



Editorial

WE were so overwhelmed with letters for the last issue of *Rhodos* that we were not able to use all of them. We will try to use the letters held over if possible, but remember that your letters are more likely to see the light of day if they are short!

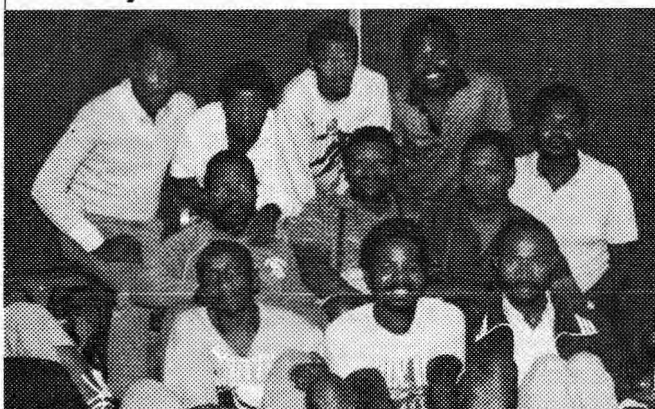
We have been puzzled by the lack of response to *Rhodos* from the academic staff. We cannot believe that you have nothing to contribute to what we like to think of as a newspaper for all staff at Rhodes. (Cheers to the four who have braved the columns of *Rhodos*.)

With a limit of 500 words for each article, we are sure that you could provide us with something of interest, whether about trips overseas, latest research, or even thoughts on subjects which are not related to your discipline.

Or are we to believe that Rhodes administrative and service staff are more literate and articulate than the academic staff? We're beginning to wonder.

We'd also like to urge you to support the *Wot's On* column on the back page of each issue of *Rhodos*. Please give Jenny Purdon details, in good time, of events you plan to hold.

They're the best!



Dominoes Club

by Peter Rose

The non-racial staff Dominoes Club (referred to as the A-team) is very active and appears to be most successful. They walked off with six trophies during 1989 and only lost one match to the Mzikazi club. Fixtures are played every weekend. The club president is Mike Nqweniso who is a technician in Biochemistry and Microbiology. Because of his expertise at setting up beer brewing practicals for students, Mike was able to brew the beer for the club's Christmas party. Most of the club members are members of staff.

The triumphant A-Team are:

(Back) D Hashe, S Ntlokwana, S Coko, M Khonzi, T Mchuba;
(middle) S Biyana, V Boo, W Mbumbu;
(front) R Molefe, M Nqweniso and M Roye

New face adds power to the flowers

by Mark Hazel

The first woman to be appointed to a senior position in a maintenance section at Rhodes, started work in the grounds and Gardens Section at the beginning of April.

She is Angela Breytenbach, a horticulturalist, who is one of two assistant supervisors in the grounds and gardens section.

Her duties include the management of staff and related functions in the gardens, mowing, nursery, refuse removal and alien vegetation removal sections.

She has had experience both in the public and private sectors, having worked at the Botanical Research Institute and SATS,

as well as running her own landscaping business and working for one of the big landscaping nurseries in the Transvaal.

She comes to us at a time when we hope to place more emphasis on improving the green environment on the campus, in line with the international trend towards *greening* our world.

Her experience and ability will help us to improve further an already attractive campus.

We wish her well in this predominantly male section, and trust that she will soon become a well-known member of the Rhodes community

When the lights go out

The following procedures will be followed when the University is notified of a scheduled power cut:

- The Municipality or the Superintendent, Electrical Maintenance Section, will notify the Registrar's Office at least 48 hours in advance of the power cut, if possible.
- The Registrar's Office will notify the Business Affairs Division, who will notify the technical staff in that Division. They will also notify the Director of the Computing Centre and the Conference Officer.
- The Conference Officer will notify Departments organizing conferences or seminars; residences housing conference delegates; the Rhodes Club, after confirming that no function is planned that would be disrupted by a power cut; and then report back to the Registrar's secretary.
- If there are no problems which require a scheduled power cut to be delayed, the Registrar's Office will confirm the arrangement with the Municipality or the Superintendent of the Electrical Maintenance Section.
- If time permits, the Registrar's Office will send a note to Departments giving details of the power cut. If there is no time for this, the Switchboard will notify affected Departments by telephone.

DEADLINES

Copy date	Publication date
4 June	14 June
18 June	28 June
2 July	12 July

Obituary

Mrs Nancy Henry

1905 - 1990

by Philippa Callaghan

MRS Nancy Henry, who first came to Rhodes as a student in 1924, died in Queenstown on April 13.

She was in Oriel House from 1924 - 1927 and played first team hockey and tennis.

After graduating, she taught in Queenstown until her marriage.

She and her husband later moved to Grahamstown, where she taught for a year. She was then employed as a laboratory demonstrator in the Botany Department.

Mrs Henry later moved to the Library as an assistant librarian. She was warden of Phelps from 1948 - 1974.

Another view of History

"I know histhry isn't true, Hinnissy, because it ain't like what I see ivry day in Halsted Sthreet.

"If any wan comes along with a histhry iv Greece or Rome that'll show me th' people fightin', gettin' dhrunk, makin' love, gettin' marrid, owin' th' grocery man an' bein' without hard coal, I'll believe they was a Greece or Rome, but not before.

"Historyans is like doctors. They are always lookin' fr symptoms.

