



pic Linda Schonknecht

activate

Independent Student Newspaper
Edition 8 – 3 September 2003



Cellphone scammers be warned

by Maire Bonheim

Rhodes University students are making false statements to the police under oath in order to gain free cell phone upgrades.

Grahamstown Police Inspector Milanda Coetzer said students try to gain new cell phones by attaining an affidavit stating that their previous phone was stolen or broken. This allows them to claim a newer model from insurance companies. "A person will spoil their cellphone, by dropping it in the toilet or driving over it for example, and then get a quote to say it's unfixable," said Coetzer. "The insurance companies lose out and the cellphone companies win."

"We had a student call to report his phone as stolen," she said, "A policeman went to investigate and found the cell under his car seat." Another two incidents occurred where students swore that their phones had been stolen, one allegedly at the Rat and Parrot and the other at Friar Tuck's. However Coetzer said police investigation showed that carelessness and negligence had resulted in the phones being lost, resulting in false reports of theft being made.

She warned that if another such case should come to the police's attention, the perpetrator would be charged with perjury and taken to court. A first time offender would most probably receive a fine, but there is a possibility of being imprisoned. Apart from this, the guilty party would incur a criminal record for making a false and

fraudulent statement.


"This could have far-reaching effects. It counts against you when applying for a job," said Coetzer.

Coetzer said that the police are very worried about the large number of incidents. This month 42 cases have been reported, 22 more than were reported in the same month last year.

She said that making false statements regarding cell phones was not unique to Grahamstown, but added that "here it is easier to pick up and trace."

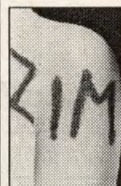
The scam was brought to police's attention after they spoke to several insurance brokers, who gave information based on reports from cell phone repair companies.

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As I regain the weight I had lost throughout the year and the bags under my eyes slowly disappear – I realise how much work this paper actually took. The long hours and sleepless nights and the not so nice e-mails and frustrating moments had me climbing the walls as we burned the midnight oil.

Remember when my first edition, as editor, came out? What a commotion that was! I was dragged across the coals and called names I never even knew existed. That was when I was branded a “third rate journalist” (and other things) by Dr Moosa Motara.

Well, this “third rate journalist” is no longer editor of *Activate*. It's been a long editorship, but I am proud to say that *Activate* has achieved all the goals we set out to achieve: increasing our readership, changing the look of the paper, focusing on more direct hard-hitting issues and testing boundaries.

We collected old clothes and food for the soup kitchen and the Raphael Aids centre. The SRC and Oppidan supplements worked well. Our advertising revenue has been stable this year with businesses from all over the country placing ads. Yes, *Activate* has made a

name for itself out there. Remember the letter we got my Martin Feinstein, the CEO of ‘Proudly South African’?

And, of course, our readers have made it all the more worthwhile. Thank you for the words of encouragement, the kind gestures and cool tip-offs we continually got. A special thank you goes to readers (students and non-students) who did not enjoy the publication but kept giving us useful suggestion on how to improve. Your input was always welcome.

Editing a publication on a campus as diverse, developing and exciting as Rhodes has been a challenging and rewarding experience. It has been a great pleasure to work with such an exceptionally talented and committed *Activate* team – thanks to each of you for giving 100% to the paper.

It takes a special group of people to put up with the likes of me. My temper tantrums, my warped ideas and my mouth. They are great friends and a good bunch of journalists.

Where to from here? Well, I have just been appointed Communications Manager of RMR, hopefully I will get into fourth year television despite my “third rate journalism” and I have a freelance career I'm juggling with my academics. So my plate is full.

One thing's for certain – every journalism award I am going to receive from here on shall be dedicated to my friend who classified me as “third rate”. I'll be sure to invite him to the party when I am CEO of a major media corporation – I wonder if he'll come?

Next term you'll be in the highly creative and competent hands of Lesley Odendal (the former news editor). You'll like her. She has enough fire and guts to keep this campus on its toes and make *Activate* a fantastic publication.

I leave my position at *Activate* with wonderful memories and I know that this publication can only go from strength to strength. I really look forward to becoming a reader and watching this success story unfold into the future.



Editorial 08
Haru Mutasa - Editor

“Well this third rate Journalist is no longer editor of *Activate*”

Virus bypasses IT

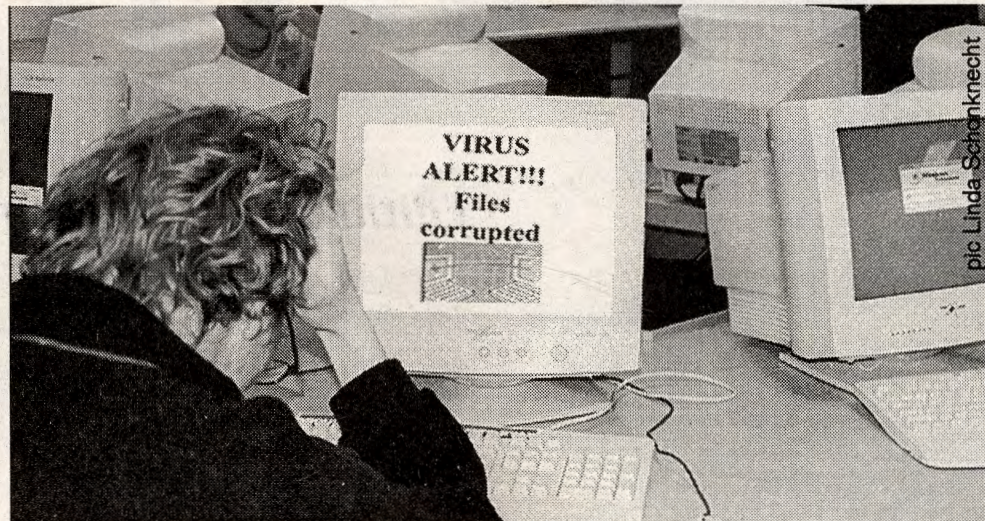
by Paul Page

The computer virus that struck Rhodes University two weeks ago caused chaos on campus and caught the IT division by surprise. Many students preparing for the end of term and putting the finishing touches on their work have lost files, which have become corrupt due to the virus.

On the 11 August 2003 a warning went out that the “Blaster” worm had been released onto the internet. In response the Rhodes firewall, a program which prevents virus infection, was updated in order to prevent the worm from entering the network. Just after 8 a.m. on Tuesday 19 August the Rhodes network collapsed. Initially the IT department thought the problems might be hardware related although this was not the case.

The original diagnosis was that the “Blaster” worm had infected the network and the department began to solve the problem accordingly. However their diagnosis was incorrect and this led them to a dead end in terms of restoring the network. They realised that the symptoms of the infection did not meet the characteristic symptoms of the “blaster worm”. Certain areas of the network were isolated in order to restore critical systems and services until a proper diagnosis of the crisis was made. An additional firewall was created to isolate ResNet which has many unattended and costly machines connected to it.

During the firewall re-configuration a mistake was made and went unnoticed by the department for half an hour. This opening in the network allowed a secondary infection of the



FRUSTRATED: many students lost their assignments as the “Welchia worm” virus infected the Rhodes network

“Blaster” worm to enter the system along with other infections. These worms then began to start up and run a-muck in the system. A final diagnosis was made and it appeared that the epidemic that hit the campus was due to the virus known as the “Welchia” worm. This virus affects unpatched Windows NT, 2000, XP and 2003 installations. “It is absolutely essential that people who have not patched their machines do so immediately,” said Jacot-Guillarmod director of the IT department.

The cause of this outbreak was found by the firewall log. A lap-top PC was carrying the virus and when it was booted up and connected to the network the virus bypassed the firewall configuration. “If it wasn't this machine then it would have been another,” said Jacot-Guillarmod.

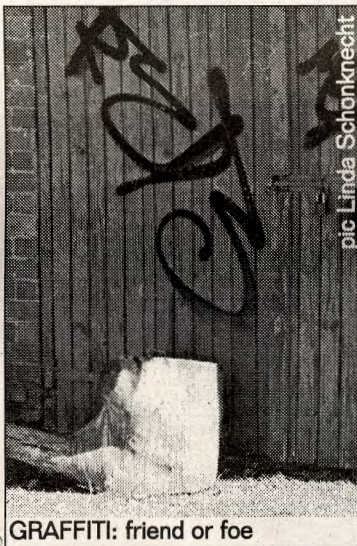
Guillarmod, “no fingers can be pointed.”

In order for you to see if your PC is infected visit <http://worm.ru.ac.za/>. If your PC is on the list then go to PC Support where you can get a CD and a list of instructions as how to repair your machine. These instructions can also be found on <http://software.ru.ac.za/>.

The IT Division has said that they will take a more “pro-active” stance about upgrading PC software on the network regardless of whether the PC is owned privately by an individual. In his email to the TopList-L listserv Jacot-Guillarmod said that measures to do this will be investigated and implemented.

He also mentioned in his email that no information has been lost and that it is just an aggravation to students doing work. ■

R50 000 damage done to cinema screen at Roxbury



GRAFFITI: friend or foe

by Maire Bonheim

Offensive and destructive graffiti scrawled in a cinema at the Roxbury has resulted in over R50 000 in damages.

Discovered on 21 August by Roxbury owner Johnny Kluivers, graffiti scribbled near the bottom of the cinema screen reads: “Eat p#ssy.” Permanent markers were used to damage both the screen and the seats. Kluivers said that the entire screen, which was imported, would have to be replaced at the cost of about R50 000. He said that he had reported the case to the police, and was “pretty pissed off. We find it pretty offensive.”

“Graffiti happens all over the show. We do have an idea of who did it and why they did it, but we would prefer to get further with investigations before commenting.” Kluivers held that, while the Roxbury had been open for more than four years, he had never before encountered an act of vandalism such as this, “not even on a toilet door.” Kluivers said that the perpetrator probably bought a ticket to view a film and may have been the last to leave the cinema. He said that the cinema would be stepping up security measures to prevent any further damage. In a similar incident, obscene and racist graffiti was drawn on the wall sur-

rounding a Rhodes University professor's clearly noticeable house on High Street. Mathematics professor Wesley Kotze was recently shocked to discover, on his wall, drawn images of naked male and female bodies, along with a violent and racist written message.

