



# RHODOS

RHODES UNIVERSITY STAFF NEWSLETTER



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Vol 6 No 7

## What's in a name?

The situation regarding a possible change of name of our University has provoked great interest both on and off the campus. Journalists from around the country have been making enquiries, staff and students alike have been discussing the matter and its implications at great length, verbally and on the Internet, and many letters have been written to newspapers including *Rhodos* and *Rhodeo*.

RUSA conducted an informal poll through the issue of 700 questionnaires to its members and, by the end of September, 106 of these had been returned.

While the subject has been discussed for a long time, during which several suggestions have been aired, the matter has been thrust into the limelight by a proposal to Senate that ... the University actually be renamed The University of the Eastern Cape."

As a result of this, Senate has constituted a sub-committee which has been directed to look into the "desirability of renaming the University". This committee is required to report by the end of November.

The committee itself is chaired by Prof Pat Terry and has, as members, Profs Brown, de Klerk, Grogan, Mtshu and Surtees. Dr Buijs joins them, representing the lecturers. Other members are the SRC Chairperson and the

Vice Chancellor, ex officio (as he is on all Senate Committees).

They were nominated by the standard practices of the Registrar sending a notice to all senators calling for nominations. These

### Some doggerel by a pragmatist

A Rhodes by any other name  
would surely smell as sweet,  
But what a mission to complete.  
To change the letter head and IDs,  
The badges, overalls and crest,  
The fundraising memorabilia,  
The cutlery, china and the rest.  
And what about the colour purple?  
Tracksuit bottoms, tracksuit tops,  
the bikes, the ladders and other props?  
Politically correct no doubt –  
But cost effective I fear not!

*Sally Guye,  
Department of Zoology and  
Entomology*

nominations went to the Nominations Committee who met and considered them all carefully. The selection was largely guided by

the desire to include representation from humanities, science, commerce and the lecturers, as well as students, all of whom have representation on Senate.

"Part of the brief of the ad-hoc committee", says Prof Terry, "is clearly how to involve other interested parties in due course." And he warns that, "Contrary to the sort of opinion that some sectors of the community might hold, it should not be taken as a foregone conclusion that the committee will vote overwhelmingly one way or the other after five minutes."

The discussion continues, however. Some Honours students who were asked are almost vehemently opposed to the idea as they believe a large part of the 'value' of their degree lies in it being a 'Rhodes' degree. Many other students feel, as strongly, that there should be a name change.

The RUSA poll's 106 responses from its members showed that 81% did not wish the name changed. 16% felt that there should be change, however.

Obviously there will be great interest in the findings which will be presented to Senate by its ad-hoc committee, and this will not be restricted to the campus. Equal anticipation will precede Senate's response.

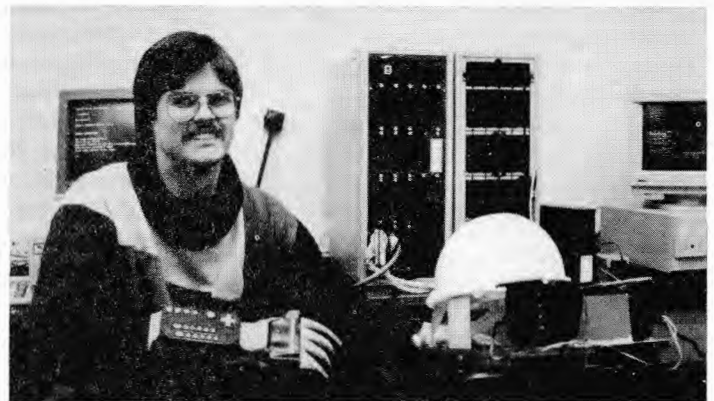
## Virtual Reality; buzzword or useful new technology?

If you want the answer to this, Shaun Bangay has it, and he is well enough versed in its practice and capabilities to have recently been awarded the Gencor Bronze Medal for the most outstanding Master's thesis degree study in Science.

Shaun, now studying for a PhD in Virtual Reality, has previously been awarded his BSc, Honours and Master's degrees by Rhodes. He was also at school in Grahamstown, at Graham College. The Gencor Medal came about after Rhodes nominated him to the S A Association for the Advancement of Science.

"One of the most useful applications of virtual reality techniques", says Shaun, "is in the field of computerised 'architectural walk-throughs'. "Much time and effort – and considerable unnecessary costs – can be saved by checking out the feasibility of plans and designs by this method. Further applications include modelling techniques and even the training of medical students, who can study and 'practise' surgery without the benefit of live patients and an operating theatre!

To visit Shaun at his terminal is an interesting experience. Equipped with a helmet adapted to provide stereo vision through two tiny television sets, he turns his head from side to side. As he does so he effectively walks through an as yet unbuilt building, peering down passages and opening doors and cupboards. An electronic glove on his



Shaun Bangay

hand allows him to grasp, feel, 'pick up' and move objects.

It is quite possible, with the programmes which he has developed, to visit a nuclear power station, an ocean-bed research unit and an orbiting space platform, all in the course of the same day!





## Letters to The Editor

### Unfortunate shorthand

✉ The Editor

This university is run by old white men, thundered some members of the audience at *Rhodeso's* name change debate.

I think those making the charge are using most unfortunate shorthand in venting their frustration. After all, a certain folk hero in this country, currently serving as a popular minister of housing, is none other than . . . an old white man.

It comes down again to what's in a name. Are we talking about superficial things like age or colour, or about what the Rhodes leadership is doing, or not doing. Or being seen to be doing or not doing, (which is a different thing).

I personally think the campus leadership is doing a praiseworthy job in terms of fiscal management and general administration. I also think, though, that there are other, broader, areas – like strategic direction, issues of access, regional co-operation – where, it seems, lots more could be done.

Criticising campus leadership through abusive references to "old white men" isn't only misleading. Those who are using this language seem strangely unaware that this isn't exactly the way to win friends and influence people. Using offensive language is not quite what's needed to exercise leadership and build a following for transformation.

Similarly, a reference to Rhodes staff as "sheep", as sourced (accurately?) to one critic in a recent *Rhodeso*, serves understandably to alienate rather than alert people to the new challenges – and opportunities – facing the campus.

Changing university names and taking things forward into a post-apartheid (and post-Dr Henderson era) needs to be about a great deal more than name calling.

Professor Guy Berger

### List names of long-servers

✉ The Editor,

If it does not cause you too much trouble would it be possible to list the names and years of service of academic staff who served more than 25 years?

I myself served 37 years.

E E Locke

And perhaps a photograph as well? We're working on it – it is a good idea.

Editor

**R**hodos invites correspondence on matters of concern to the University community. It is hoped that the contents of such letters, which should, ideally, not exceed 200 words in length, will indicate the wide spectrum of views held and will promote further discussion.

A pseudonym is acceptable, but the writer must supply his or her full name and residential address to the editor, who will respect confidentiality.

### '...to earn a Rhodes Degree.'

✉ The Editor

I note with concern the proposal by a small but vocal minority to rename Rhodes University. While people may be excused for being overly politically correct with the advent of the new South Africa, this freedom should not infringe on the rights of others.

Like many students, I enrolled at Rhodes to earn a Rhodes degree, as I feel this will equip me for the future. I want the reputation of Rhodes University – a reputation carefully built over 90 years – behind my degree. What does the name "University of the Eastern Cape" have to offer? What will make it any different, in the eyes of overseas institutions, from the "University of the Western Cape"?

If the name changes, is this not a breach of contract? Will those who enrolled at Rhodes receive Rhodes degrees when they graduate, with only the people who enrolled after the name change (thus choosing to attend a no-name-brand university) receiving UEC degrees? Will Professor Southall find me employment when others with old Rhodes, UCT and other established degrees are employed in preference to newly-graduated students of that oh-so-politically-correct University? "The one that used to be Rhodes – UPE, UWC, . . . what do they call themselves? Who cares – let's hire the one from Cape Town. At least we know a Cape Town student has an education".

Seriously, I appeal to those involved in the decision to consider what is best for the students, and for the University in the long term. We cannot alter the past, but there is no need to feel guilty when our university is named after the source of its initial funding. If we choose to forget all the objectionable events of the past, we are only deluding ourselves. Renaming Rhodes, the university, will not change anything about Rhodes, the man. By now the former has built its own reputation, and it is only those who dwell in past grievances who associate the two.

Let's rather look to the future, and use our present asset of an internationally-recognised name to ensure our success in the years to come.

Simon Walsh

Further letters to the editor  
are carried over to the  
opposite page.

### What about Jonty?

✉ The Editor

Since the majority of academics and politicians appear to favour compromise solutions to problems and disputes, I wish to offer the following compromise suggestion vis-a-vis the mooted name change of Rhodes University.

Simply because the University was named after that enigmatic imperialist-philanthropist Cecil John Rhodes, does not mean that the University has to be stuck with that connection forever. In order to avoid legal hassles as well as logistical problems, why not retain the name, and change the personal connection?

Why not drop the Cecil John connection and substitute a fresh, arresting and imaginative link – the incomparable Jonty Rhodes? As a general rule I disapprove of any nomenclature connection between an academic institution and a living person. However, I feel the present situation justifies an exception.

Sport – certainly at the national level – has the potential to become a unifying factor in the new South Africa. Not only is Jonty Rhodes all accounts a true sportsman in the best sense of the word but he is also a first-class non-racialist. In addition, this inspiring and idealistic young sportsman is university-educated.

Jonty Rhodes is more famous as a cricketer than as a hockey player. This is relevant to the University naming issue because cricket in South Africa has been the most *verlig* of all our sports, leading the way in respect of multi-racialism, development programmes, funds, facilities and opportunities for disadvantaged youth. We could not do better

### I was astonished!

✉ The Editor

I was informed by a correspondent that the cuckoo had been heard in Grahamstown on August 25th. I was astonished. In recent years the dates of first hearing have been in late September or early October.

