



Dennis Mpale, Chris McGregor and Dudu Phukwane make a blow

By LESLIE SEHUME

JAZZ WENT TO COLLEGE when the Chris MacGregor combo hit the University of the North (Turfloop). The occasion was the college's graduation ball. Boy! Did those cats really let their hair down!

The college—pinnacle of the Government's scheme to separate races at university level—has often had dance bands at its graduation balls.

But the Chris MacGregor group was a real experience! It was certainly the first time that a pianist like Chris played to a completely African set of cats.

That's what jazz does to you — it reaches beyond man-made boundaries, says the MacGregor philosophy!

And how right he was. The moment he hit the keyboard those graduation gowns were flying all over the place as the students and graduates cut the rug!

The college, about 17 miles out of Pietersburg, is far from civilisation, say most of the students.

But that night it was as civilised as Las Vegas.

Hundreds of people stood outside pressing to get in.

It must have been the MacGregor magic!

In the band were Mackay Davashe of "King Kong" and "Lovely Lies" fame (on tenor sax), Dudu "The Woof" Phukwane (alto sax), Blythe Mbijana (trombone), Dennis Mpale (trumpet), Saint Moikangoa (bass), Early Mabuza (drums), and Chris himself on piano.

The saints could have come marching in the way the boys went to town. Soon the whole hall was swinging. Yes, sir! It was a great night.

Some of the students clamoured for a strict dance tempo.

Although Chris and the boys did oblige, it wasn't long before he was swinging on the up beat.

Most of the students stop-

JAZZ TO COLLEGE



Yes Sir, it w

ped dancing and crowded round the piano and dug jazz.

For some of them it was the first time that they had listened to the type of music immortalised by such men as

Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie and John Coltrane.

It struck me then that the dons of this staid university would have been greatly surprised.

These cats were ju

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...ts learned something from MacGregor . . .

GOES COLLEGE



Real
gone . . .

Students gyrate to the MacGregor music.

THEY DANCE BLUES AWAY

Mr. Abram Maja, B.A. and
his partner dances the blues
away.

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was a great night!

Things were certainly not
what they used to be.
After all that's one of the
reasons why the college was
established, I'm told, to get
the "Bantu" from such in-

fluences.

But then jazz is like that . .
you find it even where you
least expect it.

Or was it just the Mac-
Gregor magic?

I hear the students have
so much soaked into the mo-
dern jazz message delivered
to them by the Chris MacGre-
gor combo that they want to
hear more jazz!

BUT SOME PREFERRED