"Those iv them that writes about their own times examines th' tongue an' feels th' pulse an' makes a wrong dygnosis.

"Th' other kind iv histhry is a post-mortem examination. It tells ye what a counhry died iv. But I'd like to know what it lived iv."

- Finley Peter Dunne

Don't play in the traffic

GRAHAMSTOWN drivers beware! The new Road Traffic Act will become effective from June 1, and the Automobile Association (AA) has pointed out the following changes:

- Overtaking on the left will be prohibited on freeways. The new act compels a driver in the right (overtaking) lane of a freeway to move to the left-hand side, if this can be done safely, when another driver indicates that he/she wishes to overtake.

- Tyre-tread depth requirements have been increased. A tread pattern is required over the entire breadth and circumference of the tyre and must be at least 1 mm deep.

- A new motorcycle category has been introduced. The existing Code 02 licence will be limited to a motorcycle with a maximum engine capacity of 250cc. The new licence for motorcycles with a higher engine capacity will be known as a Code 15 licence. Holders of Code 02 licences issued before June 1 will retain the right to drive any motorcycle. The Code 01 licence for 50cc motorcycles will remain unaltered.

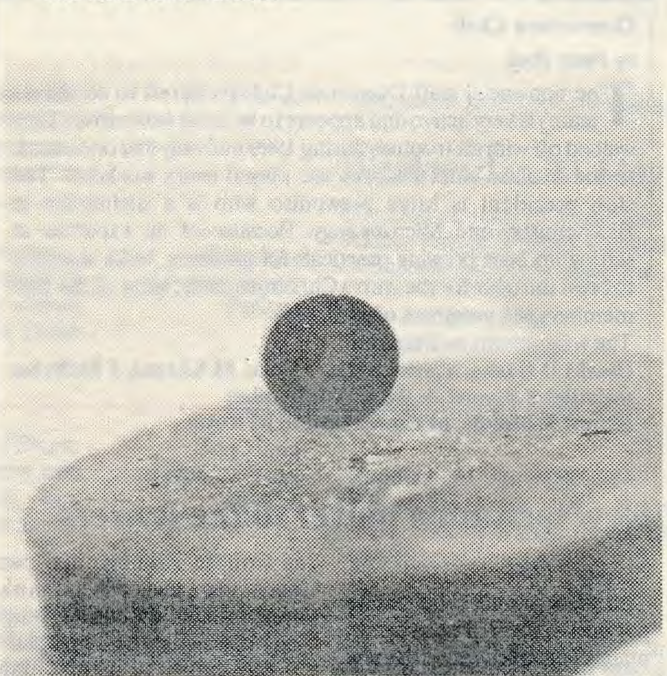
- Motorcyclists must use their headlamps at all times. Many safety-conscious motorcyclists have been doing this for some years.

- New regulations for anti-theft devices. Devices which are connected to, or interfere with, the braking system will no longer be allowed. Sirens, fitted as part of anti-theft devices, will become legal.

- New regulations for emergency warning triangles. Drivers of vehicles other than motorcars and motorcycles must carry one warning triangle at all times (instead of the previous two).

- Penalties and fines will be increased for driving under the influence of alcohol, reckless driving, illegal overtaking and the overloading of freight vehicles.

You have been warned!



Super Conductivity

by Prof Trevor Letcher

ONE of the most exciting discoveries in Chemistry and Physics over the past few years has been the development of "high temperature" ceramic super-conductors capable of operating at temperatures of about 90 Kelvin. A simple demonstration to illustrate super-conduction is the levitation of a permanent magnet above a super-conducting disc. The picture above illustrates the effect (the Meissner effect) at the temperature of liquid air and was taken during a demonstration in the Chemistry Department. The small disc is the levitating permanent magnet.

RHODOS STAFF

Editor: Mary Burnett (ext 517)

Assistant Editor: Jane Burnett (ext 516, 336)

Reporter: Jenny Purdon (ext 516)

Rhodos is produced twice a month by the Public Relations Division, Rhodes University, Grahamstown

Beware of eyestrain!

WORKING with visual display units (VDUs) for several hours a day can cause eyestrain unless proper precautions are taken. The SA Optometric Association (SAOA) has suggested the following do's and don'ts to prevent the discomfort of eyestrain:

- Don't place the computer against a wall, because the user has no visual relief.
- Do place the computer so that the user can look beyond the screen to far-off objects - out of the window or through an office plan.
- Look up frequently.
- Take a 15 minute break every two hours.
- Combine other types of work with computer operating.
- Have the top of the screen slightly below eye level (20 degrees).
- Have the copy at the same distance from your eyes as the screen.
- Adjust the position of the screen to avoid reflections.
- Position desks to avoid glare.
- Adjust brightness and contrast of the screen for maximum visual comfort.
- Fit diffusers into ceiling lights if necessary.
- Use an adjustable shaded copy lamp to get rid of unwanted reflections.
- Use anti-glare screens if necessary.
- Adjust your chair and table to a comfortable position.
- Move the keyboard to a comfortable position.
- Have your eyes examined regularly.

Report Back

by John Eller

THE meeting between RUSA and the University to consider, primarily, the car scheme took place as planned. After a full and helpful discussion the following key points were established:-

1. The financing of second-hand cars would be suspended. Two applications which had largely been processed were allowed to be concluded.

2. The Vice-Chancellor agreed to recommend to Council that the scheme be extended

to cover the financing of approved second-hand cars which were five years old or less.