In the interests of science, (perhaps the hole in the roof is advancing the seasons) I have listened intently since that day, but have not heard one piet-my-vrou.

Can your other readers add any useful information? Am I going deaf? Did my correspondent (who has Transvaal connections) specially import his own cuckoo?

As a matter of interest a contemporary publication of yours (larger circulation, I believe) published the following comments on September 1st in the *Star's* column by James Clarke: "Go cuckoo . . . typical of the bokmakierie".

Please listen and watch for cuckoos

Mr R H J Buckland



# Closing date not excessively early says retiring VC

Since the Vice-Chancellor made known his intention to retire next year, there has been much discussion and several queries about the procedure to be adopted in appointing his successor. The questions have come from sources both on and off the campus.

In response to specific enquiries from the press, Dr Henderson has explained the

procedures which will be followed. In particular, he has addressed the circumstances which make it necessary to fix what at first sight may seem to be an excessively early closing date for nominations and applications; November 4th of this year.

The usual period between advertising and closure has been allowed, he says. In the

context of a position at this high level, should a person from another academic institution be appointed, a period of notice of at least six months would probably be required by his or her present employer.

Applications and nominations for the position, together with reports from referees, are put before a representative selection committee who then decide which candidates are to be invited for interview. The committee's final recommendation is forwarded to Senate and Council – common practice in respect of all senior University appointments. These procedures have been adopted and refined over many years by Rhodes' senior deliberative bodies, Senate and Council, and the process is well-known and understood. There is certainly nothing secret about them, as has been claimed by some, says Dr Henderson.

## Letters to the Editor (continued from page 2)

### *Name a symbol in the fight against discrimination*

✉ *The Editor*

As a proud Ex-Rhodian (having served Rhodes University for 32 years) I am not only alarmed but utterly disgusted about the recent attempts to change

the name of a university which has no reason whatsoever to be ashamed of its name.

Rhodes University was among the first S.A. Universities to come to the defence of the academic right "whom to teach" and "what to teach". Ever since the State began intervening with black education – e.g. by declaring the former College of "Fort Hare" a new and independent "black" University – Rhodes University became a centre in upholding academic rights. It actively protested again and again when new restrictive legislation was introduced and associated itself fully with the rights of all citizens of this country. Thus the name of "Rhodes University" became a symbol in the fight against discrimination of any sort. As restrictions gradually eased, Rhodes University was among the first tertiary institutions to admit students of other "colour" and to establish special welfare schemes for the underprivileged.

"Rhodes University" is known all over the world for its high academic standard and, thanks to the contributions of many distinguished staff members, internationally recognised as a foremost centre of learning and research. Replacing its name with some obscure new title not only negates the active achievements of the past but also degrades the University to the rank of a new tribal college in yet another banana republic. If the promoters of the new name are such convinced anti-colonialists why do they not go the whole way and, by following a famous example, also change their own name? Why selective anti-colonialism? Why not also change the external shape by abandoning the "colonial style" in favour of pre-colonial rondavels? Why preserving all the colonial buildings in town? Why riding a "European-centred" car on "colonial tarred roads" to a colonial medical Doctor? Where do you stop? Please think carefully before abandoning a name our "alma mater" has no reason to be ashamed of?

"Ex-Rhodians" all over the country and abroad, please defend your proud tradition and don't let yourselves be forced into some Ex-"Xians"!!

*Professor. Dr. Rupert Mayr*

### *We will not escape censure*

✉ *The Editor:*

I must commend you on your editorial in Rhodos of 21 September, in response to the petition handed to us during the Founders' Day celebrations. While your refutation of the charge – that Rhodes has done nothing for the community – is impeccable, I believe it misses an important, if only implicit, intention. For "community" in the charge against us, we should read **black** community. Although this interpretation of the charge is equally invalid and unjust if assessed in what might loosely be called a "nonracial" context – the context in which you defend us – we will not escape censure, and perhaps more specific types of pressure, until the more extreme manifestations of neoracist "affirmative action" are firmly in place on the campus.

There is little defence, in some quarters, from asserting, however legitimately, that Rhodes has an admirably "open" track record of attitude and practice, as far as was realistically possible in earlier times. That is indeed the problem: we have not shown the "right" sort of bias. It remains to be seen whether this bias will be imposed upon us, or whether we will pre-emptively espouse it. There is very little doubt that we will be under significant pressure, from somewhere, to do so. The probability that we will be "unbiased" is remote in the extreme, and part of the genuine difficulty lies in the semantics and philosophy of "unbias". In my view there is no such thing as an "unbiased" approach to complex social problems (as distinct from very simple and specific operations) and I am not convinced that we should be distressed by the fact. The best we can strive for is moral honesty (which represents a bias in itself). I'm not quite sure how well we're going to do in that respect.

*Sirion Robertson*

### *Local interests accommodated*

The constitution of the selection panel has also been questioned. Dr Henderson explains that a panel was proposed by the Executive Committee of Council. The Appointments sub-committee which arose from last year's Summit was consulted. It suggested some amendments, which were accepted. The panel consists of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the University Council; four Senate representatives and one representative each from Convocation, the Board of Governors, the East London Division, the SRC, RUSA, NEHAWU, the Grahamstown TLC and the Bisho Parliament. Allowance has been made for the selection panel to co-opt more members, if it should so desire. In addition, interested parties have been invited to submit written proposals on the procedures and processes to be followed in the selection of the new Vice-Chancellor. These have to be received by the Director of Personnel by no later than 4 November.

### *Breadth of vision*

The qualities which will be sought in the new Vice-Chancellor by the selection committee include leadership capabilities and the ability to motivate and inspire confidence in a management team. Breadth of vision and a capacity to unite and lead staff and students are also important factors, as is the candidate's record of academic and administrative achievements.

Other qualities sought include administrative and managerial skills, high standing in the community at large, integrity and commitment. Interpersonal and social skills and the ability to foster and promote relationships with educational institutions, donors, government and local communities are further important requirements.



# On Occasion

A guest column written by invitation.

## SEND FOR THE QUARRYMEN

Among the many endearing traits of Grahamstown's most worthy citizens is the habit of the evening stroll, usually in the company of a spouse or dog. They see, hear and smell their environment in the ways in which man (*homo*, not *vir*) has properly done so for all but the last half century of human history, at eye level and pedestrian pace. That daily experience presents to the imagination a world on a human scale, a world not only as it is, but a world as it ought to be.

They sense the changing seasons, the assaults on the landscape by architects and planners whose manners are as gentle or gross as any denizen of Founders Hall. One such assault, by mechanised mammon on resistant nature, has been the quarry which lies upstream of Jan Smuts, Adamson and New House residences. At times, huge and dusty trucks have thundered down Prince Alfred Street, shaking the foundations of the fine old houses on the northern side. At other times dull thuds remind the town of the inexorable march of the rockface towards the Motel.

Ambulant and somnolent Rhodians, who have variously cursed the people who scar the mountain and disturb their studies can rejoice

— the day is very near when the quarry will close and the operators will have to restore the area to the satisfaction of the Minister of Minerals and Energy Affairs. Our delight can be spiced by the opening up of a new opportunity for the University and the City, for the quarry could be converted, with relative ease, into a splendid venue for what the generation of the 60's would call Rock concerts.

During the period from early December until the end of January, Grahamstown seems to die — yet the coastal resorts within 100km are crowded with people trying to get their melanomas to outstrip their cirrhosis. Boredom drives them to Bathurst for a famous braai — such is their desperation. There is a tremendous opportunity here for the hoteliers and other tourist industry operators to establish a Rock and popular music festival which can be centred on the quarry, but draw in the other venues already well known for their acoustic qualities. The Rhodes residences which gather dust at that time, to say nothing of the temporary staff who gather very little over the vacations, stand to benefit too.

## Internal promotions in Personnel Dept



*Kathleen Wakashe (left), formerly secretary to the Personnel Officer: Service Staff, has been promoted to Senior Personnel Officer, in the position recently vacated by Miss Dee Inge. Ms Wakashe is herself succeeded as secretary to Mr Kydd Nojoko, by Ms Nontudhuelo Faku (right). She was formerly a Laboratory Assistant (Grade 3) at the School of Pharmacy. In 1993, through the medium of the Community Outreach Programme directed by Ms Priscilla Hall, she studied typing and passed a computer course. Mr Nojoko says that the internal promotions represent affirmative action and reflect the University's desire to promote from within, and develop existing staff members, wherever possible.*

## Commonage usage being studied

The future of the commonages in the Eastern Cape is the topic of a study currently being undertaken by the Institute for Economic and Social Research. Lungisile Ntsebeza, who has a Masters degree in Economic History, and Karen Higginbottom, who has completed her PhD in Zoology, are investigating the current situation.

The concept of commonages is of British origin. Today they are owned by the State, but may be administered by local authorities. By rights anyone may enjoy the use of commonage, but the two researchers are finding that this is being curtailed in many areas, particularly the three which are the subject of their studies. These are the settlements of Cala, in the former Transkei, of Peddie, in what was Ciskei and of Bathurst near Grahamstown.

Commons have historically been an important factor in healthy social relations within communities. Lungisile and Karen have found, however, that, prior to the election earlier this year, many people in Bathurst, where there was still an effective and efficient administration, were effectively being denied usage. More importantly, the use being made of natural resources was, in the cases of Cala and Peddie, destructive and non-sustainable. In these two places management of the commonages had broken down. Firewood was being cut at random, informal settlements were springing up on a large scale and overgrazing was rife, leading to erosion. In Bathurst, the local authority entrusted with the administration of the common had limited its use (it falls within the municipal boundaries) to ratepayers and so people who lived outside the town boundaries, in the township administered by the Province, for example, had no influence on commonage management.

Commonages in historically 'white' areas were extremely strictly administered, the pair has found. In some cases the local authority had seen fit to lease out a common in its entirety to an individual who then had sole use of the ground for whatever purpose he or she desired. In other areas unrealistically high grazing fees have been levied. Blacks living nearby perceived this situation as deliberately discriminatory.