Police Inspector Millanda Coetzer said that occurrences of this nature were rare in Grahamstown, although a problem had been noted pertaining to “a series of incidents that occurred during a fest some years ago.”

She confirmed that cases of malicious damage to property had been opened in connection with both incidents. ■

-SPECIAL-

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Inter*Activate*

SRC booze binge?

by Tarryn Gillitt

The **Experience** hit Grahamstown on Wednesday 20 August as a fundraiser for the new SRC.

This very exclusive and underground event has left controversy in its wake.

Allegations made against the SRC for holding back on the alcohol and keeping it for themselves have been confirmed as false.

Legal requirements of a liquor licence oblige the bar to close at midnight, but an extension to 1am was granted upon request by the SRC. "We were told to close the bar and **Experience** told us to keep it," said an SRC member over the remaining alcohol.

"We had to finish what was there but couldn't open new bottles," she said. The remaining cases of beer, cider and boxes of wine were then delivered to the SRC office.

The alcohol will be used for the SRC leaver's dinner and at the welcoming ceremony at the new SRC induction.

The SRC was contacted by the **Experience** events organisers and the party was thrown on condition that they gave the SRC a donation. The **Experience** is presently happening on ten campuses around the country.

Tickets were given out randomly by the SRC. One student commented, "It was just luck [if you got tickets]."

Those that did benefit from luck described the experience as "fabulous" and "very successful".

"The music was awesome, there was something for all tastes," said Nicole Barbeau, a student who attended the party. Grahamstown partied in true style, allegedly leaving the bathrooms "obliterated", said 'Skank' who was working at the bar.

Experience cigarettes were freely distributed among guests. "What better way to advertise than in a small town where there are people from everywhere?" said Zoë Efstratiou, who also attended.

Peter **Experience** has recently followed suit, coming to Grahamstown on Friday 22 August to sign people that would be interested in attending



RUMOURS: Confusion detracted from the 'experience'.

their events.

While no party is yet on the scene for Grahamstown, much interest was generated and students can look forward to these events around the rest of the country. ■

Wrongfully arrested student finally gets compensation

by Natasha Boddy and Jacqueline Lazic

A 21-year old Fine Arts student at Rhodes University has settled for a compensation payment of R5000 after having been "wrongfully arrested" almost a year ago.

Jean Jacques Theron, a second year student, was at the Rat and Parrot on a Friday night after boat races in September 2002. He claims that after a group of police officers from the Grahamstown police force raided the Rat and told everyone to get outside, he was searched and he and his friend Rex were subsequently, "chucked in the back of the (police) van."

Upon arriving at the police station, the arrested students were told to fill out various forms. Theron alleges that they were not permitted to read the forms before signing, neither were they allowed to contact a lawyer. Furthermore, on asking whether or not the police were going to take a breathalyser test, Theron was apparently told, "No, we're just going to say you were drunk." Yet Theron maintains that he had only had two beers.

After having been officially charged with being "drunk on a licensed premise," Theron and his friend were put in a cell with eight other men. They were told they would be released in four hours and were reportedly not given the right to a phone call. Theron alleges that, "One of the

guys had managed to smuggle a cellphone in and we were able to call our friends and find out what was going to happen to us." Theron also claims that the prisoners were not given any food, water or toilet paper during the 13 hours which they spent in the cell and furthermore that, "It was incredibly difficult to get their (the guards) attention. If I was a diabetic, I probably would have died."

Theron and his friend were released the following morning, after being told by the police officers involved that they would have to pay a R50 admission-of-guilt fine. Theron, "very angry and hungry", allegedly refused. His lawyer, Mr N Boreman, managed to get the fine removed and has subsequently written a number of letters to the Minister of Justice, Penuell Maduna, complaining about Theron's alleged mistreatment and wrongful arrest. Because of this, the matter did not go to court and Boreman managed to negotiate a settlement of R5000 for Theron, which at this time, he has not received.

Theron comments, "My arrest was about a power trip. The police were trying to show their authority over the students. The more you try reason with them, the more they try to shove you in your place." Millanda Coetzer, Inspector at the Grahamstown SAPS, was unable to comment as the case is still in the process of being finalised by their legal attorney, Advocate Buller. ■

The morning after the madness

by Megan Cooper and Kate Humphreys

Sister Sheilla Sibutha, of the Rhodes University Sanatorium, is often woken by panicked phone calls from students requesting the Emergency Contraceptive Pill (ECP).

Known informally as 'the morning after pill', the ECP if taken within 72 hours of having unprotected sex drastically reduces chances of falling pregnant.

Administered in two doses, 12 hours apart, the relative simplicity of this contraceptive seems to be the source of its appeal to students.

Offered free of charge at the campus Sanatorium it is described by Sister Sibutha as being dangerously "used and abused". The ECP may appear to be a 'quick fix' but the long-term consequences of regular use are often overlooked.

The 'pills' alteration of the body's natural hormonal cycle can lead to nausea, vomiting, fatigue, headaches, irregular bleeding and, most dire, permanent loss of fertility.

These dangers are the motive behind the sanatorium's policy of allowing prescription on only two occasions per student.

Sister Sibutha's disturbing accounts of consultations with girls "who were too drunk to even remember whether or not they had sex" make the link between alcohol abuse and unprotected sex terrifyingly clear.

When questioned as to whether the University could do more to curb this dangerous trend, Sister Sibutha was adamant that the blame lies with the students. "I think it is the students themselves who need to take responsibility for their actions".

Whilst offering 85% protection against pregnancy, the ECP offers absolutely no barrier against sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

With a national HIV infection rate of 20.1%, according to the joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS, the consequences of unprotected sex are far more severe than an unwanted pregnancy.

An interview with Sister Veronica Ntanjana of the Grahamstown Anglo-African Street Clinic revealed that the habitual use of the ECP is far more prevalent on campus than in town.

She estimated that she only needed to prescribe the ECP on average of eight cases per month.

In addition she noted that despite the clinic's policy of "motivate and educate, students will always be students". Lack of education does not appear to be the decisive factor.

The Rhodes University Sanatorium plans to run a series of workshops in residences next year during Orientation Week in an attempt to promote awareness - ever committed to stemming the tide of student irresponsibility. ■

Hmmm. Garish pink, yellow and white flyers, posters and photocopier ink. A stomach-churning selection of type-faces. Semi-slick candidates demanding your vote.

Slogans carrying promises such as "Vote for me and I'll provide free erasers for oppidans on Wednesday between 11:04 and 11:05 in the underground astronomy common room." Believe it. It's that time of year again.

Of late, the usual R.U. 'cover me with posters' surfaces on campus have been clothed with the faces of this year's harvest of SRC hopefuls.

By the time you read this, the SRC 2003 voting will have closed and the posters will have fallen off the walls and the world will be sans a serif, a couple of trees and a little oxygen.

This not without voting time being extended for a bit, though.

And not without cash prizes being offered in order to lure more voters.

Would it be presumptuous to suppose that a standard of ethics be tightly interwoven with any election campaign? Well, maybe it would simply spoil the fun for everybody.

Certain candidates have taken the trouble to produce sufficiently controversial posters to keep campus chins wagging for weeks. Judging by responses in the StudentZone Forums, the poster which probably created the most waves this year was that of a male candidate (names needn't be mentioned) who 'photoshopped' his face onto scantily clad female bodies.

It takes a certain mix of guts and intelligence combined with the extreme opposites of these two virtues to do something like that.

One can only imagine the public outcry and simultaneous support that has surfaced in the aftermath of this electoral 'party trick'.

A multitude of issues have arisen from that single poster and others have also been brought into the limelight.

It would seem that the average media consumer today has become desensitised to nudity and suggestive images. This might explain the surprise expressed by some when an objection is raised to these images.

Which leads to the question: what impact does an effective poster campaign really have on voting results?

Can the vote truly be swayed by a jumble of signs - ink on paper - or will people vote for their friends and predetermined favourite candidates anyway?

There appears to be an unspoken agreement that elections should not be taken too seriously.

They should have just the right proportion of credibility, no more than is absolutely necessary. One could say that student affairs are slightly less serious than world affairs, but look at the less-than-poetic controversy surrounding U.S. and Zimbabwean elections.

These events carry just as much hype, fickleness (is that a word?) and sweeping statements.

Nelson Mandela was released from prison early in an attempt by the previous government to diffuse his popularity as a messianic saviour before South Africa held its first democratic elections.

Yet the ANC still celebrated a runaway victory. That in itself should speak for the pointlessness of all the hot air that blows around during election time.



Anti-Apathetica

Jane Cruywagen



SCARY FACT: National statistics report that one in every four people are raped... what makes Rhodes any different?

Date rape danger

by Sarah Duffett

The dilemma is this: tell the public about the date rape drugs that are available and run the risk of educating some diabolical person who might take the information and use it for some disgusting deed. Or, enlighten the public about the belief that most date rapes occur because of too much alcohol and run the risk of advocating a lack of awareness regarding their drinking habits. But either way there is a problem that exists which needs to be addressed: rape.

According to Kirsty Hunter, Gender and HIV counsellor for the SRC, "It is not an official problem [at Rhodes] but national statistics say that one in four people are raped".

As she so aptly asked, "What makes Rhodes students exempt from these figures?" Take that statistic and apply it to Rhodes campus: one in four of about 5 000 students makes a possible 1 250 rape victims. Take the condensed setting of a campus, add the high drinking rate for which this one has become notorious and the multiple rumours that circulate and you are left with little doubt that rape does occur right beneath our very noses. According to Hunter, rapes [at Rhodes] had been reported "up until the end of second term". Not to create mass hysteria, as was suggested by someone in the upper echelons of the Rhodes community, but this is something one needs to think seriously about if not usually careful about protecting one's drinks.

