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Independent Student Newspaper

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Fourth
Edition



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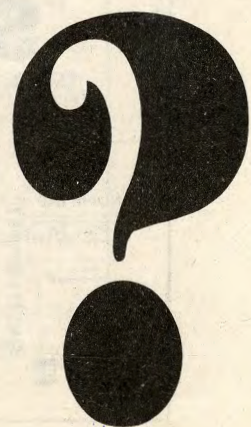
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A Women's Day Celebration



RMR changes its tune

Lesley Wright

RHODES Music Radio is set to change its operation, programming, and the way it serves its primary community over the next year. Station Manager Celeste Dickinson identifies the primary community RMR aims to serve as Rhodes University students, staff, workers, and their immediate families.

Although RMR does not have an official affirmative action policy, the station is seeking to broaden the range of on-air presenters. An effort was made to make the station more representative of the primary community by trying to include all these groups in the recent auditions for new DJ's, news readers, and talk-show hosts. RMR Media manager, Jo Edwards, said that posters advertising these auditions were displayed in seven languages, including, Sotho, Shona, Seswati and Xhosa.

RMR's executive committee will change after voting on August 25. Several positions are available on the new committee, due to members stepping down or leaving Rhodes at the end of the year. These include the posts of Talk, News, Broadcast, Media, Advertising and Finance managers. Robin Kelly will be stepping down as Talk manager in order to fill the newly created position of Advocacy manager. Robin identified a need in the station and initiated this post, which will entail liaising with the IBA to enable RMR to function more effectively as a community radio

station.

It is also planned that DJ's, producers, talk-show hosts and news readers will work more closely together and have equal input in creating a show.

The schools' talkshow format is also set to change. At present, one show takes place on Saturday afternoons, but this involves only Grahamstown's Private and Model C schools. The new talk show will feature six township schools, with two representatives from each school. These two shows will eventually merge into a single unified schools' talk show. RMR is also currently examining its position with regard to Radio Grahamstown, which at present receives only one hour of air time on Saturdays.

RMR has applied for membership to the National Community Radio Forum (NCRF), a national network of 48 radio stations with a dynamic developmental focus. The NCRF was formed as a media watchdog, with the aim of keeping a check on the radio industry and making useful information accessible to member stations. Another link which RMR will soon forge is with AMARC, a 2000 member radio organisation which spans five continents and also aims to promote communication and cooperation between stations. In the future, RMR will be working more closely with the Rhodes Journalism Department. Journ IV radio students are already closely linked with the station, with involvement in the news team, and in presenting weekly talk shows.

Community Drive

Maria McCloy

COMBI is a year long project aimed at making Eastern Cape community newspapers and radio stations more self-sufficient and economically viable. This will be achieved by helping them improve their content and journalistic skills as well as their financial management abilities.

Development News Agency (DNA) editor, Rod Amner, will be driving a combi around the Eastern Cape to "ascertain what skills are needed and develop a vision" at newspapers and radio stations, to ensure that they receive the news. Ultimately Combi aims to boost these institutions by initiating a network of news exchange between the various Eastern Cape Media.

Amner says: "The most important thing is for stations themselves to do news properly and to try and build their capacity to send us news". The news can be sent back to DNA and all the other media will receive stories from the different areas.

The Eastern Cape News Agency's (ECNA) Trainee Journalism Project links up to this community media strategy. The Development News Agency is also an ECNA Project where development related stories are written and sent round the country as well as de-

veloping community media and providing educational services to community media. A community media network is seen as a key to the development of community media.

According to Amner, the need for Combi arose when, at the ECNA training programme, half the recruits came from community newspapers. The idea was that they would return to the papers with their skills and therefore creating a better paper. However, these papers were not able to pay the newly trained journalists so instead of staying at the mainly rural or small town papers, they moved to the cities.

Amner felt that if the papers became more viable, journalists would stay at the papers and improve them. Of the 12 ECNA trainee candidates this year six will be from a community paper, two from a small town "country" press paper and one from a community radio station.

Funders will subsidise a newspaper to pay the salary of the person who returns to the work-force. This will result in a better quality paper and, in the case of country newspapers which are usually run by white members of the small town and which focus on "white" issues and not township life, will become more balanced. This should increase sales.

Amner pointed out that setting up a newspaper from scratch is too

expensive.

Therefore it is better to try to "transform from within" and improve the existing papers, so that they can improve their print run, be better assured of advertising, have better content and "genuinely better serve a community."

Amner says community newspapers in this region do not only need improvement in administration skills as well as managerial skills, but they also need training in journalistic and layout skills. By travelling round the region to six papers and six stations, Amner will be able to assess and address their needs. They are still looking for funders, but Amner is fairly confident that they would get a "strong bite from Africa Groups of Sweden (SIDA)"

Advertising is a crucial source of funding for newspapers. A number of community papers battle to find advertising which threatens their existence. Combi is trying to help Eastern Cape radio stations and papers to find advertising. They are looking at Eastern Cape business and Government advertising or sponsorship. It is hoped that, by offering companies special advertising rates, invest in the community stations and papers will increase.

Furthermore, says Amner, people specialised in different skills such as advertising sales or public relations would accompany him in the combi and impart their skill to the various community organisations.

Motara Allegations

Activate Reporter

RHODES' administration is still awaiting evidence from the students involved in bringing allegations of misconduct against Dean of Students, Moosa Motara.

Registrar, Stephen Fourie, said while the university accepted the decision of the independent arbitrator, Wesley Pretorius, that the issue be seen as a prima facie case Rhodes could not act because of the lack of evidence.

"If it proceeds towards a disciplinary hearing the university will have to press charges against Dr Motara and unless we have the assistance of the students involved there will be no evidence that Dr Motara is guilty of any misconduct," Fourie said.

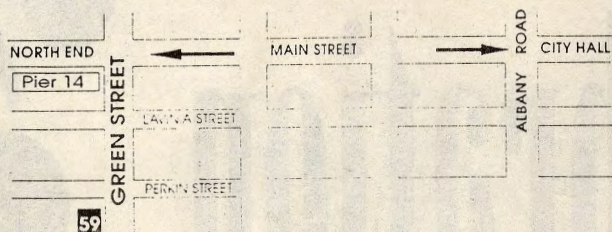
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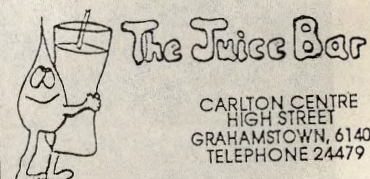


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Two Excluded After Disciplinary Hearings

TSEKO MOLOI

SIX students who were summoned to appear before the Disciplinary Committee on June 25 for their participation in the protest against the Dean of Students, Moosa Motara, were found guilty of contravening section 14(1) of the Rhodes Code of Conduct and their actions were declared to be "unbecoming of a Rhodian".

The sentences varied between suspended exclusions and community services. Paso chairperson, Patrick Mahlangu, and a Sasco member known as Jam Jam were sentenced to a one year academic exclusion effective from 1997. The other students received suspended exclusions.

The six appeared to be dissatisfied with the verdict.

Grahamstown Paso Organiser, Tshepo Mazibuko, believes the disciplinary actions were a conspiracy against Mahlangu who, he said, has been "a voice of the voiceless in this institution".

Rhodes' Registrar, Stephen Fourie, responded that "if students violate the code of conduct of the institution, Admin reserves the right to discipline the culprits. The continuation of disciplinary action is non-negotiable and Admin is comfortable that they are continuing." Fourie also said he was "unsure of the extent of the damage" to property caused by the protests.

SALSA President, Enoch Ngcongolo, said: "Admin is duty bound to continue with the hearings but disciplinary action should be (more) corrective than punitive. I feel that (students who's rights were infringed) should adopt a reconciliatory spirit for the sake of peace on the campus. This will teach perpetrators a lesson to explore other conflict resolution methods which are inclusive other than which create conflict. However I am not pointing a finger at anyone."

Vusi Africa, the acting chairperson of Paso, condemned the disciplinary hearings as the "white man's conspiracy against socio-economic disadvantaged indigenous black South Africans in this campus". He added that he did not see a reason for Admin to continue with the hearings after the findings of the independent arbitrator, Wesley Pretorius, signalled a potential case against Motara.

SRC President, Vasco Ndebele, said the Council was opposed to any form of exclusions since the result in the polarisation of racial tension on the campus. He promised that the SRC would appeal on behalf of the excluded students and added that the administration must bear some of the responsibility for April's disruptions.

"The disruption cannot be divorced

from the transformation process. Admin's negative attitude towards problem-solving resulted in the conflict. We need to establish a Broad Transformation Forum that will look at such matters and ensure that this does not happen again. Rhodes is not an island; it is part of the whole South African community, therefore it must also transform," he said.

Sasco Chairperson Mboneni Mulaudzi is of the opinion that the hearings should have been boycotted. "Our participation legitimised them. We did not agree with the selection of the presiding chairperson as well as assessors. They are fooling themselves if they think they have solved the problem," he said.

However, Demsoc chairperson, Kim Coetzee, encouraged Admin to continue with the disciplinary hearings because the actions of the protestors had infringed on the rights of other students. "Culprits should have thought of better strategies rather than disrupting lectures. We hope that justice will take place," she said.

Rhodes Student - New DP Youth Vice President

Carlien Vavruch

RHODES student Stuart Pringle was recently elected National Vice-President of the Democratic Party Youth.

Pringle, a Labour Law Masters student, wants to get as many students as possible involved in the process of transformation - not just at Rhodes but in all regions. "We must get people motivated about the new South Africa," he says. "It's a miracle."

The DP Youth functions on campuses as Demsoc - a non-racial society, putting across the viewpoint of the "liberal student who wants to see change, but without destruction."

A liberal student, according to Pringle, is any student who believes in individual rights, not group rights. "A student who's here first and foremost to get their degree, secondly to contribute to society," and, thirdly, students who believe in the rule of law, not anarchy.

However, he says he refuses to force people to take part in student politics. "You can't push people," and he is very anti-intimidation. Pringle says the DP Youth wants to "provide constructive opposition," not just criticising for the sake of it, but rather when they see a real problem.

With regard to the recent disturbances at Rhodes he says Paso, Sasco, Salsa and Demsoc stood together when it came to the inquiry into Dr Motara. They all agreed on the central issue, but Salsa and Demsoc disagreed with the disruptions and with what he sees as students being intimidated

New Policies Drafted Against Harassment

Steven Moti

IN LINE with the changes in campus politics, the Rhodes Anti-harassment Committee has developed a new policy to help students who feel harassed or victimised in any way. Their protection now ranges from suggestive communications or unwanted direct sexual propositions, to lascivious staring or whistling.

The Anti-harassment panel started three years ago and has reaffirmed its position as a panel geared towards supporting women. The panel consists of 14 members, only four of which are men. The Committee includes people from all walks of life. It has members from the student body, wardens, Nehawu, Rhodes University Staff Association (RUSA), senior management and five additional members nominated by the senate/

student liaison committee. An anti-harassment officer is appointed in May every year but they are searching for a full-time officer. Participation is actively encouraged and the Committee supports all members of the Rhodes community.

"People need to get out there and get involved," said Anti-Harassment Officer, Ula Horwitz. A journalism student, Bronwyn Broekman, plans to do an educational video about the anti-harassment policies. The video is "sceptical about people who do not feel it is important enough to go forward to the disciplinary committee - people only lodge complaints," said Brookman.

The Anti-harassment Committee does not only see itself as examining the cases of the complainant and respondent. It also intends to work in areas of social responsibility. For instance, it is planning to establish an adult literacy project for the community.

Although this may not seem like much, it is the ignition point for a panel expansion of policies with major proportions. Horwitz felt that the panel was not accessible enough. "People are not sure how to contact us," she said. The panel wishes to broaden its scope by being more accessible and having a fluent Xhosa panellist.

The committee has dealt with a substantial number of university community problems. Procedures are sound and confidentiality is guaranteed. For example, the complainant has various options when lodging a complaint. He or she reserves the right to withdraw their complaints anytime during the proceedings or, better still, to opt for mediation.

"This is a community based project, though there aren't any monetary reimbursements, everyone has been supportive," said Horwitz.

Rebuilding Rhodes

Tshepo Makoe

RHODES stakeholders will meet in the Great Hall on August 17 to establish a Broad Transformation Forum (BTF).

"The previous students' protest has delayed the revitalisation of the transformation process. The playing field has now been levelled for a summit to take place between the major stakeholders and the students", said Rhodes' Registrar, Stephen Fourie. He added that it was hoped that the major student political organisations would participate as this would legitimise the summit if these parties "take a meaningful role in the establishment of a steering committee and in the drawing of a transformation agenda".

Democratic Society chairperson, Kim Coetzee, welcomed what she sees as a rebirth of the forum in the light of the 1993 summit on transformation. She said it was a positive step by the Rhodes community: "We hope for cooperation until the end, and this can only be

achieved by putting our differences aside so that we can get Rhodes community working together as one." Coetzee also proposed that permanent membership be given to all societies.

Sasco chairperson, Mboneni Mulaudzi, was also positive about the development. "It is not an easy thing as people might think, but people should know that BTF is going to be another site of struggle, as it is a contested terrain." He said the forum should not be a mere talkshop, but a one that is able to take binding decisions. S Mulaudzi added that "the forum should not only be composed by the Rhodes community but also by stakeholders from the Greater Rhini/Grahamstown."

The Department of Information and Publicity of the Pan Africanist Student Organisation(Paso) expressed optimism about the latest developments but added that "this structure should not be a token with unequal representation".

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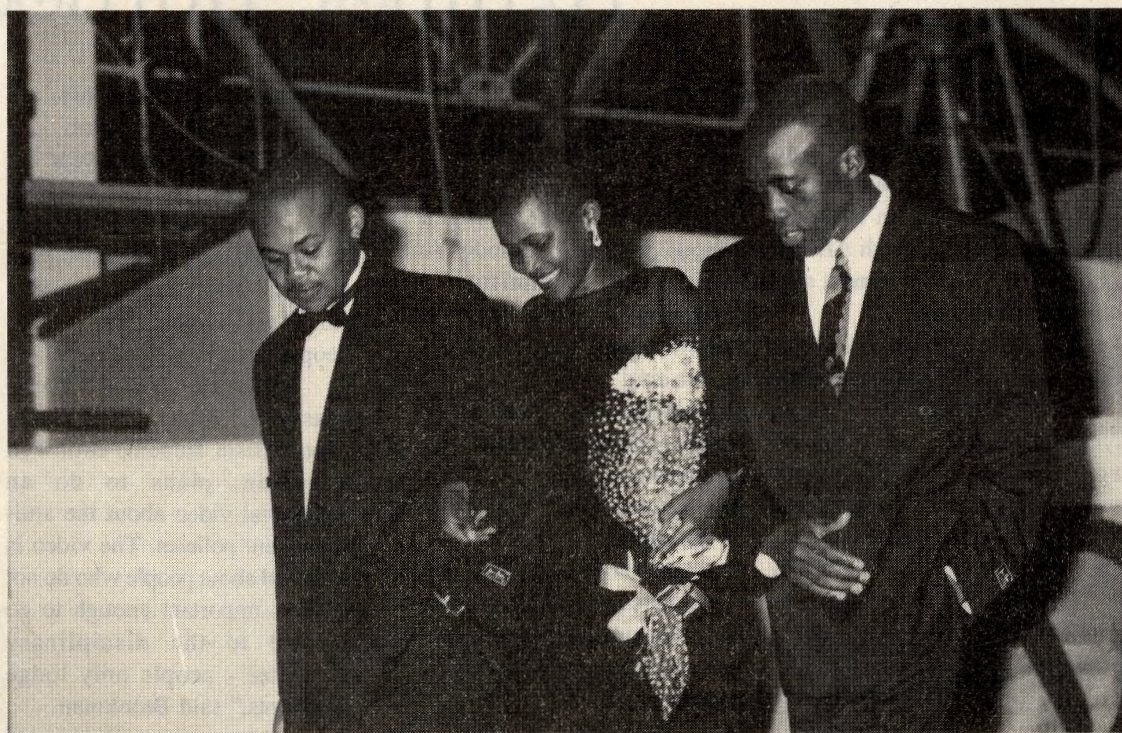
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A Pretty Scary Event

Just two days after South Africa's national Women's Day a line of nine women, dressed in Spur waitressing gear, all in sophisticated hair do's and black platform shoes set out not to wait on tables but to walk on them before a crowd of about 200 people at the Miss Rhodes Beauty Pageant at the Great Hall. Zandile Nkutha puzzles over the implications of it all.



