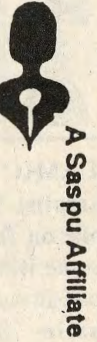


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TARGETING THE SRC

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Details inside

Smart Drinks

Do smart drinks really make
you smarter?
Don't believe the hype
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Inter-res Sport

Getting in on the action
see the sports pages for more
details

Fundamental Scapegoats

Maria McCloy

ISLAMIC scholar and former journalist Sheikh Ebrahim Essop spoke on *Islamic Fundamentalism and the Western Media* two Fridays ago at an event hosted by the Rhodes Muslim Students Association (MSA).

He defined a fundamentalist as a person, whether Jewish, Christian or Muslim, "who adheres to a code of conduct that he believes in - such as a set of laws given by God".

In the light of this he criticised leaders and law makers who claim to be "God fearing" but contradict themselves and disobey God "in the name of progress" when legislating. Essop accused the Western media for painting Islamic Fundamentalism as

something evil and linking it to terrorism.

"Islamic Fundamentalism as terrorism has been exploited and worked on by the media of the West. It is an excuse - an attack on Islam as a religion", he said.

He sees this as a plot to divide and rule because the West "can't tolerate a joint Muslim empire. They can only do it by pitting one against the other by letting us believe that Fundamentalism is terrorism."

Using Vietnam and the Cold Wars as an example Essop warned about the media's ability to build or destroy certain individuals and organisations.

"The Red Threat was created by the media in collaboration with politicians. All of a sudden

Communism had become overused and they had to find a new scapegoat. The Soviet Bloc is no more, the U.S. is the only superpower - they fear a united Arab block", Essop explained. Essop further criticised the UN's inaction in Bosnia, contrasting the UN's swift action against Iraq - a country with nuclear and chemical power far greater than that of the ground artilleries of the Serb forces. He accused the UN of "Trying to label it a civil war when Serbs themselves say it's ethnic cleansing." Citing a recent example of media bias in South Africa, Essop noted the scant media coverage of a protest over the Bosnia situation in Port Elizabeth. He pointed out that a similar march only received coverage because there was unrest.

Phillip Sigworth (5th left) was elected president of Rhodes' Toastmasters during a banquet held at Graham Hotel earlier this month. Vice chancellor Derek Henderson attended the banquet in which senior drama lecturer Andrew Buckland was guest speaker. Photographed with Sigworth, were Toastmasters' new and old committee members together, back (from left) Anthony Coode, Justin Brown, Lindsay Magnus, Sandra Mehlomakhulu, Sigworth, Judith Irwin, Sacha Stolp and Warren Pala. Front (from left) Melody Cradford, Brenda Baxter, Beth Uren and Michael Watson.



Cheesed Off

Lara Kastan & Julia Paterson

RAPIDLY increasing prices and allegations of unsanitary conditions and cockroach sightings are making students think twice about patronising That Pizza Place. According to Alex*, a former employee of the business, the morning shift is from 11am to 3pm after which there is supposed to be a clean up shift for 5pm when the shop reopens. However, Alex had "never actually seen them clean the place.

No gloves are used during the preparation of the food, the ovens are never cleaned". Alex warns students to "never look at the bottom of a pizza".

Alex alleges that Leon Herberts, owner of That Pizza Place, has a reputation for being rude and abusive, particularly to his female employees, adding that he was "uncaring and callous to me. I worked from 5pm until 4am in the morning for R50 without being provided with a staff meal".

"I overheard him speaking about installing surveillance cameras and including a stock take at the end of each shift, to prevent the theft of food (by the staff)".

Alex would not reveal the reason for being dismissed from That Pizza Place but said many long-time workers had resigned out of frustration.

In April this year a first year student, who is reluctant to reveal her name, was in the San for two days with chronic vomiting and diarrhea after eating a ham and cheese vetkoek. She swears never to eat at That Pizza Place again.

Students have also criticised the poor delivery service. A group of students from Hobson House complained that they hadn't received their order an hour after it had been placed - at 12am. The response they received from That Pizza Place was that their order had been lost and the kitchen had subsequently closed. However, according to Alex the kitchen only closes at 2am.

A third year ComSci student says he is appalled by the increase in prices - up to R2,60 for a Coke and R4 - R5 for cigarettes: "It's a flipping rip-off".

Another customer says the main problem is that the owner is not open to hearing complaints or making improvements. Alex agrees, saying Herberts has been known to slam the phone down on customers with problems, adding that overall customers are paying "as much as 200% markups for food".

At the time of going to press the owner of That Pizza Place could not be contacted.

*The name of the source has been changed by request.

Moot Court Victory



The winning team with their mock trial trophy

Debbie Roberts

THE Eastern Cape Street Law team, led by Prof Rob Midgely of Rhodes Street Law Department and trained by Street Law assistants Mphafi Khong (Rhodes), Annie Chimusoro (Fort Hare) and Lindi Leroux (UPE), took top honours in the first South African Youth Parliament competition held in Cape Town from July 9-15.

This competition was organised by the National Street Law Programme and funded by the United States Agency for International Development and involved approximately 130 high school pupils from a cross section of South African youth.

It comprised of three parts: firstly, a national mock trial competition, the final of which was held in the Cape Town Supreme Court; secondly, a Human Rights debate which was held on Robben Island, and lastly a simulated constitution making exercise held in the Old House of Assembly. The participants were addressed by, among others, the Minister of Justice, Dullah Omar and the speaker of Parliament, Frene Ginwala.

The Eastern Cape team included standard nine and ten school pupils from Alice, Grahamstown and Port Elizabeth. They won the Mock Trial Trophy, as well as the subsidiary trophies of best witness, cross-examiner and summarizer. The team also walked away with a win in the Human Rights Debate which was the controversial "amnesty" issue but this was not all. In the simulated conversation-making exercise, two members of the team were elected by the entire Youth Parliament as Speaker and Deputy Speaker.

As a New Street Law initiative, the competition aimed to promote appreciation for human rights and democracy as well as to increase the working knowledge of how government operates. Success was evident in the standard of negotiation, debating, reasoning and listening skills among the participants.

The competition worked towards exposing youth to the basic values of

our new democracy in a way that would deepen understanding and foster talented, responsible leadership for the years to come.

Building Bridges

Activate Reporter

EXCITING talks, colourful song, dance and dress and traditional Indian food can be expected at the *Hinduism Week*, to be hosted by the Hindu Students' Society (HSS) from August 21 to 25.

"The purpose of this event is to promote religious tolerance on campus and to build bridges between the various cultural communities in South Africa and to spread awareness of the many facets of Hindu culture", explains HSS president, Michael Naidoo.

A series of lectures emphasising religious tolerance will be presented every evening at the Zoology Major lecture theatre. Information on aspects of Hinduism, Christianity, Judaism and Buddhism will also be

provided.

The week will culminate in a cultural show on August 26, in the Great Hall, featuring dancers and singers from around the Eastern Cape. The theme for the evening is Journey through India. The dances will depict lifestyle and dress from the various states in India. The show will be followed by a dinner.

Talks range from topics such as *Hinduism and the Third Eye* and *Ayurvedic Medicine*, to *Practical Spirituality* and *Science of the Soul*. Speakers include Professor Santy Daya of the Department of Chemistry and Microbiology, Dr Juggie Santhia and members of the Raj Yoga Movement and the Rathaswami Corporation.

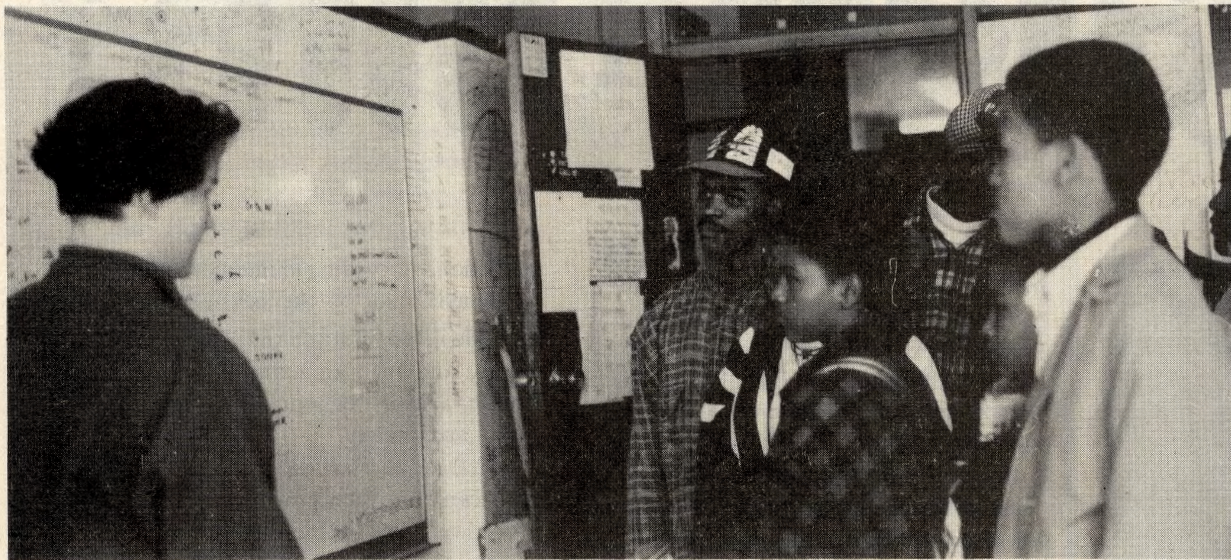
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Creating Newspaper Consumers



Sanja Gohre (Journ IV), involved with the Journ Department's Community Development Project, gives

GRAB (project participants) a tour of Activate paste-up.

pic: Indressa Naidoo

Activate Reporter

DISADVANTAGED high school pupils are being trained to produce their own school newsletter in Grahamstown in a pilot project which started in July.

Students and staff in the department of Journalism and Media Studies at Rhodes University are training pupils to be computer literate, develop various media skills and use on-line electronic media to communicate with their community and the outside world.

Over a six month period, pupils will attend workshops and training sessions in interviewing, writing, design, layout and photojournalism and the use of the Internet.

"The project falls within the

framework of Newspapers Education (NIE) in that we hope to teach the media skills necessary to produce a paper, but also illustrate to young people how useful a newspaper is and so encourage them to become newspaper consumers," says hands-on-co-ordinator of the project, Roslin McComb.

Pupils' work will be printed as an insert in the *Grocott's Mail*. Pupils will have to sell advertising and distribute and sell the *Grocott's* to recuperate some of the printing costs and as part of their training in newspaper economics.

Geoff Grocott donated the proceeds made in selling advertising to the continuation of the project.

"This project shows that NIE is not

only relevant to the big city newspaper. By creating a partnership between pupils and the local newspaper, a win-win situation is created," says head of the Department of Journalism and Media Studies, Guy Berger.

This project will also provide the opportunity for university students to be involved in the media training work of disadvantaged communities. "One of our aims is to produce this project on a yearly basis, building on our experiences each year," says McComb.

Berger maintains: "This project hopes to encourage young people to become consumers of newspapers by showing them how to produce newspapers."

WHERE GRADUATES GO

Joanna Rickards

MOST students have received letters, brochures and pamphlets with information regarding the graduate placement programme which takes place from July 26 to September 6.

The annual programme provides the opportunity for large national firms to conduct interviews, in an attempt to recruit interested post graduate and final year students.

This programme is offered in most universities with Rhodes being one of the first to co-ordinate a comprehensive course.

It does not only aid final year students but facilitates greater career awareness amongst the junior students, making all students more aware of the vast range of available career opportunities.

Rhodes offers various courses preceding the daunting task of drawing up a CV and being interviewed. Programmes include the job search workshop, conducting mock interviews and the increasingly popular lunchtime presentations that more large firms are conducting this year. The presentations are a valuable experience to all students wanting to know more about specific firms.

Initiated by Mervin Wetmore 15

information systems students, this year there are four firms, including AAA School of Advertising, who are looking specifically at BA students.

This programme is the ideal situation for future employees to make their mark and gain confidence in interview situations. It also offers large firms the opportunity to conduct interviews and gain publicity and this is much cheaper than advertising employment vacancies in newspapers.

An exciting new development is the First Job Destination programme which is a survey conducted amongst ex-Rhodes students after they find their first career opportunity. This indicates the number of people employed, the types of careers followed and how the job was obtained.

A remarkable point was that most students gained the positions now held by using previous contacts. This is exactly what the graduate placement programme provides students; an opportunity to make contacts and become familiar with the field they want to enter.

years ago, Rhodes' programme is now co-ordinated by Student Advisor, Mark Ranier and Ruth Jackson. Ranier praised the response from

students this year as "excellent".

He told Activate that there seemed to be a rise in general career awareness and willingness to participate in interviews like the ones on offer in this term's programme.

Unfortunately the response from companies and firms is slightly less impressive with 23 companies participating. There is a sense of extreme caution in the market this year, but the companies participating are generally impressed with the level of maturity and competence shown by Rhodes' students.

although it is true that the majority of firms are looking to employ accountancy, computer science and

Watt's That?

Karuna Gopal

RHODES Music Radio (RMR) has finally acquired an editor-in-chief in the form of new Radio Journalism lecturer, Keith Watt.

Watt, who previously worked at a community college in Canada, is enthusiastic about the appointment. "I am happy to accept the post and I am looking forward to working with the talk show hosts", he says.

The need for an editor-in-chief was a joint decision by RMR and Rhodes' Administration, according to Registrar, Steve Fourie. "RMR actually approached us", he said.

Fourie denied that the instatement of a person to oversee the station's editorial policy is a form of censorship. However, journalism lecturer, Themba Masilela, whom RMR asked to accept the post temporarily in June this year, says he "turned down the acting editor position because I did not want to participate in censorship of any sort". Masilela adds that he sees the role of the editor-in-chief to be one of "combatting the (annual) period of committee changeover and ensuring the continuity of the station's style and policy. The role of the editor-in-chief is to give advice not censor".

Masilela explains that because RMR is not yet completely independent, the possibility of censorship is a "short term but valid concern".