But why are there no campaigns driven by the university to warn students of this disturbing possibility? Perhaps the powers that be do not believe it is a problem. "In the thirteen years that I have been working here, I have only had two cases reported to me," said Dr Motara, Dean of Students. Furthermore, he said that no rapes had been reported to his office in the past two years, although he did say that they could have been reported elsewhere, such as the Counselling Centre.

Whatever the university's stance, rumours abound about the prevalence of rape on campus. It is often heard that certain functions put something in their punch to guarantee fast and furious states of

unwellness. Most often this 'something' is the myth of eye drops. Myth does not mean that it is a falsity, but in most cases there is nothing to fear from eye-drops because, according to pharmacists at RET Butler's and Grahamstown Pharmacy, off the shelf eye-products should have no side effects that would render one helpless enough to be raped. However, neither elaborated on the fact that there are certain prescription eye products that can have very serious side effects, even to the point of being lethal. This is due to the presnes of a substance called Atropine.

Atropine is a belladonna alkaloid and although it can act as an antidote to poisoning from certain substances, it can also cause fatalities when ingested in even modest amounts. If you have ever taken moonflowers recreationally, you will be aware of the effects of diluted doses of the drug, as the effects are pretty similar. As explained by one 2nd year BA student, who declined to be named: "It is not particularly hallucinogenic, it is more a complete loss of bodily control, to the extent of not being able to produce saliva. It is like being in a dream state, where you find yourself unable to wake up. During some of your more conscious moments you are aware of what is going on around you, but otherwise there is a complete memory blank." In its pure form, Atropine is very difficult to get hold of. According to RET Butler's pharmacists, doctors' prescriptions for serious eye problems, an operation, or a serious case of dog poisoning are needed before one can receive any of it. But there still remains no excuse for reckless ignorance about receiving open drinks from dodgy characters.

Noelle Liskay, a 3rd year BA student, described her experience of having her drink spiked during her first year at Rhodes: "I went out perfectly sober and after one drink, felt as if I had had twenty. Within a few minutes my friends had to walk me home. I am thankful that I had friends there with me - who knows what would have happened if I had been alone."

Having dispelled the rumour of everyday eye-drops having such dire side effects, is anything actually being slipped into people's

drinks? Two Grahamstown drug dealers affirmed that they did not have any date rape drugs to sell and did not know where to find any in Grahamstown. This supports the statement made by Inspector Coetzer of the Grahamstown Police Department, who said the Department has found that in most instances, those reported cases of spiked drinks that had resulted in rape, had occurred after encounters with people from outside Grahamstown.

Should the bars themselves then be held responsible for allowing people to get so out of control? To their credit, there does seem to be a prevailing sense of concern for their patrons. Harry Tyson, manager of the Rat and Parrot, said that although there is no conscious decision made between the bartenders there, patrons are generally their friends and regulars. Plus anything and any person that seems unusual is easily noticeable and when possible, watched. "We have never had any reports of drugs being put into people's drinks," he said, "If it has happened, they would probably only have felt it after they had [left the Rat and] gone to somewhere else."

Shane Ward, manager of Friar Tuck's, said that their four bouncers watch out for any instances of harassment. "If a girl is unhappy in any way, the harasser is thrown out immediately, no questions asked." As for girls being too drunk to stand, he said that the normal procedure is to take the girl outside and find friends to take her home.

Spiked drinks, date rape, and raucous intoxication: people whose eyes are closed to the possibility of their being next are simply playing a very dangerous game.

If ignorance is bliss, rape is like a sunny stroll - it is glaringly obvious this analogy does not work. If we continue to live like ostriches with our heads in the ground, leaving drinks unattended, drinking ourselves into comas before walking home alone and taking the oft used Aids stance "it won't happen to me", then we might as well knock ourselves unconscious with a large hammer, in the presence of a serial rapist. ■

• additional research by Amy Maas and Clayton Swannepoel

Is anything actually being slipped into people's drinks?

Talking Heads 07

by Lesley Odendal
pics Linda Schonknecht

How do you perceive the relationships between South African's and foreigners on campus?

Edition 8 2003



"I haven't really noticed there being any problems with foreign students. I think there is a good relationship."

(Megan BA HKE II)

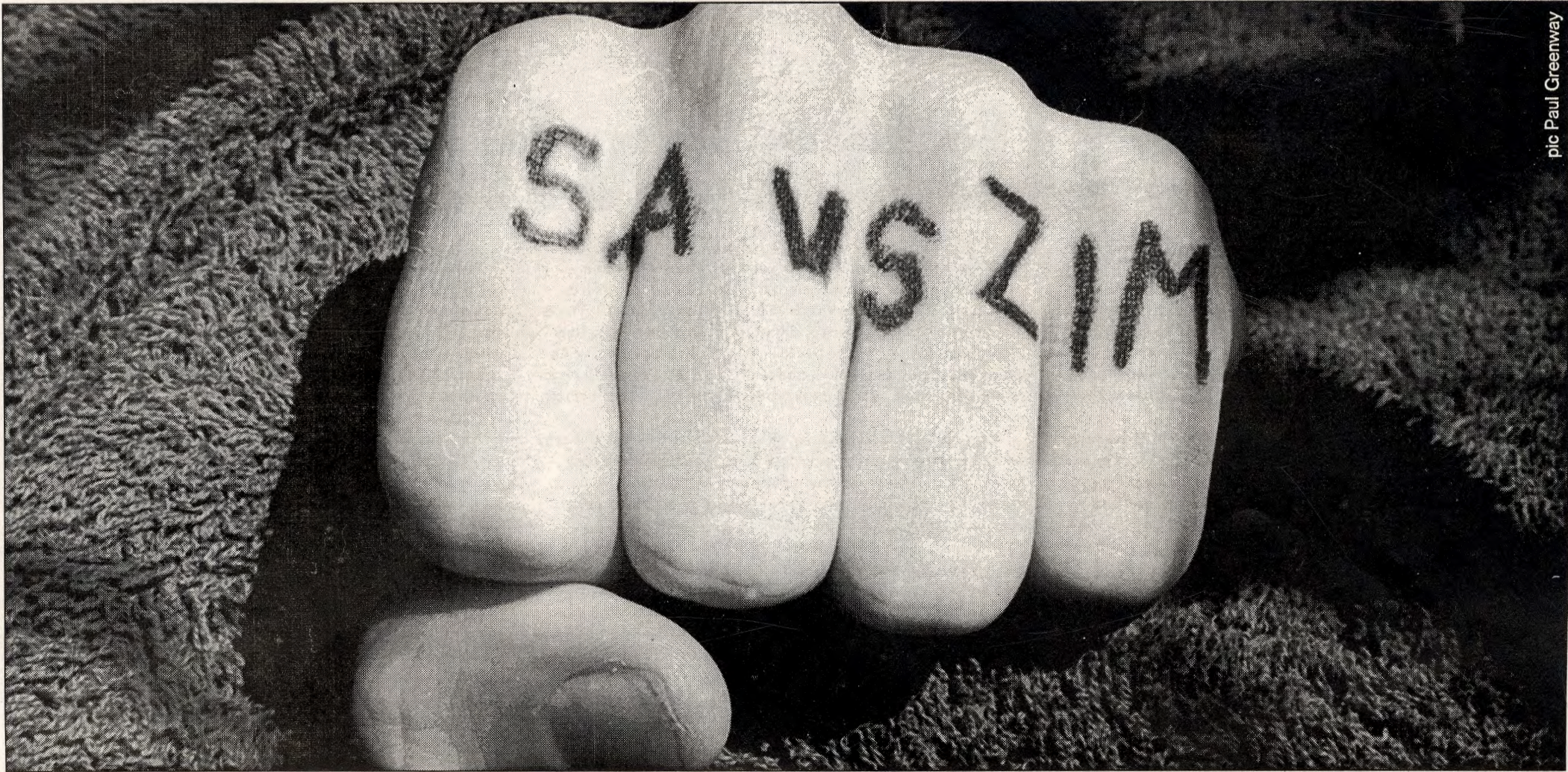
“ 1



"They seem to be the same to me, I haven't really noticed any difference!"

(Claudine BComm II)

“ 2



pic Paul Greenway

OPINION

What black South Africans REALLY think of black Zimbabweans

by Milisa Bongela and Olerato Moreosele (both South African students)

We need to change our attitudes. People always seem to find a way to bring race or cultural difference to the forefront in times of crisis. This became more evident after the untimely death of Boitumelo Manyadioane earlier this year. Beneath the murmur of mourning that pervaded campus, some black South Africans harboured feelings of resentment towards Zimbabweans, simply because her boyfriend was Zimbabwean. Even before this, such feelings were evident.

A fight broke out a few months ago at a local club between two men. Initially, the fight was nothing out of the ordinary – a minor dispute but then the dangerous combination of alcohol and testosterone took its toll, the scene turned ugly when other people became involved and took sides. Bystanders fueled the fire by shouting bigoted and racial remarks at each other because the respective 'heroes' were of South African and Zimbabwean nationalities. Inverted commas because no one who acts as a catalyst for racism can be termed a hero.

These incidents epitomize the subtle day-to-day tension that simmers underneath the seemingly amiable relations between some black South Africans and black Zimbabweans.

Many South Africans claim to have been raised with the notion that foreign black people whose skins are of a darker tone are to be shunned, referring to them in derogatory terms like 'amaKweKwere'. They also see themselves as better than Zimbabweans, affording black, white and coloured people from neighbouring countries like Swaziland, Lesotho and Botswana a lot more than just tolerance. Preposterous isn't it?

There are a substantial number of mixed couples on campus – mixed meaning people from different countries, particularly between black Zimbabwean men and black South African women. You might have noticed that it is seldom the other way round. When asked why SA men do not opt for Zim women, one male South African who

declined to be named said, "They think they are too good for us, even though our girls are much better. They also don't smell as good as our girls." This offensive attitude is not unique to Rhodes University. Nationwide, South Africans are under the ignorant impression that Zimbabweans smell of sweat and this perpetuates their reluctance to build relationships with them.