Flanked by her two gum-chewing escorts, Wendy Kahla makes her way down the catwalk after being elected winner of the Miss Rhodes Beauty Pageant last weekend.
pic: Taryn Cass

This is surely a women's event as at least 90 percent of the crowd are women who scream and howl at different contestants as they take to the stage. The loudest screams and laughter are heard during the second walk when former Miss Local Government, Pietersburg, Jennifer Ranku, appears on stage, swinging her body to the music, a permanent grin plastered on her face. Later she loses a shoe when ascending the stairs to finish her evening wear walk and has to come back for it. Next is the semi casual dress which claims to emphasise the individuality of the contestants as they are each in a different outfit. Here Wendy Kahla seems to arouse the most excitement as the crowd murmurs, claps and then roars to her movements. Wendy is sporting short hair styled in a finger wave. She wears an outfit of satin material - a light pink mini skirt and a dark brown short sleeved shirt. Brown stockings and black platform shoes for the finish. She smiles as she descends onto the stage, stops to turn at the corner of the catwalk and looks confidently at the four judges flanking the stage. At this point the men sitting behind me signal to

another group of men sitting across from them as if to say "note the merchandise on the stage". I am stunned by such rudeness but it comes as no surprise, after all these men make no secret of the fact that they paid to come and check out what Rhodes has on offer. In the cultural dress walk that follows, there is a hint on reflecting the rainbow nation that South Africa is. The contestants wear different traditional attires ranging from Swazi to Indian dress. However, an orange coloured "Mbaqo", which is Xhosa wear seems to be the most favoured as it is worn by four of the nine contestants. All barefoot, the contestants turn and twirl to the only South African song played in the whole show. For the rest of the time the crowd moved and tapped their feet to popular R'n'B. Finally, the most awaited part of the night, which the master of ceremonies describes as the highlight of the event, arrives. The contestants parade their evening gowns. Two gum-chewing men dressed in black suits take turns escorting the women. Makhonza, one of the escorts winks at a contestant just after he lets her arm go at the end of the catwalk, where she sways her arms to take a turn before rejoining him and walking

away from the crowd towards the master of ceremonies who mumbles a question which sounds like "what qualities do you think that women have that men don't?" Didi, voted Miss Personality at the end of the show, is asked who she thinks the sexiest guy on campus is. She answers: "I don't know any sexy guys." ABOUT seven years ago a group of Rhodes students, under the banner of Womens Group and later Gender Forum, protested for a number of years against such contests. Some of the placards meant to challenge the contestants read "what are you here to give?" and in 1992 the protesters threw teargas at the crowd that had assembled for a beauty contest. However, this year Miss Rhodes went on without any disruptions or any kind of protest whatsoever. Why? Was it because the event was poorly advertised or because women's issues are increasingly occupying a backseat on the political agenda of Rhodes University? Larissa Klazinga, a former Rhodian and chairperson of STEP (Sexual Tolerance and Education Programme), had been part of the protests and she says, "we protested because we believed that the whole idea of a Miss/MR

Rhodes was pathetic and ridiculous. It all lay in what the contestants looked like". Last weekend's contest was judged on five different categories namely, beauty, intelligence, charm, confidence and pose, according to Thuli Motaung, who was one of the judges. Thuli says she saw nothing wrong with having a Miss Rhodes contest. "We usually file into combies and herd to to Alice to see Miss Fort Hare, now there is no need to because we have our own Miss Rhodes contest," she adds. Backstage, all the contestants insist that they do not see their swaying and smiling for an audience as sexist. When asked what the whole thing means to them they say that it is a challenge; it gives them confidence and their participation in the contest has the potential to open opportunities that will take them places. However, one of the contestants remarks that most men did not come because "we won't be wearing swim suits". Another, Rebecca Malebye, who made it to the top five finals, adds that "its fun to show off your body, its like a profession and anyone is entitled to their own opinion but they mustn't impose it on other people". She says she entered because she was bored.

the stage. She takes a turn rejoins them and is crowned.

An all woman team of three organisers, Viola Papo, Dumo Gumede and Babalwa Ngubentombi say they organised the beauty in order to entertain people. "We consider it to be successful because the people that were here enjoyed themselves", says Dumo.

Beauty pageants highlight the fact that people only look at the surface without delving deeper into the issues that really matter. While entertainment is necessary it surely should not be obtained at the expense and objectification of others. One must also question why, in this context, do women allow themselves to be reduced to objects that can be gaped at and evaluated by standards that most people have been socialised to consider normal and therefore acceptable? Part of this socialisation is that people accept a standardised criteria for beauty. Having such contests judged on aspects such as beauty, intelligence, pose and charm, plainly turns people into commodities whose value is rated according to these few qualities alone. At the end of it all, the winner i.e. the best commodity is the one with the most value.

Although we all acknowledge that there is more to people than this, unless we keep reminding ourselves of this fact, we will continue to perceive ourselves and others as commodities.

Sunday's function seems to have obtained approval from those in the higher echelons of power at Rhodes. Registrar, Stephen Fourie, says he agreed that the organisers could host the event and use Rhodes University's name on condition that they obtained agreement from the SRC.

However, the decision to agree to the hosting of the function was a unilateral one taken by SRC President, Vasco Zama, who neglected to inform the rest of the Council of the issue. It is ironic that Vasco's sanctioning of an event which bears more than a hint of sexism took place on Women's Day, itself.

He says: "The Miss Rhodes I saw was a bit problematic. It was only organised for a particular sector of our population on campus. It wasn't representative of all...it was a bit sexist to be quite frank," he added.

It is worrying that our SRC President agreed to something he admits is sexist and even worse that attempts to justify his decision by saying he thought it better to agree since Administration had done so already.

All of this is intensified by the fact that what is left at the end of any beauty pageant is bodies and names but no substance. Who is Wendy Kahla...what does she do...what does she think?

Meanwhile on stage Wendy Kahla is announced 2nd Princess. Shouts and exclamations of "Mistake!", "Never!", "They can't!" arise from the audience as she receives a bunch of flowers and sways once more on the catwalk. Thuli raises her hand and storms out of her chair. She approaches the MC to correct what was obviously a mistake. A slight delay and the Mmapitsi is announced second Princess and Zoliswa is first princess. Finally Wendy Kahla is announced as Miss Rhodes '96. The crowd cheers. Each of the two gum chewing men in suits take her arms and escort her to the end of

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Sasco protests higher education report

Sapa

ON AUGUST 7 the South African Students Congress (Sasco) embarked on national demonstration in protest against the report of the National Commission on Higher Education (NCHE) which is due to be released in mid-August.

They called upon Sibusiso Bengu to reject a report, intended as a blueprint for higher education policy, formulated by the National Commission on Higher Education.

The preliminary report, released by the commission last month, does not address imbalances between black and white tertiary education and was not consultative, Sasco said.

"It makes a mockery of the struggle against Apartheid and is fundamentally flawed", Sasco president David Makhura said at a press briefing.

The demonstrations held throughout the country were aimed at highlighting transformation issues, he said.

Demands included a blanket moratorium on financial exclusions, free political activity, access to higher education for disadvantaged students and an end to the privatisation of services such as accommodation, security and catering. "We are calling for the normalisation of higher education in South Africa, but Bengu is reluctant to take steps to achieve this," Makhura said. Memorandums were presented to President Nelson Mandela, all premiers and all provincial education MECs. The march took place in Bisho where two memorandums were handed over to the Eastern Cape Premier Raymond Mhlaba and Education MEC Nosimu Balindlela.

Nzimande asserts confidence in Bengu

Sapa

EDUCATION standing committee chairperson, Blade Nzimande, condemned calls by student leaders for the resignation of Education Minister, Sibusiso Bengu.

Nzimande said he had been informed that members of the South African Students Congress (Sasco) had called for Bengu's resignation and his replacement by Nzimande.

Nzimande said such statements must be strongly condemned as irresponsible and only serve to divert attention away from legitimate problems facing students in the higher education sector.

"Such statements can only serve to sow confusion in the ranks of the African National Congress and the broad democratic movement and play into the hands of those forces who are opposed to the transformation process".

Nzimande said Bengu had his full support and the complete backing of the ANC.

"I would therefore like to strongly disassociate myself from such remarks and also reiterate my complete confidence in Minister Bengu, and that such remarks are not going to affect our close working relationship in the struggle for the transformation of education," Nzimande said.

Bengu Responds to Demands

Sapa

JUST a day before SASCO took to the streets the National Minister of Education Sibusiso Bengu said that SASCO was not going to succeed in their campaign against government policy on tertiary education. He said the mass action was aimed at forcing the government to make money available to pay student debts, or to finance a moratorium on the exclusion of students who are unable to pay. "I have fully explained to students the limitations, capacity and peculiarities of the education budget, and that the harsh realities

is that this government literally has no money to meet the demands that they are advancing", said Bengu. He further said, "I am on record that I have not been given an open cheque book by the government, therefore education spending must be balanced across a variety of needs."

According to him Sasco should explain to the public how it expected the government to provide free higher education when it was not able to provide sufficient schools and teachers; free and compulsory education; adequate learning opportunities for children with special needs; and enough resources for early child development and adult

education and training.

Bengu said it was disturbing to note Sasco was silent on the fact that of the total R345 million available to financially destitute students, only R75 million had been claimed. He urged Sasco to participate in the policy development process that would begin shortly after the Commission on Higher Education had handed him its report, which would be a blueprint for higher education.

In press conference on July 25 Sasco President David Makhura called on Bengu to reject a report due to be released in the middle of August released by the national commission on higher education, saying it does not address

imbalances between black and white tertiary education.

Bengu said instead of preparing themselves to participate in the policy development process Sasco had chosen to attack the commission's report, even before its release. He added the report was the work of a commission set up with the express purpose of addressing the very issues that Sasco was protesting about.

At the same press conference, Sasco called for free political activity, access to higher education for disadvantaged students, and an end to the privatisation of services such as accommodation, security and catering at tertiary institutions.

Students assault staff

Sapa

LECTURES at Durban's ML Sultan Technikon were suspended at noon on August 5 after students allegedly assaulted three senior staff members, spokesperson Donald Knight said.

Students were demanding the removal from campus of vice-principals, Anthony Arkin and Hussain Abram, and the technikon's registrar, Johnson Naidoo, whom students have accused of being incompetent.

The campus row originated during student protests last year calling for the dismissal of the three management members.

In a statement Knight said it was decided to suspend lectures following a student mass meeting called by Students' Representative Council.

A GROUP of students occupied a hall in the administration building at Free State University on Monday July 25 and demanded to speak to the rector, Prof Francois Retief.

The occupation of the hall took place after there were rumours that there would be a class boycott the same week and that students who wished to attend would be discouraged by the use of placard protests.

The reason given for the occupation was that black students did not believe that the university authorities were serious about their complaints and needs, with specific reference to events of the weekend of July 21 when conflict erupted between occupants of three residences.

Retief met the students and assured them that the grievances of the various student groups were

receiving continuous attention.

He said investigation into the events of July 21 was proceeding and he was considering the appointment of a commission of inquiry to assist.

He said this commission should be representative of all student groups, the relevant residences, the student council and protection services at the university.

It could make proposals about disciplinary measures against students who were guilty of misconduct.

Retief said the university placed a high premium on the maintenance of an academic atmosphere and

Sapa

Students Occupy Admin Hall

that the authorities would do everything possible to protect students who wanted to continue with academic activities. The university strongly condemned any racial prejudice, racial remarks and actions, alcohol abuse, violence and any form of intimidation. Strong action would be taken against persons guilty of such actions and expulsion from the university was not ruled out.

The student dean, Prof Teuns Verschoor was monitoring the situation to avoid further conflicts. Student leaders made a strong plea for students not to take the law into their own hands and to avoid situations that could create conflict.

All the events at the institution prompted the university security to screening everyone entering the campus to ensure that no dangerous weapons brought into the University.

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How successful is the Festival?

Motlatsi Nkhasi

THE 22 year-old Grahamstown Standard Bank Arts Festival is second only to the Edinburgh Festival as the largest arts festival in the world. According to the media office estimations this year, the festival boasted a daily attendance of 80-100 thousand people, a number equivalent to the Grahamstown population. But how economically viable is this annual event? Opinions are varied - some view it as Grahamstown's sole economic salvation, while others argue that it has a negative impact on the city. Supporters of the Festival cite the Village Green Fair as an example of the direct benefits of the Festival to the community. According to the co-ordinator of the Fair, Mrs. Louw, last year they collected about R130 000, all of which was

put back into community welfare through various charitable member organisations such as the Red Cross. Long overdue, a fact-finding mission has been commissioned by the Grahamstown Foundation to determine the economic impact of the Festival on Grahamstown, with emphasis on who, if anyone, benefits from the event. The R120 000 study is being conducted by Rhodes University Economics Department and is jointly funded by Standard Bank, the Grahamstown City Council, Village Green Fair and Rhodes University. According to Professor Antrobus, the leader of the study, the main challenge of this undertaking is to come up with facts to measure festival's impact. Among other things, the study is aimed at establishing whether the economic advantages of the Festival outweigh its disadvantages or vice

versa. Areas to be looked into include employment opportunities, environmental damage and the crime rate. So far, more than 300 interviews have been conducted with visitors. Still to be interviewed are a sampling of 200 households and other stakeholders such as the artists, the business sector, the city council and charity organisations. The preliminary findings will be presented at a workshop in October this year. The Rhodes Journalism and Media Studies Department has been sub-contracted to provide historical information on the Festival. Headed by Dr Temba Masilela, the team is compiling articles on the Festival from various newspapers from 1970 to 1995. Masilela said that their findings will provide a cost and benefit analysis of the Festival. The profile will feature the number

of visitors in those years, income generating activities, employment opportunities, traffic congestion and crime rate. This historical study will act as a base-line for the main study. Moreover, the findings will guide the city council in making decisions on investments. Both Antrobus and Masilela share the opinion that the undertaking also carries academic benefits. It provides a practical training exercise for several post-graduate students involved in the study. The study on the economic impact of the Festival is long overdue. It is high time the success of the Festival is measured, not only against the revenue it generates, but also the extent to which this revenue contributes to the socio-economic upliftment of the Grahamstown community at large.

Festival Bandslam

Ilda Jacobs

GRAHAMSTOWN during Festival is any groupie's greatest dream. Raw guitars, thundering drums and sexy voices can be heard at the many gig venues. This year the Kaif and the Union were the hosts for the first Martell Blues Rock Festival, and Tin Roof Blues was boiling over with brilliant music. In Cuyler Street a gig venue emerged, and our own *Larry Strelitz Blues* band played at Lynn's Trattoria. At The Crossing a few young bands rocked the audiences. *Johnny Clegg* and *Juluka* gave superb performances at Nombulelo Hall in Joza, and PJ's were the hosts for jazz-lovers with the Smirnoff Jazz Festival. Back to the Blues Rock Festival. *Squeal*, *Springbok Nude Girls*, *Urban Creep*, *Zap Dragons*, *the Blues Broers*, *Pressure Cookies*, *Big Sky*, *Hot Nuts* and *Valiant Swart* showed Grahamstown what is happening on the new and exciting South-African music scene. About five gigs were held daily during the festival at either Kaif or the Union and a late night party followed at 1:00. These parties included one of the three support bands, *Strawbelly*, *Dorp* or our own *Head*. Favourites of the Fest were the band from Stellenbosch with a name that gives away their origin but not their gender: *The Springbok Nude Girls*. A sultry voice from the lead singer, noisy guitars, a crying trumpet and mouthwatering bandmembers attracted the crowds and every single gig of their's was packed. *Squeal* was a squealing pleasure that had everybody up on their feet and headbanging. Their CD "Long Pig" is one of the best on the SA music scene. As a support band, *Dorp* surprised everyone. All their demos were sold out and the audience loved their energetic "eclectic" music. In their one song they did a narcs rip-off with walkie talkies, and in another they attacked the audience with a huge inflated hammer. They also introduced new instruments: the spoon and pan. *Head*, the highlight of our Fireside Jams in the Union, had the home crowd happily dancing. They had to fly their drummer down from Jo'burg to play as support band for the *Zap Dragons*.