The study, when complete, will make interesting reading and will provide the authorities entrusted with future national legislation with a valuable collection of details on usage. Some national guidelines are obviously called for, within which local authorities can exercise their mandates more equitably to the benefit of all concerned. A new and fresh policy has to be implemented, says Lungisile, but it must draw heavily on the existing situation. He believes that the answer lies somewhere between effective management which is perceived as racial discrimination, on the one hand, and the total lack of control which leads to abuse of natural resources, on the other.



# Rhodes EM unit keeps abreast of technology

Rhodes University is now the proud owner of one the most technologically advanced electron microscopes in the world. The new transmission electron microscope makes it possible for researchers to view specimens in finer detail, and is also connected to a sophisticated computer system which can copy the image on to a computer disk. The process also allows researchers to view the specimen on a television screen, and can enhance the image with colour to provide clearer definition.

The concept of networking research from the scanning and transmission microscopes will also be available with the new system. Images saved onto a disk can be downloaded for transmission by E-mail and via the Internet to anywhere in the world in a matter of minutes.

"This new electron microscope will keep Rhodes and South Africa abreast of international technological developments, and with the increasing emphasis on results that will benefit people, we can also actively participate in international research," said Mr Robin Cross, the Director of the Electron Microscopy Unit.

One of the advantages of having the microscope at Rhodes is that it enjoys a place of its own in one of the first single service departments for the electron microscopes.

"The autonomous unit for the microscope makes it more accessible to anyone doing research – at Rhodes, the University of Port Elizabeth, and throughout the Eastern Cape.

"Because of the way we have the system set up, anyone who can hook up to E-mail can do research with this microscope," said Mr Cross.

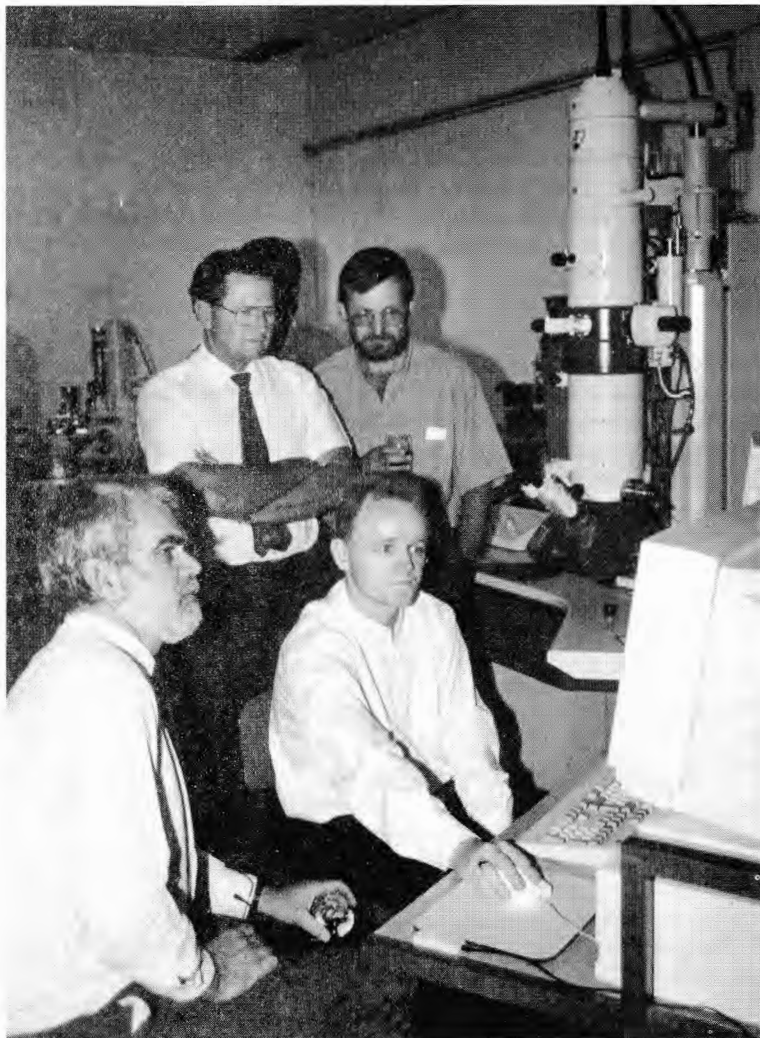
The processes involved in motivating for the purchase of the microscope began some three years ago, and involved many negotiations, letters of motivation and a final evaluation by the Foundation for Research Development (FRD).

Funding for the transmission electron microscope came largely from the FRD with the balance of expense paid for by Rhodes.

The R 1 million microscope will be used daily by honours students and above, and will at anytime have several projects going.

"We have an excellent reputation for sound bio-medical research, as a service to the community. FRD recognized this, and granted our request", said Mr Cross.

"I imagine this facility will attract students and professional researchers from all over the Eastern Cape region, and will increase the already exceptional work we have been producing over the years," he added.



*Mr R H M Cross (second from left) shortly before he formally signed acceptance of the new electron microscope at Rhodes. With him, watching Mr Peter Lander, Chief TEM Engineer from JOEL UK demonstrating the equipment, are (left) Prof C E J Botha and Prof R T F Bernard. Mr Lander's company supplied the equipment on behalf of the Japanese Electron Optics Laboratory.*

## English classes for primary pupils

The Centre for Social Development, in its capacity of administrator of GADRA Education, has launched an afternoon school at which English is being taught to primary school Xhosa-speaking children from Sub A to Standard 5. Lessons commenced on August 2nd for 142 children. The classes, each of 20 children, meet twice weekly for hour-long sessions. Four excellent teachers have been appointed, all whom have had experience of teaching English as a second language - Mrs Marian Walwyn, Mrs Jenny Redpath, Mrs Margie Thomas and Mrs Debbie Andrew.

Sister Rosaire, Principal of the new Ntaba Maria School in Raglan Road, which is the only English-medium primary school in Rini, has made three classrooms available which have been equipped with carpets, cushions, basic furniture and exciting equipment and

stationery boxes. The fees are R 20,00 per month and all book and stationery requirements are provided.

The response to this programme has been overwhelming. For many years parents have approached Mrs Thelma Henderson, Director of the CSD who chairs GADRA Education, for English lessons for their children. Parents all realise the importance of English for education, especially if they plan to send their children to private and Model C schools. To date almost 500 applications have been received. A waiting list has been established and it is hoped that a vastly expanded programme will commence next year.

The teaching emphasis is on English for communicating and all classes are conducted only in English. The children are learning English recitations and songs and are being

taught to read, write and speak English. Dr Gary Barkhuizen of the Linguistics Department has offered to monitor the programme and to run workshops for the teachers from time to time. Mr Roy Valentine, the Director of READ in Port Elizabeth, conducted a workshop for the teachers at the CSD and is very excited about the project. He has expressed interest in assisting with both advice and the loan of books and materials.

Books for beginner readers are urgently required. Should anyone be prepared to donate any, they may be dropped off at the CSD, 19 Somerset Street, during normal office hours.

There has long been a need for this initiative and the amazing response bears testimony to this. The CSD has once again met a community need with a positive and high quality response.



# An unofficial history of Rhodes – Part 2

*Rhodos is pleased to publish further extracts from Prof Guy Butler's file, the Unofficial History of Rhodes University. Prof Butler emphasises the unofficial nature of these anecdotes but believes laughter to be precious. A good laugh or smile is worth trying to preserve, he says, and it is for this reason and in an effort to provoke further contributions to his file, that he has given these extracts to Rhodos for publication*

## 1920 - 1930

Mrs Kidd, wife of the Professor of English, was a large lady who made authoritative pronouncements on a number of topics at her bridge table. There was some debate about the need to paint white lines and insert reflectors in the middle of the new tarmac roads. She declared that they were a great help: it was reassuring at night to keep the white lines and the reflectors between the front lights of her car. Keeping in the middle of the road obviated the hazards of running into the rocks and trees on either side.

The same lady was the subject of a pithy limerick, turned in by Prof Arthur Lord:

Mrs Kidd has a new baby Austin.  
But it's really rather exhaustin';  
She can get in her feet  
And half of her seat  
But the rest of her has to be forced in.

Lord could also be succinctly and memorably eloquent. The inscription on the memorial behind the cathedral which records the names

of the men who fell in the 1914 - 1918 World War is his:

*Remembering these, let no man think too highly of himself or meanly of mankind.*

## 1940 - 1955

Graduations are dignified and appropriately impressive rituals. It is hard to believe that the student body used to burst into loud and boisterous song as the academic procession entered:

The animals came in two by two,  
parlez vous,  
The elephant and the kangaroo,  
parlez vous,  
The animals came in two by two,  
The Senate and Tom Alty too,  
Inky pinky parlez vous.

## 1970

The last time anything vaguely funny happened at grad was about 15 or 20 years ago in the Great Hall.

by Professor Guy Butler

A brilliant but idle journalism student, who shall be nameless, overjoyed at having passed and at meeting his old cronies, stayed up all night, celebrating and smoking pot.

He found great difficulty in climbing the stairs onto the stage, and only managed to do so with the help of the next graduand in line, who had to hold him in an erect position until the very last moment. He had to do the next by himself. He tottered along the edge of the stage, almost fell off (gasps from his friends), regained his balance (cheers), and then knelt triumphantly in front of the Chancellor, who duly capped him (thunderous applause). He then tried to stand up again, but couldn't. It was all too much for him.

Aware that his immobility was causing a hitch in the ordained proceedings, he crawled on all fours along the edge of the stage to the Registrar, who had to bend at the waist to hook the hood over his head. He then tumbled down the steps into the auditorium in a happy, triumphant heap (standing ovation). Disgraceful.