Fourie insists that the position involves only safeguarding against

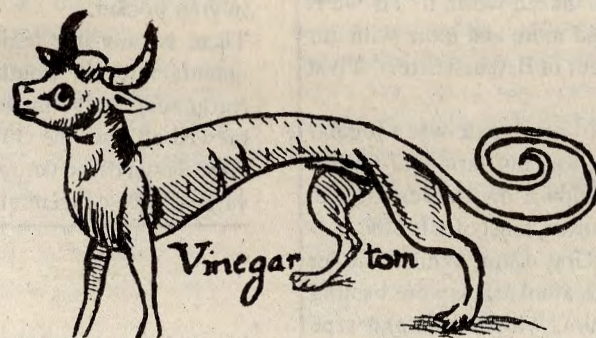
offensive or defamatory broadcast material. Watt agrees, saying he understands his role to "ensure that RMR avoids defamation, foul language and offending listeners, and I am going to work with broadcasters to establish a protocol of how to deal with the above. People need to be responsible for what goes into making a radio show and I will help them take on this responsibility". Watt emphasises that though in the long term he would love to see a collaboration between RMR and the Journalism Department's radio section, his role as editor-in-chief is "only temporary".

"The Journalism Department has already advertised for a person to fill this role permanently."

RMR station manager, Glenn van Loggerenberg, says Watt was elected temporary editor-in-chief because he is a skilled journalist who has acquired experience from Canadian broadcasting (CBC).

"His job is to stimulate editorial content, to open the eyes of the talk show hosts to possibilities they hadn't seen before."

With regard to any possible censoring of RMR's editorial content, van Loggerenberg says: "Thanks to Themba's (Masilela) attitude I have been very guarded against it. RMR serves the Rhodes community who know best what they want. The editor will always be the choice of the station, and that choice is always that of the community".



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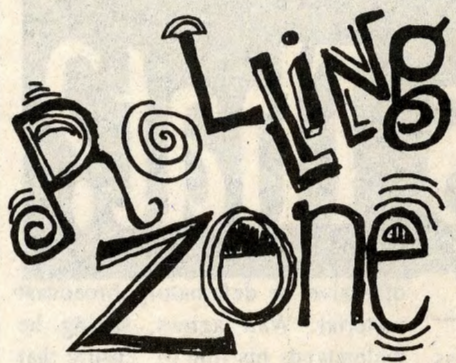
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THE Festival has rolled its ten day skin, leaving behind fond memories, one hell of a lot of cash, and a few stolen cars. Those pesky purse-puckers dominated our small, quaint haven, parking their rods in our spots, placing their well travelled asses in seats that we kept warm for them. Tis' a pleasure to be sure, for at least our reputation is enhanced from being a decadent student town to that of a decadent, *culturally vibrant festival of the arts*. It all says the same thing; Grahamstown, contrary to its appearance, does not belong in the Stone Age. Sometimes.

* Now, those robots corner Beaufort and Somerset Streets are obviously the genius invention of some bright buck who most likely doesn't have to use them. Not only did they cause most people to be at least ten minutes late for any show, they also peeved locals off by remaining in existence long after festival. If some accidental, totally unintentional prang were to say, wipe them out of our lives forever, we would all be eternally grateful.

* The Odeon, geez, The Odeon. Suffering from neck strain and ass cramp I volunteered to see a mutilated, off timing out of sequence version of what was once, I think, *Pulp Fiction*.

During the Festival, the movie seemed to maintain its popularity, but the after-movie talk soon shifted from the syringe scene to how to get that crease out your arse. People were astonished about the kidnapping of around 15 minutes of plot (no suspects have yet been named) and whether the half-hour delay was indeed worth it. As we're beginning to find more and more with our celluloid dinosaur in Bathurst Street, it just isn't.

* Not-the nine-o'-clock-narc was a regular feature this fest, and our farmyard friends were cracking down on "undesirables" throughout the town, most of all at the *Tee-pee Village* by Gray Dam. Whilst murder and mayhem ran amok, they were busting those hippy scum; whilst theft and rape were rife, they were clamping down on those long-haired shit-stirring gooks! Thanks pal, I feel a lot safer now.

* The Spur has the country yabbin about microphone service. Catering to the thousands of boring people who are just too scared to try something different, The Spur were the epitome of efficiency, racking up them ribs with vigour whilst pocketing the change. For associating high-tech with Good ol' G-town, Spur gets the "We scored the most award, Festival 95."

*With the country's attention having moved from our quaint town to the next, and with our cultural balloon saturated to the max, we can once again revert our homes from their bed-and-breakfast mode to student accommodation status. Streets and houses seem desolate, the orgasms subsided. Oh well, there's always next year ...

*A rave's a rave. Commendation to the Butterfly S(h)nack Bar, and the Union for Trip-Hop-not-quite-Acid-Jazz evening. Both successes proves that there is a market for alternative *alternative* parties, and lets hope they continue to shake up our spinal cords.

Robin Kalmek

Smarty pints

The Cyberage phenomenon of smart drinks may boost your body, or fool your brain. **Debre Gillomee & Robin Kalmek** took time off lectures to learn what gives some beverages a higher IQ.

We all got a little smarter, or maybe a little dumber, when smart drinks first sozzled the creatures of the good old South African party. It appeared amidst claims of danger, of fun, of one more way to blow the sky in a cosmic rocket.

Nowadays, smart drinks are as common as teenage hitch-hikers. With the mushrooming of rave culture, they have become synonymous with energy, vitality, and a better way to survive eight hours of non-stop dancing. Their reputation has spread like bunnies in the bundu, and smart drinks can now be bought at music festivals, parties, and even, (as the Grahamstown Festival demonstrated) on the streets. Whenever the pace is hectic, a cup a day will keep you at play. Most people have heard the odd tattle that it's juiced with mega-vitamins, caffeine, herbs and enough boost to leave Bio-Plus embarrassed on the chemist shelf. But what about the facts, the effects, the legitimacy?

The popular conception is that smart drinks consist of drugged out orange juice, and that because it's legal, it must be safe. That's a lot of faith to put in someone who's first priority is the twenty buck note in your pocket.

There is only one legitimate smart drink manufacturer in South Africa, although (im)potent home-made concoctions are brewed all over the country. Frontier is a Cape Town based company that produces a variety of concentrated smart drinks,

based on the principle of using nutrition to cause desirable effects

listing their assorted herbal ingredients, and the fact that their drinks have been tested and proven harmless by the South African Narcotic Bureau. With names like "Ignition," "Cyber Tonic" and "Gerriberri Juice", ravers can prepare to buckle up for the boost.

Taken as a possible enhancer or alternative for drugs, perception and clarity are maintained, with an increase in adrenalin and energy. Flushing, tingling, and a light-headed feeling are also common effects. Herbs such as Guarana, Ginseng and Ginkgo Biloba leaves, as well as certain amino acids and vitamins form the basis of the drinks. . J.P Le Roux, the 27-year-old "head alchemist" at Frontier, mixes the imported herbs to create one of the nine drinks in the range, usually in a base of vitamin B.

So what separates smart drinks from other keep-awake tonics? "Everything," says Le Roux. "Stay-awake medicines are pure high-dose caffeine. Caffeine impairs

memory and recall, makes you jittery and irritable, and is part of a culture many people are trying to get away from." Perhaps so, but then why have smart drinks got such a bad rap in the public books?

"People are scared that the drinks might be spiked with acid or something," says Matt, a frequent raver with a funny haircut. "Unless the ingredients are listed, they don't know exactly what they're getting." Fake drinks can provide a slight headrush, followed by an immediate loss of wealth. Robert, an ambitious entrepreneur, admits to having sold home-made smart drinks at a party. "It consisted of Cal-C-Vita, orange juice and vitamins. Actually, it didn't do much, but no-one complained

"scared the drinks may be spiked with acid"

and we made a killing." There lies the question, is it all in our minds? Are smart drinks merely fooling ourselves that we're having a good time?

The answer could be yes, or no. Professor of Pharmacology at Rhodes University, Ben Potgieter, is sceptical of the possible effects of certain ingredients listed in Frontier's brochure. According to him, the amino acids found in drinks such as Cyber Tonic and Connector are vital components to the human body, but an extra intake of these substances cannot affect you in either a positive or negative way. He says the extra vitamins and amino acids consumed through smart drinks will simply be excreted by the body, as you can get all the vitamins you need in your daily diet. "You get the complete Vitamin B-complex every time you eat a slice of bread."

Potgieter sees no side effects from the ingredients listed by Frontier, in fact, he predicts "no effects at all". If people feel any effects from the drinks, he expects it to be because of a placebo-effect, which means you may think you're getting off, but actually it involves some positive self-deception. He says "people start believing in the drug instead of themselves. Regular smarties would disagree, and not entirely without scientific backing.

Scientific studies have proved the effects

people start believing in the drug instead of themselves

of some smart drink ingredients, such as L-PCA and choline, in cognitive enhancement therapy. This is linked to Nootropics, or smart drugs, which have been proven to increase memory, attention, and concentration. Researchers have also successfully used some ingredients, such as L-Tyrosine and Ginseng, in the treatment of cocaine and amphetamine

addiction. According to internet resources, L-Phenylalanine is the neuro-transmitter most depleted by stress and other stimulant drugs, and thus an extra intake of this amino acid is beneficial in combating stress and anxiety.

When these substances are taken in excess, they can be broken down to form energy. Together with an increase in adrenalin, dopamine and other energy enhancers, the drinks can provide physical or mental stimulation, as well as social euphoria. Non-addictive, with no side-effects, smart drinks are sold in health stores around the world. Made from natural ingredients, Frontier's range makes no medical claim, but rather, as their brochure says, "are based on the principle of using nutrition to cause desirable effects in the body and mind."

There are no guarantees that the drink will achieve the desired effect. Jane, wearing goggles and divine silver shoes, swears she felt ill because she downed a smart drink, possibly as a reaction to alcohol. With no standardised controls, the public is vulnerable to the vulture who's convinced he's stumbled upon a goldmine. Le Roux warns, "Look for a list of ingredients...Frontier have brochures and banners wherever it's sold." With the

people know when they're getting the real thing

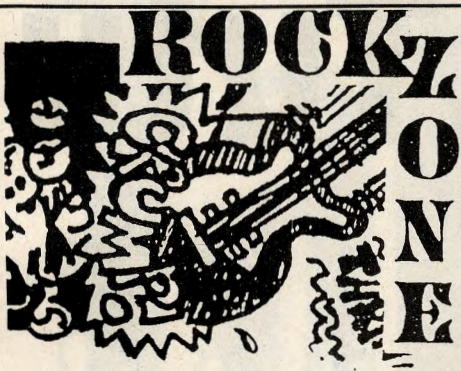
current flood of the smart drink river, these are sound words of advice. An unfortunate hazard in consuming our intrepid fruit juice is that it provides an opportunity or basis for spiking drinks. Unassuming party-goers may get more than the brochure promised if the drink is laced with LSD or amphetamines. The police can really do nothing, although some argue they should. There is no harm in selling orange juice with vitamins, although there is often gross misrepresentation or deception involved.

The Cape Town Narcotic Branch confirmed that they tested Frontier's drinks, and that no harmful substances were detected. The moral of the story is that Frontier's drinks are harmless until they leave the factory. After that, it can be mixed with the substances of the buyer's choice, such as alcohol or acid. Perhaps a solution lies in the packaging of sealed legitimate smart drinks, so that people know when they're getting the real thing, and when it's merely Thinz on ice.

While the popularity of the drinks continue to rise, it is surprising that there has been so little coverage of the beverage that buzzes. Many people have responded favourably to the increased energy and heightened awareness that the drinks give them, yet most are ignorant to the facts, leaving them susceptible to manipulation and fakes.

* Local enquiries can be made to John Coswell at 311691.

Viva Bantwana!



BETTER THAN EZRA - DELUXE

A young trio with minimal image, much like Dead Eye Dick, and dripping with the same substance as "Toadie Sprocket" and the Gin Blossoms. Their current hit single being overplayed on the radio is "Good", and with that strong base feel one might almost catergorise them as grunge. Far from it, in fact the music is quite homely relaxing, mellow tunes to listen to when Pearl Jam seem too heavy and your dog ate your toilet handle. Whoever Ezra may be, I'm sure these guys pip him/her at the post. A good vibe, better than you'd expect; if you like the above mentioned bands, this will winkle your dimples.

NINE INCH NAILS - FURTHER DOWN THE SPIRAL

If not for music, Trent Reznor would in all probability be a deranged serial killer. Alas, the arts have provided a harmless substitute, and his music will no doubt be the inspiration of serial killers in the future.

The follow up to the awesome Downward Spiral, this is not for mainstream pop or Full House fans. Reznor wields his Microsoft wand to create gollops of emotion, leaving you aggressive, edgy, and downright pissed off. Best track is surely the unusually subdued "Hurt (quiet)" which is hauntingly disturbing. Others that scream for attention are "At the heart of it all" and "Eraser (polite)." Not quite polite, rest assured. NIN, which consists basically of our buddy Trent, is evolving sound and sequence into a new dimension, where technology explodes against an angry heart like a burnt tongue, softly aggravating the brain. It is an angry young man making angry young music. Brilliant, how could it not be?

NEIL YOUNG - MIRRORBALL

The Granddaddy of Grunge keeps up with his kiddies, producing quality rock that leaves many wanna-be's somewhere in the paint cracks. After messing around with Pearl Jam's Eddie Vedder for quite some time, the two have collaborated and the result filters through ensuring top-notch grunge. Although Vedder himself only co-wrote one track, his influence has given Mirrorball a contemporary feel. Unfortunately, there is a chance that new listeners might not appreciate that this is the man who started it all, the guru, the Van Damme. Although sometimes his voice does take a little strain, this is no crazy horse. The not-so-Young sings with a seen it/done it confidence, with lyrics lacking in sentimentality and "I love your beating heart" crap. This 11 track CD holds its own, so the next time you're in Musica, you might want to let it squeeze your goosebumps.

Robin Kalmek



Francoise Gallet & Crystal Urquhart

"WELCOME. The Daily Bread Shelter is a blessed shelter because everybody coming out of here leaves blessings behind." This inscription and a mass of cheerful faces greeted us as we made our way into the Grahamstown shelter for street children. These blessings held more significance three weeks ago when the children joined the President in celebration of his 77th birthday at his home in Johannesburg. A bus from East London arrived in Grahamstown to find 21 children shrieking with sheer delight and excitement at the prospect of visiting the President. When asked about the children's reaction to the bus' arrival, shelter supervisor Virginia Vulindlu, laughed heartily: "Wooah, it was too much!"

LOVE & LIGHT

If three members of the Free Earth Movement are right then we are wasting our time writing this ... why? because the beginning of the world is nigh. Love and light brother. ACTIVATE spoke to three members of the Free Earth Movement in their humble makeshift home. Bobo Tshabalala & Billy Bred report.