Tin Roof Blues was the favourite nightspot (especially for RMR). Several Streetlevel bands played, with *The Usual* as the biggest attraction with their lekker music and amazing guitar lines. The management of Tin Roof also operated a venue in Cuyler Street where various bands played. An All Star Jam was organized where musos from different bands spontaneously jammed. This jam was an explosion of talent with Tim Parr, *Nude Girls'* Arno, Adriaan en Theo, *Urban Creep's* Chris and violinist Brendan, Dave Birch from *Squeal*, *Valiant Swart*, *Boomslang* and several others creating exciting sounds and playing Bob Marley favourites. *Dorp's* David Poole and *Nude Girls'* Adriaan played a rocking trumpet duo, and the *Nude Girls* lead singer Arno summed up the festive feeling with

his impromptu song "Ons is die lekkerstemense op aarde." As result of bad publicity and maybe overshadowed by the Blues Rock Fest, The Crossing did not attract many people. Bloemfontein band *Desert Flower*, whose lead singers are in matric this year, and *Meldt* from Gauteng played there. *Boomslang*, a band from Cape Town who performed there too, is going to make it big in the future with their funky sounds... The South-African music scene has changed. Weg is die dae van Bles en pienk sonsondergange. Stevie Hofmeyr en *Mango Groove* is nie meer die enigste Suid-Afrikaanse sterre nie. Lekker bands and local music need our support. Rock festivals of the Woodstock concept are a celebration of our changing and exciting

South-African music scene - think of Rustlers, the fest at Swellendam and the recent Oppikoppi where 40 of the best bands performed. Leading the band explosion is rock guru Barney Simon from 5FM. Young bands can get national airplay on his show. 5FM, One World Entertainment and Tusk produced a new CD that features the best of SA music and included songs from *Arapaho*, *Sugardrive*, *Qcumba Zoo*, *Springbok Nude Girls*, and others. This good investment in music is called "My Generation". RMR is also supporting the music industry with a new talk show, SA Bandscan, which will kick-off soon. They will be interviewing various well-known and upcoming bands live on air. **It is Happening. It is new and exciting. It is the SA Music Scene!!!**



Jazzing it up...Marcus Wyatt of the Truly Fully Hey Shoo Wow Band, blew up a storm at Smirnoff Jazz Festival. The Truly Fully's released their first CD this year which has become very popular on local and national radio stations. Marcus also plays for Kusasa, a Cape Town based band who were one of the hits of the Festival.

pic: Angie Lazaro

Protection for Students by Students

Maria Kurian

MANY universities in South Africa have in recent years introduced the use of volunteer students to assist in their campus protection programmes in co-operation with their Campus Protection Units. Unknown to most, Rhodes initialised this move. This was revealed by Dave Charteris, the head of the Campus Protection Unit (CPU) at Rhodes. He said Rhodes has been using students on a voluntary and unofficial basis to assist the CPU since 1988 during the Graduation weekends, when the need for security around campus increases immensely. At the 1994 Campus Protection in South Africa conference (CAMPROSA) in Stellenbosch, which was attended by representatives from CPUs and SRC from UCT, UWC and Stellenbosch, Charteris introduced the idea of involving student volunteers in CPU which was well received. (By this stage CPU-student volunteer system at Rhodes had been officially up and running for a year). The system has so far been very effective, efficient and successful, said Charteris and Kennedy Nyenya, a fourth year Social Science student volunteer. At present there are 10 full-time student volunteers who work from Thursday to Friday evenings - from 7:00pm-1:00am shifts - and the whole of Saturday. Charteris said the reason the students are active only on these days is because they are the days referred to by the CPU as 'critical days' when the extra assistance is most beneficial. The students work either in the control room or patrol the campus, which is divided into different sections known as 'beats'. They carry walkie-talkies and identification and work strictly in pairs for safety and efficiency. They receive a pay of R7.50 per hour and are considered Rhodes employees. When asked about the selection procedures Charteris said "it is very difficult to assess the capabilities and motivations of new students" but that the most accurate method was to interview them, fully explain what the job entails and then to hire them on a trial basis and see if their interest and keenness stood the test of that given time. The students are then given elaborate training in the control room on how to operate the radio, telephones, books and records and how to deal with complaints. They are also put out in 'the field' and trained to patrol the various beats. It is very impressive that Rhodes was the initiator of the idea of involving students in the protection of their own campus, which has been successfully implemented at other universities. The consequences of this move have been beneficial to all parties involved: the student body, the student volunteers and the CPU. He added that often student volunteers were asked to provide escorts to people walking around campus at night. This means that the CPU guards are not taken away from their other security duties. "The system of students and CPU members working together has been very successful and we have had no problems so far. I have learnt a lot about responsibility, gained a lot of experience, been able to help my fellow students and learnt a lot about how to deal with people," said Nyenya.

Where's the Party?!

Unathi Malunga

ONE gets tired of hearing people dismiss racism as playing a role in our campus lives, when the effects of such thinking are visible even on the dance-floor. Rhodes is supposedly a multi-cultural university, and for whatever reason different people and groups on campus dig different music - be it rock, rave, alternative or indie and others get down to rap and R'n'B and some just think local is lekker. So is the Student Union giving everyone the musical flavour they want, or is it only catering to certain needs? Is this place, where everyone is supposed to get down and have a good time, a reflection of a divided campus? "The Union should cater for everyone although we all have different musical tastes," said one woman. There are specialised nights providing for specific tastes (R'n'B nights, rave nights and Fireside Jams), but Wednesday and Friday are the Union party nights, which should appeal to a range of musical tastes. Chaka D, who DJ's at the Union, says on a night other than an R'n'B night "I have to change my style of DJing to cater for the crowd". He thinks the other DJ's should mix more, echoing the thoughts of other students when he says "I hardly ever go to the Union unless I'm DJing. It's not worth it, there's nothing for me." However Tom Gray, RMR DJ who also plays at the Union, said "if it's a mixed crowd we're not going to only play one kind of music...we'll play to everyone...from rock to dance to R'n'B." Another DJ Chris Verrijdt also claims he susses out the crowd and then plays according to it, but points out that on nights where he's tried to cater for those into R'n'B, the reaction was not enthusiastic. He wonders whether the

relatively subdued reaction was due to it being him playing the music. It could be that the DJ's have a narrow conception of what people want, thinking one or two "different" tracks is enough to satisfy, and don't know that there are different kinds of rap and R'n'B, let alone kwaito - and that certain songs are just not happening anymore. One student said: "Black DJs borrow music in order to mix for the whites, but the whites don't. All they ever play is Gangsta's Paradise (which WAS hot in December) -I'm sick of it!" Tom says when he went to an R'n'B night "all I heard was R'n'B". Some have said Saturday is advertised as strictly R'n'B whereas Wednesday and Friday are advertised as Union parties. Chaka feels DJ's do not play enough of a variety at Union party nights. "If they want to have a rock night they must say so, if they want to have a Union party night they must say so." Union Manager, Pete Boschhoff, illustrates this point when he says he interfered when rave music was being played on a Union party night "I hadn't advertised it as a rave." "Why should R'n'B be confined to just Saturday?" asks Chaka. One man spoken to on campus also noted the imbalance, saying Wednesday and Friday are in effect "white nights whereas blacks only have one night". Another person suggested the reason for R'n'B only on Saturday was that more money is made at the Union party nights during the week - meaning that on those nights people buy more booze. "Weak excuse," replies Chaka. "Aren't they here to provide a service to students?" Maybe it is just about business. Pete says Wednesday and Friday are busy nights "and Saturday being a quiet night has been the most successful for R'n'B".

But he also says he can't find enough RMR rap/local/R'n'B DJ's. Despite the fact that there is Lerato, Du, Kakes, Tsepo, Shane, Grant, Lee, Adrian and Albi who play either Kwaito, Techno, Commercial dance, soul, R'n'B and rap which incorporate the tastes of a lot of the student body. Shane feels that with regard to music Wednesday and Friday nights generally don't cater for blacks students. There are four hours and different music could be alternated each hour. He says: "I can cater for both crowds, I have a varied taste in music." Why do people keep referring to "white nights" and "black nights"? Why has music been given a racial label? Or is it just a matter of taste? Is this just a reflection of the attitude that persists amongst the students on this campus? Why is it that on a so-called "white night", students who wouldn't normally choose to listen to the music being played (eg. R'n'B supporters), can manage to tolerate it and some even have the guts to join in the "head-banging"; but on a "black-night" the majority of white students who walk into the Union walk straight out after having realised that it is a "black night", but not before they throw a look of disgust at the crowd. It is a pity that the Union, a place to party and relax, offers no solace. People are categorising themselves, believing they naturally "belong" to the Union on a Wednesday but not on a Saturday and the same with those who "belong" on a Saturday but not on a Wednesday. Isn't it a shame that whilst your preconceived ideas lead you to categorise yourselves, and while you are busy labelling everything, the music plays on. You are not giving yourselves the chance to listen and hear the music for what is really is. SO LET'S PARTY!

Rhodes to Nowhere . . .

Brigid Martin

THE future looms dark and gloomy as the end of the year approaches (well, in four months time). To stay or not to stay is the question we must ask ourselves if we want to get really deep. But we could just ask if we are quite ready to leave the debauched security of this little town, or whether we are ready to go out into the real world to proclaim to all and sundry, "the world is my oyster". Hopefully no-one with the intellectual quality of a Rhodes student would be guilty of using this horribly redundant phrase. But you never know. The third term is a great term. All the Balls happen, there are no exams to remind us why we are at varsity, the weather is crap, so we can stay in bed all day with a good excuse. BUT - the dreaded digs hunt starts round about now, with people paranoidly dashing around Grahamstown to find the least scrungiest place, with the least possible rent. It is the one time when the real residents of Grahamstown are forced to help the students, because they are once again compelled to acknowledge that students are a vital economic ingredient in the attempt to make money in this godforsaken town. But this is not going to be yet another article on a fairly boring event that takes place every year with the monotony of lectures.

So lets get back to the original topic. Along comes the vac, and almost in unison, students scream out with a cry that reverberates around the hills "I have to get out of this PLACE PLace PLace place". This is understandable - even Harare is more advanced than Grahamstown - and I have even heard residents say they have to get away at times. But what most people only realise at the end of third year, is that they are quite attached to the place, and the thought of the big wide world out there is as scary as a night out at the Vic. The world starts encroaching after the June exams in third year, when the South African students (not those bloody foreigners who are found lurking in the scaffiest corners of the town), all receive letters from a myriad of arb companies that offer jobs with no tax free dope allowances. I mean, can you imagine having to get up at 6 every morning, just to be at work by 7.30, so you can force a second cup of coffee down your throat and be ready to face gloriously sunny days incarcerated in an air-conditioned high-rise with no opening windows. It just won't be possible to relax, smoke a joint and bang bongo drums till four in the morning under these draconian conditions. Which brings me to another very important point. Have you noticed that you dress differently when you go home. This is because you are living in a city where people have access to clothes. And you

suddenly discover the holey tie'n'nearly died T-shirt you acquired at Monty's just won't do at trendy Jo'burg clubs. Most of the people you see at night in the big city won't have seen you doing the breakfast run with a hangover, and so you are forced to try and look presentable. The influence of your parents on your attire is also not to be underestimated. They naturally don't want you to go to the theatre in someone elses 1970's cast-offs, as it might imply something about their carefully cultivated economic status. Think about it. Here we are, living in a toy town that only vaguely resembles the real world. Beers are cheap, movies are really cheap, 2 minute noodles are cheap, it takes five minutes to get where you want to go - this is a bonus, except when you are late for a tut, and you can't use the stuck in traffic excuse. Our worries are few, and the only link with the outside world is before 7 in the morning and after 6.30 at night when the Physics lab allows us access to the fantastically useful, brain-boggling internet. Life ambles along slowly, but surely, moving us inexorably forward to the time when we have to decide if the thing out there is more terrifying than another year at Rhodes. Come to think about it, not even res breakfasts are as horrifying as the real world, so maybe I'll enrol for Honours next year and begin the happy digs-hunt tomorrow.

Editorial

IT IS evident that this edition has been inspired by the quest for the recognition of women's rights in South Africa. It is refreshing to note that finally a bill for the legalisation of abortion is going to be debated in parliament, and the outcome looks promising. The abortion issue has long been the source of heated debate. *Activate* feels that it should make its standpoint on the issue known. In keeping with our principle of non-sexism we believe that decisions on women's issues have, for far too long, been governed by men in the upper echelons of power who for years have failed to empathise with the need for women to take control of the governance of their reproductive rights. *Activate* realises that morality and religion influence the stance of many people on abortion, but we urge those people to acknowledge that abortions do and have been occurring for years under most horrific conditions and thereafter to support the view that, as people with fundamental rights, women should have the assurance that they at least have access to safe and legal abortion procedures.

STILL on the topic of women, it is unbelievable that Women's Day passed unnoticed at Rhodes and in Grahamstown. It seemed to have been recognised only long enough to be laughed off by most people. The main point of contention seemed to have been over why exactly was there a need for women to warrant their own public holiday. The point seems to have been missed...There would be no need for such a day if women's rights were recognised as human rights and women enjoyed equal status in national and international social, economic and political arenas. Until this becomes a reality the plight of women around the world will continue to be highlighted daily by feminists and other empathisers - it's just a pity that the rest of the world chooses to recognise this unfair situation only once.

PERHAPS Rhodes' Administration will include this issue in the agenda of the Broad Transformation Forum meeting this weekend. Acknowledging that women constitute two thirds of the university's student population alone, that female lecturers, more than male lecturers, sometimes spend years being employed on year long work contracts which do not empower them with either medical aid nor the financial security to own homes or take loans, that student societies have declared the campus unsafe for women, that male and female residences function on a definite double standard; this would be a start. Constructively addressing these problems would be progress that is long overdue. Hopefully Rhodes will realise that Transformation should include the rest of Grahamstown and will begin to actively involve itself in areas of the city that await its assistance particularly in terms of education and development. In light of its potential for success we look forward to the sustainment of the BTF.

Finally, while SRCs around the country are suffering slow deaths Rhodes students are gearing themselves for another SRC election. Student leadership is always welcome if it acts in the best interests of the students and functions on the foundations of democracy and non-discrimination. This supposedly was the basis of Rhodes' SRCs in recent years. We are, therefore, baffled that the current SRC president sanctioned the hosting of the beauty pageant in the Great Hall last weekend. There is always a whiff of discrimination in such events...

creditorial

Ilja (killing us softly with his song); Claire (sure you can use my toilet paper...but it's 2-ply so go slow); Maria (being bitter is a skill); Unathi (sorry you couldn't get to the EL party) Tshepo; Tseko the unbiased writer!; Zandi (oh no maybe it was supposed to be a surprise!); Swapna (fontle me, baby); Mboneni/SAPA (what makes this story yours?); Taryn (He's got a face you just want to slap); Steven; Brendan aka suar ka bacha (when I grow up I want to iodate all the salt in the world); Brigid "whips 'n handcuffs" Martin; Roy (they would have just run down their fathers' legs); Ilda the master flirt; Lesley; Matthew & Bridget (you put the spice into our lives); Adrian; Tiro; Tess (there was one person they kept on the choir out of pity - it was me.); Jo (no- we can't go home); Robin Kelly (hey where's your usual shit?!); Sarah (the RMR left-over); Angie; Larry; Carlien (page 3 sunshine girl); Kerry; RUPSA; Karuna (there was this one little alien in my room); Maria K (hope you're feeling better); Marc; Dror; Maria de Gray Birch; Motlatsi; Celine; Marco, Kobus, Adoma & Ian - the media room restaurateurs (wowee...you're all splendid); Gloria Steinen(yeah we wish they could menstruate too...); Mic; Louise; His People; Dupli-Print; Ricoffy; BP;Coca-Cola always; Pregnant? Breastfeeding? (thanks, we'll take that one!);the Mac Lab;RMR - for playing our songs; Nashua - even though our ship's still coming in; our beautiful, beautiful laser printer (totally orgasmic, yah.);Sheila (for having Faith!); seminars & essays; Playgirl (always good for a laugh); Kaif; Erol & Johnathan (cheers); Oasis; Bob Dylan; REM who were there in spirit (actually in Brendan's head and he's not spiritual - well not today); sorry about intervarsity; and hell's bells, we want another women's day - we worked on the last one.

Dear

Activate

Give it some thought

I WITNESSED several SRC candidates furiously filling in their manifestos for the election just minutes before they were due. I cannot fathom how people who are evidently not prepared to take the time to seriously consider their campaigns insist on running for student leadership posts. Furthermore, I am almost certain that the intentions of SRC candidates get progressively worse each year. Do these people have any clue as to what students really want? We are so tired of candidates promising better meals for res students - after four years of living in res one tends to become oblivious to the quality or lack thereof of the food. We also do not require endless numbers of parking spaces, longer library hours, beach trips or to choose the quality of fruit. Oppies would prefer legal aid and campus protection when walking home late at night instead of solutions to alleged rodent problems or waiting in queues for a hot dog and free wine. If each year's groups of SRC hopefuls took the time to communicate with and empathise with their potential constituencies before competing in the elections then only could I accept that their concern for the student body's needs and aspirations were legitimate.