## New career development path for the leather industry

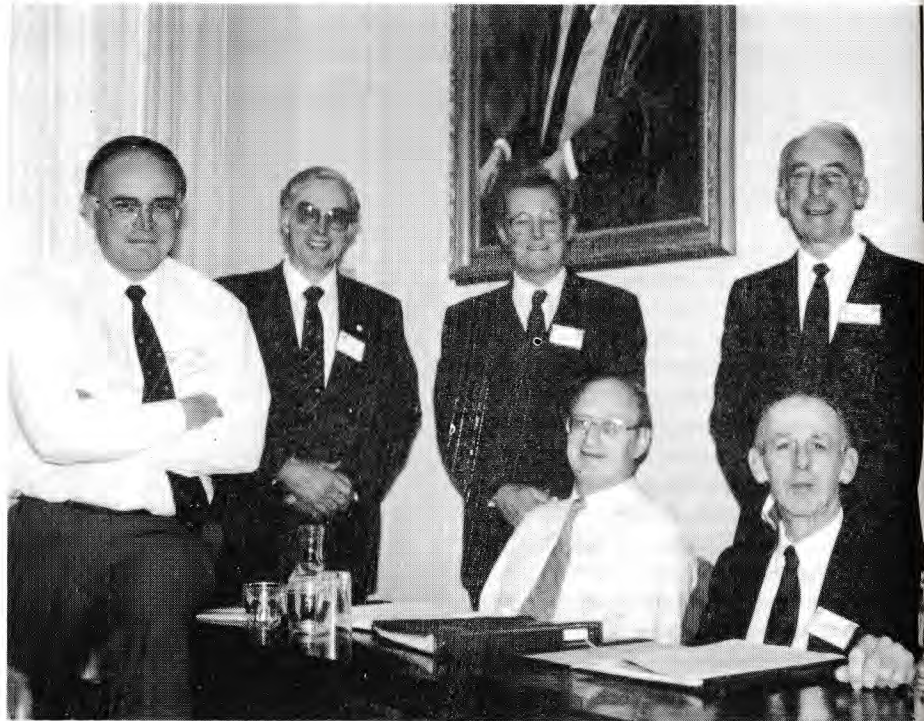
An exciting new initiative launched by the Leather Industries Research Unit (LIRI) has put into place a career development path programme in Leather Science and Technology for the leather industry.

It takes the form of a modular in-service, distance learning structure based on educational development, from operator, through supervisor to senior technical management qualifications at the graduate level.

To facilitate a multiple entry and exit training process, Rhodes has undertaken the development of an education support programme for adult basic education. This includes English language and numeracy components, specifically constructed around the vocabulary and concepts in use in the Leather Industry.

The programme was launched at a seminar held at Rhodes recently, which was opened by the Vice-Chancellor, Dr Derek Henderson. It was attended by representatives from many companies and organisations involved in the leather industry, in the related industries of hides and skins, footwear and chemicals, and also by trade unionists.

Dr Henderson said in his opening address that the programme was to be welcomed in a situation characterised by skills and manpower shortages.



Photographed at the opening of the seminar at which the new initiative was launched are, from left, Dr Peter Rose, Director of LIRI, Prof Paul Walters, Dr Derek Henderson, the Vice-Chancellor and Mr Rob Newson, Managing Director of the Western Tanning Company. In the foreground are Dr Ray Eberlein, Director of the National Training Board (left) and Dr Roux van der Merwe, an industrial relations consultant. Mr Newson and Drs Eberlein and van der Merwe addressed the seminar.



# New programme and degree course offered by Psychology

The Department of Psychology has developed two innovative initiatives in the form of its Psychology and Development Programme and its degree in Research Psychology.

The former may be taken by students at all levels, from undergraduates to those studying for doctorates, and has been introduced to encourage psychologists from all fields and areas of registration to apply their insights and skills to the human problems of development. It represents a new application for practitioners but is not intended to be a new field of psychology. Professors Chris Stones and Andy Gilbert point out that it has been carefully designed to fully explore specific skills and interests of staff members within the department. "It is a vehicle whereby we can bring the full benefit of accumulated experience and training to bear on the understanding of social change in our country", they add. "It clearly establishes the relationship between Psychology and the changing world."

The programme focuses on three areas: teaching, research and community services. Participants share ideas and expertise and mobilise resources to further the application of psychology to Southern African developmental problems.

Features of the programme are its flexibility and adaptability and it is backed by extensive research, especially in rural areas. The technique whereby research findings are able, with very little delay, to be

translated into teaching course components, is a further, valuable, characteristic.

Course options are varied. Undergraduates, at 3rd-year level, may study Psychology in Society, a new course examining the role of Psychology in developing societies. Honours students may choose one or more from a list which includes Psychology and Health, Psychology in Developing Countries, Cognitive Socialisation and a research option on Participatory/Action research.

At Masters and Doctorate level the thesis option exists within the programme. Two masters students are currently conducting research in rural and urban communities on psychological aspects of development and change, for example.

Prof Gilbert, a leading participant in the programme, is a Research Psychologist who has for many years been a member of a multi-disciplinary team working in rural development. His colleagues include Kevin Kelly, a Clinical Psychologist, Hilde van Vlaenderen, a Research Psychologist, and Mary van der Riet. Between them the four have wide experience and continuing involvement in many applications of the discipline.

Stones and Gilbert say that the programme has great practical benefits. "It develops, at an early stage in the student's development, an ethic of working as a professional with a community and of interaction between its individual members. "The Cognitive Development module is especially valuable

in the insight which it provides to the relationship between individuals and cultures", they say. "There are vast benefits to be explored for our staff, students and, of course, the communities with which we are working in such fields as primary health care."

The Department's Master's degree in Research Psychology also focuses on Community Psychology. Graduates are eligible for entry to a research internship leading to registration as a practitioner with the SA Medical and Dental Council.

The full time course is offered over one year of lectures, seminars and practicals and must be supplemented by a thesis based on students' own research, which may be completed part-time. It is aimed at Psychology honours graduates, and particularly those involved in development work, who wish to become research psychologists or who are interested in acquiring skills relating to social reconstruction, development and change in Southern Africa.

The new orientation to the degree, says Prof Stones, provides an exciting new alternative option to the would-be practitioner. "It is closely linked to the Psychology in Development programme, as there is much common ground and synergy", he adds. The content strongly emphasises practical research skills and insights which in turn are chosen to mesh with the current involvement and activities of staff members.

## New programme will benefit Medaid members

The Personnel Division has advised that a new programme called Medi-Serve is to be introduced, in conjunction with the existing medical aid plans, at no extra cost, from the beginning of next year.

It will particularly benefit members currently on chronic medication and will involve a new claims procedure.

### Staff are advised to consult

Staff members who wish to obtain further information and who were not able to attend the Medscheme seminar are asked to consult with the medical aid representatives when they next visit the campus, on Tuesday, 8 November. Should this not be possible the information may be obtained by telephone from Mrs Wendy Levin, at (041) 56 4810.

## Former Chairman of Council dies

Mr Joe Seween Levy, previous chairman and long-standing member of the Rhodes University Council, died in Uitenhage on Saturday, October 29, at the age of 82.

Mr Levy, an attorney and notary, was elected to the University Council as the representative of the Uitenhage Municipality in 1953. He was Chairman from 1982 until the end of 1992. Mr Levy was succeeded as Chairman by Mr Stewart Dorrington, of King William's Town.

Mr Levy was born in Aliwal North in August 1912, and completed his schooling there and in Port Elizabeth.

He had a long record of community service for a number of organisations, including Rotary, the Boy Scouts, the Cape Midlands Development Association, the Uitenhage Hebrew Congregation, the Board of Deputies and the Eastern Province Zionist Council, and a number of municipal bodies. He served as Mayor of Uitenhage for several terms between 1950 and 1974. He leaves his wife, Ethel, a son and two daughters and several grandchildren.



# Rhodes students return from Germany

Six Rhodes University students have returned from Germany after more than three weeks on an exchange programme in the Comprehensive Community University of Essen.

This was the biggest number from Rhodes to have been enrolled for the Summer Course, which is a programme aimed at giving students the opportunity to study and practise the German language first-hand.

The travellers were Gladys Mothibe, 21, BA Law II; Kegan Lovely, 20, BA III; Lisa Rümelin, 20, BA III; Floritea Roux, 20, B.Mus II; Colleen Sursok, 19, BA II and Anne-Marie Turner, BA II. All are studying German II (Foreign Language).

The six were able to mingle with students from all over the world, since the scheme enrolls non-German nationals interested in studying the German language, and they attended classes on a daily basis. All instruction was in German, a highly effective aid towards fluency for the students.

They have returned gripped by excitement at having been given the opportunity to travel to the economically strongest country in Europe. For all but Lisa it was a first visit.

All six were amazed at the German hospitality which they enjoyed and each returned with further, personal, impressions.

"My first thought was, wow, it's an opulent country", said Gladys. "It was great having to communicate everything in German", she adds. She would like to return for another visit.



Anne-Marie Turner was not present when this photograph was taken, but the other five students who have just returned from Germany are, from left, Floritea Roux, Colleen Sursok, Lisa Rümelin, Gladys Mothibe and Kegan Lovely.

For Kegan, the enterprise was an eye-opener. "I lost all prejudices and stereotypes about different people", he says. He made lots of friends. "It was the experience of a lifetime." Lisa was taken by the German people, as they "simply opened their hearts to all of us. With the new political dispensation in our country, for the first time I was proud to declare I am South African without fear of having to answer hostile questions, as used to happen before", she says.

Colleen and Floritea had their dreams realised. "I'd always wanted to visit that country. It was like a dream", says Colleen.

Most important for Floritea was the opportunity to improve her German. But she also had lighter moments. "I liked the *Straßenmusikanten* of Essen," she says, referring to the legend "street musicians".

