conclusion but it is not impossible to emerge feeling oddly exhilarated and even purged.

BY DAVID SAKS

# 'Cry Freedom' stifled

BY ALEX DODD

As the fight for freedom in South Africa continues to make headlines, Richard Attenborough brings you an explosive, emotional and powerful new film - and the S.A. government takes it away from you.

"Cry Freedom", a \$21m film, unequivocally attacking apartheid, was scheduled to be shown in South Africa in April, but as this month draws to a close one begins to wonder whether the government's decision to allow its uncensored release is in fact a myth - too good to be true. The movie's release may in fact have generated pro-government feelings and even challenged the credibility of the film.

But instead the officials choose to toss the issue back and forth like a beach-ball on a newly unsegregated beach. Are we taking one step forward and one step back? It is shocking to think that when the government stops playing this tiresome game the sun will have set and the beachgoers will have gone home. When 'Cry Freedom' is finally banned or unbanned the issue will be out of the public arena and people will have focused

their attention on a new ballgame.

There is no conclusive evidence that visual stimulation incites mass behaviour but it is possible that the government fears that this highly emotive film could reach our hearts and minds, often inaccessible to dry news of political turbulence.

The film is based on Donald Woods' two books, his biography of Biko and his autobiography 'Asking for Trouble'. It is the true story of the people who were not prepared to stand by and condone a system they considered abhorrent. They were prepared to stand up and be counted. The story is one of courage and commitment, demonstrated in dramatic form in the first part through the cruelly short life of Steve Biko and secondly by Donald and Wendy Woods' decision to flee from S.A.

The film has been accused of Black Consciousness bias, 'Boer bashing' sensationalism and placing undue importance on Woods' saga. Attenborough claims that it was never meant to be a definitive biography of Biko.

In a survey of audience satisfaction carried out by Universal pictures more than 90% gave the film the highest rating - 'excellent'. Maybe 'Cry Freedom' is sensationalised, inaccurate hogwash. Maybe it is a magnificent merging of art and resistance. We will never know if the S.A. government's version of the iron curtain never opens at cinemas to show the film. Shouldn't we as South Africans, the people whom the movie most directly affects, be able to decide for ourselves?

## PAVEMENT PHILOSOPHER

PERCY Sedumedi has become one of the most notable features in the Johannesburg community centre situated between the city centre and Soweto - The Market Theatre Foundation.

An ex-thief turned artist, Percy makes his living by selling his self-produced comic called "Travels of the Free Spirit".

Percy left home at the age of nine and moved into the city. "That was the Twilight Zone. That's where I lost my racism. We were a mixed crew, whites, blacks, men, women, the lot," he says.

He used to steal food for survival and books which he could learn the techniques of art. He left school in standard 7 and got a job at the toy department in the OK Bazaars - that's where he started getting fired.

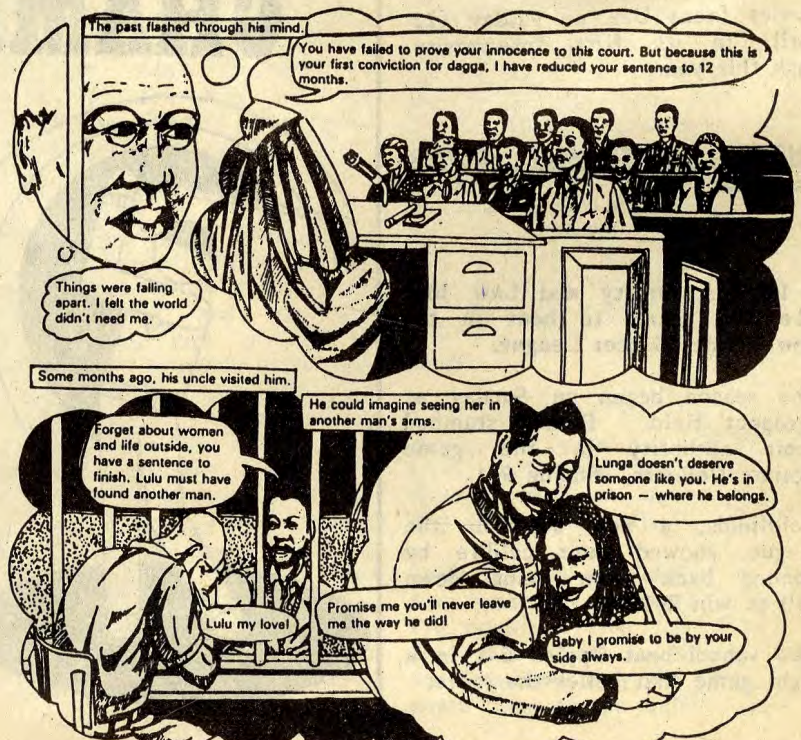
His career went through the motions: a job in an electronics

firm, gardner, professional car thief and a convict, amongst others.