Steve, John and Elf live a hand to mouth existence. By all accounts they have opted out of society (in the sociological sense) and exist day to day. They spoke about love, hope, the world and revolution. According to Steve, The Free Earth Movement is not a strictly a movement. "Its looser than a movement, it is about people who connect up because they are part of the same family." Elf who gently taps a drum says, "We've got something without any religion. With no anything involved. We believe in the creator and spirits out there. It's alive. Its what counts as natural. It's just getting bigger and bigger. This is what we are doing. This is what we are about. We are just trying to help everywhere." Steve believes the biggest revolution will take place on Wednesday. "They were right. They were all right." Steve, wild eyes glazed with passion, tells us that on Wednesday God and all of nature

Street children from various shelters throughout the Eastern Cape were flown to Johannesburg to share in the birthday celebrations. For many, it was the first time they had ever flown in an aeroplane.

When we asked them about the visit, they were at first quite timid, but soon warmed to us and gave eager accounts of the party. "There was birthday cake and we sang happy birthday." said one child; others told us about the caps and tracksuits they had been given; and some bragged at having eaten three hamburgers.

For Qhelile it was his first time in an aeroplane; Daluxolo was proud of the fact that he had spoken to Madiba himself while others admitted that they had been too scared. One child sat back, assuming an important air, his legs crossed and his hand on his chin - the rest guffawed with laughter at his attempt to impersonate President Mandela.

will beat back the dark forces. "Then," he says, "We will sit back and have one big party."

John exhales thick blue smoke and giggles.

Love and Light brother.

"When we fought for liberation we were doing the right thing, but we never realised the significance of what we are doing. Now the pieces of the puzzle are falling into place. We are creating pure energy levels. Pure light to carry us forward. Its cool. Don't worry just relax and enjoy it. There will finally be real justice," says Steve.

Love and light brother.

John wrapped in a purple toga and a funny green stocking-thing on his head carries Ralph, his pint sized snake and George the *Tyrannosaurus rex*. He explains that the establishment is falling and as proof he tells how the police's Public Relations Officer, Warrant Officer Green, who was dressed in a suit, bailed him out of a dispute with the management at the Spur, by paying for their coffee.

"They're shitting themselves. We are powerful. We are too strong."

Love and light brother.

"We aren't condemning; we're demonstrating. We do drums, fire and paint ourselves - not like the past," says Elf.

In his little room John takes a piece of wire and wets it with lighter fluid - he connects it to a battery and wawwwwooooosh. He fans his fire. The room is like an Indian burial ground. Feathers on string hang and float. The feathers, John explain, measure

Viva Madiba...They dined with the president, now they're back at the bread shelter.

pic: Karl Delpont

At The Bread Shelter the children are taught to read, write and draw. In their free time they play soccer, netball, jika, dolls and skateboarding. Throughout the hostel, drawings by Dakawa create a colourful and cheerful atmosphere. A particular boys' room had requested a painting of Mandela. The teacher at the shelter, Cynthia Matika, said the visit had had a very good effect on the children. In the following week there was great excitement and a keen interest in birthdays.

"They couldn't stop singing happy birthday" she said. Subsequently the school has decided to make a tradition of celebrating the children's birthdays.

To show their thanks to the President the children drew pictures of their adventure. "Enkosi Mandela happy yokho" was scrawled in a child's handwriting onto an animated drawing - a true reflection of their gratitude.

the spiritual realms activities in the room. I can't help but be a little nervous as we watch the feathers twist and turn to the invisible forces.

As we bid them goodnight there is a sense of their vulnerability. They are people who seem to have been burnt by a cruel world and have chosen to live an alternative lifestyle. Who can dare judge them for that?

ॐ H.S.S. ॐ

HINDUISM WEEK

"Building Bridges"

AUG 21-25
7pm-8:30pm
ZOO MAJOR

(refreshments every night)

CULTURAL EVENING

Sat Aug 26

Great Hall 7pm
Various cultural dancing
and singers.
Supper served.

All it takes is...Tutu

Karl Delpont & Jonathan Ancer

ANTI-APARTHEID's most colourful personality has announced his retirement. Archbishop Desmond Tutu will resign as head of the Anglican Church next year. The special guest at Sunday's sermon at the College of the Transfiguration in Grahamstown, Archbishop Tutu, was told by the Church's rector, Father Luke Pato, he was always welcome at the Church - even if it was not in the capacity of Archbishop.

During the 1980's the world watched as Desmond Tutu marched into an angry crowd and rescued a man from certain death. The man, a tyre already around his neck, was accused of being an impimpi (traitor). The world listened to Desmond Tutu relate the plight of black people under apartheid. He urged them to place sanctions on South Africa as a non-violent alternative to persuade the apartheid government to desist from its oppressive policies. Scorned by the South African government he was heralded by international governments and human rights groups and for his efforts he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace.

On Sunday Archbishop Tutu displayed his keen sense of humour to the 150 church

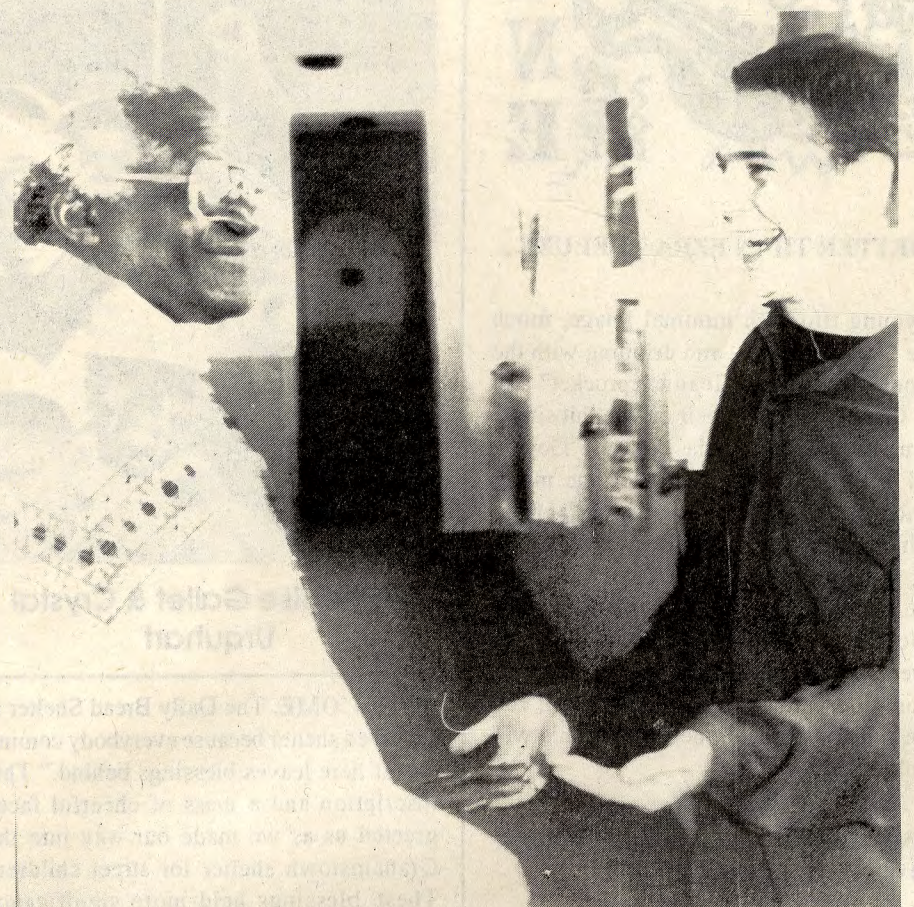
goers when he related a story from a recent visit to Los Angeles. "I was walking along and a woman greeted me with much excitement. 'Hello Archbishop Mandela,' she said. I hope no one is going to meet

Madiba and say, 'Hello President Tutu.' Archbishop Tutu delivered his sermon while church students sang spirited hymns and beat Marimbas and drums.

Wearing a robe embroidered with green leaves and silver petals and a mosaic South African like landscape, Tutu blessed the church, hugging and kissing congregation members saying, "Peace be with you."

Archbishop Tutu - responsible for naming the Church The College of the Transfiguration - said, "No situation is totally hopeless. No situation is untransfigurable. There is still hope for Rwanda and Burundi." However, he added the situation in Bosnia was "horrible, horrible, horrible!"

Steve, a member of the congregation, was thrilled to have just had his photograph taken with "The Bish". He retold a joke that he had heard Tutu himself tell. "When Jimmy Kruger [the then Minister of Police] whispered into PW Botha's ear that Archbishop Tutu had just committed suicide, PW said, 'Funny I didn't even know he had been arrested.'"



Gimme 5 Des! Activate reporter Jonathan Ancer meets Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Pic: Karl Delpont

SOUTH AFRICAN SKIING EXPERIENCE

Skiing down the slopes of South Africa may sound like something out of a really bad Styversant ad about the international passport to snowing pleasure, but if you're quick, you too can get a chance to share the feeling of exhilaration whizzing down a slope injects into an amateur out of control, followed by cool gusts of mountain air as pure and undistilled as the undriven snow at Tiffindell. Roy McKenzie Reports.

TIFFINDELL, a three-year-old ski-resort, situated on the lowest stretches of the Drakensberg, below the border with Lesotho, was recently discovered by four enthusiastic Rhodes students who soon came to realise that there is more to skiing than avalanches and crashing into pine trees simply because there were no pine trees and three inches of snow doesn't exactly constitute an avalanche!

According to the resort manager, Ivan van Eck, they are keen to introduce more students to skiing and will offer substantial group discounts for weekend packages to cater for the typically over-extended student budget. The only catch is that you have to hurry before the snow season ends around September.

The five hour drive there is like nothing else you've experienced, unless of course you've driven through the Karoo - bloody boring...but that's another trip.

The stark, austere landscape was surely the inspiration for "Die ver verlate vlaktes" from our other national anthem. Passing through the towns of Dordrecht, Elliot and Barkley-Oos was like seeing places where civilization, as we know it, has yet to be born.

The town of Rhodes, if you can call it one, was the only pseudo-sign of life on a long and windy piece of dirt road, where we met the driver for our intrepid ride by 4X4 up to the actual resort. "How long does it take to get up there," we asked Jeff, who we later learnt was a convict out on parole. "Depends how rough you want it" was the reply, although it wasn't really as rough as it was spectacular. Up and up we went, climbing the road literally carved out of the mountains.

Our first sight of Tiffindell was somewhat disappointing - all we saw from afar were a cluster of wooden buildings and what looked like a thin dirty slope of melted snow and ice - and it was....Ivan said it was due to a heatwave. He later explained this made snow-making, done via a complex process, very difficult since this requires sub-zero temperatures and the correct humidity for the specially sprayed water to freeze and form snow.

This, of course, posed a serious problem for the seventy odd guests staying there, but, in true resort fashion, they were being kept well entertained and certainly well oiled. We were greeted with their "Mr and Ms Legs Competition" Later these yuppies returned to their normal designer ski gear, each at once peering through their Ray Bans and Oakleys, looking down on us - the long haired, scruffy and financially impaired-looking students. We were later persuaded to join in their "Booze treasure hunt" which we happily did, being free of charge, downing vast concoctions and other liquid delights such as Obie's; performing strange rituals which involved pleading to Ben McDuhi (after whom the highest mountain in the Cape - 3000m - just above the resort, is named), for snow and discovering that the guests, when drunk, were extremely sociable after all. The remainder of the day is but a cognitive

blur in my conveniently repressed memory. Saturday morning proved the perfect cure for a hangover, if a cold wind doesn't knock it, nothing will. Our first ski lesson was somewhat disrupted by the occasional mini-hurricane, knocking any beginner clean out of the snow plough position into a rather undignified mess, sprawled over the hardened ice. But it brought the first spits of sleet and then, as the complex art of controlling the two long pieces of metal attached to your feet was bearing fruition, the first flakes of snow.

And snow it did, all through the afternoon and night, coating the surrounding wintery, weather-beaten and barren mountains into an almost-even white, and transforming the quaint wooden chalets and main buildings into an...err... almost Alpine-looking setting. The snow covered trees may have been missing but we still had to pinch ourselves into believing this was actually sunny South Africa, let alone the North Eastern Cape.

The crowded dining room served good, wholesome food and, along with the bar (made exclusively out of railway sleepers - still wonder how they got these up there) was the central feature of the warm and cosy atmosphere the resort and its staff exuded. Although the beers in "Ice station 2720" were expectedly rather steep, a great deal of time was spent here, near the fire, mostly gazing enviously at reams of ski videos. The cabins were also warm, each small room having an oil heater attached to the walls.

But the object of the visit was to ski and that we most certainly did on the Sunday, being on the slopes in time for the opening of the rather uncomfortable ski lifts. Although it was, in effect, a single slope a couple hundred metres long, and served by three different lifts, the top part being the advanced slope, with an adjoining

beginner/intermediate slope, we were neither bored nor cramped when winding our way warily down the same piece of hill, with the pro's whizzing past.

The scenery was superb, the glare, so bright, it burnt, however, the cool breeze seeping off the snow still numbed our fingers through our hired gloves. The experience of skiing (and wiping out, lest we forget) in fresh, soft snow is something unsurpassed, although others preferred their speed thrills from snowboards.

It was with wistful feelings and very long faces that we returned our equipment, paid our dues and waited patiently for the journey back down to Rhodes in the Synchro, driven by the jovial but not so timeous Dave Walker.

Negotiating the snow-filled road was further complicated with frozen accelerator cables and I probably feared more for my life now, on this particular trip downhill, than the first time I encountered the advanced slope. While the driver joked about failing brakes, we entertained thoughts of being stranded and freezing out in this bleak, moonlit, snow-filled landscape, with the only other sign of life being little bunnies. At least we won't go hungry, I thought.

However, thanks to German engineering where you need it most in snow, we made it back to our Toyota, which got us through the rest of the journey home, kept company only by the full moon and memories of snow...

Tiffindell offers reduced rates for groups of students. More information may be obtained by phoning either the resort at (045) 333 1619, or their booking office at (011) 640-7416 / 640-5160. The snow season ends soon, so if the desire to conquer the white slopes hits you like a cold slap in the face, you'd better run-off soon!

A VERY HAIRY ISSUE

Beautiful they may be, but when Jackie Mofokeng and Basetsane Magalamele won the 1994 and 1995 Miss South Africa titles -they were strutting their stuff in someone ELSE'S hair. Black beauty was supposedly finally being acknowledged. Maria McCloy questions whether they would have been considered beautiful if they had not relaxed, sewn, waxed, and glued their natural hair?