The Head of the Department of German Language, Prof Dieter Welz, was impressed by the "spectacular success of his students' trip." "The scheme will most likely be repeated next year" he believes. However, the trip for him was not without its ups and downs: "We experienced some last minute problems in organising but thanks to the German Consulate in Cape Town and the Home Affairs office in Grahamstown we succeeded in obtaining the necessary documents," he added. "The students have improved significantly since their return", he observes. They are now confidently

speaking the language."

The University of Essen is a community university built after the Second World War. Prof Welz thinks Rhodes can take a leaf or two from its books, as its position in Germany is similar to that of Rhodes.

*A co-operation agreement has been concluded by Fort Hare, Essen and Rhodes Universities. More joint projects by the three institutions are in the offing.*

Muzi Khumalo

## Small estuarine fish now extinct?

The first extinction of a fish species in Africa this century has been recorded in the Eastern Cape with the extinction of the river pipefish (*Syngnathus watermeyerii*). This is also one of the few vertebrate extinctions on the continent this century.

"Staff at the JLB Smith Institute of Ichthyology are mounting a special effort to confirm finally the extinction of this small but important Eastern Cape fish", said Prof Mike Bruton, the Director.

The river pipefish is a small estuarine species which was first described by Prof JLB Smith in 1963 on the basis of specimens collected by Mr F Watermeyer and Mr Galpin (a local farmer). It occurred in three Eastern Cape rivers: the Bushmans, Kasouga and Kariëga rivers.

Another pipefish, the longsnout pipefish (*Syngnathus acus*) is common in these rivers and used to co-exist with the river pipefish. The latter reached a length of 13 cm and occurred in *zostera* beds.

"This species has never been common and recent surveys by Dr Alan Whitfield have revealed that it no longer occurs in the habitats where it was first recorded. In accordance with the IUCN Red List, a species is extinct if it has not definitely been located in the wild in the past 50 years. However, this species is now only known by museum specimens," Prof Bruton said.

The building of weirs and dams on the rivers, together with extensive freshwater extraction for domestic and agricultural use has altered the natural flow of the rivers and affected sedimentation patterns and salinity levels in these estuaries, as has construction of road bridges over the Bushmans and Kariëga Rivers.



# New Rhodes TV studio the only one of its kind

The Department of Journalism and Media Studies at Rhodes has become the proud possessor of the only university television studio in the country dedicated to teaching, with the commissioning of its new facility recently. It was officially opened last Friday evening by Mr Sipiwo Magoda, Head of Radio Training at the SABC in Johannesburg. This an important new tool in the quest to maintain teaching standards at a high level, says Mr Graham Hayman, the lecturer in charge and designer. "This is especially so in an industry where technology continues to advance at a rate almost impossible to keep up with", he adds. "Students who pass through this new studio will be experienced in the technology and production of broadcast journalism. Those who specialise in it will be well equipped to take their place in corporate and current affairs television production after leaving Rhodes."

The studio has most of the facilities of a full broadcast studio. It has three cameras linked to a vision mixing desk, video-cassette machines and adequate lighting. Sound needs are also fully catered for with microphones, reel-to-reel recording facilities and an 8-channel mixing desk. It has a multi-channel communications system, linking student crews with supervising lecturers and on-camera presenters.

Hayman says that a second phase of development of the studio will see the installation of lighting of professional production standards. Until this is purchased, the Department is using lighting on loan from the Monument.

"We've re-configured our exiting equipment more efficiently in the new studio and will improve this further, with a patching system, next year", says Hayman. An autocue machine such as is used by newsreaders reading scripts during live broadcasts, a titling machine and automatic editing facilities have been donated by First National Bank. Further plans include the purchase and installation of digital computer editing and graphics systems. "And we are always looking for donations of second-hand equipment", Hayman adds.

"The technology simply does not stand still", he continues, "and we have to plan for new developments before they are released. A high speed fibre-optic cable linking the building to the University 'backbone' is being installed and this will establish the network for the digital broadcast technology which is now sweeping through commercial and industrial TV production. In anticipation of this, our whole building, including the new studio, has been cabled with optical fibre and we will eventually be able to compress video signals and send them through the internet and elsewhere. Eventually our studio will be wholly multi-media by nature."

The control room and floor areas are air conditioned. The control room itself is very large as befits its teaching function. There is adequate space for the installation of additional facilities.

"Design and wiring have all been done on campus", said Hayman. "We've had to be self-sufficient because we are far from the TV industry's main support services in Johannesburg."

"The fact that this facility has been designed purely to teach is most exciting. Our students will have a comfortable environment in which to work. Our old studio was part of the Box

theatre and we had to share our space with the Drama Department. While this has worked well enough, it was not an ideal situation for either of us and the control room was, in any event, very cramped. We now have permanent lighting and sets which do not have to be dismantled after working sessions."

The studio is already in use by second-year students and seniors who are finding it exciting and stimulating. Rhodes is entirely up-to-date with the technology of television journalism and is well positioned to advance further as new developments are proved and come into the industry.



Guests at the official opening of the new TV studio were treated to a simulated live broadcast of an actuality programme when lecturer George Mazarakis (right) interviewed Mr Vuyani Menye, Head of TNP in Port Elizabeth. Later Mr Sipiwo Magoda, Head of Radio Training at the SABC in Johannesburg, opened the studio. He said in his address that he looks forward to more cooperation between Rhodes and the SABC.

Pic: Nicole Norval

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# Grahamstown once part of an estuary

Researcher Robert Gess is fast becoming something of an expert on the cutting through which the N2 passes near the Monument, outside Grahamstown.

He has recovered and studied hundreds of fossils which he has found in the black shale which is exposed in the cutting walls. In the process he has found evidence that the area where Grahamstown is now situated was, some 360 million years ago, part of a coastal estuarine complex.

Gess, who completed his BSc at Rhodes in 1991 and an HDE in 1992, has spent the last two years employed by the Geology Department. He began working on fossils, in an amateur capacity, 15 years ago. His sampling of the N2 site helped develop particular skills needed to extract material from the shale which is unusually crumbly and difficult to work with.

At the recent bi-annual meeting of the South African Palaeontological Society, held in Grahamstown, his poster paper dealing with his findings to date won the top award. It is on display at the Albany Museum where a poster reconstruction of the Devonian estuary, prepared and published by the Museum, may be purchased.

Gess has made many exciting discoveries at the site, including at least eight species of ancient fish that were previously undescribed. These are the first fish from that period to be discovered in Africa and include coelacanths, armoured fishes, rhipidistians, acanthodians

and a specimen of a whole-bodied Holocephalon which is probably the oldest whole-bodied example known in the world.

The arthropod remains which he has found include evidence of a giant aquatic scorpion and bivalved crustacea of the Choncostraca and Ostracada. No less exciting are the algal and plant remains which Gess is studying. Four species of Charophyte which he has reconstructed are the most complete in the world, by tens of millions of years.

Gess' current work provides a valuable addition to the study of the giant Gondwana supercontinent. Researchers studying migrations and distributions of various groups of organisms during the late Devonian period had speculated on their presence in many of the other landmasses once part of Gondwana, and their absence from Africa. The N2 site has yielded some of these organisms and, in the process, a missing piece of the scientific jigsaw puzzle.



Robert Gess at the Albany Museum with his prize-winning poster paper.

## Rhodes Prof presents course at elite British business school

Professor Gavin Staude, Head of the Department of Management, has recently returned from lecturing at Durham University Business School, regarded as one of the top business schools in England.

During his visit, Prof. Staude was also invited to present an elective course on strategic marketing in their MBA programme as well as delivering a paper to MBA students on *The challenges to management in South Africa*. The visit was part of an ongoing relationship between Durham University Business School and Rhodes' Department of Management.

During his stay, Prof. Staude examined the courses offered by the University's Small Business Centre. He added that the Department of Management at Rhodes had recently made a strategic decision to focus on management within small and medium-sized business concerns. "The knowledge gained will help to shape the Post-graduate Diploma in Enterprise Management which our Department is to introduce," said Prof. Staude.

## Rhodes anthropology has won an enviable reputation

A recent publication suggests that "... a strong fieldwork tradition distinguished South African Anthropology, with honours students expected to conduct independent research projects. Rhodes University (which awarded the most anthropology doctorates in the last decade) and the Rand Afrikaans University (RAU) have both built an enviable reputation for thoroughly detailed empirical research" (*Gordon, R.J. & Spiegel, A.D., Annual Review of Anthropology 1993*).

Asked how Rhodes, with a small department in a small University, had achieved this pre-eminence. Professor M G Whisson, who has headed the department since 1978, paid tribute to the dedication and enthusiasm of his colleagues. "We all work hard, because we really enjoy fieldwork ourselves, and we relish the challenges brought by the students, no matter how widely their interests range."

"Our post-graduates have taught us about spirit mediums in Zimbabwe; of the marvellous ingenuity displayed by people struggling to survive in black rural areas and impoverished townships; of the silent revolution which is transforming many areas into matriarchies as women control not only their children but also the local economies. We try to turn nobody away, but work with them to realise their own research dreams. We have also been fortunate to have the I.S.E.R. next door, where our students have had some practical opportunities and been able to make their contribution to the transformation and development of the region."



# Parent Development crucial to success of teacher upgrade programme

The Institute for Social and Individual Development in Africa (ISIDA), operating from Rhodes' East London Division, has, for some time, been running a successful teacher development programme in the townships around the city.

There are three main areas of activity: sport, teaching skills upgrading and, importantly, a parent development programme.

The latter is being administered by Bongani Mlomo, a Social Science Masters student who is a BA Honours graduate from Fort Hare.

Working with the parents of Standard 3 pupils (this will be extended to cover Standard 4 next year) in the three schools identified by ISIDA in Duncan Village, he has found the experience fascinating, intimidating, time-consuming and rewarding.

The main objective of this portion of the overall programme is to instil in parents a pride in their children's school and to develop an awareness of the school as a jointly owned community asset. "We are trying to develop parents individually and also to encourage them to play an active role in the affairs of the school", says Bongani. "Counselling is a major part of this effort and it is extended to parents, teachers, principals and pupils".