3. If RUSA could show how it could effectively administer a system to finance the purchase of durables, the University would consider in what way it might be able to assist.

The whole question of how to enable staff to benefit from the consortium for University and Technikon staff and the introduction of National Consortium cash purchasing packages, is being considered.

San Sisters' column

Vomiting in the young child

by Sister Gill Scott

VOMITING in the young child (note: this column does not apply to infants, the treatment of whom will be dealt with in a later column) is a common symptom throughout childhood. It may be associated with diseases of all degrees of severity. Some are trivial, but can be an indication of a serious disease, and should never be taken lightly.

Some Common causes

- ☐ Dietary indiscretion eg. birthday parties
- ☐ Emotional upset eg. excitement or family disturbance
- ☐ Appendicitis
- ☐ Food intolerance
- ☐ Food poisoning
- ☐ Most commonly, viral gastritis.

There is no cause for alarm after one or two vomits, merely caution: cut milk out of the diet until the child is better

Persistent vomiting in the young should be investigated by a doctor. In most cases of nutritional vomiting, the condition is self-limiting.

In an emergency when no medical help is easily available, ie. at night, when there is a danger of dehydration, mix the following together - 1 litre boiled water, 1/2 teaspoon salt and 5 level teaspoons sugar (or glucose).

Start with small sips, increasing as tolerance improves and vomiting is less frequent. Coca cola is also an excellent means of rehydration.

Marie biscuits or dry toast and bread may be given after about a litre of fluid has been retained. NO food should be given while vomiting is frequent (ie. hourly - 2 hourly).

NO fatty food such as chips or margarine should be taken for at least 24 hours after the last vomit.

Diarrhoea

Persistent diarrhoea must be investigated by a doctor. As with vomiting, it is usually self-limiting. Stop all milk products. Give a cup of the above solution after each stool. Light food, but no fatty foods, may be eaten as desired.

(We hope to print a Xhosa version of this column in the next edition - Ed)

Welcome to Finance

TAKE a walk along Loo Lane and meet the people who manage the University's finances.

This is Tony, Master of our Underworld. A welcome *newie* to our department - we love goodlooking men. We hope that he'll be everything he appears to be - kind, forgiving, generous, pro-pay increases for staff, etc.

Meet Les, also known as Lieutenant or Captain, depending upon the occasion. He's good with a golf club and likes cake at meetings.

Here is Errol, our most bearable bear, who knows all the answers and eats sausage rolls. This is Liz who "does" the Marathon every year. Unfortunately, she starts 17km outside Grahamstown and finishes 17km outside Grahamstown. She is popular with thirsty runners.

Angela is also known as *The Money Mole* - she appears to work mainly at night - and is worth being nice to. She pays us!

Sheila, Toni and Hazel spend their days and some nights waging war with wages, and old Neil over there can sometimes find your subsidy application amongst the cricket stumps and new babies.

Nicki is into figures, preferably those over six foot, and enjoys playing with bottles in well-stocked bars, whereas Liz searches in vain for someone to insure her assets.

I'm afraid Jane isn't around - she's excellent at faxing and occasionally typing illegible letters. She's from Kenya, you know. Rather noisy, but nice.

Meet Mother Hen and her chicks: Ula, Phil and Eric, masters at buying, storing, delivering and losing furniture and equipment. Oops - one word too many in that line!

Here we have our three captivating Musketeers, Martie, Gwen and Marietjie, without whom our general ledger system would collapse. Please pray for them.

This is the General Office. Wendy, who leaves no stone unturned in her search for mail-sorting and telephone-

answering perfection; Audrey, a well-balanced lass, who has no problems with balancing; Anne, who sometimes will and sometimes won't; and Cheri, our fund researcher, funding research funds or searches for funds or something like that.

Don, Louise, Vanessa and Dora are the essential cogs in our money receiving eight-armed-bandit machine - like most moving parts, they occasionally need oiling. I believe chocolates work wonders. (Don prefers a good red wine).

Meet Jane, our Food Processor, who has graduated no less than 17 times at Rhodes and Heather, the power behind the throne of the broom, mop and bucket brigade.

This good, clean and fresh looking gentleman, one of the few left in this world, is Rick. He spends his days making the Campus a nicer smelling place.

Here we also find Bronwyn. She sometimes can be found swanning around the corridors looking busy, but spends most of her time capturing data, and taking dining card photos of good-looking students.

Michelle became a little too large for her chair and this is Lesley, who has bravely offered to take her place. We all hope for the Festival's sake that Michelle's complaint isn't catching!

Last, but definitely not least, somewhere amidst all those hundreds of invoices you will find Pat and Nita lying in wait for some poor unsuspecting soul with an unsigned invoice. They are known affectionately as the *dragon ladies*. They run the early morning coffee club and what a fantastic service they provide, especially on cold Monday mornings!

Jokes aside, although many of us spend the entire day in dungeons, unable to see the sun (when it occasionally shines), we are generally a happy crowd and like to think of ourselves as team members of the most prestigious division at Rhodes.