TAKE a look round and see how many black women don't have relaxed hair, braids, perms bonding or weaves, chances are you won't have spotted many. So why is it the norm to have processed hair to the extent that anything else doesn't rank high in the beauty or normality stakes?

It could be argued that these processes are just a matter of style in the same way that white people gel, perm, dye and now, in this age of cultural cross over, braid and dread their hair. But it must be acknowledged that Colonialism in all its forms (Apartheid included) has influenced every sphere of African life: As feminist author Awa Thiam said, writing on the oppression of African women: "When a woman wears a smooth, straight wig, she is expressing the strong desire-even if an unconscious one-to conform to European aesthetics."

A first year BA law student on campus

"dreadlocks make me feel closer to where I want to be"

spoke of how to her, women in her society have always had relaxed hair-which she thinks came firstly down from European influence and now African American styles dictating what is desirable. In Ghana for the moment "We're quite religious and dreadlocks are associated with Rastafarians and Fetish Priests who are looked down on."

A dreadlocked female Social science 4 student told of how she loves her dreadlocks so much she'd never cut them. She is used to stares from shocked people and says that she'd never do anything artificial to her hair and thinks that people who do "obviously think there is something wrong with natural hair...I'm trying to get as close as I can be to my African heritage...dreadlocks make me feel closer to where I want to be."

A third Year BA woman who has a semi-baldy said that women are sometimes considered beautiful simply because they have long hair whereas she feels that if a person is truly beautiful it shouldn't matter what hair they have and that "often when I've cut my hair guys say 'What's your problem, what's this thing of having short hair?' they're sort of questioning your womanhood...that you must have long hair or something's wrong." She pointed out that with the advent of people like Zhane, For Real, and Toni Braxton people now suddenly see women with short hair as beautiful.

To relax your hair at Nu- World salon in town costs around R 41.45 and bonding where the human hair is glued or sewn onto relaxed hair costs R350.00 without the

hair. People have been figuring out ways to conquer their bushy hair for so long that the risks of frazzling off ones scalp and ears with relaxing chemicals aren't very high. Pumzile, a hairdresser at Nu-World, told me

there are "super, mild and regular relaxers" used according to a person's hair texture and the sensitivity of their scalp, which is why relaxing should be done professionally. In addition to this if you want to relax your five year old's hair as is the fashion there are relaxers designed for childrens' hair to add to the list of ironically named products like 'African Pride'. and "Black like me." Braiding takes around two days to do and costs in the R100.00 bracket without the hair.

So are black people ashamed of their hair or is it just wanting versatility and choosing a style that suits you?

Convenience was a major justification for braids and relaxing. As Thuli, a third year Journ student who favours Da Brat styled plaits, explains: "You try pulling a comb through an afro in the morning." Jenny a

BSc student saw no need to justify relaxing: "Relaxers look neat... kaffir hare looks no good." And they have a point - Grahamstown weather makes natural hair harder to style and manage. "Not so.!" said the girl with dreads "Nothing is more convenient than waking up and not having to do your hair ... or having to buy hair products and go for a retouch."

Although the girl who likes her hair simple and shaved points out that people with braids become so used to them they feel incomplete without them. Braids are very popular on campus and even those totally into natural hair do think braids are rooted in African heritage. Palesa, a Journ student who has a braided bob believes "You braid your hair to grow your own natural hair, it's obviously fake we're not fronting."

Fronting is what these sisters who have bonded long silky locks may do to, but maybe they just want a new fly look, as one woman interviewed said, "Honey, to look good." Either way, Makhali a Psycho

student, is disgusted "It's bullshit to say we want to be honkified...with braids you can tell it's fake, but if someone comes with horse hairs and styles and rolls and flicks it and pretends it's theirs it's sick." Although she doesn't like bonding, Thatho, a Bsc student establishes that it's not only what you do but where you have it done: "Naomi and Janet are our role models, their weaves look good and we try to look like them and we end up looking maseepa fela."

People try to achieve a Tyra Banks look but because salons in South Africa don't have the technique, expertise or the excellent products that Americans have, they fail. Witness the difference between a Mary J Blige blonde and Vinoliahs not so fly luminous do. Basically strapping on a braiding fibre from Jack Snacks onto hair (or growth) of a different texture or colour is just not happening.

We all wish we could be as fine as Janet Jackson. The media is the maker of these kinds of dreams but as Msizi a Journ IV student points warns "The media is controlled by people who want to make money." And it doesn't make sense for and advertisers and producers to advocate the natural look when people won't be buying hair relaxing kits, styling equipment,

It's bullshit to say we want to be honkified

sprays, gels and synthetic hair. As a result we're assaulted by Iman, Vanessa Williams, Brandy and Aaliyah as well as the CCV women with their bouffant 'hair' styles. Is there something wrong with little black girls' hair? Every ad on TV features black girls wearing braids. American magazine YSB, in an article about racism in the modelling industry, states: "While ALL models use wigs to create certain looks, many Black models are forced to get weaves and coloured lenses to look more white." Hell, African American model Roshumba sticks out because she is one of the few who HAS natural hair! Local model, Dahli, who was relatively unknown when she entered COSMO Look of the Year in 1994 - bald, black and beautiful. In this years TRIBUTE bridal supplement, which illustrates ideal brides, she had a fringe and hair down her back.

Gladys an LLB2 student says she has doubts about people who believe blacks should only ever have natural hair. "They're not secure in their African identity so they think keeping their hair natural will make them more African ...Its not the colour or length or texture of your hair, your Africaness is much more fundamental than that."

You could argue that an article discussing the politics of black hair is splitting hairs. After all I don't even have any! But it's not merely about a hairstyle. If people (our strong female heroes included) in the third world are paying steep prices to have longer straightened hair, this says a lot about the way we define ourselves, our values and influences. Whatever your

attitude to processed hair, whether it's done because of imposed European or African American standards - next time you have that relaxer kit in your hands, think about what you're doing and why.



Pics: Cosmopolitan Vibe

Defend Marxism-Leninism

One month before his death, SACP and ANC leader, **Harry Thembu Gwala** sent SASCO Rhodes what was probably the last article he wrote. SASCO had requested Gwala to write an article on the future of socialism which would be discussed amongst its members. According to SASCO member, **Thembinkosi Lehloesa**, the request stemmed from earlier debates between Gwala and the late Joe

Slovo over the finer principles of socialism.

"We asked Comrade Gwala to explain socialism in light of the alleged failures in Eastern Europe. Academics slam socialism and we just wanted an alternative perspective - one that would encourage students to evaluate their own role in the whole process of transformation," says Thembinkosi.

THE present epoch is that of grand offensive launched by imperialism against the working class. The war is launched on all fronts - ideological and social. The chicken-hearted in the ranks of the proletariat are wilting under the hammer-blows of capital, and even become apologists of the exploitative system. Is it a surprise then that when Lenin, speaking about the same thing in a different context had to say: "There is a well known saying that if geometric axioms affected human interests attempts would certainly be made to refute them. Theories of natural history which conflicted with the old prejudices of theology provoked, and still provoke, the most rabid opposition. No wonder, therefore, that the Marxian doctrine, which directly serves to enlighten and organize the advanced class in modern society, indicates the tasks facing this class and demonstrates the inevitable replacement (by virtue of economic development) of the present system by a new order - no wonder that this doctrine has had to fight for every step forward in the course of its life." (P.423 *Marx, Engels, Lenin on historical materialism*).

In an attempt to explain away class contradictions and find reconciliation, words like "democracy" and "people" are thrown about as if they existed outside space and time. The problems that confront us today, confronted Marx and Engels in their time but in a different situation.

Dealing with this problem, the preface of collected works vol.5 of Marx and Engels states: "The new revolutionary outlook of Marx and Engels was hammered out in struggle with bourgeois and petty bourgeois ideology" p.xiv (preface). It is this struggle that those who try to revise Marxism Leninism

evade.

Marx and Engels always emphasized: "that real men could only be understood as products of social relations." (Pp.xiv-xv preface of collected works. Vol.5). The preface goes on to state: "At the same time, an immense step forward was made to qualitatively new stage in the development of the philosophical foundations of the revolutionary proletarian outlook. It was in this work that for the first time the materialist way of understanding history became an integral conception of the structure of society and of historical periodisation. By virtue of dialectical law of transformation of theory into method and of the unity of world outlook and method of understanding social historical phenomena, Marx and Engels gave science a powerful weapon for knowledge of social life, a means of elucidating both the general course of social processes which is necessary for active and revolutionary interference in them. Marx himself saw in this work the methodological prerequisite for a new political economy." p.xvi "First of all Marx and Engels formulated the "premises" of the materialist conception of history. These premises are real living people, their activity and material conditions under which they live, both the conditions they find already existing and those produced by their

activity." p.xvii, col.works, vol.5

WHAT concerns us here is what distinguished Marx and Engels from their contemporary thinkers. This was the discovery of the law of surplus value and law of contradictions in society which gave rise to class struggle. This enabled us to understand history of human development in a scientific way - historical materialism and not as a conglomeration of accidents in history.

As a result of their own researches and participation in the struggles of the time, Marx

and Engels postulated: "the productive forces determine the form of intercourse (social relations). At a certain stage of their development, the productive forces come into contradiction with the existing form of intercourse. This contradiction is resolved by social revolutions, in the place of previous form of intercourse, which has become a fetter.

The Revolution in South Africa

A new one is evolved which corresponds to the more developed productive forces. "*(p.xvii.col.works.vol.5). It is this which prompted Lenin to comment that; "Marx's historical materialism was a great achievement in scientific thinking. The chaos and arbitrariness that has previously reigned in views of history and politics were replaced by a strikingly integral and harmonious scientific theory, which shows how, in consequence of the growth of the productive forces, out of one system in social life another and higher system develops - how capitalism, for instance, grows out of feudalism." (p.xviii col.works of Marx&Engels.vol.5)

THE great divide today is whether what Marx and Engels postulated in the 19th century and Lenin developed in the 20th still holds. To get a clearer picture of what we are trying to develop, it is important to explain Marxism in the 20th century situation which leads to Lenin's theory that led to Marxism-Leninism. There are those who try to draw a line between Marx and Lenin, suggesting that Marx only theorized and never advocated any dictatorship. On the other hand, Lenin talked about seizure of power and the dictatorship of the proletariat. What concerns us at this stage is to show how inseparable Marx and Lenin are. Lenin was in all respects a student of Marx. But Lenin did not end there, he developed Marx's theories and applied them in his epoch. It is this, that distinguished Lenin from other Marxists and added his name to the theory of Marx which came to be known as Marxism-Leninism.

Lenin lived in the epoch of the proletarian revolution which, in that situation, demanded that for the proletariat to hold power it must exercise its own dictatorship just as the bourgeoisie did when it seized power from the nobility.

What then is Leninism? "Leninism is Marxism of the era of imperialism and of the

proletarian revolution. To be more exact, Leninism is the theory and tactics of the proletarian revolution in general, the theory and tactics of the dictatorship of the proletariat in particular." (p.2; *Leninism by Stalin*). Marx and Engels were not arm-chair philosophers. They were first and foremost revolutionaries. Their theory evolved out of struggle and political confrontation in the effort to solve the problems in their era. Therefore their theory is not a classroom textbook, but a polemical theory dealing with problems of the day and tracing them back in history. As a result of this, Marx and Engels were scholars and revolutionaries. Hence in his thesis on "Feuerbach", Marx said: "The philosophers have only interpreted the work in various ways; the point however is to change it." (P.8; *Col. Works, vol 5*) (*Marx and Engels*)

Marx and Engels were faced with a problem of those who were trying to compromise the working class to capital, just as we find today that those who confess Marxism try to prune it of its revolutionary edge in order to make it acceptable to the capitalist system. These people are only interested in reforming capitalism, not changing it. They all talk of market driven economy where the value of a commodity is decided by the market and not the socially necessary labour time embodied in that commodity. They cloud the price of a commodity with its value. In this regard therefore, the capitalist system is to them a millennium.

GNAWING away into the pillars of Marxism-Leninism did not start with Gorbachev. It manifested itself immediately after World War II in both the USA and Europe. In Europe it assumed the so called "structural reforms" which aimed at gradually replacing capitalism by socialism. This culminated in Khrushchev's famous theses of the personality cult in the 20th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. The famous Moscow-Peking Polemics revolved around this.

The setbacks of socialism in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe received a simplistic explanation - blame it on Stalin! It may be important to point out here something that was said by Marx in the book *Germany, Revolution and Counter-Revolution*: "The times of that superstition which attributed revolutions to the ill will of a few agitators have long passed away. Today everyone knows that wherever there is revolutionary convulsion, there must be some social want in the background which is prevented by outworn institutions, from satisfying itself. The want may not be felt strongly, as generally, as might ensure immediate success; but every attempt at forcible repression will only bring forth stronger and stronger, until it bursts its fetters.

If then, we have been beaten, we have nothing else to do but to begin from the beginning. And fortunately, the very short interval of rest which is allowed us between the close of the first and the beginning of the second act of the movement gives us time for a very necessary piece of work. The study of the causes that necessitated both the late outbreak and its defeat; causes that are not to be sought for in the accidental efforts, talents, faults, errors or treacheries of some of the leaders, but in the general social state and conditions of existence of each of the convulsed nations." (P.9-10; *Germany, Revolution and Counter-Revolution*.)

The problems of socialism went deeper than the simplistic pronouncement of "the Saints and Lucifer". This, however, would form another subject. What concerns us here is the position of the working class in the struggle of our revolution.

Ours is indeed a national bourgeois democratic revolution, as distinct from the Great October Socialist Revolution. This revolution has its

own peculiarities and dynamics. To understand such a revolution, one must bear in mind that all the national movements hitherto were inherently bourgeois in character. This was because modern nationalism rose out of colonialism, which marked the advent of capitalism.

An achievement in scientific thinking

OUR national democratic revolution is a revolution against fascism in South Africa, which went by the name of apartheid. It concentrated power in the hands of the white oligarchy and practised one of the worst forms of racism. The struggle against this form of oppression received popular support in the country, and enjoyed international support. The working class fully supported this revolution, well knowing that it was not a socialist revolution but that it would create conditions for the working class to move forward to its historic mission. The participation of the working class in this revolution does not do away with class antagonisms. At no time should the working class ever think that labour and capital can become compatible where there should be reconciliation of classes.