Historically, parents have not had very much to do with the schools and tended only to see their children's teachers when there was a

problem. Lack of understanding played its part as well in the creation of a negative image of schooling, as parents often were hostile towards organised sport. They believed this and other extramural activities to have no place in a child's daily school life and saw it as detrimental to the pure classroom study which they expected.

Bongani has wanted to bring the parents to the schools in happy and constructive circumstances and to enhance their understanding of the broader educational curriculum. Catalysts were needed to achieve this and these were identified and, in some cases, created. Days were set aside to clean school grounds, prize giving functions and fetes were organised and open days held. Prior to the election voter education courses were presented. Parents were encouraged to attend and participate.

An important thrust has been to persuade parents to see themselves as co-educators of their children. Previously they showed little interest but now they are beginning to respond by showing an interest in set homework. This is changing their attitudes towards the teachers' efforts and is reflected in pupils' results. This has not been easy to achieve, says Bongani, and it has involved many hours spent in homes, often after dark and at week ends.

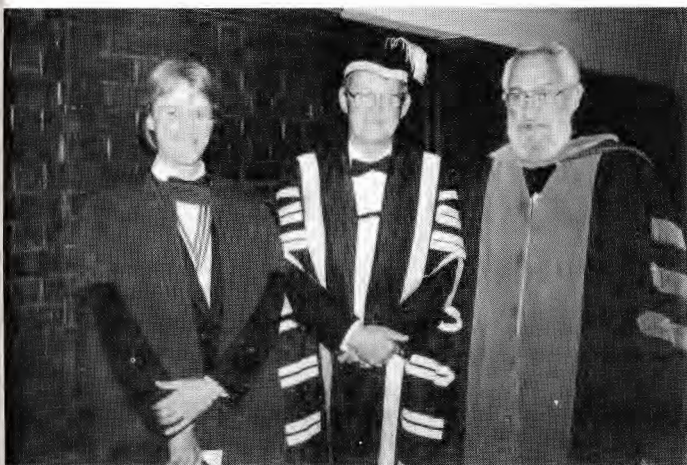
"Involvement of this nature was a foreign

concept. Counselling has had to focus on instilling a sense of commitment to set working hours at home and to showing an active interest in the work of their children", he adds.

Parents have been encouraged to participate actively in school management committees, as coopted members, where before they avoided all contact with the school authorities. When Bongani first tried to arrange a meeting of the management committee at one school, it was not possible to identify the members. Teachers felt threatened by the thought of parents 'assisting' in their children's education and, as a result, they also needed counselling. School committees were autocratic and most were not recognised by the parents. Many simply did not function at all. Today the parents are experiencing the beginnings of enjoyment at being consulted and in being able to influence the application of school fees.

Results so far are encouraging, says Bongani, and there is synergy between his work and that of his colleagues, Andrew Claasen and Terry Flynn, who administer the sports and teacher development sections of the programme. "Parental involvement, which was previously limited to situational crisis management only, is now more constructive", he adds. "Everyone is winning; pupils, parents, school staff and, ultimately, the communities themselves".

## Inaugural lecture delivered

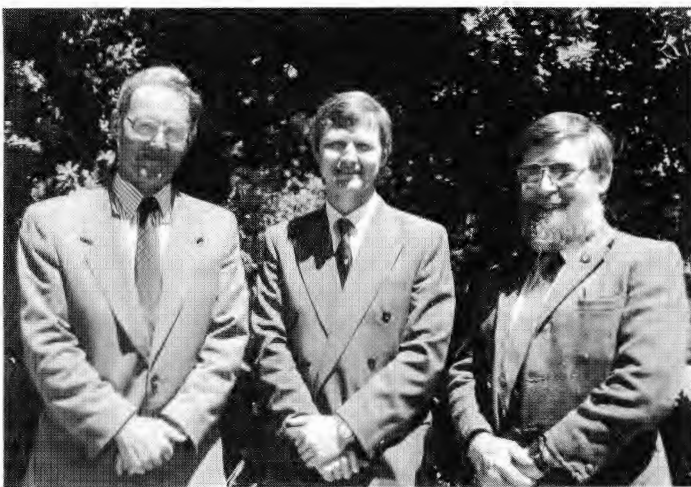


Professor Chris McQuaid (left) recently delivered his inaugural lecture to an interested audience comprising staff, students and members of the public. The lecture was entitled *Of Barnacles and Biologists: Pattern and Process in Marine Biology*.

Prof McQuaid is photographed here with the Dean of Science, Prof Randall Hepburn (left) and the Vice-Chancellor, Dr Derek Henderson, prior to the lecture..

Originally from Ireland, Prof McQuaid has lived in South Africa since 1970 and studied at the University of Cape Town, where he was awarded the degrees of Bachelor of Science (Hons) and a PhD. He joined the staff at Rhodes in 1986 and was the first recipient of the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Distinguished Research, in 1991.

## Alty Award follows doctorate



Professor George Euvrard recently received an Alty award from the Vice-Chancellor, Dr Derek Henderson, at a small ceremony held at the Education Department.

He is photographed here with Dr Henderson and the Dean of Education, Prof Pat Irwin. The award follows his obtaining the degree D Litt et Phil from the University of South Africa.

Dr Euvrard was the recipient of the Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award during 1993.



# RUMEP course represents first in South Africa

The Rhodes University Mathematics Education Project (RUMEP) recently saw the results of one of its most exciting projects to date, at the certification ceremony which closed its first three-month residential course for teachers of mathematics at primary level.

It was also a first for South Africa – never before has Cambridge University's Certificate in Primary Mathematics Education been offered in our country.

For the 43 students who were at the ceremony, it was an emotional day – and they showed it. Joined by spouses, parents, children and other well wishers they packed into the chapel of St Mary and All the Angels, the venue for the ceremony, to receive their certificates from the Vice-Chancellor, Dr Derek Henderson and Dr Marilyn Nickson, who is from Cambridge University and who has been closely associated with the course and its implementation since it was first mooted as part of the RUMEP portfolio.

The students had organised themselves into a choir which sang during and after the ceremony; there were praise singers and one, Mr Mokheithi Moatshe Lancelot Ditshego (known to lecturers and his fellow students as 'Fox'), wrote and recited a special poem for the occasion.

After the ceremony the students processed out behind the full academic procession and formed up on the lawns outside the chapel, where they sang several songs. Dr Nickson said that the ceremony was unlike anything she had seen before and that she had enjoyed being present.

To quote briefly from the poem by 'the Fox':  
*Cambridge University was in labour pains  
The labour pains of academic pregnancy  
Looking for an academic hospital,  
Midwives and doctors in South Africa  
John Stoker and Rose Spanneberg took the challenge*

*As leading figures of the team  
To carry out the delivery process of the*



One of forty-three successful RUMEP students is awarded her Cambridge University Certificate in Primary Mathematics Education by Dr Marilyn Nickson during the ceremony.

## birth of RUMEP

*At the academic hospital of Rhodes University*

*Whose superintendent is Vice-Chancellor Dr Derek Henderson.*

*RUMEP was finally born on Monday 18 July 1994*

*At eleven o' clock at St Peter's maternity ward  
Forty-five well wishers were present,  
Representing the nine provinces of our country*

*Whose aim is to spread the gospel*

*To the hungry South African Nation  
Hungry for mathematics, constructivism  
and cooperative learning  
Replacing the sudden death of traditional teaching  
An obstacle in mathematics learning  
Resulting in poor matric results.*

Perhaps the poor matric results will become a thing of the past. The 43 students have returned to their various regions where they will present workshops to their peers and colleagues, thus cascading what they have learned.

## Bruton returns from conservation meeting in Hungary

The Director of the JLB Smith Institute of Ichthyology, Professor Mike Bruton, has returned from Hungary where he participated in a meeting of the Scientific & Technical Review Panel of the Ramsar Convention.

The Ramsar Convention is one of the most successful international conservation initiatives and deals specifically with wetlands, especially as waterfowl habitat.

Prof Bruton made proposals for the inclusion in the Ramsar Convention of criteria for the designation of wetland sites of international importance for fish and fish habitats.

The meeting was held in the Hortobagy Lake National Park in Eastern Hungary. The delegates included representatives from South America, North America, Africa, Europe, Asia and Australasia. The official representative

from Africa was Dr Yaa Ntiamoah-Baidu from the University of Ghana. Prof Bruton attended the meeting as an invited fish expert subsequent to his delivery of a paper at the international conference of the Ramsar Convention in Kushiuro in Japan in August 1993. If his recommendations are accepted by the Ramsar Convention it will mean that wetlands of importance to fish and fisheries, especially in the developing world, will be internationally recognised and given special conservation attention.

A further visit saw Prof Bruton at the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada to continue research with a collaborator, Professor Eugene Balon of the Department of Zoology there. Prof Balon has been instrumental in establishing a new Institute of

Ichthyology in Guelph which is partly modelled on the Smith Institute in Grahamstown.

During the visit, Prof Bruton completed a book outlining the contribution of women ichthyologists and prepared the preparatory chapters for a new book on *Threatened fishes of the world*. He and Prof Balon also worked together on numerous joint papers on the ecology of Southern African fishes. They have collaborated since Prof Balon visited Grahamstown for nine months in 1987.

Prof Balon is a Research Associate of the JLB Smith Institute of Ichthyology.

While in Canada Prof Bruton also had discussions with other ichthyologists in Guelph regarding collaboration between the two ichthyology institutes.