Anonymous - for good reason, we believe

How to get connected

More on Local Area Networking

by Mike Lawrie

A department that wishes to have its PCs access the LAN must do the following:-

- discuss its needs with the Director, Computing Services, to formulate a proposal
- submit a proposal to the Computing Steering Committee (Chairman: Prof Eddie Baart) so that funds can be made available for cabling and repeaters and, possibly, for a departmental server.
- apply to sources of funds other than the Computing Steering Committee to buy an Ethernet card for each PC that must connect to the LAN as a workstation

The fibre optic cable costs about R8,00 per metre, the coax costs much less, and a repeater box (with 8 ports) costs about R15 000. There are also installation costs. This is funded centrally, and installation is co-ordinated by the Computing Centre.

An Ethernet card for a workstation costs between R700 and R1 200, depending on the source (and possibly the quality). Departments are expected to find the funds for this.

Software to be installed on the LAN might come out of future budgets allocated to the PC Software committee (Chairman: Prof Pat Terry). In many cases, existing copies of departmental software could be installed on the LAN, depending on the software license. (Some licenses prohibit the software from being in-

stalled on a LAN, unfortunately).

A server with a 305 Mb SCSI disk, 386 DX motherboard (ie as fast as they come), plus Ethernet card, would cost less than R20,000 (with GST). This might or might not be funded by the Computing Steering Committee.

Departments that can raise their own funds must, nevertheless, co-ordinate their LAN activities through the Computing Centre to prevent chaos as the LAN expands.

LAN Management and Policies

The LAN can offer a great deal of flexibility. The Computing Centre will operate the network validation service, and maintain the commonly used software such as PCWrite, Word Perfect, Quattro, Statgraphics etc. There will be a server that departments can use for setting up specific software and datafiles for their students - a responsible person from the department will have privileged access to this server. Any department that can acquire a 386 will be permitted to operate its own server, or it may call on the Computing Centre to do so.

The Computing Centre will provide help and encouragement to those departments that wish to run their own servers.

The technical management will be done by the Computing Centre. The particular repeater equipment has some sophisticated network management facilities, allowing for central monitoring and control.

Now it gets exciting

The immediate extension of LAN facilities will be to interconnect the Rhodes network (ie, the LAN, the CDCNet and all the computers connected thereto) to other university networks via an internetworking system under the generic name of TCP/IP. This is a fancy connection system that allows computers of nearly all makes to be connected in a large internetwork, and any user anywhere on the Internet can access any of the computers in virtually the identical way, regardless of computer type. This overcomes the problem of having to be familiar with the details of each type of computer on the Internet.

The first stage of this internetworking at SA Universities is being done between Rhodes and UCT, with an extension planned to Potchefstroom. The first data will probably flow across this link before this article is in print. The computers involved include the Rhodes Cybers and some 386s that use the Xenix operating system, the UCT Vaxes and Hewlett Packard systems, and the Potch IBM and (we hope) the Corvex. In due course, the Rhodes Vaxes and the BIS Mentor will be brought into the Internet as well.

Depending on politicians and little else, this facility could be extended to the huge Internet in the USA. You will then be able work interactively to, say, a computer in California, or transfer files interactively between your PC and a computer in the UK. But that's another story in itself. Watch this space.

She frowned and called him Mr

Because in sport he Kr

And so, in spite

That very night

This Mr Kr Sr

Diplomacy breaks down

DIPLOMATIC relations between Finland and Greenland are icy amid a dispute over one of Scandinavia's best-loved exports - Father Christmas. Both the Finnish Government and the autonomous Danish colony have long claimed him as a resident.

Now the matter has come to a head.

In a defiant speech to the Nordic Council in Norway, Greenland's Prime Minister, Johnathon Motzfeldt, has demanded that the Finns give up their claims to Santa Claus. His outburst - the first time that Father Christmas has been on the council's agenda - followed a recent claim by the Finnish state television station that the old chap was a native of Finland.

During a hard-hitting address, Motzfeldt declared that Father Christmas could not be Finnish, if only because Finnish was too complicated a language. "The Prime Minister is outraged, as are all of us, that the Finns have stolen him", a Danish Embassy spokesman said. "This is a serious diplomatic incident. It is a universal truth that Santa Claus is a Greenlander - every child knows it."

The Finns remain unrepentant, insisting that there is irrefutable evidence that Father Christmas is a native. "We shan't take it back. It's an old and revered tradition that he comes from our land", says the embassy, adding contemptuously: "There aren't even any reindeer in Greenland."

We're OK - in South Africa we have a choice of Santas.

Welcome!

by Jenny Purdon

We welcome new staff, and congratulate those who have been promoted recently.

Mr Derek Forsyth has been appointed Professor of Accounting, and Mrs Marge Black has been promoted from Senior Instructor to Lecturer in the same Department. Mr Milton Ngeju has been promoted from Service Staff to Technical Assistant in the Department of Zoology and Entomology.

Miss Cheryl Aspling is now Secretary in the Psychology Clinic; Mrs Lynette Bodill has

joined the Switchboard Office staff; and Mrs Janet Burmeister has been appointed to the Department of Music as a part-time assistant. Mr Peter Chambers is now Senior Technical Officer in the Department of Chemistry; and Mrs Lesley Harper has been appointed as Conference Liaison Officer.

Mr Steve Olivier is Senior Sports Officer; and Mrs Lynne Kenschel is Senior Caterer in Kimberley Hall. Miss Sally Pettinger and Mrs Isobel van der Watt have been appointed as Caterers, and Mrs Marinda Ridden is a part-time clerk in the Printing Unit. Mr Peter Wasserman is a Storeman in Maintenance Stores, and Mr Des Weeks is an Assistant Research Officer in Freshwater Studies.