Such national bourgeois revolutions do not, by themselves, develop into a people's democracy. This phase is only attained when the working class, in alliance with all anti-monopoly capital and big capital, unite under the leadership of the working class to take this national democracy into the stage of People's Democracy. This comes about as the relentless struggle against all bureaucracy and all reactionary forces.

The argument by some quarters in this country, that by participating in the national struggle, the Communist Party is betraying the working class is devoid of Marxism-Leninism. Was it not Marx and Engels who said in 1847: "Though not in substance, yet in form, the struggle of the proletariat with the bourgeoisie is at first a national struggle. The proletariat of each country must of course first settle its matters with its own bourgeoisie."? (p.217. *Karl Marx Col. Works. Vol 1*) It is also a fallacy to accuse the party of entering into allegiances with other organisations. The history of the working class movement is full of these alliances which are entered into, in order to advance the course of the working class. Similarly the working class, in the course of its struggle, has entered into various compromises which are calculated to advance its course.

On this Lenin says: "Proletarians schooled in numerous strikes (to take only this manifestation of the class struggle) usually assimilate in admirable fashion the very profound truth (philosophical, historical, political and psychological) expounded by Engels. Every proletarian has been through strikes, and has experienced "compromises" with the hated oppressors and exploiters, when the workers have had to return to work without having achieved anything or else agreeing only to a partial satisfaction of their demands. Every proletarian - as a result of the conditions of the mass struggle and the acute intensifications of class antagonisms he lives among - sees the difference between a compromise enforced by objective conditions (such as lack of strike funds, no outside support, starvation and exhaustion) - which in no way minimizes the revolutionary devotion and readiness to carry on the struggle on the part of the workers who have agreed to such a compromise - and, on the other hand, a compromise by traitors who try to ascribe to objective causes their self-interest (strike bearers also enter into "compromise"), their

Defend Marxism-Leninism cont...

cowardice, desire to toady to the capitalists, and readiness to yield to intimidation, sometimes to persuasion and sometimes to flattery from capitalists. (The history of the British labour movement provides many instances of such treacherous compromises by British trade union leaders, but, in one form or another, almost all workers in all countries have witnessed the same sort of thing.)" (pp.52-53 "Left-Wing' Communism an Infantile Disorder.)

Dealing with alliances, the preface to *Germany-Revolution and Counter-Revolution* states that: "The history of the league, given by Engels in the first appendix, shows clearly that at the end of 1847 the majority of its members were still only approaching the scientific communism of the authors of the manifesto. The Party was not strong enough to have rallied and led the working class in Germany in the revolution independently of all other parties. So Marx and Engels in their return to Germany were in favour of co-operation with the democratic parties of the left."

The authors also quote Stalin in his address at Sun Yat Sen University where he says: "It is not true that Marxism rejects in principle a party composed of a block of oppressed revolutionary classes, that it is in principle impermissible for Marxists to enter into such a party. In fact Marxism has not only recognized (and continues to recognise) the principle of permissibility of Marxists entering such a party, but in fact in concrete historical circumstances has carried out such an entrance. I could refer to such an example as that of Marx himself in 1848, during the German revolution, where Marx and his fellow thinkers entered a well known bourgeois democratic union in Germany and there co-operated with the representatives of

the revolutionary bourgeoisie." (p.6; *Germany Revolution and Counter-Revolution*.)

OUR class alliance with the national petty bourgeoisie must be understood in the light of the concrete conditions in South Africa. No one chooses one's class or birth in society. The fact of being an African in South Africa, whether relatively wealthy or poor, whether educated or uneducated has, because of colour and race, put the African people in the category of the nationally oppressed who suffer racial discrimination. Due to the white settlers ultimately making South Africa their home, the development of capitalism in this country tended to promote and protect white interests. This gave an impression that every white man was capitalist, and every black man a worker. The history of the heroic struggle of the white working class in this country has now not only been forgotten by the white working class itself which has become more reactionary than the white middle class, but it is not known to the masses of this country. Capitalism has indeed bought over the sections of whites to its side, and in fact, in the majority of cases, the white workers are more reactionary than even the white bourgeoisie.

Apartheid has developed racist mentality amongst the blacks, which manifests itself in its policy of blackism, known as Black Consciousness. On the other extreme apartheid has fostered and promoted tribalism with its ethnicity among the African people. This helps the ruling class cloud the issue of the main contradictions in the country. Secondary contradictions have been elevated to primary contradictions

Until we have a clear picture of the anatomy of our society, we shall always mistake the wood for the trees. It is not necessary only to understand capitalism and its evil, but the most important thing is to strive towards removing this system and replacing it by a system based on production for use and not production for profit.

In Memory Of...

Thembinkosi Lehloesa

IF there is a heaven Harry Themba Gwala must be there....and right now he is probably arguing Marxist discourse with God.

Comrade Gwala, one of South Africa's most outspoken communists, died on June 20 1995. He was one of the few people to receive the ANC's highest decoration - the Isitwalandwe-Seaparankoe.

Gwala, a member of the Kwa-Zulu/Nata legislature, died after suffering from a rare motor neuron disease. Although the disease paralysed him his spirit and commitment were unbroken.

Gwala, born in 1920 in Natal's midlands, was the son of a Lutheran lay preacher. In 1942 he joined the Communist Party and two years later the ANC. He organised workers in the chemical and building industry and formed the Rubber and Cable Workers Union in Howick.

After the ANC ban in 1960, Gwala was active in the underground until his arrest in 1960. He was convicted of sabotage and sent to Robben Island. After his release in 1972, Gwala was banished to Pietermaritzburg.

Four years later he was arrested again tortured and charged under the Terrorism Act. He was sentenced to life imprisonment, but was released after 12 years on Robben Island because of his illness.

He will always be remembered as the Lion of the Midlands, a leader in the true sense of the word. This fiery orator was not a Hollywood Harry; no, Themba Gwala inspired hope in the cowards. Hamba Kahle Bomvane Go Well The Red.

Jonathan Ancer

SOUTH Africa's king of rock and roll is dead. James Phillips, 36, died three weeks ago after a car accident at the Grahamstown Festival.

James and his band, *CHERRY FACED LURCHERS*, were "world famous" in Springs - the town where they grew up. They also built up a national following with an image of the alternative of South African Music during the 1980's. Their songs, tinted with the accent and humour of Johannesburg's East Rand suburbs, reflected the paradox of South Africa.

At last lefties had something South African they could be proud of - an outspoken and talented muso. Through cynical and witty lyrics James voiced the frustrations of a young generation. His song *Hou vas My Korperaal* became the unofficial anthem for the End Conscription Campaign (ECC), an organisation to which he had a close affiliation. He was always billed at ECC concerts and at a tribute to "its" musicians, ECC invited Phillips to play at their closing down festival in 1993.

There is a prophetic irony in his choice to sing under the name Bernaldus Niemand. Although his music made a profound impact on many South African lives he was abandoned by the local industry and never received the support he deserved. He once said South African Rock and Roll was about as lucrative as strapping a huge piano to your back, walking up a spiral staircase and dishing out R50 notes. James Phillips, your music lives on. Go in peace.

SABC's Changing Face

Will the SABC live up to people's expectations? Surely there is lot of us who are asking the same question today, but few have answers. Mboneni Mulaudzi visited the corporation during the June vacation and argues that a lot more needs to be done if the SABC is to become representative of the new South Africa.

TO judge whether substantial changes have been implemented in the SABC, one only needs to examine such things as the staff composition and structures of governance, especially those which decide on what goes on air.

It is common to find that in most South African companies the majority of the workforce is white, in a country where more than 80 per cent of the population is black. The SABC is no exception and this is reflected in its staff composition.

More than 55 per cent of the personnel, not only journalists, is white. For instance in the TV news productions, only 45 per cent of the staff is black. This, in essence, means that there are insufficient black journalists to cover issues concerning black audiences. Perhaps this phenomenon is here to stay, and it will stay with us for as long as South Africans don't do anything to change it. For me, permission to observe what happens in TV news rooms was an indelible experience.

Besides being a learning experience, it was an excellent opportunity to observe the sort of changes taking place within the corpo-

ration. Like many South Africans, I went in there hoping to see the new face of our public broadcaster.

Unfortunately and to my utter disgust, I was confronted with the face of the same old, monstrous SABC of the apartheid era. As one of the most important departments, one would have expected radical changes to have taken place already in the news production department.

The importance of this department is confirmed by the company's external magazine, where it reports that more than 10 million adults tune on to the Television News Productions or TNP-produced main news bulletins everyday. This shows how important news is to our society.

Apart from the recently appointed Editor-in-chief Jill Chilsom and Mr Joe Tholoe, who are mainly responsible for the department's administrative work without necessarily determining what goes on the air daily, the news desk is still composed of the same old white males who controlled news in the apartheid years.

This is not to say, however, that everyone from the old order is conservative, but it is rational to say that the majority of them represent views of the old order. Unfortunately, this trend exists in other departments where the structures deciding on what viewers should see are still very much the same.

The recent rescheduling of an NNTV programme, which runs every Tuesday, is clear evidence of this. "The Works", which ran a programme titled "Sex in the 90s" was merely intended to be a teenagers' educa-

tional programme but its message offended the "old guard".

People who were responsible for this programme 'got themselves in real mud on a rainy day' by merely informing young people about the realities of sex and AIDS. A source in the SABC who wishes to remain anonymous, said: "The old structures are still very much in place and for the SABC to have meaningful changes, these structures need to fall down first".

Explaining how the screening of this programme affected them, she said: "Our slot has now been changed from 7.30pm to 10pm though it is still on Tuesdays This basically means that we will no longer be able to reach our target audience because our new slot is not ideal for them.

Their target audience, she said, are teenagers. She went on to say they, immediately after the whole saga of their slot change, ran a programme on morality to counter those who denounced the programme with arguments based on morality. "On whose morals should programmes such as these be judged?" she asked.

Another question to be asked is whether South Africans can still afford to have a public broadcaster that works in terms of racially separated audiences. As a public broadcaster, one would think that the SABC has a social responsibility which should include contributing effectively in bridging the gap created by the monstrous apartheid regime.

The SABC needs to start thinking seriously on how it should impact in the reconciliation of our society. Perhaps the appoint-

ment of the two veteran journalists, Alistair Sparks and Khaba Mkhize, to the SABC Board will influence the board and will also prompt changes on the ground level rather than just on theoretical policies. Lets hope similar changes will also be implemented in structures such as the News Desk soon.

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Did SRC Mis

The 94-95 SRC has been wracked with scandal and controversy. Karuna Gopal & Indressa Naidoo tracked down SRC President, Kim Jurgensen, and asked her to assess their term of office.

IT is a general feeling on campus that the SRC has not fulfilled its role of being representative. How have you dealt with this criticism?

I think the biggest problem with that is that these criticisms are always anonymous. The SRC discussed anonymous allegations and there are big problems with that because it's very easy for one or two people who have problems with the SRC to go on a big campaign. Students have the right to vote us out of office, and in fact that is one of the things I took up on my campaign last year. If people are dissatisfied with the SRC all you have to do is call a meeting and if that started in any hall, it was so easy to approach either me or Thulie or someone else on the exec and demand that the SRC go and account for these allegations, and that never happened. It's impossible to respond to anonymous calls. And that petition obviously never went anywhere, because no one on the SRC, to my knowledge, was formally approached and told "we have real problems with SRC" so there's actually nothing you can do with something like that. It's scandalous, you know, and I'm not saying that the allegations were unfounded or that you should have ignored them or whatever, but we need to have people taking up concrete issues in terms of coming to us and lodging a formal complaint which we can then deal with.

What about student complaints that there is never anyone in the SRC offices?

Well, on the one hand people must also realise that we are also students and we have our own academics to deal with, and I just don't buy that because we have boxes, we have a full time secretary and I certainly know of many students who have left messages for me and I've taken up things after hours. I've never actually heard of students who have left messages for SRC members or asked for issues to be taken up and they've just been ignored. I mean we're not full time paid staff. We are working on a voluntary basis. All our numbers are in the SRC secretary's office. It is possible to get hold of SRC members.

In the May edition of ACTIVATE there was a letter from a student criticising the behaviour of SRC Labour and Community Liaison Officer, Patrick Mahlangu, at the SRC's Namechange Debate in the GLT last term. The letter described his behaviour as "unbecoming" and "inappropriate". Did the SRC act on that letter?

Can I talk off the record?
No

I'll tell you what the problem is. It's unconstitutional. We're not allowed to discuss any issues until minutes have been ratified, then it becomes formal.

Who ratifies minutes?

At the next statutory meeting the SRC ratifies the minutes, but because they

haven't been ratified it will be a breach of confidence and it's part of the constitution that you're not allowed to talk about it...

The SRC actually did discuss that ACTIVATE letter and for two reasons we didn't respond to that formally: one is the whole thing about again getting people to come up to us and lay a formal complaint and along those lines we just said we can't respond to anonymous allegations because it's very easy to become a kind of gossip mongering form where anybody gets to say anything about SRC and if people come to us and say "we have a problem" - in fact one student did come to me who was at the debate and said he was going to write a letter and formally complain and we could have dealt with that, but he never did.

Um...yes...the whole issue of discipline is a very touchy issue on SRC. There was a move. In fact we were supposed to have set up a commission of inquiry coming out of that allegation and other allegations against SRC members. We were supposed to have set up a commission of inquiry to look into all problems facing SRC and to date nothing has been done about that, I don't know why.

Who is supposed to sit on this commission?

The idea was to go to the law department and get Professor Shaeffer to set it up under his discretion, because we felt that the SRC's so divided and there's just so much tension in the SRC that we couldn't deal with problems ourselves because everything becomes so personal

Did you manage to get the commission of inquiry off the ground?

No. That was at the end of last term, that

was the agreement and to date it hasn't been established, but there were also problems within the commission in that some SRC members said that they would refuse to testify, they would refuse to co-operate with the commission at all which makes it sort of redundant.

What were their reasons for not testifying?

There were never very clear reasons given. I think the people in question just said that they wouldn't respond to some of the allegations made against them and so it made the whole thing ludicrous. There were a lot of problems in the way that was dealt with. But it was also a democratic process in that the whole SRC had options before them and the option that they chose knowing what the problems would be was to set up this commission.

Has the tension within the SRC made it difficult for you to work together?