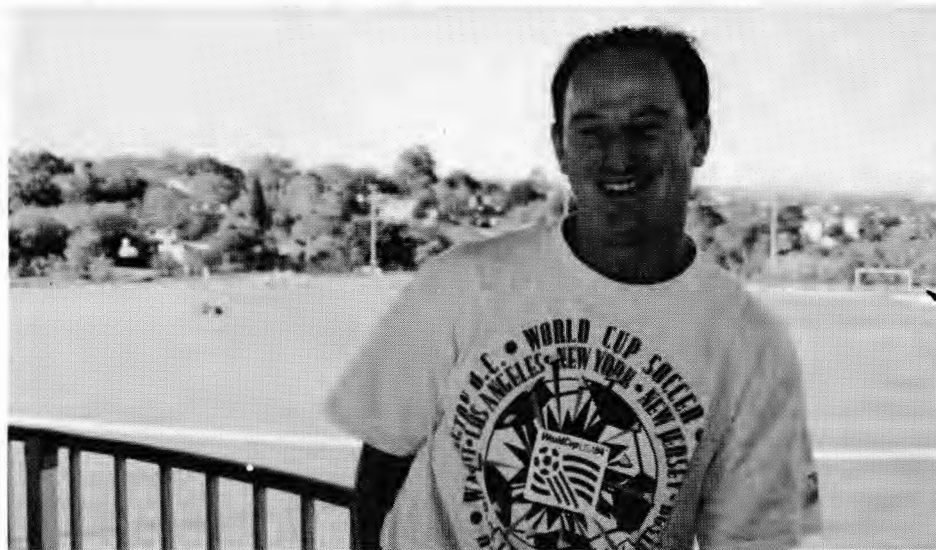


# Rhodes graduate is international sports presenter

Old Rhodian Graeme Joffe, who graduated after completing a degree course in journalism and German, was the guest speaker at the Sports Administration's annual awards dinner recently.

Joffe is now one of two senior sports commentators on the CNN International television network. He admits to a bit of luck; being in "right place at the right time" assisting in his obtaining one of the network's most sought after positions, as he was himself not going to create the opportunity through exercising initiative. He also says that the Rhodes degree behind his name helped significantly. After he graduated, he visited the United States primarily to attend the wedding of his sister in Chicago. While there on a three-month entry permit he thought that he could test the waters in terms of professional opportunities. His sister is friendly with former tennis player Ilana Kloss and she works for an organisation called Teen Tennis. He took up a position there as a public relations practitioner.

While there he took the opportunity of preparing a resume and sending it to 100 television and radio stations - one of which was CNN - who he thought might be interested. CNN responded and he flew to their headquarters in Atlanta for an interview.



"I think that what caught their eye was probably the fact that I knew a bit about Rugby, soccer and cricket", says Joffe. "The luck was that CNN were at that time expanding their international sports broadcasts, especially to Asia, and there really are not that many Americans who know too much about those sports". Joffe himself had played both cricket and soccer while at Rhodes and certainly knew a little more about them than their correct

spellings!

He found the first year extremely stressful, writing and rewriting material for broadcast and, on occasion, fronting before the cameras. This took some getting used to, he says, as at Rhodes he had specialised in radio, not

television. ("TV was on Wednesdays", he remembers, "and so was golf. So I did radio!")

He must have learned fast, for six weeks later he was appointed to the full time team of sports anchors.

CNN International broadcasts outside the United States (there are two other CNN channels available, on cable, locally) and so Joffe has been spared the adulation which is the TV frontperson's lot in America. The US public don't know him. But, while in South

Africa, he was often recognised in the street and public places and asked for his autograph.

While here he was flown to Cape Town as a guest of the committee preparing the city's bid to host the Olympic Games in 2004 and shown all the facilities, planned and existing. He was also in Johannesburg and flew straight back to Atlanta after his visit to Grahamstown.

## Rhodes sailor part of winning team

Rhodes Sailing Club member, Peter Cross, recently teamed up with Springbok yachtsman Bruce Savage to compete in the Transvaal's premier Keelboat event, the annual Sailsure Week regatta on the Vaal Dam.

Sailing on an IMS 30 footer named *Ragtime* (formerly *Schick*) the team convincingly took first place in all seven races in the regatta, achieving first place in five different categories. The event consisted of five Olympic course races, a medium distance race and a long distance race, which was sailed well into the night. The Vaal Dam is known for its erratic wind conditions and this year was no different. The opening days of the regatta were extremely still, but by the middle of the week winds gusting up to 50 knots were recorded. The team proved to be successful in all conditions.

The regatta is used by Transvaal keelboat sailors as a tune-up for Rothman's Week, to be sailed in Cape Town in December, in which the team plans to compete again.

## Safe viewing of eclipse arranged on campus

ASTROSOC has advised people not to try and view the solar eclipse, which is going to occur on Thursday, 3 November, by looking directly at the sun, either with the unaided eye, or with binoculars or a telescope.

Even looking at the sun through a floppy disk, thick plastic, darkened photographic film, or something similar, says Chairman Simon Walsh, is not safe because these materials have unknown transmission factors in the non-visible spectrum.

The eclipse will be just over 90% from Grahamstown. First contact will be at 16h10 and the eclipse will end about sunset.

Walsh has invited all interested people to join Astrosoc in viewing the eclipse, at the Geography carpark. "Telescopes will be there from 15h30 onwards. We hope to have glasses with solar filters available for use, but at any rate the telescopes will be used to project the sun's image onto screens for easy, safe viewing", he says.

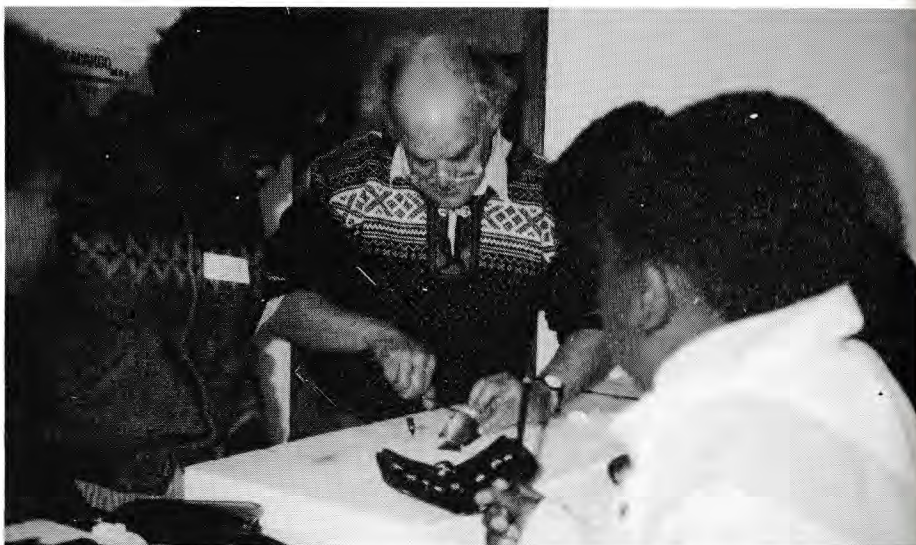


# Smith Institute designs module for youth programme

The Gold Shield Youth Education Support Programme is a flexible programme of activities for youth to participate in during their own time. Candidates are expected to provide a service to others, participate in a sport, an expedition and to pursue an interest which involves the development of skills.

The JLB Smith Institute has designed a programme for the skill section at the bronze level which consists of seven units which run during school holidays. A pilot group of five pupils has been exposed to a number of activities within the Institute which included fish illustration with Institute Illustrator, Dave Voorvelt. The enormous fish collection provided a 'hands on' examination of a variety of fascinating specimens. Characteristics were linked to fish behaviour which was then observed by watching videos on fishes.

A highlight of the course was a fish dissection under the guidance of Dr Humphry Greenwood, Honorary Research Fellow of the Institute. This was a very new experience for these pupils. However, brandishing scalpels, seekers and scissors, they each performed an expert dissection which enabled them to see the various internal organs of the fish and examine tissues under the microscope. They



*Dr Humphry Greenwood, Honorary Research Fellow of the JLB Smith Institute shows pupils how to perform an expert dissection.*

were delighted to be able to use computers to write up about their various activities and they quickly learnt basic word processing skills.

The aim of the programme is to encourage commitment through appreciation and

enjoyment. If you would like to become involved in an aspect of this scheme, contact Quinton Redcliffe at the Gold Shield Regional Office, Tel: 32 1418.

## First funds received by Centenary Fund

With this edition of *Rhodos* is being distributed a copy of the brochure produced to launch the Centenary Fund.

The Fund is endeavouring to raise some R 25 million which will be used to erect a new library and conference hall complex on the Eden Grove site recently purchased by the University from the provincial Administration.

It should be noted that donations to Universities qualify for tax relief in terms of Section 18A of the Income Tax Act. Individuals can obtain tax relief on donations of up to 2% of their taxable income, or R 500, whichever is the greater. In the case of companies, these can obtain tax relief on donations of up to 5% of their taxable income.

The Public Relations and Development Division has various items for

sale which were produced to coincide with the Founders' Day 90th anniversary celebration, which interested people may obtain from Mrs Jenny Purdon (ext 8516). These include the badged Rhodes University 90th anniversary wine glasses, at R 10,00 each; bottles of red (Adelrood) and white (Blanc de Blanc) wine with the special birthday label, at R 12,00 per bottle, and copies of the video film which was produced (as was broadcast on NNTV) at R 50,00. The latter makes a particularly good record of Rhodes as it is today and all would make for well-received Christmas gifts by Old Rhodians. It is available in both NTSC formats, the latter especially produced for use in the United States.

Fund-raising has commenced and in excess of R 7 000,00 has been received to date.

## No items for Diary.

*Rhodos* has received no items for inclusion in our regular 'What's On' diary feature; it is thus not published in this issue.

Staff members, Departmental Heads, Society Chairpersons and other coordinators of events and functions are reminded on the column, which is published as a service to readers.

Items for inclusion should be sent to the Editor, at the Public Relations and Development Division or e-mailed to him at [adjw@warthog.ru.ac.za](mailto:adjw@warthog.ru.ac.za).