His strong interest in art lasted throughout. He managed to establish an art centre in Nyanga and won prizes here and there - the most recent one, being from the Durban Comics Centre for his "Free Spirit" series. He also exhibited occasionally.

According to Percy, comics are an important educational system. "Do you know the drama of a comic? If you take bus from Yeoville to town, you can read the whole thing. You know the whole story."

So if you would like to read a comic about "social life" and the "simple life" as he puts it - make sure that you are around the Market Theatre in Johannesburg and no doubts, Percy will be there to sell you a copy of the "Free Spirit".





## PATON



The recent death of South African author, Alan Paton, has left a void in white liberal circles which will surely remain unfilled for some time. The literature and ideals of one of South Africa's most respected political commentators were highly regarded by people throughout the political spectrum in South Africa and the world.

Paton rejected the strong racist attitudes of the Afrikaners that he witnessed at the Great Trek celebrations in 1938. His public objections to this led to the confiscation of his passport and physical threats.

In the 1950's Paton played an integral part in anti-apartheid

organisation through his involvement in the non-racial Liberal Party. It encountered extreme opposition and was eventually dissolved after 15 years.

During the 50's and 60's Paton had many close contacts and friends amongst black leaders. He knew, among others, Nelson Mandela, Z K Matthews, Albert Luthuli and Robert Sobukwe. He strongly contested the charges that were eventually brought against them, and was the principal leader of evidence in mitigation at the Rivonia Trial. Paton was also a companion and friend of Winnie Mandela for many years after the trial.

After the collapse of the Liberal Party in 1968, Paton dedicated his life to literature and chose to become a political observer and commentator rather than a direct participant. Among the many books he wrote were *Too Late the Phalarope*, *Cry the Beloved Country*, and more recently, *Ah, But Your Land is Beautiful*.

In his last public speech, he said that he did have some hope for the future, but that it depended on the future actions of the Nationalist Government. His contribution to the liberal movement will be missed.



## CAPAB AT FESTIVAL

CAPAB's production of American playwright Edward Albee's *Everything in the Garden* is a celebration of the Albee's 60th birthday and promises to be one of the highlight of this year's Standard Bank National Arts Festival.

The play, which opens at the Rhodes Theatre on July 4, is a comedy about prosperous suburbia with the corruption as its main theme.

The Actons, a charming middle class couple, live an apparently happily married life in comfortable home. They suffer, however, from serious hangings however, from serious longings for the good life: money for parties, an expensive car and so forth.

The arrival of Mrs Fimosz, a high class brothel-keeper, changes the scene somewhat. It's not long before the pretty, sweet Jenny Acton becomes involved with her.

As the Acton's lifestyle improves, it becomes clear that their friends are happy to keep up with them; all the wives seem to be acquainted with Mrs Pimosz.

In the end though, the denouement of this hilarious plot is startling and horrific. Leading the cast are Mary Dreyer and Ralph Lawson, with Dianne Wilson playing the inimitable Mrs Pimosz.

## MAMBAZO on the move

TALKS ARE in progress to have Ladysmith Black Mambazo's brand of African music, ISICATHAMIYA, taught at certain American universities.

This comes in the wake of the group's success in the international music scene as they have made history by being the first South African band to win the prestigious Grammy Award.

Mambazo, who use only their voices and dances (no instruments) to win the hearts of music lovers, became the world beaters at this year's Grammy Award when their latest album, "Shaka Zulu" was named the "best traditional and folk album".

Leader Joseph Tshabalala is the busiest singer with some London groups wanting him to produce their music. He has also been booked to train some New Yorkers in ISICATHAMIYA.

Tshabalala has, in the process, earned himself international status as a music authority and he is baffled by this.

After my critical appreciation it is noted in authoritative journals that the music was

approved by Joe Tshabalala," he told a Johannesburg magazine.

"I am overwhelmed by the faith these people have in me. They queue to consult me on music. They bring scores of songs for me to review.

Black Mambazo have been trying to get "Isicathamiya" accepted by the international ear. In 1982, they wowed German music lovers when they sang one of their tunes in German and featured the song in their album, "Phantsi Emgodini".

They also featured prominently in Paul Simon's controversial album, "Graceland" and the world tour that followed.

That music professors in the United States show so much interest in our music is obviously good news for artists as serious as Sakhile's Khaya Mahlangu.