Union party problems

I FIND the condition of the Student Union Building after parties to be absolutely revolting and an eyesore. One has come to expect that the foyer will be littered with beer cans, the floors sticky from spilled alcohol, papers and packets strewn around and vomit dotting the floors. If parties occur over a weekend then one has to put up with the sight and smell of the aftermath, as well as the fact that the toilet facilities outside the Kaif being blocked, until the following Monday when the Rhodes cleaning crew come to work. I would like to suggest that the management of the Rhodes Union Club take responsibility for the upkeep of their facilities and the consequences of their parties and proceed to clean up after their patrons in future. If they are unprepared to do so then may I suggest finding another venue for the Union. Not only do their patrons litter the Union and its immediate surroundings, but are also responsible for the vandalism to SRC and RMR property. It is not uncommon to notice drunken students wandering into the RMR studio to bother the DJ on air. I wonder how much filthier the Student Union Building has to get before something is done about these conditions..

Ticked Off

Had enough

Got Something To Say?

Don't hesitate - write to Activate at:
SRC Offices, Upstairs, Student Building,
Rhodes University, P/Bag 94
Tel: 0461 27122 Fax: 0461 24162
OR
e mail us : activate@rucus.ru.ac.za.

do YOU have
a good eye?

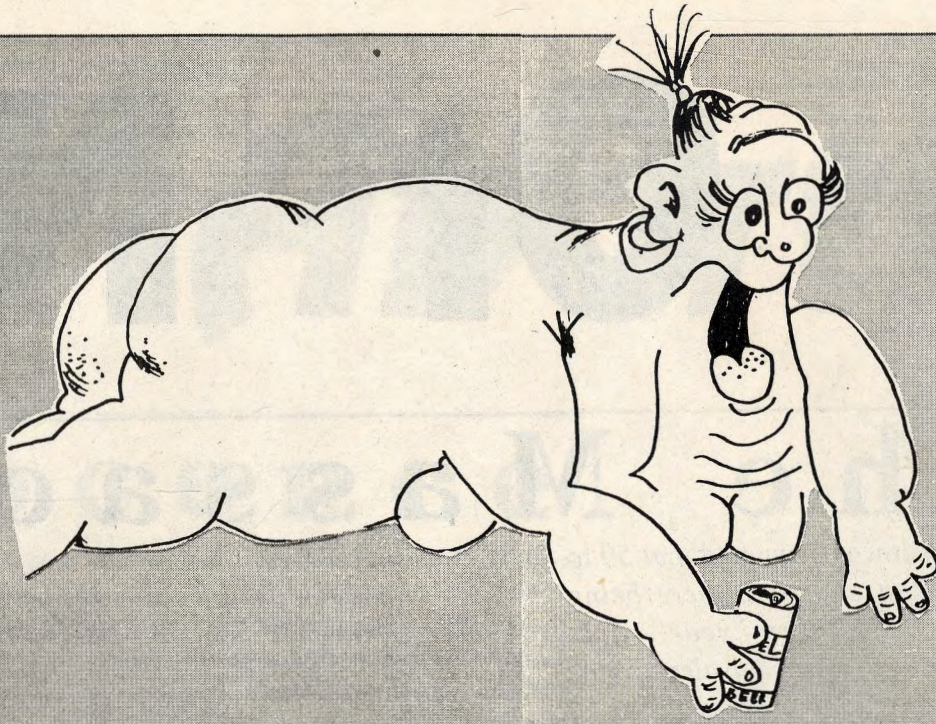
ACTIVATE challenges all campus photographers - students and staff - to come up with an image that captures the Rhodes Vibe.

Winners and selected entries will be published in both the print edition of *Activate* and on our WWW pages online, and be displayed on campus.

Prizes will be awarded for the two best photographs in colour and for the two best photographs in black and white.

Photographs must be put in the *Activate* Box in the Student Union Building by August 28 1996. Prints in Colour or black and white 5x7 inches or bigger will be accepted. Entry forms may be collected from the SRC secretary; entry fee is R2.00 per picture.

Rules: No member of the ACTIVATE collective may enter. The Judges' decision is final. No late entries will be accepted.



Dear Auntie Madge

Dear Auntie Madge

I am...umm...I..err wannna bbbb...bbbbe rich. but I realise that before I get there I have to have one of those CD thingees, or so I was told by the student advisor. But how do I write up aaa.aaa CD because I thought that they worked with a laser thingumajig? The problem is that I failed all my credits for..forffor..for..for..two consecutive years and I have a bad stuststutter. So pppplll...pplea..please help me.
Ssss..ssstupid. ffffff@#*!\$

Dear Ssssss

YOU appear to have a serious case of low self-esteem, lovee. I can't do anything about that. Neither can I help you with your CD. I also failed statistical egoprogramming when I was in varsity and I know nothing about anything mechanical, you know. However, if you require my expertise with regards to a CV, you've come to the right person. Auntie Madge will make it all better, don't you worry.

Let me tell you a little story about how my CV got me an executive position on Activate. I wrote to William Makgoba who gave me a comprehensive guide on how to fake a CV. I hear..but this is a secret, my dear, that many Rhodes lecturers have also been in contact with Will who has proved most helpful and enlightening in this regard. I thought that I'd include a copy of my CV which you can browse through at your own leisure. However, please be discreet about it because I don't want any more Rhodes lecturers trying to use me as a referee.

-- Curriculum Vitae --

Name: Madame M. Butterfly

Address: 77 Cocoon Street, Mtnzania, 6969

Telephone: (ooo) 6969

Date of Birth: 6/9/1969

Marital Status: multiple

Education

1974-1991: Uthongathi School, North Coast, Durban
Matric Exemption E++, A:sex education

- Voted pencil monitor in grade two in 1975, 1976, 1977 and 1978
- Awarded prize for best pencil monitor in 1977.
- Promoted to std 1 by default
- Elected chairperson of the toilet paper society
- Appeared nude in the school play: *Elvis Returns*
- Voted best streaker of the year at rugby games in std 2
- Expelled for sexual misconduct in std 5 butt reinstated due to the lack of evidence (lack of photographic clarity)
- Captain of Wimpy Whizz Club in Std 8

- Received certificate of merit for 33 dry days at Alcoholics Anon. in 1990
- Asked to appear at disciplinary hearing for tending sexual favours but let off the hook on condition that the headmaster kept the video for private screenings.
- Awarded the Winnie Mandela necklace for perseverance when finally reached Matric.

1992-1993: Herr Ziegler Finishing School, Switzerland

- Received a commendation for combatting my stuttering problem
- Learnt how to distinguish between men who stand to inherit 22million pounds and 23million pounds.
- Mastered the art of walking in platform shoes
- Received honours in one-on-one mortal combat
- Learnt how to wink at barmen without scrunching up my forehead
- Learnt how to remain calm when the bird singing outside my window is a vulture

Skills

- can pretend other people are in jail by looking through a fork
- able to roll countless dagga joints at rugby matches
- can down 20 tequilas and still remain standing
- able to undress a man with my mouth
- can invent my own language when people ask for directions
- adept at forging signatures

Influential friends

- Amichand Rajbansi
- Hitler (but I hear he may be dead)
- Elvis (but I hear he may be dead)
- Divine Brown (but she went to jail)
- Robert Mugabe (but many people wish he was was in jail)
- Winnie Mandela (but she has bad taste in hats)
- Abdul Bamjee (but he went to jail)
- Zet
- Prince Charles (but he's not influential when it comes to wives)

Objectives

By the time I am 30, I would like to have an orgasm while dancing naked to *The Summer of 69*. I would like to meet a sensitive man like the ones in the Bold and the Beautiful. I want to succeed in all my endeavours especially where marrying a rich tycoon is concerned.

♦ *Activate* read my CV , for the first time a few years ago and decided that they could not do without one as multi-talented and experienced as I. I valued their judgement and now, I'm paying for it!

Yes Or No

The Massacre of

Wouldn't it be nice if the world was "black and white", if there were "good" things and "bad" things, if everybody believed the same interpretation of the same religious, moral and ethical code? Lets take a reality check because it isn't like that, we believe different things for different reasons, we follow different causes, we shout different slogans. We are different people - but we live together, we work together, and we have to co-operate together. For this reason I believe the government has to adopt a position of pro-choice on the abortion issue despite the fact that my personal religious convictions are anti-abortion, writes Michaela Webster.

TO HELP our society function in an orderly manner we have governments, constitutions and laws. In the past these have often been determined from a religious stance. the results: the Crusades. the Inquisition, witch-hunts, even apartheid was justified on the grounds of religious principles. People have been oppressed, discriminated against, and murdered in the name of religion and morality. We can avoid this by adopting a secular government, a system designed to protect society without imposing a given moral doctrine. To direct this towards the issue at hand - in the past abortion has been illegal because it was perceived to be "the murder of the unborn". This discriminates against those who disagree with the moral notion of life from conception that I and many others support. In a secular constitution such discrimination should not be allowed - it should be the CHOICE of the individual to choose whether or not they believe abortion is murder.

It could be argued that we all have a choice - to engage in sexual activity, to use contraception, or not. This is pro-choice on a different issue, it concerns sexual activity NOT ABORTION. It also brings into question whether women always have the choice to engage in sexual activity or not.

It's not an easy decision

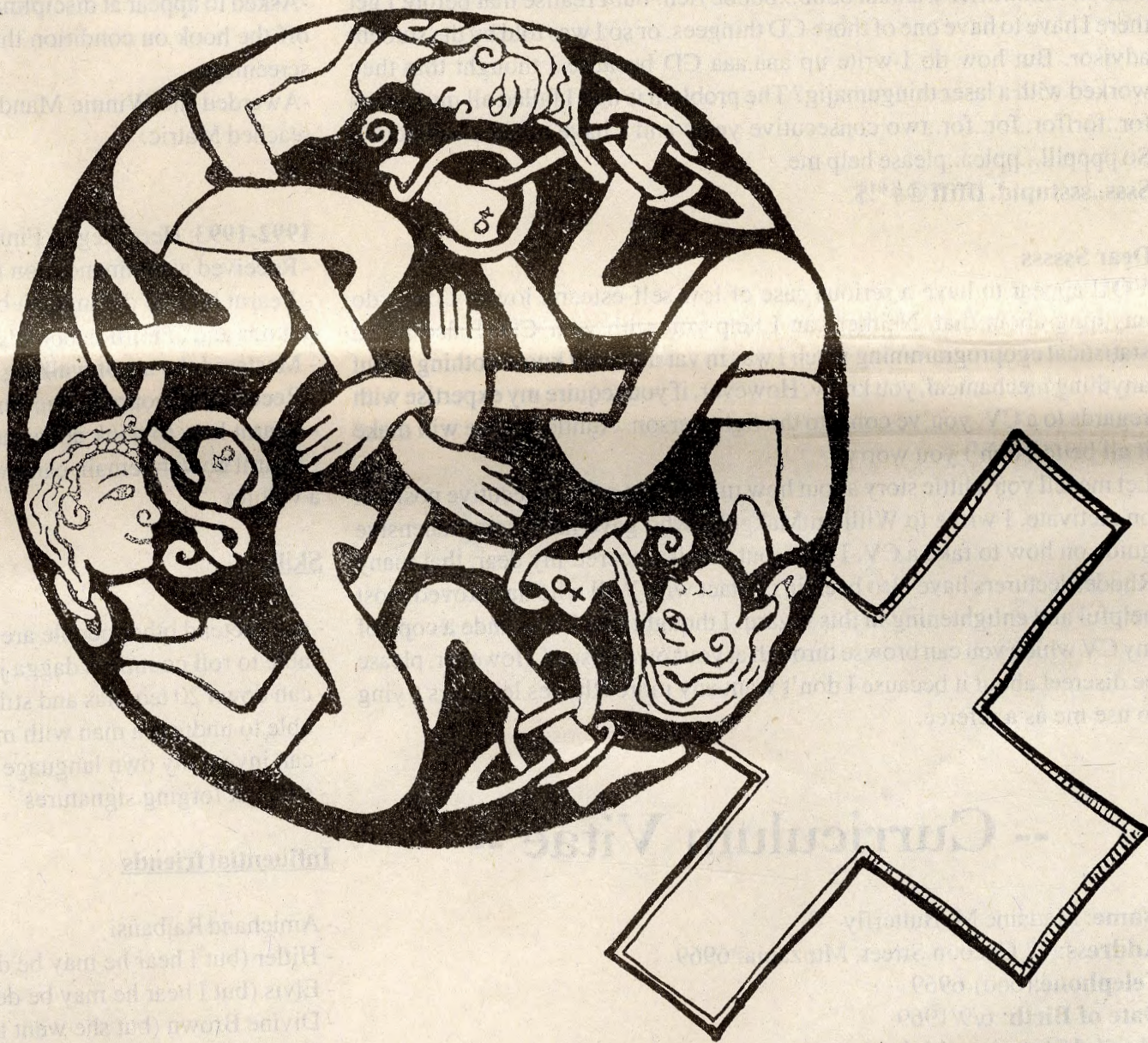
Does a woman who is date-raped have a choice? Date-rape is a common feature in our society usually disregarded because "she asked for it". When she said no, did she "ask" for someone to ignore her, did she "ask" to fall pregnant, did she "ask" for society to treat her and not the perpetrator as a criminal? By legalising abortion we give her the right to decide what to do afterwards. Whilst I do not feel that under similar circumstances I would choose to abort - having never been in such a situation my opinions are somewhat superficial - I

In 1989 it was estimated that 50 to 60 million abortions were being performed every year. This staggering figure - equivalent to nine times the number the number of people killed in the Nazi holocaust - demands that we closely examine the issue of abortion and its justification, for if society is murdering that number of people each year, urgent action must be taken to protect human lives, writes James Adlard of His People.

THERE are three principle issues that have been used to attempt to justify abortion on demand: the idea that life begins at some time other than conception, the idea that the foetus is merely a "potential" human being as it is dependant on its mother, and the fact that a woman has a right to her own body. In 1967 sixty major scientific authorities from the fields of medicine, ethics, law and social science, concluded that, "...our group could find no point in time, between (conception), and the birth of the infant, at which we could say that this was not a human life. ...The changes occurring between implantation, the six week embryo,

the six month foetus, a one week old child and a mature adult are merely the stages of development and maturation." This view has, if anything, been strengthened in the last 30 years through the development and use of new technologies such as ultrasound scanning which reveal the developing child as being capable of response and emotion from a very early stage.

Human beings are dependent on their environment from the moment of conception until the moment death. Even in mature adults, sudden environmental change will result at least in discomfort and very possibly in death. The intensity of care



have to allow others to make their own decisions as to what to do with their bodies. With regards to contraception, no method is fool-proof, you can fall pregnant even if you take precautions. If this happens a woman should be allowed to choose whether she regards herself to be carrying a human being or a potential life. A reply could be that in such a situation it is "God's will" that she have a child but this is a presumption based on a religious belief not held by everyone, to impose it would be to discriminate.

Am I then advocating that if some people "want" a quick fix solution to a minor infringement upon their lives they should be allowed to go down to the local clinic and come out an hour later minus their "problem"? Abortion isn't just something

women do if they are pregnant and don't want the trauma of going through a pregnancy and having a child. It isn't an easy decision for any woman to make.

There are a lot of issues and emotions which have to be dealt with before the decision is made, and after the abortion has taken place. Counselling by qualified staff should be compulsory before and after an abortion has taken place. We need to help people make the best decisions according to their personal principles and situations. Women should be given guidance as to what choices are available and what the consequences of each are. This can only be put into operation and regulated if the pro-choice position is adopted as law.

If abortions are criminalised counselling is not going to take place, for many it becomes

merely a principle of how cheap, how quick and if they are fortunate to be able to choose, how safe... How does this protect society? How does this protect women?

As a follower of Christ I have the personal belief that life begins at the moment of conception. I also believe in love and I believe in healing. I believe that nobody but the Creator has the ability to know the heart or the motives of any individual. Neither I, nor any other person has the right to impose a moral code on society, or judge those who do not conform to that which I hold as my own. As such, I believe that we have to do what we can to protect women, to protect their rights as people, to guarantee them the same rights we so liberally grant ourselves. We can do this by supporting the pro-choice platform which gives the right to CHOOSE

To Abortion ?