## Video Christmas Cards

**Will you be separated from your parents, children or other loved ones over Christmas? Do you find it hard to choose presents for them? Do you resent the high cost and hassle of posting bulky parcels?**

This year, why not send them a Video Christmas Card! Our cameraman will record you and anyone else you would like to have with you in full colour and sound, at your home. You will receive as many edited copies as you require on VHS cassette ready to post in a padded envelope. Simply phone (0461) 2 3129 after hours to make an appointment.

For a Video Christmas Card of up to 30 minutes duration the charge is R 40,00. Additional



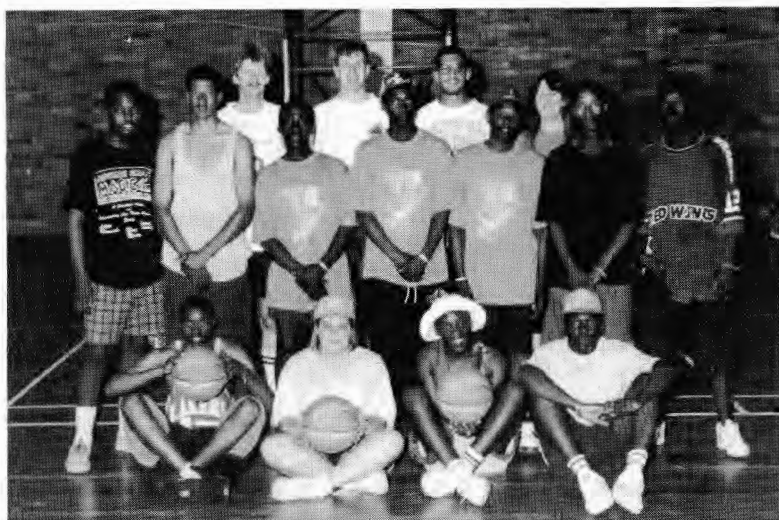
# I Love this game

Anybody who has ever watched TV1 Topsport on a Saturday afternoon will have seen *Inside Stuff*, an up-to-date actuality programme on NBA Basketball, in which many supporters of the game, including Kermit, Bill Cosby and Jack Nicholson, to name a few, utter the statement "I love this game". Anybody who was in Grahamstown on Saturday 15th October will have heard over 100 children between ages 3 and 18 say "We love this game".

The Rhodes University Basketball Club, with the aid of Schweppes Granadilla and Basketball South Africa (BSA), hosted a 3 on 3 tournament, in which participants played matches and received coaching on some of the basic skills and aspects of the game from Rhodes University first team men and women players.

Despite the advertisements indicating starting times for various age groups, participants arrived for the tournament as early as 07h30 and from as far afield as Kingwilliamstown and the Transkei. This clearly indicates the fascination this fast and exciting game holds for so many young people in South Africa at present and particularly in Grahamstown, with only one full size court, at Rhodes, and a few backboards at some of the private schools.

Some of the skills evident on the day were amazing, given that most of the participants



*The winners of the Open Division with some of the Rhodes students who were associated with the tournament*

play basketball on netball courts, without any formal coaching or the use of backboards. The Rhodes University Basketball Club is addressing the issue of facilities at present and with the aid of Schweppes and BSA will hopefully provide backboards in Grahamstown in the near future. This will ensure a higher playing standard at the next event, planned for early 1995.

The event was extremely successful and at least 30 children were awarded prizes such as

basketballs, t-shirts and caps. The Rhodes Basketballers are grateful to Schweppes for their generosity and vision in sponsoring an event such as this in Grahamstown. Their support for this fast growing sport is essential to ensure the continued participation of young people and to enable them to say "We love this game!"

*Sue Heyns*

## Rhodes Standard Bank team relay triathlon

The Rhodes/Standard Bank annual triathlon took place at the Rhodes swimming pool on Saturday 15th October. The event comprised a 400m swim, a 12 km cycle and a 4 km run.

Despite the fact that the annual Sports Awards Dinner had taken place the night before, more than 30 athletes turned up for the event, which started at 10 am. As the status of duathlon and triathlon is improving rapidly around the country, as well as on campus, the competitors were all very enthusiastic and great fun was had by all.



*Winners of the Men's division. From left, Neale Jackson, Barrie Knox-Davies and Jason Gibb*

The level of competition varied from very social athletes, through to the Rhodes Triathlon teams in both ladies, mens and mixed categories. Prizes were awarded to first, second and third in each of the mentioned categories,

as well as bonus prizes going to the fastest times for each discipline of the team race.

The results below are evidence of the extremely high level of talent at Rhodes University including swimmers, cyclists and runners as well as "complete" triathletes. "In the future we will endeavour to encourage more social and staff teams, as well as to attract school teams", says Sports Officer Sue Heyns.

### MEN TIME

1. *The 3-Maesterteers* 37,08

Jason Gibb  
Barrie Knox-Davies  
Neale Jackson

2. *The Cannon-Dales* 40,36

Rich Gardner  
Dave Gardner  
Gordon Miles

3. *Team Mark Hair* 40,43

Fergus Slattery  
Mark Hair  
Mark Sampson

### LADIES

1. *The Long-Jones* 47,25

Keryn Henwood  
Ashleigh Jones  
Kerry Longhurst

2. *Snap, Crackle & Dot* 49,09

Jill Lancaster  
Joey Simpson  
Amanda Nicholls

3. *KUB's* 54,22

Bronwyn Moffat  
Ursula Rietman  
Kim Booyse

### MIXED

1. *NCG's* 41,52

Norelle D'Ewes  
Clint Swanepoel  
Greg George

2. *Shapeless Shufflers* 47,03

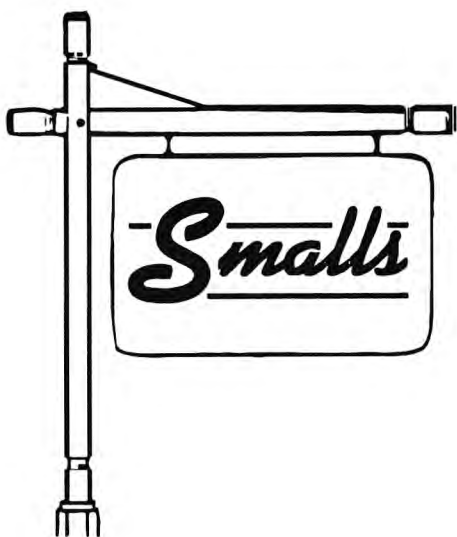
Greg Hooper  
Anita Stoll  
Mike Cook

3. *Team Gucci* 51,07

Kim Kutsche  
Ross Gilfillin  
Tom Dache







### GOING ON SABBATICAL?

Retired couple available to house sit in Grahamstown from 1995 (or sooner if required). Presently managing an orange farm smallholding and well able to care for your home. Phone (0464) 25 0840 all hours.

### LIFT WANTED

To Johannesburg on or about 1 December. Tel: 2 3241

### PROTHEUS CONSULTANCY

Offers POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS assistance with proofreading and presentation of theses / dissertations at very moderate rates. Tel: 31 1515 all hours or call at 133 High Street.

### ACCOMMODATION OFFERED

Excellent accommodation for senior student who is serious about his / her studies. Spacious, furnished room in private flat very close to UCT campus. Enquiries: 8361/2 or 2 8572 after hours.

### SITUATION WANTED

Excellent housekeeper/cook seeks new position after temporary work now completed. Cheerful disposition, honest, good with children. Current employer will supply excellent references. Contact Kim; ext 8240/1 mornings or 2 9719 after hours.

### FOR SALE

Two budgies (green and blue). 1 hamster and cage (brand new). Contact Jenny Purdon, PR & Development, ext 8516.

### TO LET

House to let near Constantia, 26 Dec to 13 Jan. Three bedrooms, family room, swimming pool. Price negotiable. Tel (021) 650 3138 (a.m.) or (021) 72 9595 (p.m.)

### YOGA

**GRAHAMSTOWN SCHOOL OF YOGA**  
Classes are held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at our new venue, the Albany Museum. Further enquiries: Kathy at 2 3900 or Jane at 2 7842

### FOR SALE

Macki paddle ski with accessories and paddle. Capacity 85kg. Value R 450,00. Ext 8516.

### FOR SALE

Karoo lamb. Half or whole at R 15,00/kg. Phone Joyce Sewry at 2 5083 after hours. Please place your order before 11 November 1994.

### PROPERTY

We enjoy finding the right house for the right people – so please consult us when buying, selling or needing a valuation.  
Tel: AMROSE ESTATES 22695/29710.

## Sports men and women honoured at Sports Admin dinner



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RHODOS is produced monthly by the Public Relations and Development Division of Rhodes University, Grahamstown.

The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor, *Rhodos* staff, or the University.

The Editor welcomes all contributions but reserves the right to edit these.

**R**hodos invites contributions from staff members and other readers. Articles should be forwarded to the Editor, at the Public Relations and Development Division. They are preferred on diskette in any of several common word processing formats, including ASCII, Word Perfect, WordStar and Multimate. Text may also be e-mailed to [adjw@warthog.ru.ac.za](mailto:adjw@warthog.ru.ac.za). Photographs and line art are also welcome, either as stand-alone items or illustrative of articles.

### RHODOS DEADLINES

Copy Date	Publication Date
21 November	28 November

The Rhodes rowers received recognition for their superb year at the Sports Administration dinner held recently – not before time, said many who were present.

*From left to right Luke and Grant Hartley, Jeremy Ashton and Andrew MacLachlan shared the Sportsman of the Year trophy.*

*They are joined in the photograph by Sueanne Cawdry who was named Sportswoman of the Year.*

Other prizes awarded on the evening went to the Rowing club (Best Club of the Year) and to Rosie Annett who received the Most Improved Club of the Year award on behalf of the Mountain Club.

In her own right Ms Annett took home the trophy for the Best Administrator as well.

### No Rhodos during holiday season

This is the penultimate edition of *Rhodos* for 1994.

The last edition will publish in November. There will be no publication during December and January; we will resume in February.