Plotting the way for PLATO

by Graham Oberem, Director, Computer-based Education Unit

PLATO has been with us at Rhodes University for the last six years, not in person, of course, but in the form of a Computer Assisted Learning system which runs on one of the mainframe computers.

During this time, PLATO has been widely used by a broad spectrum of departments in every Faculty.

Consistent growth

The fact that PLATO has been well received at Rhodes is demonstrated by a consistent growth rate of 20% a year, since 1985, in the number of student contact hours, and by the fact that the system has been largely self-funding through the sale of PLATO services to customers outside the University.

However, as with everything around us, PLATO is ageing, and the suppliers are not upgrading the system to our satisfaction. Also, further expansion of the system would be

expensive, as the computer is now working to its full capacity.

Thus, upon my return last year from a year's sabbatical leave in Texas, where I was able to assess the current trends in computer-based education, it was decided to develop an alternative platform for the delivery of computer lessons at Rhodes.

With the planned implementation of micro-computer networks (LANs) on our campus, a system called CALNet was designed with the ultimate goal of compatibility with the campus LANs. (See the final part of Mike Lawrie's report on LANs on p 4).

Advanced features

CALNet runs on micro-computer work stations and allows us to take advantage of many of the advanced features of these machines which have not been available on PLATO. We are now using colour graphics and windows CALNet to facilitate

learning through greater clarity and flexibility in the lesson design, and the power of these personal computers makes the lessons execute more efficiently for students.

Favourable response

The first students, the Latin 1b class, started using CALNet at the beginning of 1990.

Their response has been extremely favourable and those also using PLATO clearly perceive CALNet to be more advanced and faster than the earlier technology.

Approximately 50% of the student contact hours on PLATO on our campus is accounted for by locally produced lessons.

Staff of the CBE Unit have already begun moving these programs across from PLATO to CALNet and, by the end of 1990, most of these lessons will have been transferred and updated.

From 1991, it is expected that CALNet and PLATO will serve approximately equal numbers of students. When the campus network is fully implemented and connected to CALNet, members of staff will be able to monitor student progress on CALNet from their offices with the greatest ease.

Lesson development

The University remains committed to the use of Computer Assisted Learning and, after six years of experience, is more convinced than ever of its value in the context of our student population with its diverse needs.

The Computer-based Education Unit provides a lesson development service to members of the academic staff and manages the student learning centres on our campus.

Easier access to Library

by Sandy Rowoldt, Library Disabled Persons Programme

After much drilling and chipping, concrete has been poured and the previously hazardously-angled approach to the basement door of the Library has been widened and levelled. Also, a two-way intercom linked to the Circulation Desk inside the Library has been installed at the basement entrance.

This means that access to the Library has been eased for those in wheelchairs, on crutches or who, for some other reason, are unable to tackle the stairs up to the Library entrance.

Anyone needing access to the Library lift can now get in with ease. Pressing the intercom buzzer will alert the Circulation Desk staff, who will arrange for a staff member to admit the caller through the basement door and direct the caller to the lift. Professional librarians will be on hand during the day if the caller would like help within the Library itself - whether it be physical access to the catalogues and bookstock, or advice on reading material.

We would like to hear of any problems experienced in gaining access to the Library or to its bookstock. Let us have your views



"It's clear from reading your report, Anderson, that you have emerged unscathed from the information explosion"

Exams are nearly here

These history howlers were taken from *The Idlers* column in the *Natal Mercury*. If you have any little gems, please share them with us.

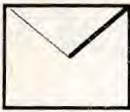
During the War the Red Coats and Paul Revere was throwing balls over stone walls. The dogs were barking and the peacocks crowing. Finally, the colonists won the war and no longer had to pay for taxis.

Delegates from the original 13 states formed the contented Congress. Thomas Jefferson, a Virgin, and Benjamin Franklin were two singers of the Declaration of Independence.

Franklin had gone to Boston carrying all his clothes in his pocket and a loaf of bread under each arm. He invented Electricity by rubbing cats backwards and declared: "A horse divided against itself cannot stand." Franklin died in 1790 and is still dead.

George Washington married Martha Curtis and in due time became the Father of Our Country. Then the Constitution of the United States was adopted to secure domestic hostility. Under the Constitution the people enjoyed the right to keep bare arms.

Abraham Lincoln became America's greatest Precedent. Lincoln's mother died in infancy, and he was born in a log cabin which he built with his own hands.



LETTERS

The Editor

"PRO Lege's" comments deserve some reply, even if only because they touch on some popular misconceptions. Leaving aside the student disciplinary code, on which others are more competent to comment than I am, I do wish to address his (or her?) criticisms of our "laugh a minute" code and procedures relating to our Service Staff.

Regrettably, the hilarity of the occasion escapes me, in part because the administration of our code and procedures is based on sound and accepted disciplinary practice in both this country and in other western, unionised enterprises. That of course does not necessarily confer legitimacy; rather, this arises out of acceptance of concepts of fairness and natural justice - all cornerstones of civilized jurisprudence. To be sure, "instant dismissal" at the whim of an authoritarian employer may be easier on management in the short term and may satisfy the desires of some

upholders of traditional prerogatives; but it is not, in my opinion, where an institution such as Rhodes has chosen to place itself. Nor, I might add, would "Pro Lege" (despite his or her pseudonym) satisfy the standards of the Industrial Court: Another reason why Rhodes has seen fit to subscribe to certain values and procedures.