Innocence

required for survival goes through several phases in a healthy person. The initial stage, in the womb of the mother, is undoubtedly the most intensive stage, however a newborn child is as dependent on constant care for survival as child is in the womb. Human rights of any kind always carry with them reciprocal responsibilities not to interfere with the fundamental rights of others. While, therefore, women have the undisputed right to do with their bodies what they will, they may not infringe on another's rights in the process. Abortion is an infringement of a child's right to life. Thus a mother's right to her own body

is not sufficient justification for allowing abortion.

Less than 1% of all abortions are performed due to incest, rape or due to the mother's health being endangered. More than 98% are performed simply because the child is unwanted. Nobody would consider killing a two- year old child because it was a financial burden or threatened a career, yet millions of unborn children are killed each year for these reasons.

Abortion is more than a surgical procedure, it is a manifestation of a self-centred value system that focuses on instant gratification and disregards the value of human life.



This photo of a victim of a botched abortion lying dead on the floor of a motel was first published in 1964.
pic: Ms. Magazine

The abortion debate is frequently framed by the anti-abortionists as a moral choice between killing and not killing, writes Louise Vincent. What lies at the heart of the debate is belief in the sanctity and value of human life. Some people believe that there are never good reasons for deliberately taking human life while others (a larger number) believe that if we do so, we ought at least to have very good reasons and to be troubled by the eventuality.

THOSE opposed to abortion refer to themselves as the "Pro-Life" lobby. This is an ideological device meant to imply that those who favour the right of women to access to abortion on demand are in some sense "anti-life", that they favour the taking of human life without good reason and that they do not find the question particularly troubling.

There are several ways in which someone who favours the introduction of abortion-on-demand legislation in South Africa can respond to this way of framing the debate. The first and the most obvious response is a medical/legalistic one concerning the definition of life. Many people do not believe that human life begins immediately after conception - or at least, they would argue that it does not begin in as significant a sense immediately after conception as it does after birth. Undoubtedly a significant grey area exists concerning when an embryo becomes complex enough to be termed a human life. However, we can safely assume that there is at least a certain agreed-upon period when taking the life of an embryo is not regarded by medical science to be the same as the taking of human life.

This argument relies on a prior assumption about why there is a presumption against the taking of human life in the first instance. For some, it is the physical, emotional, and intellectual capacity of human beings which make them special in a way that other animals are not and which makes their lives worth preserving. For others, it is the potential for this capacity which is important.

In other words, for those who do not regard human life as having begun until a certain stage in the development of the embryo, human life consists in certain actual capacities. Unless those capacities exist, there is no presumption against killing in the same way as there is no presumption against killing other life forms that do not exhibit the unique capacities of human beings.

For those who regard human life as having begun immediately after conception, even although the combination of cells in question does not yet have any recognisable human characteristics or the ability to sustain themselves, what is important is the potential humanity which inheres in the embryo, regardless of how undeveloped it may be.

In order for this latter argument to be sustained, the pro-lifer would have to feel equally concerned about every act of contraception as he or she is about abortion. The position taken by principled Catholics is laudable for its logical consistency in this respect.

Another response concerns the extent to which people can be said to have a responsibility to sustain life (in contrast to the presumption against the taking of life).

Here again, the framing of the debate as one between those who wish to kill and those who do not, is ill-conceived. As noted, most people have problems with the idea of deliberate killing. Far fewer people hold the view that we bear a responsibility to sustain life.

Imagine waking up one day to discover that you were hooked up by machine to another person. The doctors tell you that during the night this person suffered massive organ failure and that, in order to sustain their life, it was decided to attach them to your organs. Your own life is, of course, severely and adversely affected by this circumstance as is that of your children and other loved ones. Do you have the right to choose whether or not to disconnect yourself from this other person, so allowing them to die? Or do you have a moral responsibility to sustain their life, even at the expense of your own well-being and that of others around you?

If we are guilty of murder when we do not do all in our power to sustain life then this moral responsibility must extend not only to unborn fetuses but also to all those people whose deaths we could be prevented by sacrificing our own lives to humanitarian pursuits. Again, few anti-abortionists

demonstrate a willingness to follow this argument to its logical outcome.

There are many other arguments made by those who favour abortion-on-demand legislation in South Africa. These usually concern the number of women severely or fatally injured in backstreet abortions each year, the way in which the quality of life of both the unborn and the already living is affected by unwanted pregnancies and so on. What is important is that we should not allow the debate to be framed as one between those who favour life and those who favour killing. There are occasions on which the Pro-Choice lobby is guilty of presenting its case in terms which risk underestimating the real moral dilemma posed by abortion. Many who support the right of women to choose to have an abortion are not "pro-abortion". On the contrary, abortion is an unsatisfactory and uncomfortable reality and should be seen as such. I look forward to the day when women are sufficiently well educated and well resourced to be able to avoid abortion and when the considerable technological expertise demonstrated by humankind's capacity for war mongering is redirected to the search for safe, convenient and equitable forms of contraception.



God Bless Africa...

NOW THAT African countries have opened their borders to South African visitors, Africa is becoming an increasingly popular destination. It not only provides something different to the crowded and commercialised resorts of Europe and the Indian Ocean islands, but it is cheap - very cheap. With the rapidly declining rand, Africa remains one of the few good holiday spots affordable to students on shoestring budgets. For next to nothing, Matthew Buckland and Bridget Pringle backpacked through Eastern Africa for six weeks - experiencing the lush beauty of Malawi's Nkhata Bay and the spicy lure of Zanzibar.

A FEW years ago African governments frowned on Backpackers who seemed to have less money to spend than the jet-setting, cash spilling hotel-bound tourists. Camping, hostelling, hitching, bumming, budget-strapped backpackers were seen as a pestilence rather than a source of tourist income.

But countries are recognising that maybe these strange, generally unkempt and soiled creatures - who trek with their houses on their back - can in fact be a huge bonus. Although tourists might spend more, they invariably splash out in expensive hotels and restaurants. Tight-budgeting backpackers, however, support the poorer informal economy by using cut-price local transport, staying in el-cheapo motels and hostels, and buying food off the streets from the community.

Be warned: backpacking through Africa requires a bit of masochism, a healthy dose of tolerance, endless patience and, almost certainly, a degree of insanity. The buses are late and trips long, slow and uncomfortable. If you're lucky, your driver is good at dodging the potholes. If you're not so lucky, you'll spend most of the trip with your head banging against the ceiling.

Accommodation ranges from noisy dorm rooms, sleazed-out grungy motels, basic camping areas, to reasonably comfortable chalets and guest houses. The food ranges from bread and baked beans to weird and delicious local food off the streets.

But for all the cheesy motels, battered roads, and snail-paced transport there are some excellent places to stay, and the big bonus is that they are backpacker cheap. Malawi is probably one of the cheapest backpacking countries south of the equator. But it's rapidly becoming commercialised with only a few spots left to escape to.

Malawi

ON THE northern shores of Lake Malawi is the quieter, less touristy town of Nkhata Bay. About one kilometre out of the small town is "Njaya", a guest lodge built on a rocky, forested verge that rises from the lake beach. On the slope, nestling between the trees, bamboo huts overlook the vastness of Lake Malawi.

Further up the slope drinks are served in an open-air bamboo and wood bar, also overlooking the lake. The view across Lake Malawi is so clear and so wide, that the faint outlines of Mozambique and Tanzania



Postcard cliché...Njaya on the northern shore of Lake Malawi

pic: Matthew Buckland

can be seen on the other side.

At the restaurant, behind the bar, cocktails and vegetarian burgers, among other things, are served. Fatal "healing potions" (sic) from the cocktail bar with names like "Malawi Madness", "Tropical Storm" and "Doctor's Dream" can be bought.

On stilts above the sand, just five steps from the lake is our bamboo hut. In front of the hut sit two fishermen on the sand, acting out a well-worn cliché as they mend their fishing nets beside a dugout canoe. A trader in a vest and straw hat strolls up to us to sell some curios and offer us dope. A group of raggedly dressed children offer to do our washing, plait our hair or try sell us banana bread.

The sun slivers through the cracks...and the room glows orange.

Inside our hut we lie under a mosquito net. The sun slivers through the cracks in the bamboo reed walls and the room glows orange. It's hot, and we are lazy. The beaches are uncrowded. The water is warm and calm. There's not much to do except some serious beach bumming, snorkelling, diving and beer swilling.

A local market in the town centre sells curios, drums and food. The bananas are as sweet as pudding and are sold everywhere. Street stalls sell delicious oily pear-shaped doughnuts called 'Mendazzi', and potato chip-like 'cassava chips' but with a saltier and softer texture. The brave can try a most non-delicious African style pizza at a local restaurant, ie: minus the cheese and generous with the onions and garlic.

To drink there is coca-cola, coca-cola and more coca-cola. It's American economic imperialism at its best. It's sold everywhere and advertised everywhere from the smallest, obscurest shop in the middle of nowhere to the cities.

One of the biggest complaints about tourism is that it destroys or alters the local culture and traditions. Njaya was founded by its expatriate owner, "Paul", on the belief that tourism could be a benefit to the locals. The lodge acts as a channel for aid to the needy and regularly donates to charities in Nkhata Bay town.

Zanzibar

VISITING Njaya was just the warm up for us. Our ultimate destination was Zanzibar. After a week at Njaya, we worked our way up through Tanzania to Dar es Salaam and eventually to Zanzibar by bus, bicycle and ferry. (Dar Es Salaam is a dusty, chaotic pit of a city - the less time spent there the better.)

Off the coast of Tanzania in the Indian ocean is the spice island of Zanzibar. It's a small island on the map, but occupies a large place in the world's imagination. The island, once infamous for its slave trading, now famous for its spice trading has a diverse history of Swahili-African traders, Arab Sultans, Portuguese slavers and English colonialists.

The contrasting architecture reflects Zanzibar's long and diverse history. An old Sultan's whitewashed palace, several-storeyed and pristine in appearance, dominates the horizon in the island's capital town. Next to the palace is a crumbling, thickly walled stocky brown-stone Portuguese fort. The original Stone Town in Zanzibar consists of a maze of tall, narrow alleyways and side streets. Only mopeds and bicycles are able to ride around its centre. Throughout the labyrinth, shops sell spices, sarongs, kikoi and tourist curios.

Zanzibar, with most of its population strictly Moslem, is more of a culture shock than Malawi. The women wear modest shawls and avoid eye contact. During the late afternoon, the Imam can be heard resonating through the town's alleyways from the Mosque's loud-speakers.

For less than one South African cent, you can buy a giddy-sweet sugar-cane and lemon juice drink which is crushed, and then poured

over ice while you wait. In the evening, the locals grill samosas and garlic-and-peri peri beef kebabs on the side streets. Backpackers and tourists gather on a veranda overlooking the ocean at "Africa House" to drink and watch the sunset.

If you're feeling homesick - look no further than the bar. Castle Lager (yes - the South African stuff) is sold everywhere in Zanzibar and Tanzania, and is in dangerous abundance. It has become so popular that it seems to have pipped the local beer... About eight kilometres out of Stone Town, in the rural area of Zanzibar, we went on a "Spice Tour" for a full frontal attack on our taste buds. In a special garden we were taken from bush to bush tasting freshly picked Zanzibar spices, including cloves, cardamom seeds, cinnamon bark, nutmeg (only a little...), pepper corns and turmeric. From tree to tree we sampled fruits, such as wild leechies, passion fruit and star fruit. After the tasting spree we sat barefoot on a reed mat under a thatched shelter to eat an orgasmic rice, stew and salad lunch, mixed with spices from the garden.

On Zanzibar's northern tip, about 200 kilometres from Stone Town, is Nungwi village. Under a thatched shelter on the beach sand, we camped for our last week on the island. The beaches are right out of a postcard cliché. Coconut laden palm trees grow from fine, white beach sand. Luminescent fish swim among the coral reef in turquoise blue seawater. Snorkelling visibility is excellent and there's a wide variety of fish and for divers there's an old ship wreck to explore.

WHAT YOU NEED (THE ESSENTIALS):

- About R2500 (in US Dollars travellers cheques), excluding visas and medical supplies.
- The Backpackers Bible: *Africa on a Shoestring (The Lonely Planet Guide)* - tells you where to stay, when to stay, and how much it is to stay. Available at Exclusive Books.
- Isic Student card: be fearless - try get a discount wherever you can.
- Yellow fever and Cholera shots at least a month before you leave.
- Malaria pills (lots of them).
- Travel sickness pills for the ferry to Zanzibar...
- Tanzanian and Mozambican visas (if you plan to go to Malawi via the Tete corridor): need to be organised in South Africa at least a month before your trip.
- Tolerance, energy and some balls.

Pharm Talk

WHY PAY TO PLAY?

University is about discovering new things, and for most students, sexuality is a big part of it! It is therefore very important for students to be fully educated about contraception, since an unwanted pregnancy is not very welcome at this stage of one's life.

Also, the growing promiscuity on this campus facilitates this need. As university students, we are not only in the position to educate ourselves, but to influence others as well!

The effectiveness of any contraceptive method depends largely on its correct and continual use. It is important that the method chosen should be acceptable to both the user and his or her sexual partner. The following are the available contraceptive methods: sterilization (not advisable to the Rhodes student!), abstinence (not comprehensible to the Rhodes student), condoms, oral methods and finally injectable methods. Of these, the oral and injectables are most reliable, followed closely by condoms with spermicides.

Since the oral contraceptive is widely used by females in their late teens and early twenties, further education is necessary.

* the pill should always be taken at the same time every day.

* if you miss one pill, take it as soon as you remember - if you only realise it when taking the next pill, take two.

* if you miss two consecutive pills, don't take three pills on the third day - take two on the third day and two on the fourth day and use other methods of contraception for the following 14 days.

* if you forget more than two consecutive days, start a new pack immediately and take additional precautions for fourteen days.

There are certain medications when taken in combination with the pill which can reduce its effectiveness. Antibiotics are the most well known example. Whenever obtaining medication, always inform your doctor or pharmacist that you are on the pill, so that contra-indications can be recognised.

It should also be mentioned that vomiting and diarrhoea interfere with the absorption of the pill, reducing its effectiveness. Laxatives have a similar effect and should be avoided. If in doubt, always use other methods of contraception.

The effectiveness of contraception depends entirely on the user. The pill should be taken correctly and consistently and if any problems are encountered, your pharmacist or another health care professional should be consulted.

If there are any queries, pharmacy students will be happy to address them on Pharmacy Day.

Compiled by RUPSA - Rhodes University Pharmacy Students Association.

Beauty in Question

Beauty pageants are common these days: Miss World, Miss SA and now Miss Rhodes.

Celine Cloete went to investigate on campus.

Reactions and opinions on the pageant varied. Some female students said:

Student A: "It is going to be a white thing or a black thing depending on who is organising it."

Student B: "I think its a terrible idea anyway."

Male students reacted quite differently.

Student C: "I am indifferent ... mmm... do write this, I think it should be chicks with luscious bodies!"

When asked is it fair to scrutinize women like that, responses were:

Student D: "Life is not fair!"

Student E: "Why not? Nothing happens on campus."

I asked Enia Nyamhukutu, an ex-model, what her view is on the

issue: "It is a little horrible for the people taking part in it. Other people will always be prejudiced, especially with racial issues. Beauty pageants emphasize the ideal women. It puts a lot of pressure on women."

I caught up with Buyiswa Toise, a Miss Rhodes contestant, to ask her if the competition has become a racial issue.

"Yes. In the beginning there were some white girls, but they backed

out. I think if the SRC organized it other girls would enter too."

Toise also said: "The contestants aren't only being judged on their looks, they will also look at personality and intelligence. We are going to parade in cultural wear."

It is possible that the competition will cause more division on campus.

On the other hand it may unify Rhodes students. We will have to wait and see.

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Please note change of time and venue :

Our evening presentation will be on August 21 at 5.30 p.m. in the General Lecture Theatre.

Explicit TALK

USUALLY when people say that time flies, I like to show them the architectural style of Grahamstown, my boots and Rhodes University. This time I had to swallow my lifeless cynicism and pride and admit that many things have occurred since the last issue of *ACTIVATE*. Records have been broken and set. Degrees made it to the trading market. The Truth Commission is uncovering more hair-raising revelations; the NP decided to call it a day. Truly, after a period of about 50 years of despotism you really have to be a proverbial dog not to feel some sense of urgency for a breather. While politicians were still gazing at each other in their gravy love affair, criminals seized some major metropolitans in the country and crime soared to unprecedented heights. By the time politicians turned their heads, a few flights were returning to collect another load of professionals who feared for their lives, as it appeared that they were the main targets of the new undetected Serial Killer(s). No peace loving, Madiba-maniac, Apartheid-dreading and Patriotic (even E.T.) South African can condone any type of crime.