Absolutely. Obviously it's a lot easier working in an organisation where people are comfortable with each other and I think it's just got to the stage where people just come in and they do their own thing and they leave. But the tension in the SRC...I feel it strongly and I know there are other people who feel the same way. It's got to the stage where I think people interact on quite a minimal basis.

Has this tension affected the entire running of the SRC?

No. We still do what we supposed to. We have statutory meetings, executive meetings, things carry on normally, but it's just...it's never pleasant to work in an atmosphere where people are uncomfortable with each other.

What is your response to the allegations of embezzlement against SRC Education Councillor, Baldwin Ndaba?

I can't respond to that because I have very little to do with that case. That's been taken up by the university.

And with regard to the alleged harassment charge against Baldwin after the SRC weekend away?

I don't know about that.

Is Baldwin being investigated?

You'll just have to investigate yourself and find out. The SRC has nothing to do with this case. The SRC did not lay any charges against any SRC member.

According to the Dean of Students there is an inquiry into this matter. If Baldwin is being investigated why has he not been suspended from the SRC for this period of investigation?

That was one of the issues that was brought up at the meeting I referred to earlier. My feelings were the same, that if somebody is under investigation then they shouldn't be in a position such as that, especially an executive member. The SRC felt differently...that's basically why he's still there.

A campus organisation has launched a formal complaint against the SRC regarding an SRC party in the RA Room which was left in a bad state. Is this true?

It would seem it is true. I was quite shocked to find out about that party, firstly because I didn't know about it and as a person who is on the treasury I was quite surprised to find out about that. And also because it's strict policy that you are not allowed to have parties in the RA Room. I have read the letter and I know there was an SRC

party because I was informed about it at half-past four that afternoon.

Was it for SRC members?

Apparently it was supposed to be for people at the Transformation workshop that morning, but there was nothing announced at the workshop, which also surprised me because I also spoke to the accounts clerk

and also informed me that the people who organised that party said it was for the delegates of that workshop. But I don't even know who went to that party because there was no announcement made. I don't know who was invited because half the SRC wasn't at that workshop anyway.

And what was the reason for half the SRC not being at the workshop? Was it apathy?

I wouldn't say most SRC members, and I didn't count how many SRC members weren't there and what their reasons were for not being there because the whole SRC knew about this because we had been planning it since last term.

Is there no kind of disciplinary action taken within the SRC against its members, with regards to this party for instance?

I don't think there's anything new about organising a social function after a day long workshop and also because there were a lot of delegates that were expected to turn up and they didn't. There are no strict guidelines to when it's appropriate or not to have this function and also because there's been no investigation into it we don't know who was there...what I'm saying is that we don't know that it was a breach of discipline, other than the fact that it was in the RA Room.

The other point brought up in the letter of complaint was that the SRC secretary was at the party and that she was in a state of intoxication. Should she have been at that party?

We have in the past when we've had functions invited the SRC staff. I don't know about that because I wasn't there...I don't know what the whole story is. I know that she came in to type minutes because people who were organising the workshop wanted to give the minutes out before the delegates left. So I know she was there, but I don't know about the other allegations. I don't see anything wrong with her being there because she had attended the workshop.

What do you think the SRC has done in its year of office?

I think the transformation process will get off the ground now that the SRC has linked up with the FDTR. I think within the SRC there were very positive things that came up that were clouded. I think that we were one of the most democratic SRCs that have come through. I think that a lot of SRC members have been empowered in their year on SRC. They've picked up skills in terms of chairing meetings and running workshops and that kind of thing. I think we also got back to going to the halls and finding out what people need. Also we've come up with projects that have been quite useful...we have a redress scheme...we're going to try and set up a scheme where we are going to get students to donate money that will be put into a trustfund for

s Its Target?

disadvantaged students.

What were the things you had hoped to accomplish when you came into office?

Transformation...it must be the biggest thing the SRC takes up. For me personally I wanted to make sure things were different...in past SRC the president has been seen as being autocratic. I wanted to get away from that.

A point that came up at the SRC namechange meeting on Kaif lawns was that some students feel alienated from the SRC. What is your response?

Well, it's difficult for the SRC to take responsibility for what individual students

are feeling. I would have thought that we started a process where students could feel they're part of something, for instance the namechange debate....however controversial it was, the hall was packed, students had an opportunity to air their views....and also by visiting halls the SRC made itself more approachable. Students just don't seem to want to be part of a process. So, "alienated from what?" I would ask.

You seem very intent on having a democratic SRC. At the end of the day, though, how do you respond to quotes by SRC members that you're just a figurehead?

It's true and SRC members have made that criticism about me as well. It's difficult to balance and I would with say the biggest problem with our SRC, the reason that it's, as far as I'm concerned, getting out of control is that we don't have a code of conduct. If you have rules and guidelines that are very well defined it's a lot easier for the SRC president to intervene at a certain stage, because otherwise you have people saying that this is "getting personal" which has happened on our SRC. Despite all

those criticisms I don't regret the approach we took this year. But it is valid...it is difficult to give people that kind of scope and then come in and say I want to take control again.

What would you recommend for the incoming SRC?

Definitely a strict code of conduct. I think it's absolutely crucial.

Students seem to feel that the SRC proposals lack credibility because they often aren't headed by the SRC president. For instance, at the press conference held in the RA Room on June 15, a press statement was given by Patrick Mahlangu not by you. How do you feel about that?

The press statement itself was unconstitutional. It was illegitimate. They're actually not allowed to do that. It's in the constitution that nobody but myself can make statements to the press and I wasn't informed about that.

Do you think the next elections will be successful?

I really do. I think because of all the controversy that was facing our SRC...I reckon it will be quite a heated election...I

So What Do You Want?

What has the SRC done for you lately? Maria McCloy & Karuna Gopal put this question to the student body.

THIS year's SRC has generated much controversy and concern amongst the general student body. We spoke to a variety of students about the forthcoming elections and what their expectations of the SRC were.

Are you going to vote in the next SRC elections?

I don't know. I probably will, but I won't go out of my way because I don't know most of the candidates. *Edwin BPharm2*

Probably not. I don't feel part of the campus because I'm not living on campus. It doesn't interest me. *Rhona HDE*

I don't think so. I don't see the point of SRC. They could actually be doing something but nobody ever knows about it. *Charles BSocSci3*

I want to, but at this point I don't know much of what's going on. *Simon HDipJourn*

No. I don't think the past SRC made a lot of difference on campus. It doesn't have a lot of influence. *Hazel BSocSci1*

Absolutely not. I think it's a waste of time. *Stuart BSc2*

Yes. It involves us and the varsity. We're part of the varsity. *Richard BCom1 Andrew BAHMS1*

I presume so because I suppose we're supposed to vote. I don't know who's running. *Brian BJourn3*

Yes. It's good that everyone votes. It makes it a fair election. *Luke HDE4*

Yes. The last time I voted just to kill the apathy on campus. This time, well, don't we have to vote. I think the grazzle is just a big show, though. *Stanley BCom3*

Yes. It's the right thing to do. Isn't everyone voting? *Jitesh BPharm2*

imagine that this year there's going to be quite a lot of debate, people coming from different angles.

Dr Motara is sending out posters and letters encouraging people to vote. Is this because he's worried people aren't going to vote?

Yes, I think the Admin has heard as many rumours as we have about this group of students who want to make sure we don't get a 40% poll. Their line is that it's within student interest and their interests to have an organised body that represents students.

It makes everyone's lives so much easier. *What kind of a mission statement and ambitions the incoming SRC needs to have?*

No. I don't believe in SRC. What have they done for us? *Samantha BEco3*

Yes, as students we have to participate. Although there are problems with the way they have done things in the past the first process of fixing that is to vote. Not voting disempowers one. *Henry BCom3*

Yes. I would like to elect the people who will lead the student body. I want to be part of the democratic process. *Zukile BCom2*

I don't think I'll vote I've not seen what they've done...they promise things and don't do it. If the next group does good things for us...hopefully the group that comes next will be good-If not...I don't think I'll vote. *Ush BSc1*

Yes because I believe a democracy must prevail and the only way it will is to vote. Things that affect us like the revolting lecturers who close the Union at 10.30pm, campus protection is also an issue...last week 27 car tyres were slashed on campus. *Steven BA1*

I think they're awful, disorganised and I wouldn't trust them...I heard one of them has been dabbling in fraud. All their activities are disorganised and badly represented like inter-res soccer on Women's Day. I'll definitely vote to get a

better SRC. *Katie BJourn1*

I will vote I'd like them to fix our money for food, sometimes we unbook our meals and if you have a bursary you don't get the money. *Nomonde BCom1*

Yes, I want it not to be run by people who don't have the same opinions as me...at the name change debate we didn't have anyone on our side. I'd like to know what they're doing with the money, no one gives financial statements, we hear rumours about...individuals who've been embezzling - there were posters. *BCom2*

Yes I'll vote. I voted last year. A lot of people think they're far removed from student body...I work at RMR and we've worked quite closely with them...I think they've been excellent...they've been there

It's so difficult to tell with such a divided campus. But the most important issue for any university is transformation, which is something most students aren't interested in. I think most people will go for the image of a united SRC, a clean SRC, because of all these allegations and rumours that are coming out. An accountable SRC, which is the most important thing.

Kim, how would you describe the 94-95 SRC in one sentence?

Um... in one sentence? I don't know...I'd say we were a very ambitious SRC that started very well but didn't have the means to follow through with those ambitions.

and have been a lot more approachable. They've improved PR with students ...they have the potential to make changes which is important. *Wendy BFA3*

Probably...I want to hear what they're about...I'd like them to be more vocal, more literature so we know who they are and what they can do. *Michael BCom1*

I'll vote...They have done something, they fought for the change of Rhodes' name...the next one should keep the good work up...they should try to bring us together on campus. *Paul BSocSci1*

Some had different views on voting:

Maybe. If it's convenient. *Lerato BA3*

No (I won't vote) I'm busy. *BSc7PhD*

No. I haven't got the X right yet. *Warwick BJourn1*

All the people who stand for SRC want something to put on their resume and aren't really interested in students. *BJourn2*

Yes. It's fun. Actually I don't have any particular reason. *Yoshen BPharm1*

Though we interviewed many different students about their concerns regarding the present SRC and their expectations of the next one, there was a common element in the answers we received - students want campus issues like, namechange, addressed and resolved.

The SRC have done absolutely nothing for us...they have to push the issue of financial aid, most students don't have money. *BA1*

I didn't like the SRC of this year...they didn't do anything for the varsity, they should get involved with students...in societies like RAG and all the societies. I didn't even know who the SRC reps of this year were. *BA1*

The SRC do nothing. They just get public holidays. I suppose it's good to honour the day but people have to disrupt timetables. It's rubbish. *Joe HMS2*

SRC is a non-entity on campus. They should take up issues and not just put up posters. *John BSc2*

They've not done anything...they're supposed to concentrate on what we want like food standard improvement, we don't have a social life. *Bcomm2*

The SRC should get them to recognise public holidays so when we do miss lectures we don't have to make up. *Thakani BCom1*

If the university can change to being more

Afrocentric - even the music on RMR and food in the dining hall-black people aren't accommodated we find it hard to adapt...English for non-mother tongue speakers, like non-Xhosa tongue; you can't expect a black person to cope with English meant for mother tongue speakers, and SRC could do something about this. *HDip Journ*

Editorial

"Death to student apathy"

Activate - the independent newspaper of Rhodes University

IN about a week's time students go back to the polls to elect a new SRC, theoretically anyway. But most students seem to be asking themselves why they should even bother. A very valid question, if seen in the context of the performance of the present SRC. But students must now stop moaning about the past and look into the future and take the initiative.

If you really believe that the present SRC really did a terrible job, apathy is not really the solution. We urge all those who still believe that students need representation to make a difference, by voting and even running for the SRC. Individuals can make a difference, some individuals within the SRC have shown that.

We take strong exception to the present SRC's reluctance to release minutes of their meetings to the student press. What ever happened to transparency and democratic principles? We believe the SRC should be accountable to those who elected them. The press aside, minutes of SRC meetings should be available in all halls to enforce this accountability. The SRC has been subject of much controversy and rumours lately. Just imagine how much of that would have been avoided if students had access to those documents. Or would they have revealed something our present leaders don't want us to know?

Their term will be finished in about a week's time and we still do not know the findings of the commission of inquiry which the SRC appointed to investigate the behaviour of some of its members.

What is most surprising is the silence of the Administration in this SRC issue. The Dean of Students is adamant that complaints regarding all student matters, including SRC, should be formally lodged before action can be taken. While we agree that all claims require substantiation, we find it difficult to accept this as an excuse by the Dean of Students for not investigating these complaints even at an informal level. Considering the many rumours and scandals generated by this SRC we expected that Dr Motara, having direct leadership over the Council, would have enforced the authority of his office upon them and inquired into the allegations before dismissing them.

RMR have featured a lot in our last few editions. Now that they have elected a temporary editor-in-chief we hope RMR will now broadcast news that directly concerns the Rhodes campus, as well as the rest of their listening audience in Grahamstown. If RMR wishes to lay a strong claim to being a community station then they must realise soon that people are most interested in things that directly affect them and their environment - this is the key to effective community radio.

WOMEN'S Day has come and passed. While it was widely celebrated all over the country, the Rhodes community did not seem interested at all. What happened? Where was the SRC and Gender Forum, in particular? It is ironic that last year, when the day was not even recognised as a public holiday, these organisations managed to initiate a number of successful, consciousness raising activities like the "Take Back The Night" march which highlighted the incidents of rape on campus.

And now, when so many achievements have been made already, nobody seems to care. This highlights the general confusion which exists within the broader progressive student movement. We all seem to believe that the arrival of democracy in our country has left us with no causes to fight for. Well, people just have to wake up and realise that the struggle is far from over.

Creditorial

Robin Kelly (I want to be a computer virus), Roy (Of course it'll work - it's a machine), Maria (I'm not going to align myself with your species.), Karuna (I love this machine, what size are the batteries?), Matthew (All I want for my birthday is world peace and love and a cure for AIDS.), Taryn, Carlien (It was incredible, I felt like Maid Marion.), Tess (Just keep your hands off me.), Luke (Sunday school was the best.), Robin Kalmek (which one do you think I am?), Debre, Karl, Gerald, Jonathan, Kearn (My bones ache.), Swapna (At half time I just went out and did it.), Justin (I'd rather have my photo in the paper than my story!), Clinton (You have to have a dirty mind to work here.), Michelle, Ferret (The coffee's in the photocopier?), Grab and community development projects, Pixie, reecoffee, the water machine, The Face magazine, cameras, RMR audition, Chris for Disney Hour and Hannah, we hope you feel better.