This outlook is a major source of contentious debate. South African women on this campus seem to be more tolerant of Zimbabwean men than their male counterparts. Shenaaz Danka, a first year South African student whose boyfriend is from Zimbabwe said, "Zim guys are much more polite and they have manners and etiquette. They are also in touch with their feminine side, not to say that they have feminine tendencies." A first year Swazi student, Tibuyile Sigudla, agrees that Zim men are more down to earth than South African guys.

What is even more puzzling is the subtle tension between SA and Zim women on campus. BPharm I student Chenayimoyo Mandimika said that Zimbabwean and SA girls only put up with each other because they have to. Tanith-Leigh Grant, a second year BSocSci student from Zimbabwe supported this by revealing that she has picked up negative vibes among the black girls in her residence. "A lot of the black Zimbabwean girls are my friends and they have told me about feeling discriminated against purely because they are Zimbabwean."

Language seems to be a major contributing factor to the attitudes expressed by both ethnic groups in building friendships with one another. South Africans rarely refer to people from Lesotho and Botswana as foreign because they identify with their languages. Mandimika says that Shona students tend to speak their mother tongue a lot more here than in Zimbabwe as a form of vengeance against their SA counterparts. She maintains that it is rarely ever done to conceal nasty remarks.

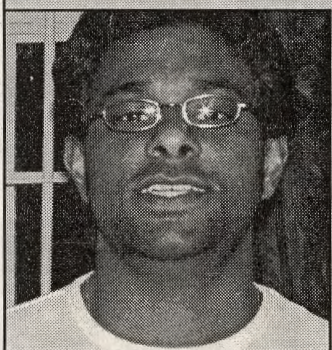
On the day that Boitumelo Manyadioane's death was announced, several South African women said that they felt threatened by Zimbabwean men, even though the murderer could have been anyone. BA I student, Tsholofelo Motseke* refused to let her

Zimbabwean boyfriend of three months into her res room when she found out, confiding in a few friends that she was afraid of being alone with him. "I do admit that the fact that he was Zimbabwean had something to do with my fear, but I was actually weary of all guys – whether they were South African, American or British," she says.

Another South African woman, who wishes to remain anonymous, ended her relationship with her Zimbabwean boyfriend because of fear and pressure from her parents. How are we supposed to respond to such inane behaviour? It is understandable that we come from different cultural backgrounds, but the manner in which we are carrying on makes us as good, or rather, as bad as the architects of Apartheid.

Kokeletso Serame*, a BA II student also says that the killing awakened the prejudices that lay dormant within her, "I tolerate them but I became angry during that Tumi incident. All I could think of was how a Zimbabwean was the cause of it all. I wouldn't get into a relationship with them, the most I can do is just hang out with them." Sascha-Lee Ncala, BComm (IS) II is a Swazi student who was appalled by the attitudes expressed by some of the South African students at the time. She still remembers how the South African guys were going around making "silly comments like 'Now you know to stick with us and stay away from those dangerous Zimbabweans'". It turns out that some South Africans felt the same way as Ncala. When asked about his feelings towards Zimbabweans, Thabo Letlaka promptly replied, "I have no problems with them whatsoever, they are just like us and some of them are really beautiful."

It seems apparent that Apartheid's entrenched ideology of cultural discrimination has gone beyond blacks and whites, worming its way into the relations of black people in Africa. It is pitiful to admit that before we came to Rhodes, our thoughts were governed by the same prejudices. The white people from both countries don't seem to share the antagonism that separates us, so what is our problem? Hasn't the struggle gone on long enough? We need to change our attitudes and tolerance alone is not enough. ■



"Relationships are quite exciting and interesting. One understands more about new cultures, new people, especially the vast cultures present in SA."

(Mohesh Gunes BPharm I)

“ 3



"Foreigner's rock!"

(Alexia BPharm I)

“ 4



"Ja, foreigner's rock!."

(Andrea BPharm I)

“ 5

The Bubba what?

by Jacqueline Toulson

They suck so badly, not even a slightly interesting article could save... The Bubba Hoonks. Or so they seem to want you to think, having named their band after a toilet plunger and displaying that emblem proudly on every poster. But Neil (vocals and guitar), Chris (bass guitar), Andrew (guitar) and Jordan (drums) have come a long way in a very short time.

Their first gig, opening for Fuzigish on the 29th of May this year, was organised before they even existed. The Live Music Society told the friends that they could play the gig if they could put a set together in three weeks, which they gladly did. With such a short time available to them they had to make a decision very quickly- go the easy way and play an opening cover set or just work at it and pull off an awesome original set? The answer- they have yet to play a cover on stage.

They now count that gig as one of their best and have since played with the likes of Eve'n Me, Cypher, Kombat Fudge, The Finkelstiens, Slinky D, Sonar from East London and Regatta 69 from the USA.

When asked what kind of music they play, Neil, the group's songwriter, answered with the rather complicated retort of "a kind of emo slash punk". But no hardcore punk; they reckon that they "have a punk song here and there", but definitely more emo. Andrew, known to all as 'Mackers', pipes up that they have a kind of Brit vibe, but it is Chris (known as "Mini" and insistent that it is not because he is under-endowed) who comes up with the final description:

basically watered-down punk rock without a sense of humour.

Those of you who have been to a Bubba Hoonks gig before, would easily recognise the words "Your Mom's Cucumber". This is their most-talked about song and the closest to a cover song they will probably get. According to Neil it is a "slight adaptation" of La Bamba and shows the exact opposite of a lack of a sense of humour. It is the song most likely to inspire a PG16 label on their first album cover.

And that first album is not far off -by the time you read this they will have started recording their first demo, most likely the song "Wanting You", which they say is their most popular and would probably do the best on radio. Other songs include "Balls" (after Simon, their manager) and the slower "Hands Tied".

As soon as the question of their influences is asked there is a loud, unified and very sarcastic cry of "The Finkelstiens!" (and the same cry at every mention of South African bands, favourite bands and sell-outs). More seriously though, they have a wide variety of influences including Placebo, Blink 182 and Jimmy Eat World. They have their personal tastes to bring to the mix as well, as Andrew rates Live as a big influence on his guitar-work. Andrew, Chris and Neil poke fun at Jordan's love of classical music, to which Jordan responded: "So what's wrong with that? A bit of culture!" as well as various deleted expletives.

Their South African influences include Boo!, who they would love to open for if they ever came to Grahamstown. They would also like to open for any other band that comes to Grahamstown as well as headline Ozzfest next year.

The band's slightly more conservative goals, besides the recording of a demo, include playing in East London (Sonar invited them over after a very successful gig on the 22nd of August) and doing a tour in December. After playing in Grahamstown nearly twice a week for the past month they feel they have exhausted the market and say that they would like to get out of Grahamstown as soon as possible.

They are very appreciative to the Taphuis and to their neighbours, who have had to put up with their practising all day, every day. They would like to play closer to campus, however, to reach audiences other than the usual Taphuis crowd.

They do not have any big plans for the moment though and are scarcely looking past next term, but they do have positions available for any willing groupies (applications and other information about the band can be obtained by emailing Neil through the Live Music Society website).

They ended off the interview by thanking the friends who have come to their gigs and divulging the secret of a good band: they gel musically and as friends have a sense of humour that brings them together, but are all very serious when it comes to making good music.

They invite all who are so inclined to check out their next gig (they hope to have a full set, as well as their first single, by the beginning of next term) and have a taste of the Bubba Hoonk experience, which is to party until 3am and have an awesome time not soon to be forgotten. Their motto- BHMF! (Left as an exercise to the reader...) ■

PRO-TEST

Knowing your HIV Status gives you power
Tests are accompanied by confidential pre and post-test counselling

Free testing at
Counselling Centre on campus,
Raphael Centre on Donkin Street.

e-mail the editor: g02o1390@campus.ru.ac.za

Continued from pg 5>



"We should get more Swedish and Brazilian babes on campus. They have a lovely hand writing."

(Gareth Abramson BSc II)

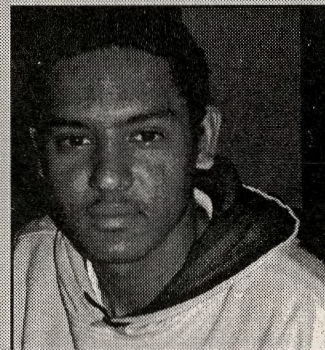
“ 6



"The relationships I've noticed are good, I haven't noticed any tensions."

(Lynne BSoc Sci)

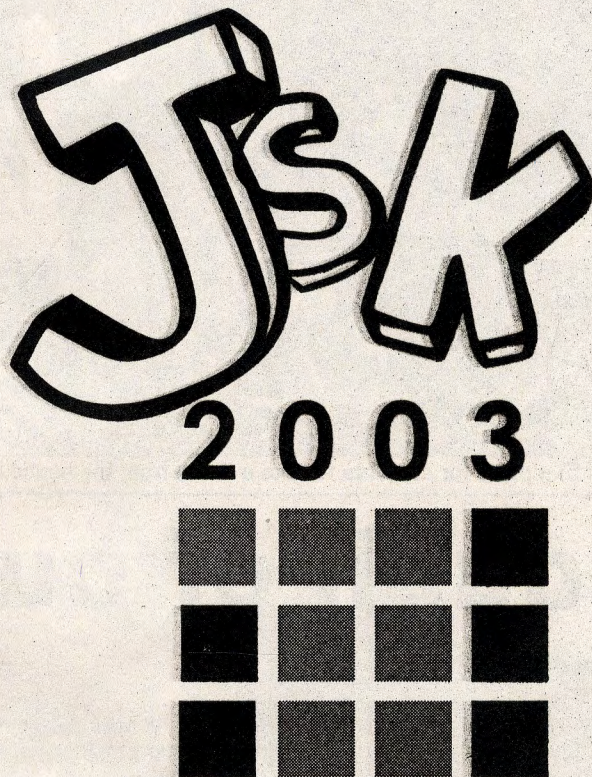
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"It's a positive relationship, as everyone needs to get along, Rhodes is a very diverse university - which is a good thing."