It is ironic that crime should hit hard those sectors of our community that were previously advantaged. One can even be forgiven for thinking that someone is playing the legendary Robin Hood.

But there was no way that the GNU was letting those invaluable and indispensable professionals skip the country because of some menacing township boys, hence the launch of the much hailed National Crime Prevention Strategy. It is amazing how easily and blissfully we can wave our multi-coloured flag during the Rugby World Cup and African Cup of Nations, but when someone places a gun at the head of someone we know, we are quick to pack our assets and swiftly abandon South Africa.

Speaking of leadership, ours will be going out soon and we don't know if their departure will be as quiet as their arrival. We haven't heard much from them lately but I know that they are a very quiet and hard working bunch. With the demise of many SRCs across the country, at least Rhodes is one of a few that can still boast an SRC. With due respect and confidence, sometimes the quietness of those offices gave me an eerie feeling so I hope the incoming SRC will come in with a bit of a rattle.

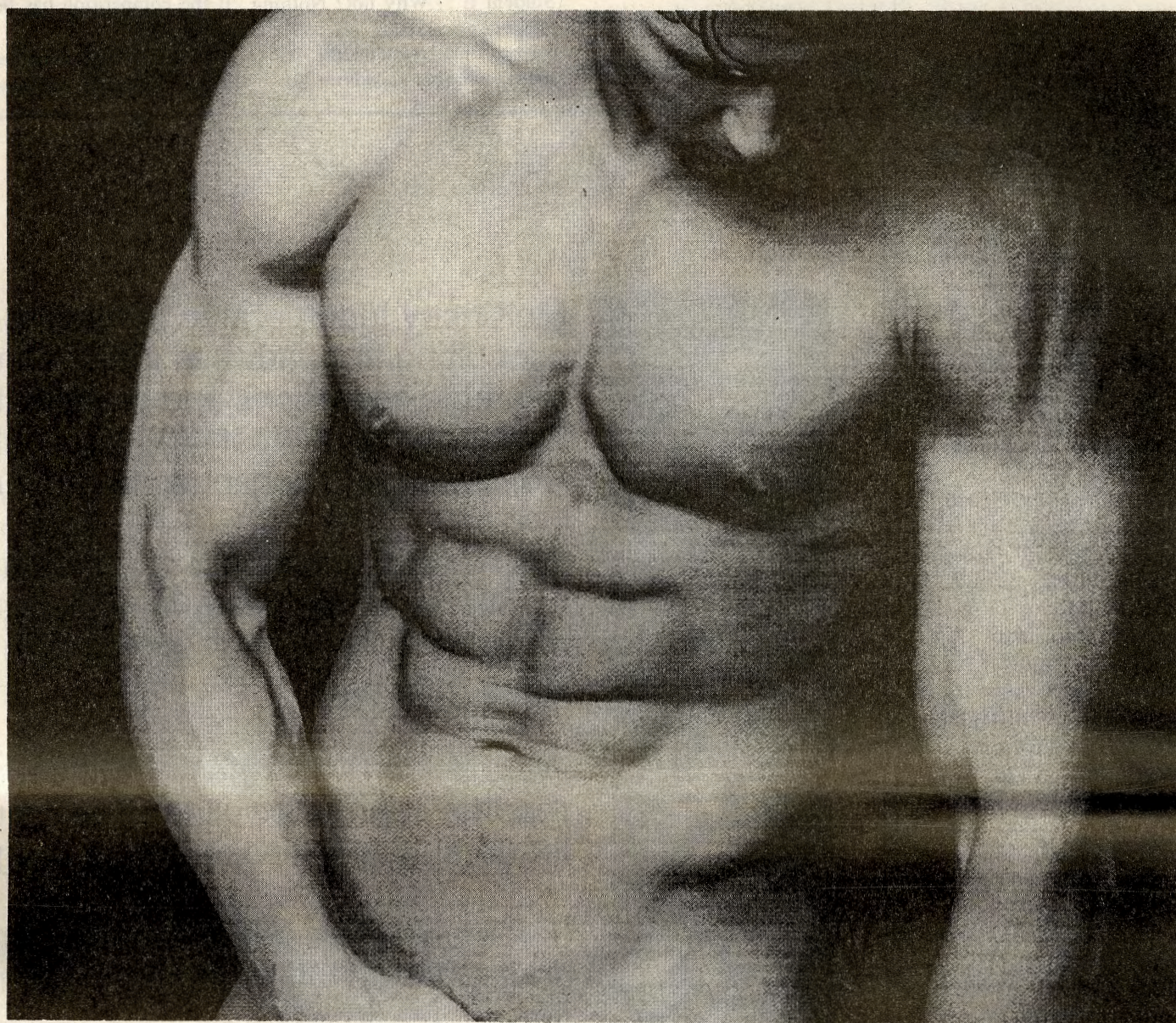
One death which saw the sexually-frustrated jump off two-storeyed buildings was that of *Scope*, a not-so-self-esteeming unworthy male magazine which peacefully left us in recent weeks. At least it makes less of a pile of magazines that one has to go through in order to find one's delicacy and favourite food for thought.

Women's Day will have a lot to celebrate about, making the day an even worthier holiday. The escalating rate of female abuse in our country adds to our crime rate and the sooner this gets into some thick heads the sooner women will start to feel like human beings again. It's been a while since the march against the Pass Law but many women are still continuing a psychological defiance march in their own homes. This may not sit comfortably on some ears but regrettably this is a reality that is faced by many women everyday.

Tiro Mokoditso

What if men could menstruate?

A political fantasy by Gloria Steinem first published in 1976



pic: Playgirl Magazine

What would happen if suddenly, magically, men could menstruate and women could not? The answer is unclear - menstruation would become an enviable, boast-worthy, masculine event. Men would brag about how long and how much. Boys would mark the onset of menses, that longed for proof of man-hood, with religious rituals and stag parties. Governments would fund National Institutes of Dysmenorrhea to help stamp out monthly discomforts. Sanitary supplies would be federally funded and free. (Of course, some men would still pay for the prestige of commercial brands such as John Wayne Tampons, Muhammad Ali's Rope-a-dope Pads, Joe Namath Jock Shields - "For Those Light Bachelor's Days" and Robert "Baretta" Blake Maxi-Pads.) Military men, right-wing politicians and religious fundamentalists would cite menstruation as proof that only men could serve in the army ("you have to give blood to take blood"), occupy political office ("can women be aggressive without that steadfast cycle governed by the planet Mars?"), be priests and ministers ("how could a woman give her blood for our sins?") or rabbis ("without the monthly loss of impurities, women remain unclean"). Male, left-wing politicians and mystics, however, would insist that women are equal, just different; and that any woman

could enter their ranks if only she were willing to self-inflict a major wound every month ("you must give blood for the revolution"), recognise the pre-eminence of menstrual issues to all men in their Cycle of Enlightenment.

Street Guys would brag ("I'm a three-pad man") or answer praise from a buddy ("Man, you looking good!") by giving fives and saying "Yeah, man, I'm on the rag!" TV shows would treat the subject at length (*Happy Days*: Richie and Potsie try to convince Fronzie that he's still "The Fonz" even though he's missed two periods in a row.)

So would newspapers: "SHARK SCARE THREATENS MENSTRUATING MEN" and "JUDGE CITES MONTHLY STRESS IN PARDONING RAPIST".

And movies...(Newman and Redford in *Blood Brothers*.)

Men would convince women that intercourse was more pleasurable at "that time of the month." Lesbians would be said to fear blood and therefore life itself - though probably only because they need a good menstruating man.

Of course, male intellectuals would offer the most moral and logical arguments. How could a woman master any discipline that demanded a sense of time, space, mathematics or measurement without that built-in gift for measuring the cycles of the month and planets - and thus measuring anything at all?

In the rarified fields of philosophy and religion, could women compensate for missing the rhythm of the universe? Or their lack of symbolic death and resurrection every month?

Liberal males in every field would try to be kind. The fact that "these people" have no gift for measuring life or connecting to the universe, the liberals would explain, should be punishment enough.

And how would women react? One can imagine traditional women agreeing to these arguments with staunch and smiling masochism ("My husband's blood is as sacred as that of Jesus - and so sexy too!") Reformers and Queen Bees would try to imitate men and pretend to have a monthly cycle. All feminists would explain endlessly that men, too, need to be liberated from the false idea of Martian aggressiveness, just as women need to escape the bonds of menses-envy.

Radical feminists would add that the oppression of the non-menstrual was the pattern for all other oppressions. ("Vampires were our first freedom fighters!") Cultural feminists would develop a bloodless imagery in arts and literature. Socialist feminists would insist that only under capitalism would men be able to monopolise menstrual blood...

In fact, if men could menstruate, the power justifications could probably go on forever. If we let them.

1996 Women's Festival

Maria de Gray Birch

THE Women's Arts Festival is to be held in Durban at the Natal Playhouse from the 8th to the 11th of August. It was first started in 1995 on a relatively small scale due to low funding. This year, thanks to the sponsorship of Southern Life, it promises to be much bigger, drawing performers from all over the country.

The main aim of The Women's Arts Festival is to "acknowledge the contribution that women have made to the arts" says Tammy Ballantyne, masters student at the Rhodes Drama Department and performer in the 1996 Festival.

The festival offers a free platform for music, dance, drama, poetry and visual art. It is targeted at women artists, providing them with the opportunity "to show their creativity and concerns" says Tammy. This does not mean that male artists are excluded from the festival but, that they are required to produce work that is relevant to women.

Selected pieces from *...of flying and falling...* (performed at the Grahamstown Festival) that were choreographed by Tammy and Jenni Davies (both from the Rhodes Drama Department) will be performed. The pieces include: *A Gentleman's Secret*; *Recipe for Dreaming*; and *A Collector's Item*. *A Gentleman's Secret* was choreographed by Jenni who received her inspiration from the legend of Bluebeard. The piece focuses on the communication gap between a man and his wives and it tells of the wives' revenge on their selfish husband.

Recipe for Dreaming was choreographed by Tammy. Her inspiration came from Chekhov's play, *Three Sisters* in which the sisters dream and yearn for another life. The music for this piece was composed and



pic: Taryn Cass

performed by Wayne Thornley.

A Collector's Item was also choreographed by Tammy who created the piece around Bjork's song, *It's so quiet*. This dance, which was described by Grocotts Mail as "witty and stylish", is about a woman who collects her lover's jackets as she falls in and out of love.

Another Rhodes student, Tanya Poole,

who is studying Fine Art Masters, will be exhibiting a collection of her paintings that focus on women.

Although The Women's Arts Festival is not financially-beneficial to the performers, "it gives us a great opportunity to go to another place to see others work and to see how the pieces work with a different audience," said Tammy.



Grahamstown's Presidents Award winning dancers - Michael Mati, Simon Masoma, Mthetheleli Mati, Enock Roi, Eric Booi and Sisa Peteni who recently performed at Festivals in London and Berlin, performed at the International Library of African Music, (ILAM) at a lunchtime concert with the Masakhekhe Youth Choir, 'Sarha' Sabani and Miki Tame's Marimba Group.

pic:Taryn Cass

THE 30/29/17

REVOLUTION. That's what Hip-Hop music has always been about - dethroning old ideas for better ones, a view from the bottom instead of the top, burning flags, painting the white house black and so on. And it is going to meed the full power of this revolutionary force if it is to overcome its present state of stagnation in South Africa. Relics of apartheid still exist in the form of white-owned and controlled record companies in desperate need of a dash of love, hugs and Hip-Hop soul instead of the played out sex, drugs and rock-n-roll we have force fed into us.

Record company executives need to open both their eyes and their minds to the powerful messages being freestyled by undiscovered talents countrywide. America has proved that the music industry is a way for people like this to escape from the poverty they are often surrounded by, and they in turn help others out from the killing fields. But if no money is invested in the first place this cycle will never start and they will either starve along with their talent or turn to other means of survival. The South African music industry needs a wake-up call so that it will finally realise that hip hop is an art form that is here to stay (it's over 18 years old now and gets bigger every year) and what's more, it can generate money-just ask Biggie Smalls and Dr. Dre how they went from ghetto rags to suburban riches.

America may be the place where Hip-hop originated from, but that does not mean that we have to follow their rules. Hip-hop is about breaking away from rules and convention and this is desperately needed in order to create our own unique local style that doesn't sound like a poor imitation of somebody else's. No American Rap groups have ever come to tour the "Motherland" so why should we try to copy their every move and sound? The most respected groups in this biz are the ones who have had the confidence to do something different_ Public Enemy starting the black consciousness movements , N.W.A. setting it off on the gangster tip, KRS-One teaching knowledge, Gang Starr experimenting with Jazz Das EFX with the diggedy, and the Wu-Tang clan Kung Fu kicking Rap into the next decade.

The present outlook is dismal : we have Prophets of the City finally returning from a year of working in England on an album which will not even be released locally; the original Evergreen jumping red-eyed onto the Marijuana bandwagon that has been overloaded with confused MC's ever since Cypress Hill were stoned and proud half a decade ago; In-Tribe and Tap have vanished like MC Hammer's popularity and baggy pants, and then there are a handful of R&B and Soul acts trying their best to hold it down, but lacking direction and a message behind their music. Local Hip-hop mustn't be afraid, and in fact should be encouraged, to draw on it's roots and start a full-scale local music revolution, changing people's perceptions of it and hopefully uplifting some ghetto stars along the way. Like theFugees said, it's a case of too many undiscovered MC's but not enough mics. This situation can only be reversed if South African Rap music is controlled, managed, distributed and produced by people who truly understand and live the lifestyle we proudly call Hip-HOP.

Mass Dosage

Festival Memoirs

ACTIVATE reporters reflect on some of the productions which Rhodes' Drama students created and presented at this year's Standard Bank National Arts Festival

Claire Smith

THE creators of last year's festival hit, *Squadron Marmite*, returned to the fringe with another parody of that existential, mid-mid life crisis that haunts all soul searching pro-Marxist, anti-establishment university student in his/her quest for who am I, where do I belong and when do I get some tea?

Teatime at the Reykjavik Geezerdome workshopped by third year Rhodes Drama Students, Bevan Cullinan, Rob van Vuuren and James Cairns, appeals not only to the semi-intellectual Beckettians, veteran analysers of the DLT classic *Waiting for Godot*, but to those who don't actually care about the anarchic yet institutionalised analysis and subsequent bullshit of a university-structure and finally to those whose sole concern is how to use the message services on their multi-coloured, aerodynamic, microlite filtered cellular telephones. In other words it is a great laugh, sometimes side-splitting and the energetic humour and attacking of

Swapna Prabhakaran

COMING out of an ice frosted day during the Festival, into the warm dark Box Theatre was a comforting experience. I'd booked my ticket early, expecting the house to be full, and I was right. I was squashed between wool-wrapped shoulders, elbowing a stranger in order to get a decent view.

In this womb-like space Stacy Hardy's

cliches certainly keeps the audience and the performers on their toes.

At a festival when the focus lay on where was art going in the new South Africa, what kind of cultural forms were now gracing that once Eurocentric performance space of the Festival, this workshopped performance broke out of those boundaries and out of the boundaries in which so many other comedy acts of this year's Festival focussed. After hearing so much lamenting about the state of crime in Gauteng, the never-ending male female debate etc. etc. it was great to see a comedy that wasn't actually going any where, but *didn't* so with a purpose.

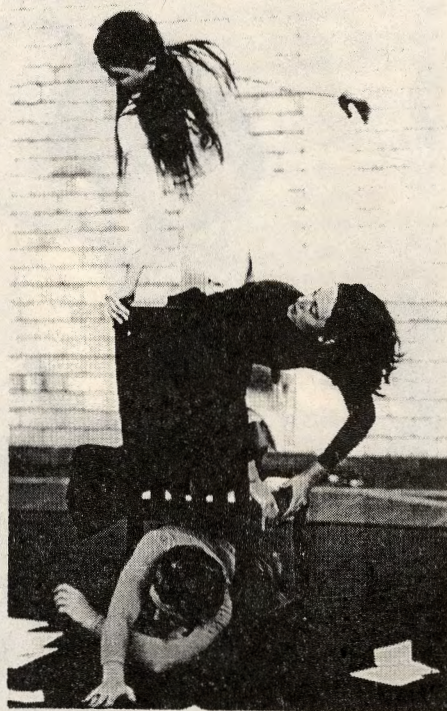
The minimalist set - three chairs, lighting for the purpose of being seen, and three sets of pyjamas worked well with the physicality of the piece and allowed these early entrepreneurs in the echelons of festivalhood to at least make some money for all their efforts.