Agreed that we have recently moved from Disciplinary Hearings chaired by members of the Law Department, and for good reason. Discipline - in a workplace setting - is not primarily about guilt and punishment, but about example and influence, directed at changing behaviour to more constructive patterns, that facilitate the smoother function of departments. As such, the exercise of discipline - and this includes "hearings" where there has been an alleged transgression - belongs firmly in the hands of the relevant departmental head, whose first priority is to resolve problems and not to dispense retribution. That most cases are settled

without lashes or transportation, and that accused persons are sometimes found not guilty, is a strength of the system, rather than a weakness. And if there be a need for a formal and considered judicial decision (as there sometimes can be), the appeal procedure still provides for the use of qualified and experienced members of our Law Department, who continue to be a valuable resource in our total labour relations setup.

Industrial relations - like politics - are the art of the possible, and as such there are fewer absolutes than "Pro Lege" would apparently like to see. But the fact that the vast majority of our industrial relations issues at Rhodes are amicably settled by negotiation with the Union or dialogue with the Shop Stewards, does give me some reassurance that we are not getting it all wrong all of the time.

Dr Roux van der Merwe
Vice-Principal

From the Potting Bench

Drink in the delights of autumn

by Mark Hazell

THE colours of autumn have been truly magnificent over these past few weeks - what a privilege it is to walk around the grounds and experience not only the sight of magnificent trees, but also hear the sounds and smell the perfume of the present season.

The *Ginkgo biloba* in the Botany Department gardens, as also the planes on the corner of Lucas Avenue and Drosdy Road, are a sight to gladden any one tired of being cooped up in a stuffy office - not to mention the magnificent Pin Oak on the north east corner of the Old Arts Block.

Spare a few moments, in your rush to find your favourite parking bay, to enjoy the early morning sunlight glittering on the dew and making nature's own kaleidoscope of colour among the leaves.

Having done that, turn your mind for a few moments to your garden, before you set about your day's work. Now is the time to prepare for next season's growth. Have you mulched all your shrubs with compost yet? Remember that the work which you put in now will be rewarded in spring and summer.

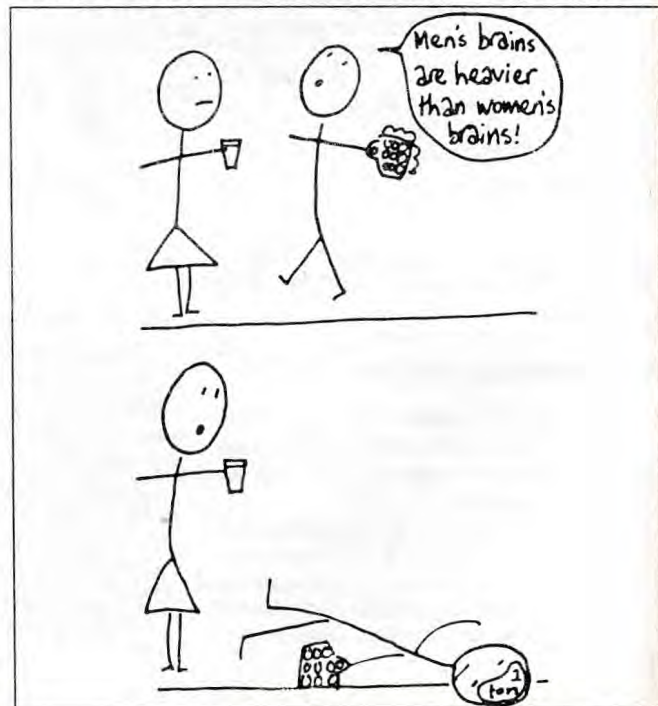
The nights are getting colder now (although with the recent high temperatures who would say winter would soon be knocking at the door?) and one needs to be careful about watering in the late afternoon or early evening, as various bacteria, etc. are very active and can cause serious damage, especially to the younger seedlings and bulbs which you have no doubt been planting out for your winter and spring gardens.

At this time of the year, and right through till spring, you should preferably not water after 3:00pm. Where you have shade this should be even earlier, to allow sufficient time for the water to evaporate before it gets cold and the plants suffer the damage that

results from the bacteria in the soil. It is far preferable to water in the early morning.

Have you considered planting bulbs to give you a splash of colour? Why not plant a few tulips, or try the rewarding lilies, which are obtainable through the Liliun Society. It is a good time to start giving thought to what you are going to plant in the way of summer bulbs: eg dahlia, arum, begonias (tuberous) and gladioli.

Potplants, too, should be given a little extra thought during the cold part of the year. Most people don't enjoy cold baths in winter - neither do your potplants. Cut back on watering and also use lukewarm water (about - 18°C should be fine). Too much and too cold will seriously affect your plants - particularly those which are sensitive. For more information contact Mark or Angela on ext 241.





LETTERS continued

The Editor

MR Heard's comments regarding the unfortunate accident in the Tick Unit cannot go unchallenged.

Mr Edward Williams, the victim of the kick, is indeed well versed in the handling of cattle and would take great exception to being described as "un-trained". Cattle do, indeed, behave like chorus girls. They are highly temperamental and do kick sideways, as Mr Williams will testify.