(Blake BSocSci I)

“ 8



Making a statement.

JSK as it stands is over.
In the next edition you'll find new
ideas, a new look and a new editor.

Two years of this have been fun.

Hope you enjoyed it.

What you could've found on this page
now was a review on the Buckfever
Underground, something on Cypher and
a review of Bad Boys II.

Instead, you're getting this - cause
its time to give it up.

OVER AND OUT.

Once again the end of a term bids many farewells. Goodbye to the party term, hello exam term and goodbye Grahamstown for a week as we hustle and bustle back to our hometowns. This is also a farewell to myself as the Arts and Culture editor and as a column writer. Yet before the tears start flowing let's continue with matters of the heart.

Would you believe that I got lost in the basement of the library this morning? Those moveable shelves appear to move on their own accord; I wanted to cry. Only resolution was to read a few book titles. Here I discovered a wonderful book "Memoirs of a Geisha" by Arthur Golden that I continued to read. Set in Japan, this is a biography of what could sometimes be viewed by foreigners of the Middle East as upper-class prostitutes. Even by the way they dress and act they could be seen as walking-talking dolls.

They wear beautifully unique kimonos, which are much like a sari but has an obi tied at the back to give the appearance that the geisha is wearing a back-pack; she needs a dresser to get her into the outfit as it is made of metres of fabric. An

obvious difference between a geisha and a prostitute is that the prostitute wears her obi at the front as she has a need to constantly undress and redress herself. The geisha wears chalk white make-up as a western woman would wear base. The only spot of colour is bright red hinted on her lips and eyes as the red symbolizes femininity. In the Japanese culture the neck of a woman is seen as her erogenous zone and thus the white base doesn't cover here. This piece of skin is considered just as powerful as the legs or cleavage of a woman.

Enlightened by the story of the geisha Suyari, I have come to realize that the geisha are more than my original thoughts of prostitutes.

They are accepted as an important part of the community. In the recent M-Net documentary on the geisha, the sub-title was "Man, wife and geisha" this is because the wives do appear to accept that their husbands might have sexual relations with a lady in this profession. Suyari was a geisha in the time of World War II and as the novel explains, they were an important part to high Japanese officials and were later even influential companions to the invasion of American soldiers.

Only the wealthiest of men could have sexual relations with a geisha and the dearest of all was to take her virginity (mzunimi). Another important man in a geisha's life is her 'Danna', who supports her financially on condition that she becomes his mistress. The trick is that the geisha must be able to dance and sing, but never cry.

No lack of emotion here because after many hours in a dark smelly basement one can feel quite alone. Close to tears and desperately reaching for my cellphone I managed to follow a voice through the maze of books and to my closest friend to whom I blurted out all my newly attained knowledge. Good luck for the rest of the year!

The geisha wears chalk white make-up as a western woman would wear base.



WATERING HOLE: a place for students to take a break from the hectic life of campus

pic Chris Czaplianska

A touch of cultured flair

by Olerato Moreosele

It feels urban, and with its situation right by the oft-busy four-way crossing at the Rhodes Theatre, you can be forgiven for momentarily thinking you are in a city. Yet the Theatre Café's subtly urbane atmosphere offers you a chance to escape the apparent hustle and bustle.

Some call it the 'Drama department coffee shop' for obvious reasons, and the idea of it being a hangout for arty farty drama queens -and king-deters them from patronage. Although the Café falls under the Drama department, it is by no means a place reserved for (a) Drama students and of course (b) Journalism students.

In fact, Callum Stevenson, Managing Director of the First Physical Company and also one of the two business partners whose bright idea this initiative is, says that the Theatre Café is intended to provide a service to students, university personnel as well as townsfolk. "Most of the people who have been here keep coming back. It's becoming popular," he adds.

The idea for a coffee shop to liven up the "dull, empty foyer" was first brought to the theatre management committee in 1999. "What's more,

the concept was that of a 'taphuis' bar," elaborates Stevenson.

Management welcomed the idea then but issues concerning start-up capital and the like led to the eventual opening of the Theatre Café three years later on 26 June, a day before the opening of the Arts Festival.

The theme is really simple and subtle and aspires to an established reputation that of performance, which is obvious, not only from the buzz in the atmosphere, but also from the furniture.

The cream-coloured linen chairs have a striking resemblance to those occupied by directors on movie sets. "The theme is theatre, but not in a crass, obvious way," says Stevenson, explaining that he and his partner, who declined to be named, intend to develop the décor further, with theatre as the basis. The team is also in the process of organizing events featuring musicians, comedians and all sorts of other acts to take place early September.

With several years' experience in cookery behind them, the Café's chefs prepare delicacies at ridiculously low prices. Where else are you going to find a place that offers drinks from as little as R5? When asked about this, Stevenson replies simply, "We are really not looking to make a profit."

Who let the underdog out?

by Verashni Pillay

It was a normal I'm-a-stressed-Journ-student-with three essays-due kinda day. Chilling at Livingstone with peeps and fellow Journ students, we came around to that tired topic of conversation: getting into Journ two. The means? A beefy portfolio. The problem? Mad cow disease of the journalism kind. There simply wasn't a place that would publish what we actually wanted to write about. Restrictions of space, local content and formal styles kept us hedged in. Who knew those trifling seeds of thought would take root? But

blossom they did, in the head of Underdog creator, Adam Skikne. After amazing sweat work on his part (including learning how to set up a website in under three weeks) Adam managed to prove that painfully corny adage: if you can perceive it you can achieve it. So with sister Cara's help, Adam dog handled the growling mutt online, setting the stage for media innovation.

But he had envisioned more than just a student forum. Underdog would have none

of the restrictions of more conventional forms of student media, so there would be increased capability to deliver what readers really wanted. Writers are not necessarily journalism students, but any student writing on their area of expertise- be it hobby or study. And the multi-media nature of online publication means artists, cartoonists, photographers and just about anybody can get on board. If it's

scannable, it's doable.

Now while Underdog is still a

pup, there is unlimited potential for growth. What makes it so different? Well, writing without restriction means that the old demon of self-censorship isn't there, weighing down your pen. And if you enjoy what you're writing about, chances are that readers will too. Of course, this doesn't mean that quality journalism is being subverted; there should be no substitute for hard work and multi-sourcing. But a new dimension has definitely been added to student journalism. And for those of us eyeing our skeletal portfolios, yes the Journ department is down with the dog. You've been unleashed. ■



First Physical Theatre Company hits the road with three new works

The First Physical Theatre Company, having celebrated its tenth anniversary at the National Arts Festival in July, is back on the road with selected works choreographed for the company since 1993.

Following the Amahlathi Festival in Stutterheim on Saturday 23 August, the company will present work in East London (Guild Theatre, 1-3 September), Grahamstown (19-20 September), Hogsback (27 September), Knysna (29 September-1 October), Cape Town (3-4 October) and Port Elizabeth (9-11 November).

For the Amahlathi Festival, the company will stage three works introduced by Artistic Director Gary Gordon. "Toiling to

the dance of the sun" originally choreographed and performed by Gordon and Andrew Buckland in 1993 is the first work.

The second piece is titled "Resting in the Trees" and was originally choreographed and performed by Gordon and Clare Baker in London before its South African premiere at the National Arts Festival in 1997. The final work, entitled "Moments from this place," is a new piece inspired by the Eastern Cape landscape. It will be performed by Andile Bonde, Nicola Haskins, Zoey Lapinsky and Bailey Snyman.

Watch the local press and Activate for further details or contact the company via e-mail at First.Physical@ru.ac.za or telephone 046 - 622 3897. ■

True Party Animals

by Glen Tyler

The ReTA charity ball for 2003 took place in the Drill Hall on Hill Street. Animal lovers turned out not quite en masse, but in sufficient numbers to ensure a rocking party! The Blue Time Quartet, a brilliant new local jazz band set the tone for what was to be an evening with a touch of class. Guests arrived at 7:30, greeted by the quartet's dulcet tones. The theme of the ball was "African Pawprint" and this was reflected in everything from the guest's outfits (with one particularly smashing Ghanaian shirt claiming the title of most apt and really really good looking outfit) to the food

and decorations. Various local businesses sponsored the ball and all the proceeds went to the SPCA. Foto First sponsored fabulous spot prizes and took photos that reflected the beauty and elegance of the guests; other prizes were sponsored by Ackermans, The Grahamstown Pharmacy and The Grahamstown Pharmacy Beauty Clinic, Spur and The Mustard Seed. Special thanks also go to Corinne Cooper for organising the sound system at such short notice. ReTA would like to say a huge thank you to all who helped organise the ball, our sponsors and of course the guests who made the evening such an outstanding success! ■



**Off
Centre**

Natalie Oram - Arts & Culture Editor



The Suffocation of Zimbabwe

by Paul Greenway

The sad decline of Zimbabwe needs no introductions. The burgeoning trade in black-market commodities, wholesale government corruption, contemporary and historical human rights violations and its insultingly transparent propaganda is a testament to the nation's demise.

As Zimbabweans negotiate the hurdles of daily existence the population can be seen galloping towards the dim light of political and economic emancipation.

Inflation rates are officially at 300.1%, but numerous estimates including The International Monetary Funds 522.2% will put Zimbabwe's inflation rate over 500% by the end of the year.

Kingdom Bank Limited's financial analyst Witness Chinyama describes Zimbabwe's continuing economic experience as "stagflation—a combination of declining economic activity and very high levels of inflation".

The now perfectly normal queues for fuel, bread, mealie-meal or sugar have, in recent weeks, seen Zimbabweans standing in long lines for another increasingly rare commodity, cash. The chronic shortage is such that, like fuel, queuing won't guarantee you will be rewarded, and rationing

ensures that you will only receive between Z\$5000 to Z\$ 20 000 (R150 to R600). Not surprisingly there is a thriving black market trade in cash (local currency), not the firmly established trade in forex.

The government's sinking ship and its once thriving and internationally commended policies have seen Mugabe frantically clutching to the straws of power.