He told RHODEO that he would like to see "our music growing to the extent that we can have African classics that can be taught at university level, as it is the case with Europe's Beethoven and Mozart.



THE BALLAD OF MANY  
DREAM IN THE PARK  
OR  
SWAN LAKE  
28 APRIL at 7:00 pm.  
ART SCHOOL

## Killer B's buzz out

The history of South African popular music is strewn with sad tales of musicians who have displayed enormous talent; yet upon receiving a slice of the proverbial fame or fortune subsequently lost themselves irretrievably within the commercial milieu.

Thus there has always been a major contradiction between the unfettered creativity and integrity of the artist and the results of recognition and commercial success.

At this point in their careers, the Believers are well and truly confined within this compromise. Perhaps at this stage they are still trying to come to terms with their sudden rise to fame - whatever the cause, it has had severe consequences for their music.

The Believers in Cape Town in '87 impressed. Not only were they musically competent and

fresh, but there was a strong sense of communication - especially between basist and drummer. Now, however, they display themselves almost puppet-like on stage - the music is to a large extent sterile, predictable and sounds almost like 50 other bands.

The magic is gone; Aletta du Toit fails to grasp her role. As a frontperson she is ultimately responsible for channelling the band's energy via her persona to the audience and there was simply too little enthusiasm. No movement, no fire.

It was exactly this that really impressed and stirred the most about Bright Blue: their sheer enthusiasm and fun approach. As the audience watched the band working hard to create good vibes, they responded in turn and in so doing created those mutually inspired moments of energy which often only live music can

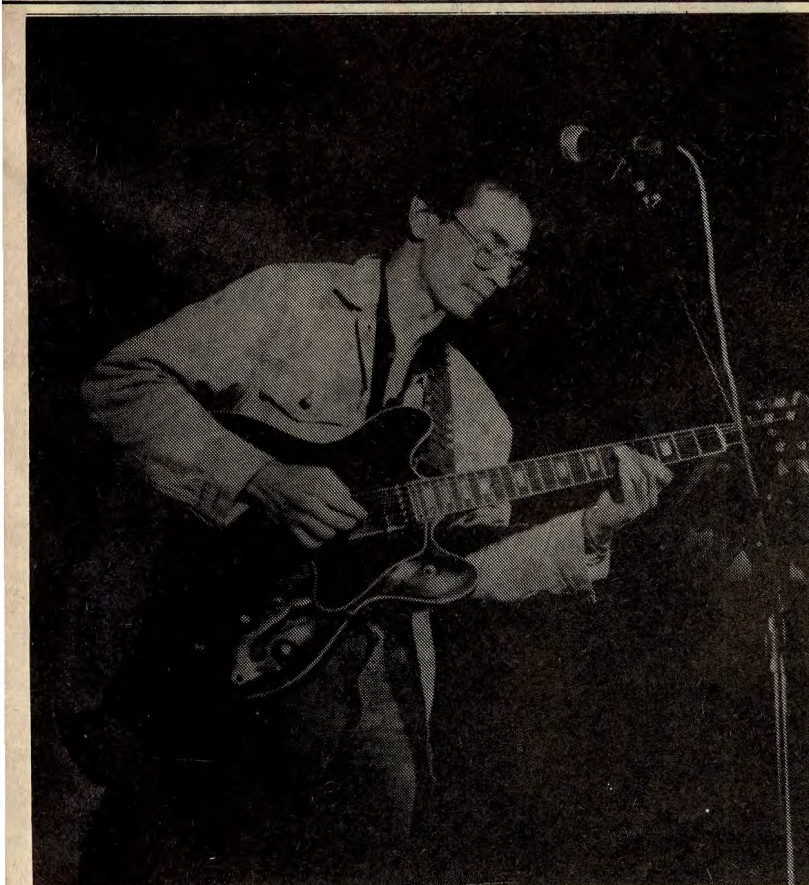
bring.

In this regard BB was faultless - they never forgot for a moment the entertainment and enjoyment; they never disconnected with the audience.

Their music is a strange mix of ethno but not ethno, no doubt mainly achieved by the guitarist and keyboards. Lyrics reveal sensitivity to certain aspects of social awareness. At times they play pure 'Wes Kaapse Gam'; their Cape Town roots are never totally submerged.

On the whole the concert showed some of the depth which South African music is slowly achieving. This is a crucial factor in the development of the industry as well as in determining the dynamics of the music itself. One could say that the 'second wave' has well and truly arrived.