Removing ticks manually from the hind leg of an irritable 500 kg cow is always hazardous - Mr Williams would like to know of any volunteers on campus.

Prof Bruce Fivaz
Director T R U

The Editor

I was very interested to find out from Margot Beard's letter (May 17, 1990) that trees bark. I always assumed that they, like the dog in Sherlock Holmes' famous story remained significantly silent.

As to her "lovely landscaped lawn", this was, in fact, highly articulated by two tracks on either side of the path where people walked in order to avoid the pitfalls of the path.

Please wait to see the gardens which are going to replace the awful car-park in front of the main block

Robert Brooks

The Editor

As part of a school project, my daughter, who is in Std 9, is sending a petition to the Prime Minister of Japan with regard to the unnecessary killing of whales and dolphins in that area.

If you would like to add your signature to the petition, please call at Room 115, Finance Division.

Nicki Anderson

AS all the political commentators have said: "F W has changed things for all time." Which just goes to show that you can't turn De Klerk back.

The Editor

Atremendous amount of heat has been generated by the red brick path from the Drostdy Arch. It seems that every time building operations occur at Rhodes, there is an outcry about the Library: Either the money ought to be spent on books, or it ought to be spent on extending the Library building. Good, the Library is the centre of the University, both physically and academically.

Wouldn't it be nice if all the academics who paw the earth and bay for more books at the whiff of bricks and mortar gave the University one-tenth of their salary cheques in one month of each year - to buy books for the Library?

Just wondering

The Editor

MR Landman's letter, in your last issue, draws attention to a number of points which need to be discussed. Thank you Mr Landman.

1. Not everyone would agree that RUSA has done nothing for non-academics. Apart from the 4% salary increment, which you lightly brush aside, improvements to the benefits available to all staff are continually being considered. Examples are the car scheme, maternity benefits, pay scale adjustment for part-time secretaries, long-service recognition, second bond subsidy, discrimination policies (housing subsidy, medical aid) etc.

2. Leave and public holidays are not generally regarded as problem areas. Could it be that there is a lack of understanding? Department Heads and the Personnel Division should be able to help in all cases where doubts exist.

3. A stand-by allowance is to be discussed with the University Administration at a forthcoming meeting.

4. With regard to membership of RUSA: We are not permitted to force anyone to join. There would be no point in doing so. RUSA is certainly open to all sections of the staff, both academic and non-academic and its membership is growing rapidly.

5. RUSA believes that the relationship between the University and its staff is more harmonious and fruitful and less confrontational if the staff continues to be represented by an association as opposed to a trade union.

Only when an administration becomes intractable or unprepared to listen or apparently bent on a collision course, is a staff association forced to consider the possibility of establishing a trade union.

RUSA Committee

The Editor

In response to Rick Heard's thought-provoking article (Rhodes, April 26):

Of course, Rick is right, accidents are avoidable. Unfortunately, it is also true that accidents will happen. It is important that each of us recognizes that we can play a role in reducing the possibility of accidents by being aware and careful. In this way, a great deal of change could be brought about.

One's attitude to safety is the key. By co-operating with others, accepting the challenges and being part of the team (the Rhodes team), we could go a long way towards making an improvement. How do the big mining houses and other large organizations manage to work a 1 000 000 and more hours without a single "time lost" accident?

By commitment, team work, good supervision and by awareness among all staff.

John Eller

Smalls

Weigh Less Classes

Masonic Hall, Hill Street. Wednesdays: 8:00am, 9:00am, 2:00pm, 4:00 & 5:00pm. Contact Pam Bowker 24359.

Guitar Tuition All styles - classical, jazz, folk, rock etc. by Warwick Armstrong, FTCL, LRAM, LTCL, graduate Conservatoire de Osca Espla, Spain. Phone 22447 lunchtimes and evenings.

Tiny's Sunday Special

Three course meal and coffee - only R10,95.

Tiny's Special Dinner Offer - Soup, 200g rump/sirlion or 300g spare-ribs and ice cream and chocolate sauce - ONLY R12,50.

Judy's Cape Kitchen - week-day lunches R8,85 - choice of at least two main courses, salads, bread & butter, dessert buffet and coffee.

Hire a BEERGARDEN at no charge! Have a great party at any time. Licenced from 10:00am until 2:00am. Book at Tiny's: 24655.

House/Flat Wanted

Lecturer and wife seek house or flat (2-3 bedrooms) to rent, preferably near University. Max rent R400. Please contact Martin Chee, ext 328, or 23011.

For sale

Piano Keyboard, Hohner PK 100, 61 keys, 60 voices, 20 rhythms, many special effects, MIDI-interface, incl. music stand, AC adapter. Hardly used. R1 400. Please contact Martin Chee ext 328 or 23011.

1985 Opel Kadett T 1.6 GLS R13 000 (Repay incl GST 48 x 453 on car scheme). Ext 456

Spare parts, 1982 Datsun Pulsar 1400: complete engine, gearbox and differential (48 000 km genuine mileage) plus numerous sundries, i.e front/tail lights, windows, seats etc. Phone Mrs Val Scott, 22397 (w), 23094 (h)

ADVERTISING RATES

Block ads: R2 per col cm, double for back and front pages. **Classifieds:** R0,10 per word. Advertising is run on a cash basis. Take your copy to the P R Division.