Even more frantic is Mugabe's darting, skeletal finger of blame. Government's squirming accusations over the shortages of basic food-stuffs is a good example.

Commercial farmers, forcibly evicted from their farms were branded as "malicious" when they were unable to produce, and then deliver crops to the Grain Marketing Board (GMB).

When this proved fraudulent, drought came to the rescue but the country's extensive water storage facilities, developed through aid in the 1980's and early 1990's, demanded further explanation. Government turned once again to their trusted scapegoat, the farming community, who had sought to "victimize" the nation by removing irrigation equipment prior to their banishment.



13 left dead as floods ravage Sudan

by Sean Naidoo

Devastating floods in Sudan have left 13 people dead and almost 70 000 families displaced in the eastern city of Kassala.

Torrential downpours have also been registered in other regions along the Nile River but flooding has been limited to Kassala.

Interior Minister Abel Rahim Mohamed Hussain has called on all citizens in these vicinities to take all the necessary precautions to deal with the level of

the Nile rising dramatically.

The town of Kassala is currently suffering from an acute shortage of food and water.

Electricity has been disconnected and almost 80% of the houses have been totally destroyed.

Heavy rainfall has also blocked highway traffic from Khartoum and Port Sudan, the country's main port.

Aid agencies working in the area have pleaded for relief to stabilise the area before the onset.

Rift over gay bishop

by Sean Naidoo

Several African churches affiliated to the US Anglican Church have strongly condemned the appointment of an openly gay minister as its newest bishop.

Gene Robinson was recently elected by the US Episcopal Church as bishop of New Hampshire, a move which is threatening to split the Anglican Church and its 90 million worshippers as leaders in East, Central and West Africa are deeply opposed to the move.

"Such a church is bound to become a shrine for the worship of men, rather than God," said Nigerian Archbishop, Peter Akinola.

However, South African archbishop

Njongkulu Ndungane has publically supported Robinson's appointment and said, "the important thing is the process, and he was elected through a correct process." Although African Anglican churches operate independently from the US they are closely linked by spiritual policy matters.

Oluranti Odubogun, Nigeria's Anglican Churches' Secretary General said that Nigerian Anglicans were deeply upset and that his church was in contact with US bishops opposed to Robinson's appointment.

In Kenya Bishop William Waqo said that their church stood by its anti gay position. "We are not in the favour of gay or homosexual leadership in the Anglican church," Waqo told Reuters.

Africa's Hitler is Dead

by Sean Naidoo

Former Ugandan dictator Idi Amin is dead.

Amin, who is blamed for the murders of thousands of Ugandans, died in a Saudi hospital recently. Hospital officials confirmed that Amin had died from complications due to multiple organ failure. Amin, who was considered one of

the bloodiest dictators in African history, had been living in Saudi Arabia since his forced removal from the country by Tanzanian forces and Ugandan exiles. He also stayed briefly in Libya and Iraq.

Amin who publicly expressed his admiration for Adolph Hitler was ostracised in and outside Africa for massacring up to

100 000 people during his reign. He also deported most of the Asian population from Uganda.

He was well known worldwide for his eccentric behaviour and violent tendencies.

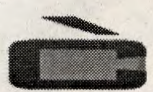
Ugandan president Yoweri Museveni said that as Amin died abroad, his body could be returned home for burial.

Activate welcomes letters to the editor:
e-mail g02o1390@campus.ru.ac.za

**Knight's
MAN**

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(just before Clicks)

adidas



Jeep

soviet
BEYOND JEANS

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Lee

Knight's Man for crazy prices!

activate

Next
Activate out
on 1
October
2003

The astonishing world of herbal supplements has recently fluttered into my consciousness like a seductive vegan angel. I find myself wandering around health shops and chemists in a state of awe and near delirium. Herb fetishism! I'd never considered such a thing, before. Ginko Biloba, Spirulina, Ginseng, Horny Goat Weed – the names swirl through the air like the spray of a Hogsback waterfall. Such possibility resides here; such immense possibility. There are herbal supplements for memory, for stress, for flu, for weight, for sexual potency and for depression. But why stop here? Why not herbal supplements for love, for peace, for intelligence, for justice, for God? And is the time not nigh, when we will be able to cure death with a herbal supplement?

I see in my mind great markets stretching across the Eastern Cape, selling herbal supplements for every facet of human lack. If your lover runs off with your best friend, you will be able to find some kindly-old bearded Buddhist with exactly the right proportion of kelp and guarana to heal the splitting wound in your chest. If your cat gets run over, a type of seaweed imported from Micronesia will disintegrate all memory of Ginger Biscuit into a ...well...metaphorical ginger biscuit. If your life suddenly loses all meaning, then a slow, dissolving dose of vitamin B12 mixed with Camel Thorn will disintegrate all existential anxiety into a sunbeam.

"Ah," you may say, "Stupid man at the other side of the page – but without suffering where would good art come? Do you think Dostoevsky would have given us *Crime and Punishment* if he were getting all his vitamins and minerals? What about politics? Do you not think that herbal supplements will merely replace religion as the opiate of the masses? And justice? Have you not read Foucault? If herbal supplements replace justice, then herbal supplements will merely become a function of power. The discourse of herbal supplements will merely become the disciplinary mode of the next episteme. What type of hell are you proposing here?"

To this I reply: we will have herbal supplements to replace the lack of good art! We will have herbal supplements to heal boredom! We will have herbal supplements to placate class warfare. And who cares if herbal supplements become the next mode of disciplinary power? Who wouldn't want to be disciplined into being passionate, intelligent and as sexually potent as a horny nuclear bomb?

"But what about variety here?" you might object, "Are you proposing a world in which everyone is equal in their capacities and qualities? Are you proposing a fascist nightmare of conformism?"

No! I say. There will be infinite difference and nuance in such a society. It's just that we will be able to choose those differences for ourselves. The fundamental failure of capitalism – that of human limitation – will be replaced by herbal supplements!

"Ah," you may say, "And will there be herbal supplements to quell the overwhelming feeling of nausea I get after having wasted five minutes of my life reading such a stupid column?" Yes. That too.

*Reprinted from Edition 4.



**Dystopian
Diaries**

Matt Wilhelm-Solomon

Cultural kaleidoscope



Scenes from
the HSS
Cultural Show
which was
held recently
at the 1820
Settler's
Monument.



Inter Res Archery



pic by Mike Wisch

by Daisy Berkowitz

23 residence teams competed in the first ever Inter Res Archery competition, hosted by the Rhodes Archery Club at Lower Barrat Field on Sunday 24 August.

The Olive Shreiner girls were the first to arrive on the day and stalked across the archery range tentatively, unsure of what to expect. The Rhodes Archery Committee soon put them at their ease, however, strapping on protective arm guards and finger tabs, while arming them with bows, arrows and instant archery training. Archery is a demanding sport that requires hours of training, hours that were simply unavailable to competitors and trainers alike. Five practise arrows to learn the basics and ten arrows for competition-releasing an arrow and actually hitting the target, but the Shreiner girls, amongst others, brought this home with a resounding "thunk". The "thunk" of arrows hitting the embankment, the wooden target frames, the grass in front of the targets... the "thunk" of cringing archery equipment managers hitting their heads in resignation at each broken arrow... and of course

the increasing frequency of arrows on target.

Time limitations and inexperience aside, the competing teams performed surprisingly well, especially those that recruited regular members of the Rhodes Archery Club. Botha House claimed an easy victory with 236 points scored out of a possible 400, with Piet Retief and Smuts trailing with 186 and 162 points respectively. Milner took top honours among the girl's residences with 142 points, followed by a decent 117 for the Hobson girls and a third spot for Milner B with 115 points. 23 teams, comprising of 92 individual competitors in all, participated in what looks to be a promising future event for the Rhodes Archers. A little bit of practise is all that is needed to make this final event of Inter Res more competitive. Everybody is welcome to try out archery for themselves during the weekly practises at Jan Smuts shooting range on Tuesday and Thursday nights and Lower Barrat Field (below The Great Field) on Sunday afternoons. ■

Allan Webb Adventure coming soon

by Lindsay du Plessis

Allan Webb Hall is at the bottom of campus, away from the buzz and the crowds. The entire Hall comprises of the same number of people as Jan Smuts house. It's a little hall, but enjoys a big sporting presence on campus, seeing as Winchester and Canterbury have been the winners of the inter-residence trophies for the last two years. Now, there's more to come.

On the 24 September the "Allan Webb Adventure" will take place at Grey Dam. Now, please don't think 'Founder's Challenge': it's not even remotely the same, despite having

James Ball's Appabands in the mix.

The AWA is an event in the mould of the Survivor reward challenges, and includes games to test teams in both mental and physical areas.

Each team is to be made up of five members: either 3 guys and 2 girls, or 3 girls and 2 guys. The five challenges will be unknown to competitors, and this is bound to evoke some intense mental acrobatics. Improvisation and teamwork of the highest order will be needed to guarantee a win on the day. Students will be happy to learn that entrance to the adventure is free! Sponsors include, Fanta, Johnson and Johnson, Postnet and Appabands, as well as smaller prizes from the

usual Rhodes sponsors (Yay, free movie tickets!).

Twelve teams will make up the field, ranging from the respective Dining Halls, Oppidans and two community teams. One of the main objectives is to involve the rest of the Grahamstown community, and 50 percent of the money made will be donated to a charity of the winning team's choice. Now that's incentive! The entry cut off date is irrelevant, as entries will be taken until the 12 spots are filled.

Get cracking Rhodents, and prepare to outwit, outplay and outlast the competition. More info is coming soon to a warden near you! ■

Results Round-up

compiled By Sports Admin

Greg Pitt, George Cover, Malcolm Arguile and Carl Thomen were all members of the EP Men's Hockey Team that successfully defended their national title at the recent Mens Inter-Provincial Tournament in Johannesburg. EP went through the tournament unbeaten and clinched the title with a nail biting 1-0 win against KZN in the final. In other hockey, Rhodents overcame Albany 5-4 while Ravens were downed 2-0 by Schrews on 22 August. Occassional played well to beat Old Grey 3 goals to nil while the Rhodes Women 5th team were too good for Lotus, winning by a walkover of 5-0.