Dear Activate



Getting Cocky

WHENEVER I go to that great institution called "The Union" I have to deal with at least one Founders Hall cock who still likes being in res and thinks that res food is good for you.

What I have to deal with varies everytime, but it usually involves trying to avoid the lewd tongue movements and dirty suggestions which these boys transfer from the latest scope into the "Oppie Den" and to any attractive woman. It upsets me, yes. It is not because I am a prude. It is because that kind of expression of desire makes me wonder what the young men of today really want.

And what upsets me is the nagging feeling that they would prefer to wank over a picture of some genitals in a glossy magazine than make love with a real woman. This is what upsets me.

I wish the little harassers would grow up, get a real girlfriend, and find out that more subtle ways of expressing sexual desire are usually more successful and better appreciated.

"Oppie Den" for Oppies

National Womyn's day

AUGUST, 9th, 1995 (Women's Day) came and went, and for the first time, it was recognised, by this institution as a public holiday. It does not take an intellectual to note the composition of the meeting organised for the celebration in Arts major. The fact is that all those who should have been there were there, and all that they should have done - commemorate and remember the sacrifices that were made (and continue to be made) by their fellow sisters and mothers.

Incase one was astonished by the meeting's composition, the answer is that Women's day speaks only and only to those who attended the gathering (black people). Powerful words were uttered by the guest speaker Mrs Smith when she said it will take women to ensure they as women are emancipated. One could not agree more with the guest speaker, as one believes that no white can be a true revolutionary, by the same breath *there is no male who can be a genuine feminist*. It is therefore, about time, women speak for themselves and not spoken of by men. What such would mean is that women are not intelligent enough to spell-out what is good and best for them and most importantly *act* accordingly.

If one does not have a serious problem with

this logic- that because women are not in the same position (experience) as men, and thus a need for them to unite as a unit- then it comes to one's mind the fact that though women may be oppressed their oppression is different and *therefore* their approach

which is determined by their experience will have to differ.

Even a blind person would have seen that, it is black people and black experience that she (Mrs Smith) was talking about. Therefore one's point is that feminism is not a homogenous movement. It has always been plagued by endless civil war over conflicting ideas. The nature and content of the conflict has to do with perspectives differently influenced by race and class.

For one, as indicated above, feminism is informed by the experience of women. However because in this country the experience of black women and those of white women are different, their feminism has to differ. It will not be sin if there could be black feminism, for there is already a white feminism which is not called white. This white eurocentric and western feminism seeks to hegemonise itself as the only legitimate feminism. What it does is to colonise the experience of black women and remake it in an image of the white women's experience.

White mainstream feminist theory does not speak to the experience of black women. Even the concepts used were not developed with black women in mind. When white feminism attempts to speak to the experience of black women it does so in a racist manner.

Black women need to do realise that, although subjected to male domination they had to struggle for survival against a system of white domination. It is in this struggle that black men were comrades with black women when white sisters were/are oppressors. White women shared

priveledged ethnic-racial economic interests with white men rather than with black women. Therefore the anti-sexist movement in this country has to be under the leadership of black working class women. On the other hand white women have to deal with their position of privilege. Black women need to develop a black feminism which will be underpinned by their experience as black people. This

Hello, this is DJ Madge coming to you live from Activate Fm. We deal with your problems as they happen, when they happen Don't touch that dial.



Splited Affair

I signed a petition the other day about premature evacuation. I have been experiencing this problem for years and was too petrified to admit it. I really feel so much more secure now, that I know others share my difficulty and that I was able to express my feelings to you so openly.

Better late than never

Dear Better late

I'm really glad that you are able to share your pain with me. By the way, there is a Union for people like you, where you can hang out or dry out, whichever comes first.

Party pooper

Did you go to the party that had two dance floors? People won cd's if they took off their clothes - I must say it was rather hectic running from one dance floor to the other in my underwear. Do you think people noticed that they had little pink bunnies on them?

Bummed-out

Dear BO

Of course I was there - wouldn't have missed it for the world. I guess I must have missed your mean streak. Butt, I must add, the only jocks to be seen were the DJ's.

Setting a President

There is a rumour going around that Madiba was here on womyn's day. I really wanted to hear him speak and wanted to go on the march with him. But when I got to Kaif lawns on Wednesday there was no one there. I guess I missed all the action.

Right off target

Dear Right-off

No need to feel out of it, so did Madiba, as well as Gender Forum and the SRC. The all probably thought it was Abstention Day

Vocal hoards

I had trouble getting into the Union the other night 'cos there was a mob of people outside RMR. I had no idea that their auditions were so popular!

Bad vibes

Dear Bad Vibes

That commotion wasn't about the auditions, darling. It was just a bunch of groupies looking for David - the man with the golden voice or was it the golden fleece? I forget sometimes.

Spurred on

I am very confused. I went to the Spur the other day and there were these men in blue uniforms wearing aviator-style headphones and they were talking into the speakers attached to their mouths...err...am I in a bad episode of Star Trek or has the military taken over the Spur?

Brownie points

Dear Brownie

I wouldn't bet on the military invading the Spur - the steaks are too high and it may just be a rare case of getting a taste for life. Anyway, I hear that their burgers are nothing to horse around about.

Psycho-anal-ytic

I heard this horrible thing on the news the other day that if you're gay and Zimbabwean that you would be arrested. I have been hiding in the closet for days now and I am actually starting to feel a bit hungry. Errrr...what must I do?

In the dark

Dear ITD

Well, from a experiential psychoanalytic perspective, I'd say that Rob Mugabe is probably sexually repressed and out of touch with his inner self and, possibly, his true sexuality. There should be no need to fear arrest and you really should eat something. So, come on out of the closet.

Faked art of the 20th century

The other day I went to a party and the women were asked to fake orgasms.....what puzzles me is - how did the DJ's judge if they were faking?

Come on!

Dear Come on

DJ's are probably very good at faking it and they know because they usually do it on request.

ACTIVATE - the sane choice

black feminism needs to expose classical, eurocentric/white feminism which is based on the experience of white women. The liberation of black women is the responsibility of black women - NEITHER THE BLACK MALE (like myself) NOR THE WHITE FEMINIST.

Buntu Zizwe.

"Blah, Blah, Blah"

WHEN you send out a journalist to research, let's say date rapes, and the journalist comes back and writes that John, a third year social science student, assaulted Wendy, a second year pharm student (majoring in bio-chemistry), you are making various assumptions, no matter how tacit, about the nature of relationships. Firstly, surely you aren't trying to suggest arbitrarily that a three year study of social

science led to a sexual assault, one that was directed at a second year pharm student, majoring in bio-chemistry?

Secondly, I can understand that you have a frameworking policy that aims to identify those interviewed in order to make them more credible, but is it not just a tad restrictive to contextualise people in terms of their faculty and term of study? This approach not only bunches people, but also crates them. You wouldn't, if you interviewed a first year journ student, generalise about the history of the department, based on the opinion of this single student's year of experience. Surely other factors come into effect?

Which brings me to my third point : as a community of diverse and dynamic groups of people you are not legit in your classifications, which aim to establish lifeless and dull stereo-types. If Christopher, a second year Socio student, and Butch,

also a second year Socio student of sorts, both comment on child prostitution in Rhini, their opinions are in no way connected! Yet you insist on the pin prick, the glass plate, and the label.

Finally, your sources should be a whole lot sharper than the kind of pin-the-tail-on-the-donkey-guesswork you do in choosing credible people to comment randomly on complex issues. I get the distinct feeling that most of the interviews are extensions of vox pop - a wide, amoeboid-like, flaccid and completely unrepresentative representation of a society based on the mutterings of third year pharm's, second year blah blah's, first blah blah blah's, blahblahblah...

Robin Kelly

Lavatory Woes

HAS anyone noticed - and does anyone even care - about the state of the toilets in

the Union building? Our student building smells like a vomit pit. The downstairs toilets are only semi-awful - the "gents" is very smelly and the "ladies" always lacking necessities like toilet paper. But the upstairs toilets, which are used by

ACTIVATE, the SRC and RMR members, are incredibly putrid. I cannot believe we can condone the severe lack of maintenance and plainly unhygienic conditions. Those toilets in the Great Hall and in the GLT are hardly better. The University should be proud that it is nearly a century old, but I really think we should drag the toilet facilities into the 1990's with the rest of us. Could you please publish an appropriate name and address for the relevant maintenance department responsible so that I, and other students, can do some formal complaining.

Not Taking any more of this Shite

The Green Armadillo



THE Armadillo has been curled up in a little armour-plated ball ever since I tried to explain nuclear weapons to her. She's extremely sensitive about things like giant fireballs, shock waves, 1000km per hour winds, deadly radiation and the end of life as we know it. Unlike the French Government, who have announced their intention to detonate eight atomic bombs before May next year.

France's timing is impeccable - August 1995 is the 50th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima; while July 1995 marks the 10th anniversary of the sinking of Greenpeace's flagship Rainbow Warrior (notorious for obstructing nuclear testing) by French agents. Not to mention the fact that France declared a moratorium on nuclear testing just three years ago.

A Weekly Mail & Guardian (no.30) cartoon summed the situation up perfectly: President Jacques Chirac is depicted as a flasher (complete with raincoat) with an erect mushroom cloud erupting from his groin. The earth looks on and cries, "Pervert!". Nuclear hard-ons aside, there is indeed something horribly perverse about the continuation of nuclear testing: it's purpose is to prepare for nuclear war.

The bomb that devastated Hiroshima on August 6, 1945, killing 100 000 people, had a 0.013 megaton capacity. Today the nuclear states have a combined nuclear arsenal of about 15 000 megatons. This represents an explosive power equivalent to 1.2 million Hiroshimas - about 50 times the capacity needed to destroy every city on the planet. Yet still the testing continues.

Every minute the world spends over \$1.5 million on their military. In the same minute some 30 to 40 children die from lack of food or adequate health

care.

A Japanese citizen, attending a protest to mark the Hiroshima anniversary, appeared on South African television recently. She stated very simply that the people of Japan were opposed to nuclear weapons because they had experienced their effects firsthand. Japanese politicians recently agreed to call for both France and China to stop testing, while Australia and New Zealand face internal pressure to take France to the International Court of Justice.

France claims that it needs to conduct these "controlled" underground nuclear explosions to perfect its alternative simulation techniques - prior to signing the Nuclear Non-

Proliferation Treaty next year. Evidence suggests that their real purpose is to test two new missile warheads. These "safe" experiments will conveniently take place on the diametrically opposite side of the planet - Moruroa Atoll in French Polynesia, South Pacific.

Yet at least the French are open about their activities - the reason that countries such as Britain and the US are signatories of the Non-Proliferation Treaty is that they share

the technology to run simulated tests. The Treaty, then, does not mean an end to nuclear weapons research or to nuclear power-mongering. It merely consolidates the status quo by restricting the sale of nuclear weapons to non-nuclear states and restricting the total number of nuclear states.

One nuclear submarine costs as much as the annual education budgets of 23 developing countries with 160 million school-age children.

FRANCE does, however, have a particular penchant for nukes. As of 1988 they

boasted 49 nuclear power stations (with 9 more under construction). These supply 75% of the nation's electricity - the highest proportion in the world (eg. USA 19% & SA 7%). This must play a resource-based role for their weapons industry, since nuclear energy is, in itself, not economically viable. It costs twice as much to generate electricity from new nuclear power stations in the US as from coal-powered ones. In the UK nuclear energy costs three times as much. No new nuclear reactors have been built in the US since 1978. Our own reactor at Koeberg (outside Cape Town) produces electricity that costs more than twice that produced elsewhere. It's radioactive waste gasses are released into the atmosphere "mostly when the wind is blowing out to sea". Other waste is transported 500km to Namaqualand, although some of it may be sent to (you guessed it) France for the extraction of uranium and plutonium (used in nuclear weapons).

None of the above figures take into account the storage and monitoring costs (over thousands of years) attached to radioactive waste production, or the environmental costs of nuclear accidents:

On April 26, 1986, two explosions blew the 1000 metric ton lid off the nuclear reactor at Chernobyl. The resulting radioactive fallout raised background radiation as far away as Israel, India, Japan and even the United States and Canada. Europe was more severely affected: four years after the incident sheep farms in Wales were still so radioactive that they could not sell their meat for consumption. It is estimated that 20 000 to 40 000 people in Europe and the Soviet Union will die of cancer induced by Chernobyl's radiation within the next 30 to 60 years.

Thanks to France, Moruroa Atoll already contains several thousand Chernobyls-

worth of radioactivity. Tests have confirmed that radiation levels have risen in places such as Samoa, Fiji and New Zealand after the explosions take place. There is also evidence of fracturing of the atolls, resulting in radioactivity leaking into the Pacific Ocean.

Nuclear energy, then, is expensive, dangerous and forms part of the infrastructure (materials/expertise) required for the construction of nuclear weapons. Coal-fired power stations are non-sustainable and produce greenhouse gasses and acid rain. Many viable, renewable, safe and clean alternatives exist (eg. hydroelectric/geothermal/lightning/solar/wind); yet little money is being spent on their research and development. In South Africa in 1986, R776 million was spent on nuclear development (excluding the weapons programme), while only one million was spent on renewable energy.

The problem lies with the profit motive. You have to pay for non-renewable energy, while renewable energy is free once installed. Millions of energy-independent citizens is an electricity producer's worst nightmare. Change will be slow, but it will (out of environmental necessity) come. In the meantime it's up to us, the masses, to apply pressure for change.

ONE way that you can directly oppose the nuclear industry is to write or fax your opposition to the French President:

Monsieur Jacques Chirac
President de la Republique
Palais de l'Elysee
55, rue du Faubourg-Saint-Honore
75008 Paris
France
FAX: (09331) 47422465/42928001/
42928188.

Kearn Bamber

STUDENT DRAMA

Hannah Davies

ANDREW Buckland's production, *Myth Phalluth 1995*, was the hit of the National Arts Festival. Not only did it sell out every night, but it received a standing ovation at its opening performance, and was forced to extend its run to three nights at the beginning of this term.

Myth Phalluth 1995 focused on "the irreverent desecration of several of South African sacred cows, with the control of TV, rugby as a religion and sexism being the ultimate victims". One of its themes highlights the potential violence in television and the confusion between reality and fiction within the medium.