STAFF SPORT

by Doug Coghlan

Hockey

Staff hockey is riding high, with five wins in five games. Beaten teams are Oribis, Occasionals, Vets, Odds and Sods, and Rhodes 3rds, twice. Staff who want to let down their hair and scream and shout for a winning team, should not miss their matches. I hope you were at the Barrett Field (Great Field) yesterday, when the RUSHA team clashed with Kingswood Wyvern..

Squash

The Staff 2nd team continued their run of successes with a good win over Defence 3rds (4 - 1), and are so far undefeated. The first team has had a few weeks without a game, but play Kenton on June 7.

Athletics

Comrades is upon us, and a few brave characters have travelled to Natal to attempt the up-run today. News of the outcome of this in the next issue of *Rhodos*.

Twenty-six staff members contested the Settlers Half Marathon out to Salem. First was Neil Houzet, in 82 minutes, 11 seconds; and first woman was Chloe Glover, in 82 minutes, 45 seconds. Many staff were involved with the organization of the event.

Golf

The annual visit to Bedford was a howling success: A gale force wind blew all day, but failed to dampen the spirits of the twelve staff members. Teaming up with the Bedford players, an alliance was played, Henderson's covey winning by a countout from Boshoff's, with Coghlan's, third. The food was excellent.

Colin Buxton returned to the Grahamstown A league side and played well, while Craig Boucher, a first-year student, playing in the B team at Uitenhage, had a hole-in-one on the 16th.

Rifle Shooting

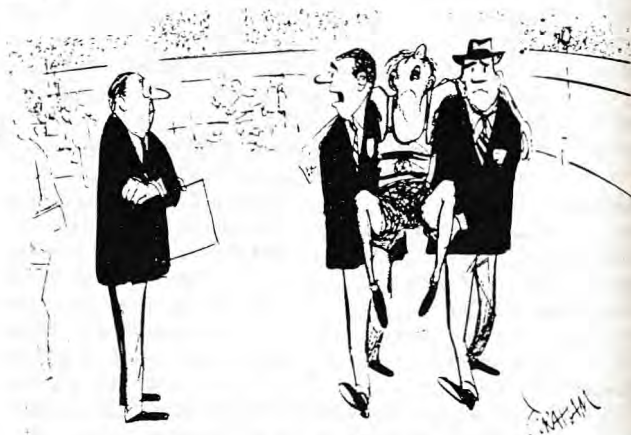
Ian Dore, Ray Haggard and Colin Hobson will be involved with the Eastern Province Championships during the last weekend in May, Ian and Ray with air rifle, and Colin with smallbore (0,22).

Rugby

Steve Olivier's return to Rhodes rugby as a player was short-lived when he, unfortunately, suffered an injury in practice causing concussion. In view of his previous injuries of that nature, he has been advised not to play again. Paul Davies, First XV prop, has a shoulder injury, but will turn out against Police and Despatch.

General

Staff are reminded that the Sports Administration staff are there to help the, but that there are rules governing the use of facilities. Please also remember that dogs are **NOT** welcome on the sports fields.



"Mind you, he was all right till he did his victory lap ..."

Wot's On

Thursday 31 May

Political Studies Film: *The Assassin Years* (30 mins)

This introduces Dr Martin Luther King Jr and his leadership of the black struggle for equality in the USA. *GLT. 4:05pm*

Saturday 2 June

Tennis: RU 1 vs RU 2.

Home. 9:00am

Rugby: RU 1 vs UPE

Away

RU 2 vs UPE.

Away

RU 3 vs UPE.

Away

RU U20A vs Crusaders A

Great Field. 1:10pm

Hockey: RU 1 Women vs Crusaders

Home

RU 2 Women vs PECE A

Home

Soccer: RU 1 vs Callies

King Field. 3:30pm

RU 2 vs Callies

King Field. 2:00pm

Sunday 3 June

Soccer: RU 1 vs Walmer Celtic

King Field. 3:00pm

RU 2 vs Walmer Celtic

King Field. 2:00pm

Monday 4 June

Squash: RU 1 Men vs Westview

Home

RU 2 vs Westview

Home

RU Women Super League

Public Lecture: by Monsignor Peter Mee, of Dunedin, New Zealand on *Bishop Patrick Moran*

Arts Minor Lecture Theatre, 5:00 pm

Saturday 9 June

Rugby: RU 1 vs Crusaders

Great Field. 3:30pm

RU 2 vs Crusaders

Great Field. 2:10pm

RU 3 vs Crusaders

Great Field. 1:00pm

Hockey: RU 1 Women vs Walmer

Soccer: RU 1 vs PE City

Away. 3:30pm

RU 2 vs PE City 2

Away. 2:00pm

Sunday 10 June

Grahamstown Historical Society: Excursion to the Trompetter Drift in the Fish River Valley, led by Mr David Owen of the Settlers Museum. *City Hall. 10:30am*

Monday 11 June

Grahamstown Historical Society: Lecture on *Black Perspectives* by Dr Cecil Manona. *Albany Museum. 8:00pm*

Thursday 14 June

Zoology and Entomology: presents Dr Christopher McQuaid on *Optimal foraging theory and the feeding behaviour of the Octopus*. *Zoo Minor. 4:00pm*

Vacancy: Telephonist/Receptionist

The successful candidate will be bilingual and will be required to operate a PABX System with about 50 exchange lines with 400 extensions. For application forms and further details, phone Mrs S Stephenson, ext 115. **Closing date: June 11**