One would think they got paid being on the production team of *Beverly Hills 90210*. Go figure! Cliche!

macabre play, *Fugues*, unfurled its snowy tendrils and wound its way around my soul. Disguised as a train journey through France, this story gently displaced the audience, moving them along a timeline through a life of vice in the company of poets Verlaine and Rimbaud.

The acting started off a little nervous, and the audience shifted around uncomfortably for a while, but the mood soon settled as the words spilled and bled ink into our veins.

Fugues traces a tale of suffocating love and a poisonous intent, from a desolate



pic: Taryn Cass

Rhodes choreographers presented a collaboration of their works in ...flying and falling.

childhood scene to cruel adulthood.

Zane Delany was especially convincing, lovely and frail. Luke Buckland, James Cairns and Rob Jansen van Vuuren were effective. Together, they managed to pull off one of the most memorable scenes of the whole festival : a daring and tragic death scene.

The play was short - less than an hour - but its brevity didn't detract from its impact. It left me with goosebumps, a bitterness in my mouth and a coldness beyond the Festival weather.

Path to Brightness

Claire Smith

"DRAMA can never develop in South Africa unless tangible skills are taught at the grassroots level."

This was the message that Themba Khumalo, Surf Brand Manager, brought to the regional finals of the annual Surf Drama Festival held recently in the Rhodes Theatre. This festival also held in Gauteng and Kwazulu/Natal begins in the February of each year with prominent actors and performers holding workshops to empower the youth of the communities with theatre making skills and abilities. It is their belief that the performing arts can help to project hope and optimism for the future. The festival continues with the communities being challenged to workshop their own 15 minute play in English, seen as a unifying language by the organisers, and encouraged to use as many theatrical elements and different cultural forms as necessary.

This year's theme, *A Path To Brightness*, was intended to create a more positive outlook towards life amongst South African youths and some of the titles of the plays entered certainly reflected this...*Sunrise, Peace be in Africa, ...and God said*.

One of the judges, Rhodes Masters student, Deon van Niekerk, who was also a facilitator at the Eastern Cape workshops said that the most important features considered when judging are originality, clarity in meaning and vocals as well as whether or not the performers are having fun. The winning group with a play entitled *Education against Crime* will compete in the National Finals in Gauteng at the end of August where they stand in line to win R10 000.

Stool Talk

SHANE Smart. That says it all. Shane Smart was one of those obscure characters you spent your entire school career with, but never really knew except for the strange cowlick in the centre of his forehead, and perhaps the odd game of stingers or cricket.

When I was in standard four the school arranged a tour to St Lucia, and being a co-ed school, the bus trip was always of most excitement - girls would have bets amongst themselves to see who could date guys for the shortest periods, some two days, others three, and some even only ten minutes of kiss, hickey and hug. Guys would just go with it, be subject to dating the hottest, to being dumped the fastest.

Seats would constantly be changed after each stop to see some or another historical landmark. The toughest job though was for the teachers who had to control this hormonal excess, and this they did by seating guys with guys in rows, and alternating with girls with girls in other rows.

I was seated with two other guys and a teacher: Shane Smart was to my left, against the window, Zack on the right, and Mrs Collins, bless her pretty frock, at the end. In front of us was a row of four beautiful girls, with various lengths of beautiful hair hanging over the rail and caressing our little knockly knees.

Natal is humid, it was mid summer, and the bus was stuffy. Many people felt the stench of sweaty heat and the windows being open didn't help much. But none so

much as Shane Smart. Shane, about 65km away from our next nearest stop, abruptly stood up and thrust his face into the lukewarm wet wind lingering heavily at the open window. He turned corpse white, warmed into rotting meat grey, and by the time he turned around to face us he was baby shit green.

Let me contextualise first. The night before we had been eating those horrible dormitory mass meals, kinda like the ones I used to eat at res, and because most of the people at my table had this natural aversion to pot boiled bits of some farmers garden, most of us did not eat our veggies. Shane Smart had protested violently, and was quite disgusted that we did not eat our vegetables, and took it upon himself to not let all of these sickly sprites and cabbage broths go to waste. He ate six plates of vegetables. At breakfast, he did the same with all the over ripe tomatoes and bananas..."Eat your vegetables guys, they're good for you," was what he would chirp between mouthfuls. We had no idea...

Now, after he did the green thing, he kinda just stood there, swaying, blank eyed and doped, his hands hanging uselessly at his sides and his shoulders stooped like dung in mid drop. It took no leap of genius to tell that he was far gone, buried in a world where the lowest compost denominator is decay. Zack on my right was oblivious, but Mrs Collins, English teacher that she was, smiled politely and merrily asked, from where she was seated, "What's wrong

Shane...you got the billies?"

What's wrong Shane, you got the billies. The word "billies", a bastardised version of bilious, related to bile, a dark cousin of both mucous and shit, must have done it. From his oesophagus burst the most sickening spray of projectile liquid vomit, complete with chunks of egg, tomato, banana, carrot...God, in fact most of the food groups, at various stages of intestinal decomposition were represented in this retched recipe a'la digestive system.

But the real horror was the fact that when she had asked him, you could see his mind struggling to grasp some social reality...instinctively he had tried to go back to the window, but etiquette, and the nice boy he was, had demanded he try reply, so, turning around to face her the head-swing of 180 degrees obviously proved too much. He forcefully splattered his stomach paint and putty the full 180 degree, radius...from the window, he layered the long row of beautiful hair in front, over me, onto Zack, and concluded with a straight gushing bark of puke drenching Mrs Collins. I was lathered only by the long strands of transparent drool that follows.

I'm going to spare you the finer details of the aftermath, but for two more days, in hot humid Natal, we drove about in that bus. Puke has a strange way of causing gut reactions : disgusted by someone puking, you too show your disgust by puking. The motto being, aside from the fact that vegetables are fucking good for you, is that

what goes around, comes around.

And that brings me to the real reason I wanted to write. Karma. The poetic justice of a social order governed essentially by the undercurrents of all our actions. The most singular effect you have on someone is in turn multiplied infinitely across the globe and hence shapes the world you occupy. If you smile at one person, perhaps say something nice, they in turn smile, and this simple three-muscle facial gesture eases the inner tension of a world wound tightly in a molecular strangle-hold. If you do wrong, you wind the clamp, narrow the vortex and spin the planet upon the poles of guilt and fear.

What's wrong is what you know to be untrue. Although the state of saving grace is thinner, divisions multiplied, traditions and gods splintered and in shards, love and sex reinvented through perpetual emotional disorder; respect, honour and integrity spliced, debased, and flung amongst the cacophony of mixed and marketed trash culture...I'm in a flat spin. Is it possible to make any sense?

Truth is, it's not about making sense of a mass dosage of confusion. It's about simple things, imagining yourself the only person in the world from under your blanket, saying hello to people, waving at passers bye, sharing your veggies...

So, in conclusion, Shane Smart.

Robin Kelly

NEW DIRECTIONS- Honours Productions 1996



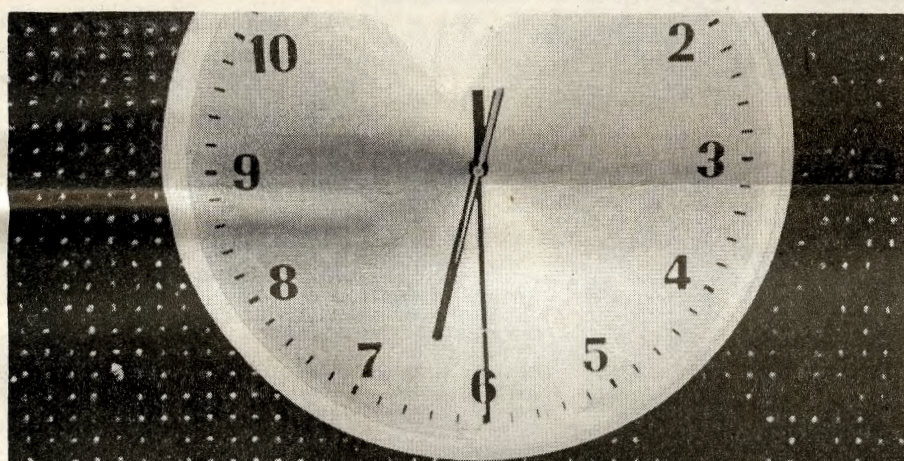
The Birthday Party

pic: Dror Eyal

Written by Harold Pinter

Directed by Glen Vaughn

In a world of cruelty and insecurity, man is embroiled in a continuous struggle for dominance, constantly weighing up his opponents strengths and weaknesses, so that he can grasp control in a game where there can never truly be a victor. Taking his inspiration from Pinter's fascination with unstable and unidentifiable characters, Vaughn aims to confront the audience with themselves while exploring the everyday fears we are forced to face.



One-Sided Wall

pic: Dror Eyal

Written by Janet Cresswell and Nikki Johnson

Directed by Emily Amos

A cynical look at the thin lines that run between sanity and madness. Theresa Seymour was a typical suburban housewife, small house, large mortgage, husband, two kids..until she developed an unusual skin allergy and Aladdin pounced. Was she dealing with some giant schizophrenic monster, suffering from the diseases in the minds of the medical profession? Or was she actually a Noel Coward sophisticate? Based on the true life experiences of co-author, Janet Cresswell.

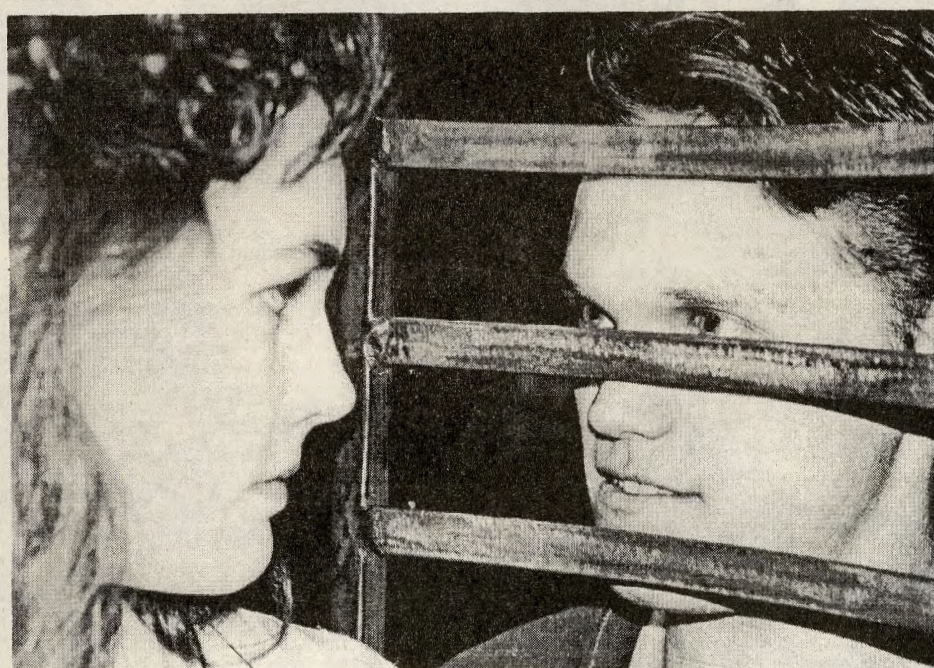


pic: Dror Eyal

The Cabaret

Written and Directed by Anthea Carolus

With elements of a traditional cabaret, *The Cabaret* presents a bizarre collage of events that occurs within the lives of five people who live in a block of flats above a cabaret club. Lines of reality become distorted as we retrace their influences, addictions, and the media which trap them within a world which transcends reality, moving towards a surrealist landscape.



pic: Dror Eyal

Extremeties

Written By William Mastrosimone

Directed by Meggan Brummer

Inspired by a real life drama, *Extremeties* is a witty, yet immensely powerful portrayal of the politics, ethics and psychology of the highly controversial issue of rape. It challenges the audiences' perceptions, questioning how a victim can deal with such evil without becoming evil herself. There is no rape in *Extremeties*, it merely scratches at the surface of the monster, revealing how the most tenderest act can become the most brutal, sadistic and degrading. Brummer strives to create an atmosphere of truth as the audiences sits in the theatre and becomes a voyeur into an extremely private and personal experience.

SAU Tennis

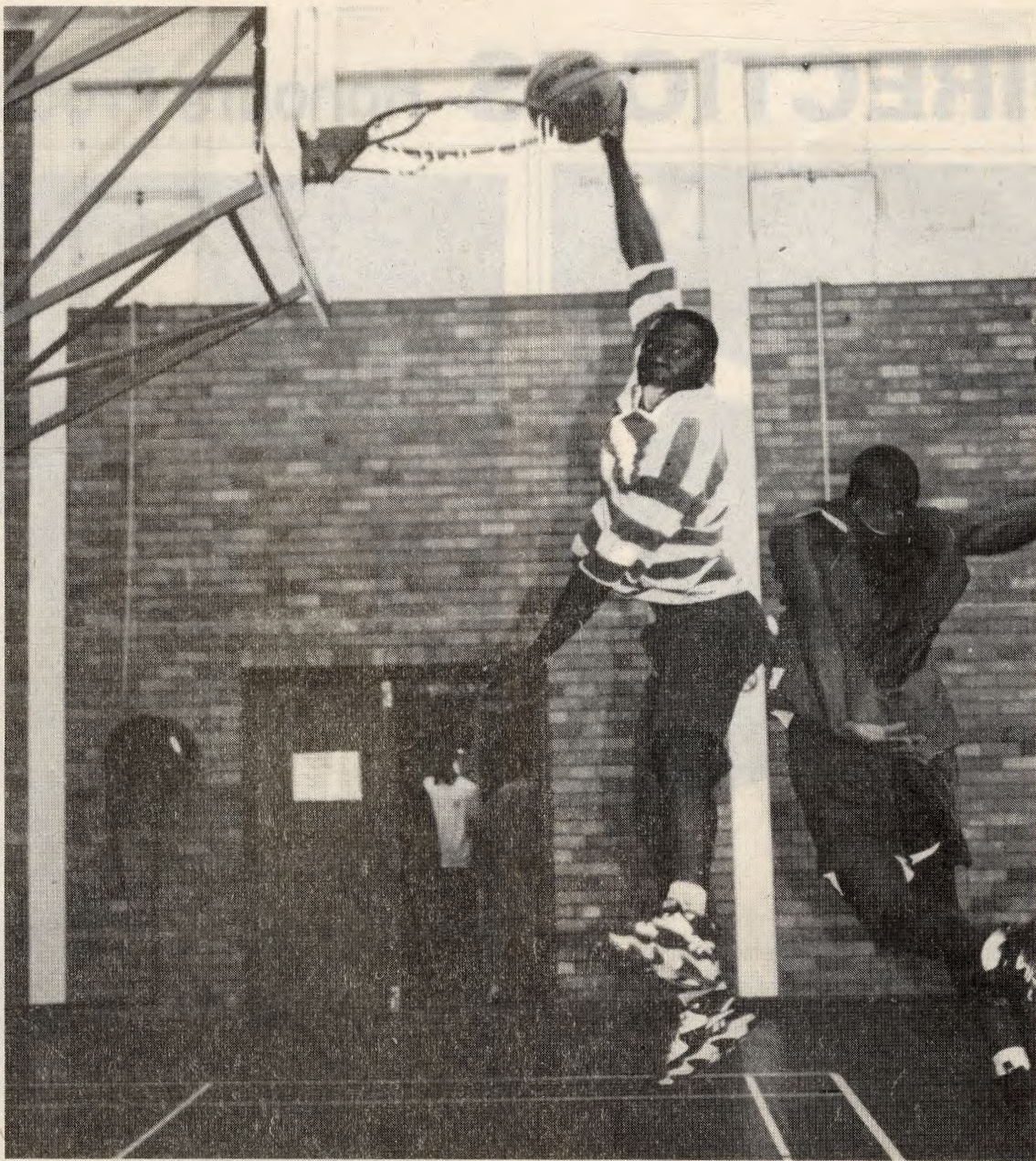
Lineke Moen

RHODES gave a great performance at this year's South African Universities Tennis Tournament which took place in Durban in July.