On Sunday 23 August the Rhodes Men's first basketball team played against the Comets from Port Elizabeth in Grahamstown. Initially the Rhodians were caught unawares by the speed of their opponents. The Comets made it difficult for the Rhodes men to maintain their lead through the first half of the game as

the visitors made full use of their speed by slipping through Rhodes' man-to-man defence with the fast break attack. But once Rhodes settled down into the game, the Comets proved to be no match for our mighty Knights. By the time the game was in the fourth quarter Rhodes was the only team putting in baskets. Rhodes won 98-49. Well done again to the RUM first team for another brilliant victory.

In rugby, the RU U/21A side won the Wedd Knockabout Cup beating Cambridge 19-7 in the final on Saturday 23 August at the ABSA Stadium in East London. This caps a fine season for Rhodes Rugby having clinched the Border U/21 League earlier in the season.

Rhodes Women soccer players did well to beat Callies in the Makana league on 17 August by netting 3 goals to 2, while the Rhodents crushed the GHT pillars 8-1 two days later, before trouncing Harlem Brothers 6-0 another two days later. In the PEFA League on 24 August, RUL thrashed St Georges 7-0.

A blistering time of 14min: 44sec was good enough to win Chris Felgate 1st place in the 4km Athletics Time Trial on 27 August, while Eric Maqingwana was hot on Felgate's heels with a second-placed time of 15min: 12sec.

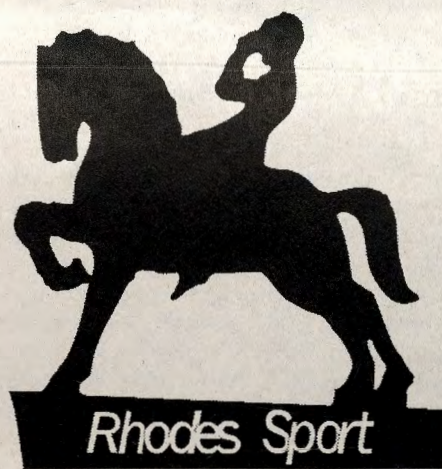
Squash players had a victorious day on 14 August. RH1 easily defeated Port Alfred 1 17-5 while RH2 had a slightly closer encounter and beat WyV 1 16-17. Six days later both teams again played commendably to earn wins over Kenton 1 (18-5) and Port Alfred 1 (16-9).

Some determined tennis on 23 August saw the RU

women triumphant over Jakaranda by 10-3. RU Men were not so fortunate and went down to UPE 4-11.

Table Tennis players also got their share of bad luck with Rhodes A losing 4-6 to Telkom B and Rhodes B losing 0-10, also to Telkom B, on 25 August.

Giving their competitors some serious thinking to do on the 23 August were Allan Horsfield and Kirstin Scholtz who both placed 1st in the King of the Kowie Surfing Competition, Horsfield winning the bodyboarding section and Scholtz riding the victory wave in the Ladies section. ■



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Non-stop hockey helps local charities

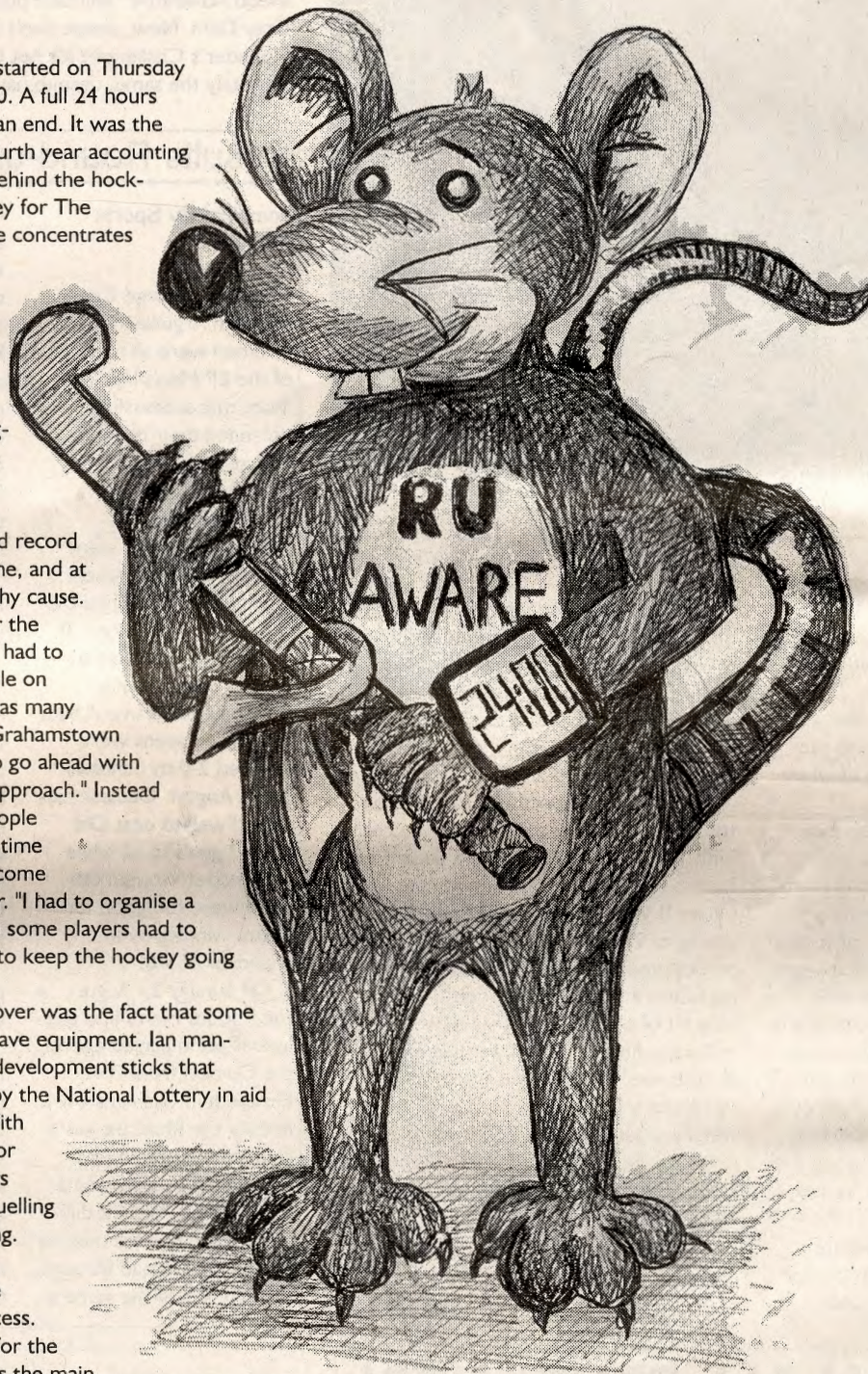
by Chris de Kock

The Rhodes hockeyathon started on Thursday the 14th of August at 21:00. A full 24 hours later, the hockey came to an end. It was the vision of Ian Freeland, a fourth year accounting student. Ian's motivation behind the hockeyathon was to raise money for The Raphael centre. The centre concentrates on helping people with AIDS, supporting and developing community action and, through the openness of the HIV positive people involved with the centre, fighting the stigma and discrimination surrounding the disease.

"Last year I decided to attempt to break the world record for the longest hockey game, and at the same time help a worthy cause. Unfortunately the rules for the World record stated that I had to limit the teams to 15 people on each side. I wanted to get as many people and businesses in Grahamstown involved and so decided to go ahead with the idea using a different approach." Instead of simply having the 15 people on each side, Ian took the time to organise two teams to come on every hour, on the hour. "I had to organise a total of 40 teams, in which some players had to play more than one game to keep the hockey going for the full 24 hours."

The next hurdle to get over was the fact that some of the players would not have equipment. Ian managed to get hold of some development sticks that were donated to Rhodes by the National Lottery in aid of promoting the sport. With Taphuis as the main sponsor providing a spit, the players managed to survive the gruelling hours on Thursday morning.

When reflecting on his achievement Ian said, "The marathon was a great success. We raised a lot of money for the Raphael Centre, which was the main goal, and everybody enjoyed themselves. We received some complaints about the noise and I would once again like to apologise for any inconvenience."



Finally the time has come for me to sit down and write the final instalment of 'Rowan's Rambles'. I will look back on my time as Sports Editor with great affection, and I hope that Michael Salzwedel, my successor, will have as much fun in the position, and take the sports page to new heights from the foundations I have left him. Overall I have been impressed with the enthusiasm shown for Activate sports coverage by the various people I have come across in my time as Editor, however it would have been nice to receive more constructive criticism from our readers: I know you're out there because most avid sports followers will turn straight to the back page for a quick perusal, no matter what the publication.

In this way sports writers are fortunate, in that there are so many different opinions concerning teams, individuals and results within the sporting following, and the opportunity for debate frequent and heated. The absence of this kind of debate has, I feel, been the greatest shortcoming of the section over the last two years.

One thing that gives me great satisfaction, however, is when I can convince someone who has no interest in 'sport' as it is normally perceived, to actually sit down and read if not all, then part of the sports section. If I have done this, and only this, for even a handful of people, I will feel that my time at Activate has been worthwhile. I have appreciated all the comments people have made to me around campus, and have looked forward eagerly to my monthly reminder from a certain Mr. James Tricker to "stop being so clichéd".