BY GRAHAM SMITH



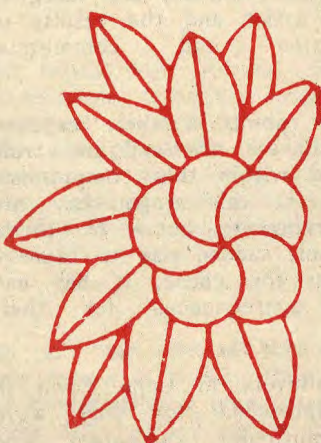
Tom Fox, guitarist of Bright Blue, in action.



# Dad, the universe & everything



ROZANNE  
BOTH A



"I believe in peaceful protest, but it's common to stand with a placard, it's cheap. It's just wasting taxpayers' money. But I suppose if I was in Russia and I was against the government I'd protest, but I hate bloodshed and violence. There are ways to show disapproval, the right channels...you can make appointments with ministers.

"Detainees? Oooh, that's a difficult one. Unfortunate. Only if you've done something wrong do you need to fear the police. We're working as part of a social system, individual rights are not as important as social rights.

"Revolution? Who knows? Man cannot change it, the Lord will come and save us from what we're in. The government are doing their best and they're honest. We mustn't force progress, it'll have to be slow. It's difficult to please everyone. Like, we need places where you have to pay so that we can keep out the black scum, the white scum and the coloured scum.

"Human beings have views they need to express, but I still believe man is the head of the household. I'm a domineering person, but I think it's romantic if a guy makes decisions. Feminists have an inferiority complex. The Bible says, the woman is the weaker sex. Women are just sentimental buggers.

"I have a brilliant relationship with my parents, also my brother. I love it at home, I'd never leave. With my brother away, my mother needs me. I go horseriding with my dad in the mountains, also hiking. My dad is my favourite South African personality.

"Franz Josef Strauss, I love that man. The strongest personality I've ever known. No no, Jonas Savimbi before him. He's got such sincere eyes.

"The man I want to marry, that's an article on it's own. He must be a Christian, have integrity, honesty, a sense of humour, be a lover of nature, music and art, and of course good-looking.

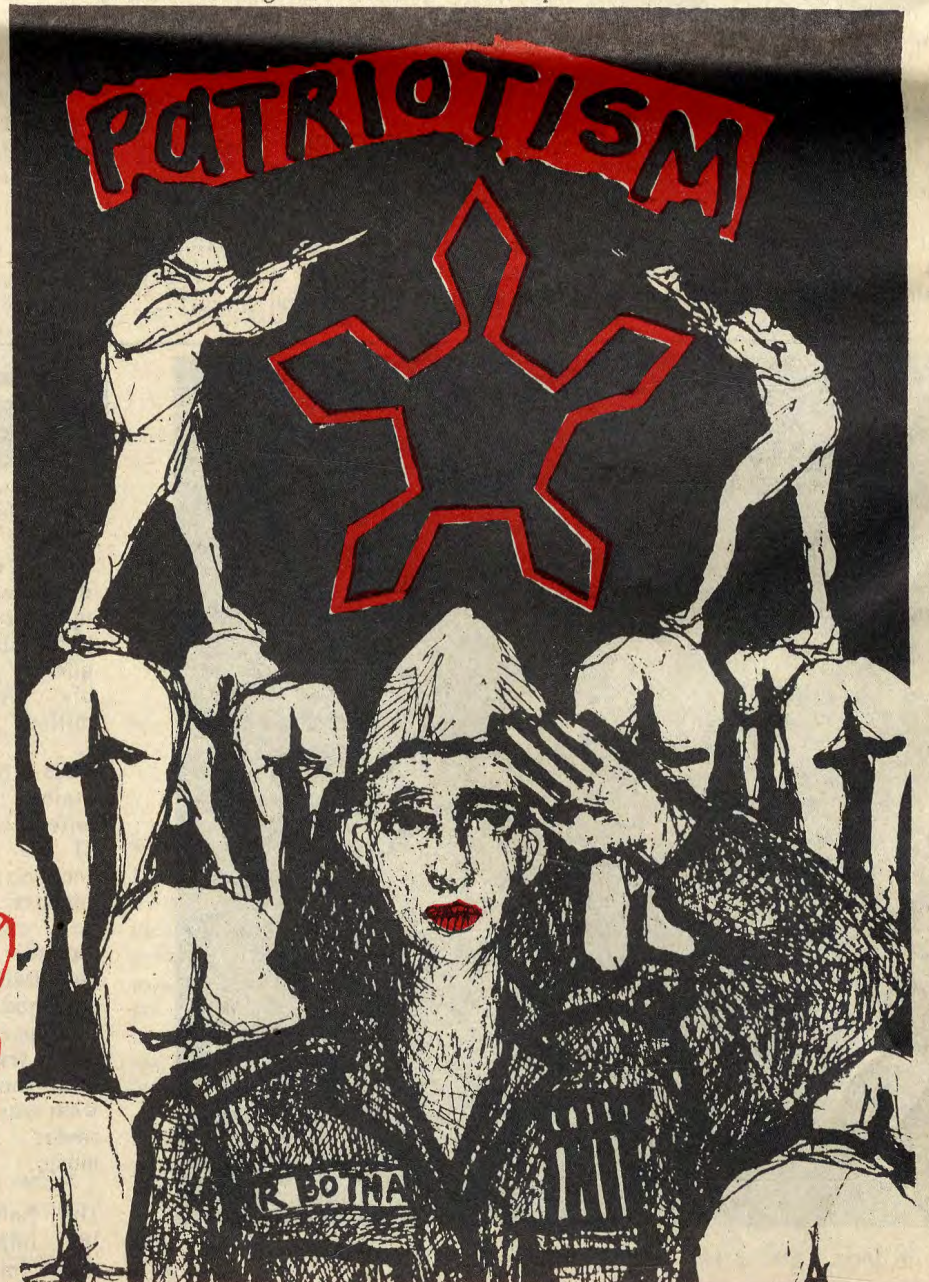
"I'm against End Conscription. They go to the army a boy and come back a man. Okay, maybe it's a bit long and some of them do nothing, but it depends on their attitude.