The Men's Team, captained by James Haydock, came sixth overall out of 44 tertiary institutions. Rhodes was the first team from an English-medium university, beating old rivals like UCT, Wits and Maritzburg.

Arne Hansen, (read the profile on this young star in the March 1996 edition of **Activate**- ed) number one for Rhodes, was selected for the SAU Team as their number three. He will be going to Malawi in September to compete in the Southern African qualifying rounds for the World Student Games. Arne managed not to lose a single game during the tournament.

The Women's Team also performed well, with Rhodes' number one and Women's captain, Melanie Theck, being once again selected for the SAU side. The Women's team came ninth overall.



Shooting the hoop...the surprise package at this years intervarsity was the Rhodes Basketball side, both the men's and women's first team winning their match in convincing fashion against UPE . Rhodes' basketball has grown in leaps and bouns over the last 12 months and under the leadership of Canadian HMS lecturer Scott Mackinnon, this now well established club should have an even brighter future. Seen above is Rhodes team member, Kenneth Jonga, fooling around during a practice session. pic: Kerry Irish



Rhodes rowing travelled overseas this vac' to race at the Henley Royal Regatta. Making it through the heats and beating British crew Edinburgh, they were knocked out on the second day by eighth-seeded Nereius from Holland. With Rhodes was another S.A.crew from Johannesburg, Wemmer Pan. Both teams were very popular with the British crowds. Being the most prestigious rowing event of the year, the Henley regatta attracts crews from all over the world being the most prestigious rowing event of the year.. Rhodes were sponsored by local businesses and also raised money nationally.

Right now the rowing club is beefing up for the Port Alfred Boatrace from September 27 - 29.

Above:(from L to R) Richard Steele-Grey, Marco Pedroncelli, Bruce Macinlay, Gregor Calderwood, Ryan Pascall, Andrew Grant, Giles Parnall, Grant Lapping, (seated) George Every, Charlotte Every, (lying down) Andrew MacLachlan, Barry Banks.

Intervarsity: All the Results

- 1)Road Relay Men (4 x 2.4km)**
 - 1. UPE A 28.11
 - 2. UPE B 29.26
 - 3. Rhodes A 30.22
 - 4. UPE C 30.57
- 2)Road Relay Women (4 x 2.4km)**
 - 1. UPE A 27.02
 - 2. UPE B 29.38
 - 3. Rhodes A 30.02
 - 4. UPE C 30.21
- 3)Tennis**
 - Men: A UPE won 5 - 4
B UPE won 6 - 3
 - Ladies: A UPE won 7 - 2
B UPE won 6 - 3
- 4) Squash**
 - Men: A UPE won 4 - 2
B draw 3 - 3
 - Ladies: Rhodes won 5 - 1
- 5) Golf**
 - A Team UPE won 19 - 5
 - B Team UPE won 20 - 4
 - C Team Rhodes won 18 - 6
- 6) Badminton**
 - Men: Rhodes won 5 - 4
- 7) Basketball**
 - Men: Rhodes won 53 - 39
 - Women: Rhodes won 56 - 26
- 8)Volleyball**
 - Men: UPE won 3 - 2
 - Women: UPE won 3 - 0
- 9) Netball**
 - Ladies: A - UPE won 20 - 2
B - UPE won 16 - 8
- 10) Hockey**
 - Ladies: A - Rhodes won 1 - 0
B - Rhodes won 4 - 0
C - Rhodes won 1 - 0
 - Men: A - UPE won 3 - 1
B - Draw 5 - 5
C- UPE won 2 - 0
- 11) Scba Orienteering**
 - Men: UPE won 200 - 100
- 12) Chess**
 - UPE won 4 - 3
- 13) Soccer**
 - A Team: UPE won 6 - 4
 - B Team: Rhodes won 4 - 1
- 14)Rugby**
 - U/21 B UPE won 27 - 10
 - U/21A Rhodes won 28 - 22
 - Reserves UPE won 38 - 3
 - First Team UPE won 41 - 14
- 15) Spearfishing**
 - UPE won 12,95 - 4,4

UPE won the overall competition by 23 points to 13. The results of the rowing had not been finalised yet but will not alter the points difference and thus the position of overall winner. Well done to all participants and spectators.

The Final Whistle

This is an exciting time for soccer lovers here in the Eastern Cape as Port Elizabeth finally has a professional team to call it's own again - the Warriors.

After a far too long period of starvation, soccer lovers in the area will be able to watch top-level soccer in their own back yard again. Too much should not be expected of the team in their first season though. In a Premier League where they will have to compete with the star-studded line-ups of Orlando Pirates, Kaizer Chiefs and Mamelodi Sundowns surviving relegation will be a victory, and anything more an added bonus.

But the Warriors do have a few points in their favour, which should ensure that they don't go the way of so many other franchises who went down after only one season.

The financial backing of wealthy PE businessperson, Michau Huiseman, and of the Eastern Cape government will ensure that the team will be able to rely on a balanced squad of local talent and experienced players bought from around the country.

Already the prize name of Mark Williams has been added to the squad. Even though he will only be staying a few months until he finds an overseas club to play for, Williams' experience from playing for Bafana Bafana and in Belgium and England will be vital in getting the club off to a good start. Malawians, Hendrix Banda and Mweck Mwase, Zambian Tenant Chembo, Victor Biyela and Sipho Dlamini have all also had experience playing in the old NSL First Division.

Add to this the seemingly healthy pool of local unknown talent and the relatively large crowds which gather to watch soccer at Boet Erasmus stadium and it is obvious that the potential exists to build a successful team for the future.

But the major attraction of having a pro soccer team in PE will be the fact that local fans will once again be able to see the stars of South African soccer on a regular basis again. Big names like Helman Mkhelele, David Modise, Thomas Madigage and Andre Arendse will hopefully bring the crowds and swell gate profits. If the Warriors' first match, played against Umtata Bush Bucks in front of 15 000 raucously enthusiastic supporters, was anything to go by then there is definitely hope for success. Although they lost 2-1 and some of the younger payers looked nervous and overawed by the occasion, they were certainly not disgraced by their far more experienced and reputable neighbours and a draw would have been a fairer result.

Marc Strydom

Soccer



Rhodes' left wing, Chiko, was one of the few players who still tried to stick to the game plan in the second half of the teams intervarsity clash against UPE. Unfortunately, it was all in vain, as Rhodes lost the match 6-4.

pic: Ilja Graulich

Ilja Graulich

Rhodes University's soccer team lost against a new look UPE side in a game that can only be described as a hit and hope for the best game.

Rhodes went into the lead in the fourth minute with a brilliant indirect free kick which was soon equalised by UPE.

Not rattled by this Rhodes kept to their game plan and went 2-1 ahead 10 minutes later and were 3-1 ahead shortly after half time. This is when fate started taking its toll. Rhodes were most probably already thinking about the afterparty and drinking champagne out of the trophy. Their game plan changed completely and instead of pushing the ball forward on every opportunity, showmanship was more visible. Add to this two fatal errors by the Rhodes keeper, who will remain anonymous, so will the rest of the team (for reasons of safety), and UPE were level.

Two minutes later, UPE was 4-3

ahead, Rhodes equalised to 4-4 and then four minutes before the end, UPE made it 5-4 and 6-4.

Like I said, more hope for the best rather than skill, clearly reflects the scoreline.

More positive and a shame that the result ended the way it did was the fact that soccer was one of the main drawcards this year. It was decided to play the first team immediately before the rugby first team in order to give the guys the exposure they deserve. Well supported by the rugby side, who clapped on their round ball partners, the side really thrived under the support received by them and by the travelling fan club. Every good move was applauded and the goals brought out the best the Rhodes supporters club vocabulary had on offer at that stage.

In a way it was a pity that the team threw the game away the way they did. The Rhodes side was far superior in tactical skill against a UPE side that lacked the drive of last year. For Rhodes, I hate to say it, it is once again back to the drawing board and a long wait until next year.

SPORTS EDITORIAL

TYPING has become bearable again (fingernails have grown back) and I am slowly but surely making out the blackboard and computer screen again. Why? Well, Olympics!! I don't think I am the first journalist to point out that all the late nights have made sleeping a rarity, well, as a student that can fortunately be rectified very easily.

It was the daytime event though that has made me the proudest to be a South African. Josia Tungwane and SA wins gold in the Olympic Marathon, what an incredible moment. Penny had done us proud already with her golds and after the disappointment of our ever failures Elana and Okkert, not forgetting grumpy Wayne, to end the Olympics in such fine style is out of this world. There is only one question that remains to be answered, what will Madiba look like in a swimsuit and a runner's vest??

Some questions, however, still need to be answered. For example, how can our own team doctor declare one of our runners 100% fit, mentally and physically, only for her to be in hospital 48 hours later, undergoing an emergency operation for a stress fracture. Incidents like this cannot be labelled as unfortunate mistakes.

But it was not only the administrative staff that needs questioning, some of the athletes looked very dubious. I know it is easy for me to criticize but I have been fortunate enough to receive enough inside information about the South African camp and some of the athletes to substantiate my right to this claim. I might sound like the perfectionist but if we want to achieve success and the 10 medals promised by our dear Minister of Sport, we need to send our best athletes over and should stop worrying about quotas. At least we now have four years to think about the next Olympics.

INTERVARSITY, what a good time was had by all. Sure, our local, worldwide honoured PE published, informative paper had its bad comments but we all know it was untrue. The real story was that they were jealous and envious regarding the tremendous support the Rhodes students showed towards their teams and every effort was made to brand us and UPE as thugs and havoc causing people. What a load of horseshoe...

I have seldom seen such patriotic support by anybody towards anything like at Rhodes. I agree that we do not have the strongest sporting teams in the country but they do us proud. Seldom have I seen teams walk onto the field, playing their hearts out for that elusive victory and even if they lose, they are still hailed as heroes. That is what sport is all about. Remember that old, long forgotten Olympic motto, winning isn't everything? It still holds true at Rhodes and that makes me very proud. I think I express everyone's feelings when I mention this.

What was even nicer to see than the support by intoxicated Rhodians was the team spirit amongst the different sporting codes themselves. The first team rugby side forming a tunnel for our own Bafana Bafana, that is goose bump stuff. Reality check at this point. I think we could have done better overall. 23-13 is a slight disaster and I think that the problem still lies with the attitude in the respective teams. Sport is mostly a team game and until everybody becomes a team and starts working for the team, little progress will be made. The attitude of every single individual has to change, regular training sessions kept up and the picture will start looking far more favourably. I certainly hope that in my university career I will see us thrash the pants off UPE. Let's wait and see.

SPORT

Activate supports
Rhodes sport

Submitted details of all
match fixtures and
resulting scores will
be appreciated.

INTERVARSITY

Ilja Graulich - Sports Editor

Students do not run riot

Ilja Graulich



Lineout action and unfortunately one of the few occasions when Rhodes saw the ball during their annual intervarsity clash against UPE. Rhodes received a lesson in hard rugby courtesy of an UPE side that dominated the front rows and thus laid a foundation for their backline to run in a number of tries. Full credit must be given to the Rhodes side, who never gave up and tried new moves on every opportunity. The lack of ball retention in the loose and a few missed passes amongst the backline, rattled the side somewhat and mistakes were ruthlessly dealt with by the UPE side. Unfortunately a very clean game turned sour towards the end when frustration amongst the UPE players against sheer determination of the Rhodes players led to a few scuffles and free-for alls. On a positive note though was the 28-22 success of the U21 side against the much bigger UPE side. Trailing by more than 10 points till 8 minutes from the end, Rhodes ran in two tries to snatch a well deserved victory.

pic: Taryn Cass

RHODES University lost the annual sporting clash against the University of Port Elizabeth last weekend but can be proud of its overall performance. Competing against a university twice its own size and with facilities that would put UCLA to shame, Rhodes can once again walk away with their heads held high, and only a little bit of the inner pride damaged. In the end, the points difference shows more of a massacre than a victory but it was far from this. With a little bit of luck things could have looked vastly different. The tennis, for example, was lost in the

last game of the last set of the last match. The soccer was in the bag until we started to get a bit too fancy and inexperience on the big occasion may have played a role. Hockey men's first lost by one goal, the story could continue forever. On a positive note was the performance of our rugby team, the women's touch rugby team that is. Coached by, Lipi Sinnott, the women showed UPE how it is done. Although this game was a new invention, I certainly hope that this sport finds a permanent home at the annual sporting festival.

Sport is about fun and the camaraderie on the one side and yet the sheer determination by both sides proved that sport can be fun. Basketball was the surprise package for Rhodes, with both the men and women showing UPE what dunking is all about. Rhodes' men's side dominated their counterparts in all aspects of the game, with the only blunder being the attitude portrayed by one of our players who did not get picked for the starting line up and deciding he was too smooth to play, walked off the court. It is this attitude problem that sometimes puts us in the difficult

positions that we find ourselves in. What Rhodes won though were two very important prizes. One for once again outdrinking UPE and secondly as the best supporting team. I have yet to come across another bunch of supporters who are so patriotic towards one team as the students from Rhodes. Being 41-7 down in the Rugby and only 1 minute left to play, Rhodes score a try. I thought the grandstand had seen its last moment flash by. Not only can we be proud of our people on the field but also of our men and women of the field. I can't wait for next year.

TO WHOM it may concern, or whoever read the article in the EP Herald last Saturday concerning the students' behaviour at Intervarsity, here is the correct story.

Intervarsity is fun. It is pretty obvious that some people will drink slightly more than others and that things might get out of hand but in this case it did not.

The whole rumour about bad behaviour started when two UPE students entered the Rhodes side of the grandstand, mistake number one. So, we retaliated a bit, a few beer cans were thrown, so what, the guys did not get injured and nothing serious happened.

The only shame that might have influenced such ridiculous journalism may be the fact that not only were beer cans were thrown by both sides but bottles as well. Furthermore, if this alleged hatred was such a problem between the sides, it could have easily been stopped by simply prohibiting any students from either side entering the other university's territory on the grandstand. When this was suggested, the middle finger of one of the marshalls popped up. Maybe, the root of the problem lies here.

OK, so there were a few streakers, like that is a novelty at Intervarsity? Or the guys climbing up the poles - never seen before?

The long and short is the following. No complaints were received from any administrative circles or any higher powers. Rather the opposite, they were happy that nothing serious happened and were pleased that sport won in the end, after all, that is what Intervarsity is all about.

Last point, to those still with doubts. Ask any UPE parent or administrative member, who was better behaved, who had more spirit and who had more support than a university twice its size and they will give you one unison answer: RHODES!

PRIZE : : :

Activate wishes to establish its readership in order to cater for their needs. Please answer this questionnaire and return it to the **Activate** Box in Kaif, or drop it off with the SRC secretary, at the Student Union Building.

Please place a tick next to your answer.

SECTION A

1. a) Do you read **Activate**?

YES

NO

b) How often do you read **Activate**?

ONCE A TERM

TWICE A TERM

c) Where do you get your copy of **Activate**?

KAIF

AVALON'S

LIBRARY

WELLINGTON'S

BUTLER'S

PAULA'S

RES

DEPARTMENTS

BAMBI'S

KING PIE

DAY KAIF

LAW LIBRARY

WHEREVER POSSIBLE

2. What do you like most about **Activate**?

3. What are your favourite features of the newspaper?

4. Is there anything you think is missing from **Activate**?

5. What do you like least about **Activate**?

6. How often do you read the following sections in **Activate**?

	USUALLY	SOMETIMES	NEVER
NEWS			
FEATURE			
CULTURE			
SPORT			
LETTERS			
EDITORIAL			
OPINION PAGE			
ADVERTS			

7. Specify any adverts you recall seeing in past issues of **Activate**?

SECTION B

8. What other campus mediums are you familiar with?

a) RMR

b) RHODOS

c) OPPIENON

d) RHODES SPORT

9. Do these mediums fit any of the following descriptions?

	A	B	C	D
RACIALLY BIASED				
LEFTIST				
MILITANT				
NON-RACIAL				
ENTERTAINING				
GOOD VALUE				
MODERATE				
RIGHT WING				
BORING				

OTHER _____

10. Which of the following best describes **Activate**?
(Tick as many as necessary)

RACIALLY BIASED LEFTIST MILITANT

NON-RACIAL BORING GOOD VALUE

MODERATE RIGHT WING ENTERTAINING

OTHER _____

SECTION C

11. What gender are you? FEMALE MALE

12. a) Do you belong to any student organisations?

YES NO

b) If YES, which

ones? _____