The past two years have been a roller coaster ride; in many ways similar to this year's Formula One driving championship. For me this has been a major highlight of the year. I can remember being an avid Williams supporter ever since I was old enough to understand what was going on when my dad switched on the telly for his fortnightly dose of horsepower: experiencing the intense rivalry between Nigel Mansell and the great Ayrton Senna still provides one of my favourite sporting memories. I still hold a place in my heart for my favourite team, although my inclination presently is to side with the two exciting new finds in the sport, the mercurial Kimi Raikkonen (despite him driving for McLaren - after all there is another superpower to foil, and it has a distinctly red look to it, accompanied by a faint scent of pasta and garlic in the air) and the bubbly Spaniard Fernando Alonso (I was amazed to find, when he started driving for Renault, that he's actually younger than me - not to mention the fact that I don't even have a driver's licence yet!). With the rule changes seeing fuel loads being carried over from qualifying into the actual race, the name of the game has returned to strategy and skill, rather than who drives the fastest car, and for the first time in over five years I have been getting that thrill every two weeks that comes from knowing anything could happen on race day. The resurgence of Formula One in 2003 has been an absolute joy, and I look forward to following the advancement of my (ex) sports section over the next year.

Game, set and match...



Rowan's Rambles

Rowan Watt-Pringle - Sports Editor

"similar to this year's Formula One driving championship"



Briefs

Cronje axed from RWC squad

"Bearded Blue Bulls lock Geo Cronje has been axed from the Springbok World Cup squad for refusing to share a room with Western Province's Quinton Davids. The forward was removed from the training group last Thursday after it was alleged that he refused to room with a black member of the squad - Quinton Davids.

"He may have signed to play for Bath from November but that does not mean that Robbie Fleck has given up all hope of playing for South Africa at the World Cup. "If they called me now and told me that there was an injury and I must join the squad I would be there in a flash," smiled Fleck after announcing that he would be severing ties with Western Province at the end of the season to continue his career in England.

www.supersport.co.za

Milan face Ajax

"European champions AC Milan will play four-times winners Ajax Amsterdam in the group stage of this year's Champions League following last Thursday's draw, while Manchester United got a Battle of Britain clash when they were drawn in the same group as Glasgow Rangers, Greece's Panathinaikos and Germany's Stuttgart.

www.supersport.co.za

Ernie not good enough

"Ernie Els's showing in the 85th US PGA Championship was much the same as his display in this season's other three majors - good, but not good enough. The South African shot a closing one-over-par 71 to finish two-over for the championship and tied for fifth place with Jay Haas, six shots behind winner Shaun Micheel. Els, the world number two, tied for sixth at the US Masters, fifth at the US Open and 18th in defence of his British Open title.

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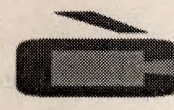
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ALL ABOUT OPPIDANS OPPI.NYON



Student takes agent to task

by Haru Mutasa

For twenty-five-year-old Daniel Conway, his year of digs has been anything but pleasant. After countless meetings with his estate agent, which he described as "horrible and pointless", he had this to say. "I feel that there is a general attitude where students are concerned in this town," he said, "We are not seen as a priority and our business is viewed as money for nothing. It is a case of just pay the money and shut up and my case is a striking example of that."

Here is the abridged version of his "horror". Daniel returned from the United Kingdom on 17 January tired from his long flight. When he turned on the tap, water gushed out from under the sink and clothes he had left in his room were infested with mould.

He did what any normal person would do in his position. He called up his estate agent, Pam Golding Properties, lodged a complaint and asked for things to be sorted out quickly.

The tap was fixed, the rubble in the driveway left by the builders was eventually cleared and his mould-infested clothes were dry cleaned at the

estate agent's expense.

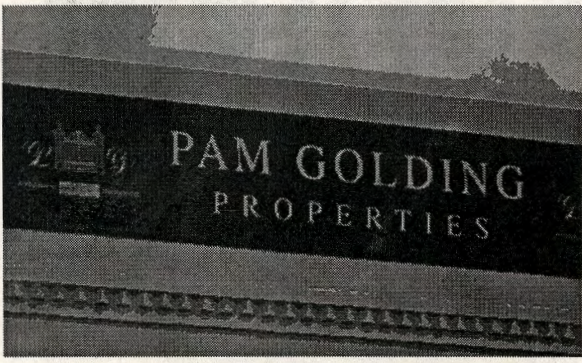
Things seemed sorted until...

"The wall in my room started bubbling up and yellow stuff dripped from the wall," said a frustrated Conway, "The dampness spread to the internal wall and the room smells."

The digs, on 41 African Street, is actually a very nice place – if you ignore the brown water in the pool and the mould on the walls. After a heated meeting with a representative of the Pam Golding, the landlord, Conway got half his first month's rent back (R450) as compensation and a verbal

• *Continued on back page*

Oppi.Nyon is an independent publication and is not affiliated with Activate.



Agent taken to task

From previous page

agreement that the mould on his walls would be attended to.

Conway said money was not the issue. He was highly unimpressed with the "poor attitude" he received from the estate agent.

Agitated and angry he said, "Throughout the whole battle she (the estate agent) made it look like I was being unreasonable. In her mind I am an uppity Brit who should just put up, shut up and pay. No one should be treated like that - certainly I shouldn't be. They would have gotten away with it if I hadn't complained.

"Every time I went and told her I was unhappy she kept saying to me - well we cleaned your clothes didn't we - making it look like I was being ungrateful. I wanted some kind of recognition from her that I didn't get what I paid for. I really feel that because she thinks I am not paying top dollar for my room (R900), things don't have to be perfect."

He the attitude he got from Pam Golding was simply because he was "a student".

At the meeting, mediated by the Oppidan warden Gordon Barker, the estate agent representative denied ever mistreating Conway saying, that she treated all her customers equally. She also said the letters she sent him were written the way they were because "that is the way I write and there is nothing I can do about it."

There was a moment of silence as Conway digested what the estate agent said.

He stared her in the face and asked, "If you had been in my position, what would you have done if, on January 17th, you had arrived to that house and found things the way I found them?"

She too stared him down and replied, "I don't know Daniel - I've never been in that situation before."

Unimpressed Conway sarcastically answered, "Well, then I hope that one day you are!"

Conway said he is definitely moving out next year and will never use Pam Golding Properties again. His parents were thinking of buying a holiday house in South Africa through the estate agent - but not any more.

The really-useful stuff guide

Stuff

2004 digs list available from Oppie secretary
Application forms available from Oppie secretary

Oppidan benefits

Tea and coffee (10 to 11am and 1 to 2 pm) every weekday during term.
DSTV in the common room (down the hall from the Kaif doors)
Comprehensive digs lists and lease guides
Vacuum cleaner
Daily newspaper
SRC suggestion book is in the common room and can be used to make suggestions or raise oppidan issues that one may have.
For the moment, the SRC shuttle runs from 8pm to 10.30pm. It is FREE and leaves every weekday from the main library.

Notices

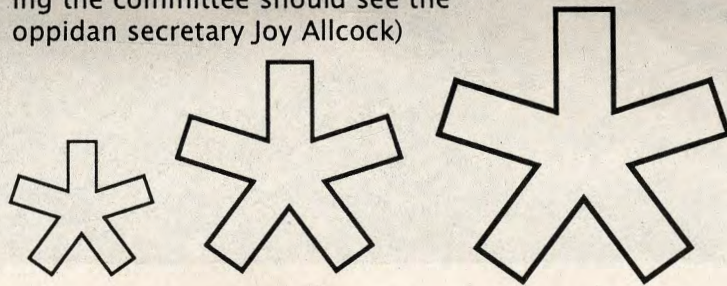
Check out the Oppidan notice board at SuperSpar.

Contact details

- Oppidan warden - Gordon Barker - 603 8443 (g.barker@ru.ac.za)
- Oppidan secretary - Joy Allcock - 603 8229 (j.v.allcock@ru.ac.za) She works mornings only from 8.30 to 12.45pm.

Oppidan committee members:

Charity Ncube (Head student)
Kirsty Hunter (SRC oppidan representative)
Shavonne Randall
Donate DeBruin
Catherine Smith
(Committee members organise balls, cheese and wines, sporting events, etc. Anyone interested in joining the committee should see the oppidan secretary Joy Allcock)



Quick 'n easy recipes

Chicken in peanut butter

Serves 4

Ingredients:

1 whole chicken, seasoned flour
60 ml oil, 1 large onion, chopped
1 clove garlic, crushed
5 ml ginger, crushed
1 green pepper, chopped
2 large tomatoes, peeled and diced, 1 chicken stock cube, 250 ml boiling water
salt and pepper, 5 ml rosemary, 200 g peanut butter

Method

1. Cut chicken into portions and toss in seasoned flour.
2. Heat oil and brown chicken, remove and keep warm.
3. Sauté onion, garlic, ginger until transparent.
4. Add green pepper and tomatoes.
5. Return chicken to saucepan.
6. Add stock cube, dissolved in boiling water, salt, pepper and rosemary.
7. Bring to the boil and then simmer for 30 minutes.
8. Add peanut butter and continue to cook over low heat for a further 15 minutes, add a bit of water if the stew is too thick.
9. Serve with samp or pap.





Wellness Corner

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS:

One in fifteen women will develop breast cancer in their lifetime. There are a multitude of risk factors that are associated with breast cancer:

- A diet high in animal fats
- Alcohol consumption – more than 2 drinks per day
- Smoking
- Overweight
- Low physical activity

Help the SRC to aid the work being done by the National Breast Cancer Patient Advocacy Coalition. Till the end of August they will be trying to break the Guinness world record for the largest quilt...yes quilt. We are selling quilt patches through the various departments at Rhodes and would appreciate it if you bought one, costs range from R2 to R5. (It's not even a beer) Furthermore we have also challenged all other South African Universities to raise more money than us. Help put the smallest university in the race by contributing. For more info contact: council@src.ru.ac.za For info about signs and symptoms: www.breastcancer.co.za

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Please feel free to contact us at:
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I have an 'M' coming through...
Someone who has passed, whose
name begins with 'M'...

Ha Ha. You FRAUD! The only person I
know who is dead is Jason Beggs!

MISTER Jason Beggs! Huh?! Never
doubt my awesome powers!



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It's an old shirt



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Hi we're from G.O.D
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We have found that only four people on
the planet understand the humour in this
comic. So we're shutting you down!

That's TYPICAL! He leaves the last
window of his last published comic
without a PUNCH LINE!

Um..okay

I have a lot of
hair on my ankles



Revolution News returns in the next edition.