"Yes I do see myself as a privileged South African, but I appreciate it. I feel for those who aren't. It's not as if I don't know about suffering, because I slept on the floor in the army and had cold showers for months. The blacks just want our houses and swimming pools, but I can't blame them. It's sad, but coloureds have got an identity crisis.

"Coloureds can learn a lot from Afrikaners to look after their poor people. But black people have an identity. Did you know my best friend in the States is a Black?

What message do you have for South Africa, Rozanne?

"Stand together, love South Africa, have patriotism and unity just like our motto says, eendrag maak mag. Squabbling is unnecessary. The communist threat is not a joke, it's real, Russia is in Angola. We must wake up.



This is an interview which the UCT student paper Varsity conducted with Rozanne Botha, daughter of the notorious PW. We reprint it here with the assurance that it is absolutely genuine and a verbatim rendition of her own words. Read it and weep...

"After matric I went to the army, six months in George and six months in the castle in Cape Town. I taught old ladies how to shoot and leopard crawl. It was so funny seeing their bums in the air...and I really enjoyed it.

"I've been on many TV programmes singing...and I've done shows like, at the Dias Festival in Mossel Bay, 75 years of the SADF and a visit to the boys on the border with my mother. But, you know, you can't sing to them about love...I avoid love in my songs, rather I mix it with war or nature.

"There's an unexploited market (in the music world) which I want to break into. I don't want to confine myself to one mode, maybe use Malay or African sounds, but in Afrikaans. I sing in Afrikaans because of my Afrikaans heritage and it's a way of showing my appreciation.

"Yes, I'm very South African. I would never leave South Africa...They wouldn't accept me anyway. We can learn from the Americans about Patriotism. Do you know they salute their flag? I think South Africans should be more proud of their flag and national anthem.

"When I hear 'Die Stem' I get goose bumps on my arms...it's our history. Why would I want to change now, I've had this for 28 years. It's probably because I'm so patriotic. No, I would not accept Nkosi Sikelele...if they want a new song it's fine. I think that blacks need to accept the good things of 'Die Stem'.

I love the arts...I avoid party politics in my art. Art is too pure, it's God-given. Pieter-Dirk Uys? He's a good artist but he goes a bit far. But then I know too little of satire.

"It's been really difficult (being the State President's daughter), there are pros and cons. People judge you before they know you and they think that you have privileges. Okay there are some but we suffer discrimination. I've been close to leaving and I've cried a lot but on the other hand it depends on your approach. You need to be positive. I would be lost without my religion, same as my parents. We meet interesting people, get publicity and get news first. I suppose you can say I'm in the heat of things.

"I love my father. I don't live in his shadow, I walk in his light. I debate a lot with my father, but it is always civilized. I'm not a sheep. I would be lying if I said I was not a Nationalist. I hate all radical groups, left and right. I believe in moderation, a fast moderate approach.

"Resistance? No, I wouldn't call it resistance, rather a questioning. We've had resistance before, like with Die Ossewa-Brandwag. When you're working towards something new there's always a questioning, so I'm not worried.