The main roles were those of three television personalities, played by Kirsty Stewart, Debbie Rivett and Natalie Gmür, who host their own live TV show, focussing on various topics including *The*

Myth of a Fertility Rite, the origin of rugby and rugby as a South African religion - a scene satirising the legends of rugby and the current attitude towards it, which provided great humour for the audience.

The TV show is performed to a couple, He and She (Helium and Sheila) and their Simeon friends, who become the victims of TV violence. The show turns bitter when the TV hosts involve He and She in *The Genital Mutilation Show*. The Simeons, representing the audience, believe the game is just part of the show. It is, in fact, reality.

The play ends on a sombre note. The result of the mutilation is He's death, reminding the audience of the devastating effects of television.

Myth Phalluth 1995 successfully combined comedy and satire, resulting in great entertainment, which Festival and Rhodes audiences made certain they did not miss.

BILLED as a "humorous parody set against the background of a world gone mad featuring 10 000 dancing elephants," *Squadron Marmite* was written, directed and performed by Bevan Cullinan and Rob van Vuuren. Although not quite fulfilling its promise of 10 000 dancing elephants, *Squadron Marmite* was fast, physical and funny.

The relationship between two characters, Dave and Pete, is examined in the play

These two average guys find a picnic spot and proceed to fascinate the audience with hysterically funny dialogue, keeping everyone constantly on the verge of laughter. Important in revealing their relationship is movement and physical struggles. Dave and Pete have to face their differences and similarities, and towards the end of the play this becomes critical as they realise their isolation. Throughout the performance, they become increasingly aware of the audience's presence and their feelings of being watched and manipulated become more and more apparent. The world as they see it seemed to have indeed "gone madde."

Squadron Marmite questions the boundaries between actors and audience. Use of everyday language and catchy tunes such as, "If you think I'm sexy and you want my body," combined with Bevan's facial aerobics appealed especially to the Rhodes student body. The personalities of the actors are also essential to the piece. All in all *Squadron Marmite* is an exhilarating theatre experience which leaves the audience pondering whether a chicken really does think.



"Women...were considered to be more susceptible to sin than men."

Claire Smith

RHODES University Drama Department presents Carol Churchill's play, *Vinegar Tom* from the 23-27 August.

Directed by well-known playwright Reza De Wet Reardon, *Vinegar Tom* deals with the exploitation of innocent women that resulted from the witchhunts and witchtrials of the 17th Century.

Tickets will be on sale outside Kaif during the week of the performance. For further information contact Guy Nelson at the Drama Department.

Take a Bow



Maria McCloy

BOW WOW is made up of Du Mhongo, Tseliso Rangaka, Tshepo Matshaba, Alistair Mokoena and Sandler 'Slash' Chilume and, 1995 addition, Simukai Munjanganja -an incongruous mix of B.A and Bcomm students who are all individuals with different styles and opinions, but when it comes down to it, these guys have one thing in common:

They've sacrificed and struggled so that you all can get up off your butts and dance - in a town not renowned for entertainment let alone for its Hip-Hop, R'n' B and local House scene.

Bow Wow was created by Slash and Tseliso in March 1994. They were later joined by Du and Tshepo and then by Alistair at the end of that year. Alistair does most of the administrative work and unlike the rest, he does not DJ.

The mix of personalities and opinions was instantly visible



Bow wow... (clockwise) Slash, Alistair, Simukai, Tseliso and Tshepo (Du not pictured) Pic: Gerald Garner

The group was formed because they saw a gap in campus party life. When I asked them who they were catering for, the mix of personalities and opinions was instantly visible. Tshepo stating bluntly: "We were saying a bo darkie don't have music." Causing Alistair to protest: "You're making other groups feel uncatered for." Slash counters: "The fact that I use the word black doesn't mean we stop people coming through the door." Du gets pissed off and tells everyone to stop going round in circles. Tseliso pretty much sums it up saying that Bow Wow was aimed at "anyone who didn't listen to Rock 'n' Roll or Techno or any of the other stuff those guys at RMR play."

Anyone into Hip-Hop might wonder if the name reflects a particular admiration for Snoop, Dre or any other Death Row artist but Tseliso says the name "reflects the type of music we play and there's an attitude with the whole thing."

Despite the laughter and playful disses handed out to each other and the general public, and the checking out of fine women who walk by, these guys are very serious about holding Bow Wow functions.

From the outset they have faced an uphill struggle in terms of finances, music systems and venues. Registering as an official campus society would have eased the financial and venue worries but this fell through, Slash described how they applied to become "Some sort of society with an emphasis on entertainment...we were basically told to 'Fuck off' by those responsible for societies because they said

our aims weren't sound enough and that we were trying to duplicate the objectives of other societies."

As a result they had to pay for all that goes into an event - advertising, hiring of a venue and system as well as drinks - out of their own pockets, without any assurance that they'd succeed. Finding venues has been a problem and according to Tshepo they were assured the resource centre as a venue last year, but after putting up posters: "They put their fingers up our asses and told us it was no longer a party venue." The Great Hall isn't an option as it closes at midnight, and to use it one needs

societal backing. Du feels that: "certain groups on campus have more access to areas and times in terms of the party scene." The two Bow Wow parties held last year were in the Orange Room which cost R150 to hire out along with an extra R60 for the system.. Says Alistair, obviously the law student: "The attitude expressed ...was that of great reluctance to us getting off the ground."

Bow Wow... provides a much-needed service

This type of treatment has resulted in Tseliso stressing that "There will never ever be another Bow Wow event on campus." He thinks Bow Wow would be a unique society because it provides a much needed service. "We can't have members.", Slash quips, "Only groupies and fans."

All Bow Wow parties this year have been at the Bistro. I don't know about groupies but there definitely are a lot of fans...getting from one end to another in the jam-packed Bistro is NOT an easy task. Despite this fact, they don't make much of a profit as the venue costs 3/4 of a night's takings, so after paying to use the Bistros system they're left with around R250 to share.

The system they use does not enable them to "Expose our scratching, mixing and cross fading abilities." says Du. Du and Slash are RMR DJ and producer

respectively (Soul Kitchen on Fridays from 3-5 pm and 4-7 am on Mondays) but this doesn't make it possible to use RMR equipment as "one has to DJ in RMR's name" and they're not on the station's disco committee. RMR and Bow Wow are two separate and different things in Du's life. "I prioritise differently so Bow Wow takes the cake and the cherry on top."

Though Tshepo says that in terms of (privately supplied) music played at Bow Wow jams: "If you don't have local you're dead". All the DJ's figure that the crowds like a good mix of Lekwaeto (local) and Hip Hop, R'n' B and Rap.

commitment to women, drinking and loud music

Bow Wow have added spice to the usual party routine with their unusual brand of competitions. Slash came up with the idea of a woman winning a CD single by proving to them she was wearing black lace underwear.. The next CD went out to the woman who grabbed the mike and imitated a fake orgasm to the best of her abilities.

Whose idea was this? "It was a joint effort," says Slash. "It usually is," retorts Tseliso. Slash continues "Women always fake orgasms so it was appropriate...people complain that we're disgusting but...they're fighting to compete. We're not perverts, people should just relax and hang loose."

So it seems Bow Wow are fulfilling their aims. According to Alistair says: "Bow Wow purports to attain a much more even distribution of the benefits and joys of student life." Yeah, whatever. Tseliso says: "We got together because of a commitment to women, drinking and loud music."

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GETTING IN TOO DEEP?

Strategically tucked away from mainstream society thrives a trendy little book distribution outfit. It nourishes the neurons and enlightens the willing-alternatives with regular crap-detecting philosophies. Local literature wizards rK-tic and rK-ish rap about their byte of the Deep South Distribution Company.

rK-ish: Can you hear me?

rK-tic: Reception clear, fuzzed only by the spilt ego and a faint taste of anarchy. Proceed.

rK-ish: I hear we are writing the same story: the alter ego and doppelganger of the Shallow North. Or is that a little obscure for the crystal clarity of the mainstream?

rK-tic: Mainstream could soon flood. Yes, our interest in an *alternative reading* fuels us here, the *Dead Can Dance* of literature if you will.

rK-ish: Something is happening in G-Town. Fuck is a swearword, that everybody says, so it really offends no-one, being used so often it actually sounds just like any other word. Fuck you very much, thank you very much -it's just like bad spelling. But somebody in G-Town is saying "fuck you" in a way that offends sensibilities. And he does not operate under the consent of the king.

rK-tic: So I hear. There's this niggling growth emerging from the Powerstation,

that Gothic monstrosity that houses all sorts of weird shit. *Deep South Distribution* is apparently a one-man show, capable of atomic mind explosions and deadly philosophical genesis. A selection of books and mags, a bit too dangerous for the local CNA. This stuff actually makes you think, turning off the system to see the truth. Maybe.

rK-ish: I think I am going to disagree. It is not truth that the material distributed reveals. Ultimately that rests with you. Paul Wessels wants a blurring, a breaking of what's concretized. He has an idea that multi-media is fashionable and that nineties consumption of so many forms of electronic truth blunts minds and pulps culture. The books he collects from around the world are viewed as urine against the empire state. But slowly, they are seeping into our town, at once a trickle, but acid enough for a groundswell of truly great minds. Minds you won't find "stuff" in.

rK-tic: This could be so, fellow netsurfer, and back on earth, we still tune in to O.J on CNN. *Deep South* represents a quantum neuron slide from the brain to the nether regions and back again. Challenging order, adding chaos and anarchy like porno for arsonists, techno-counter-drug-spiritualist- culture, not quite the white picket fence. Burroughs, and his intellectual pirate ship were more important than just gonzooids. I think Literature is still the potent drug, although from much of the crap we read today, it's no wonder we let our brains rot on the media. Reply mode.

rK-ish: When I was young I watched a lot of porno movies. One of my favourite series were distributed by an adult industry called *Deep South*. In one scene, the actress bores with the actor and hauls in the cameraman, who hands over the camera to an assistant. Unprepared for the scene and obviously not used to having the camera on him, he nervously asks her what she should. With a thick, sweaty Yankee accent she says "Go down to the deep south Mr. Cameraman." I asked Paul Wessels if there were any connections. He blushed. He strikes me as the kind of person who wonders what it would be like to get NASA involved in zero-gravity pornography. Either that or he could just be somebody who hangs out on Fridays selling books that only a select intelligentsia would read, and understand?

rK-tic: Mondo-gnosis man. At the Festival, I saw him selling books at a rave. With satellite link-ups, internet communications and a fractal viewing room, I overheard some spandex-creep question its validity. Fact is, *this* is new culture; these books ejaculated ideas onto a loaf of stale society. They inspire and challenge. Rave is not music, it is culture, thought, reaction. Importing books for a select clientele at reasonable prices is not profitable, but someone's got to supply brain fodder. Does a counter-culture exist in G-Town, right beneath our protruding nasal hairs?

rK-ish: You have protruding nasal hairs?... Cybersociety delocates position. Internets and televisions fuse us in imaginary storms of static. We meet on planes we will never

touchseesmellhear. Literature tells of history and pain, of real fears and pleasures. Paul Wessels sells books in a powerstation that is home to dust and technological impotence (with the exception of the Toshiba Model). Literature of the voice dissipates in the wake of electronic revolution. Who in hell wants to read books? Or stay at home? Literature and printed text are primitive and guttural. But so are we in essence. Reading is like *screaming and roaring* the full force of your voice and lungs in an open, vast and deserted vale. It makes you feel *alive*, and powerfully *alone*. Like when you were born...only, it probably wasn't in a vale.

rK-tic: OK pal, whatever. Lets get in to some titles (appearing in the latest catalogue:)

* *Anarchic Harmony: The Spirituality of Social Disobedience*

* *How To Start Your Own Country (covers national defense and diplomacy.)*

* *Classical Jamaican Cooking: Traditional Recipes and Herbal Remedies.*

* *Memoirs of a Bastard Angel: A 50 year literary and erotic odyssey.*

* *Masochism: Coldness and Cruelty/Venus in Furs.*

* *Postmodern Contentions: Epochs, Politics, Space.*

* *Real Lives: Eleven Teenagers Who Don't Go To School.*

These are just a few amongst dozens of books, magazines, comix, even CD's. Gotta chuck bub, more waves to catch.

Robin Kelly (rK-ish)
& Robin Kalmek (rK-tic)

Just Between Hugh and Me

Strange how the affairs in the lives of celebrities can hold such a high interest value in the eyes of the general public. What impact has the "Hugh scandal" had on the lives of Rhodes' students? Katie King investigates.

BRITISH actor Hugh Grant's recent escapade with Sunset Boulevard prostitute Divine Brown has attracted wide-spread media attention, so much so that the shame-faced star of the hit film, *Four Weddings and a Funeral* was obliged to appear on no less than five American talk shows in an attempt to restore his public image.

It seems that producers of one of Grant's current film, *Nine Months*, were concerned that the scandal surrounding the actor's private life could seriously affect the box office success of the film. As it turns out, the extensive media coverage of the episode did wonders in promoting the movie to the extent that many were left wondering whether the scenario was not part of some cleverly devised marketing ploy.

What did Rhodes students have to say about Grant's fall from grace? Clearly the attention the media paid to the incident turned the actor's private affairs into something of a talking point.

In fact, the Disorientation Great Hall party

held two weeks ago, ran a flyer which wryly proclaimed: "It'll be divine. Love Hugh Grant." Posing the question to students of what they saw into the so-called

"He's male scum like all the rest"

"Grant affair", *ACTIVATE* was met by a number of differing reactions which ranged from the supportive, the condemning and to the downright disinterested.

Female students tended to attribute the incident to typical male behaviour, with one BAII student, Jenny Kann stating: "He's male scum, like all the rest. Liz wouldn't do that to him." A more common view was that the media had paid excessive attention to an event which was essentially a private affair.

When approached, these students were clearly tired of discussing the incident and felt that it should cease to be a public concern. As Tshina Mosendane, a BA Honours student put it: "It's between him and his woman and Divine Brown."

Another view which emerged was that of the affair being a set-up, a publicity stunt aimed at boosting the celebrity status of Hugh Grant, despite the fact that he has incurred a criminal record as a result of being caught in flagrante. This is a theory supported by Steve Whiteman, a first year BA student: "It wouldn't surprise me in the



pic: WM & G

least [if it were a set-up]. High Grant and Liz Hurley are two very clever people." This brings into question the public's apparent willingness to forgive movie stars in spite of their flawed conduct. Many people I spoke to were adamant that their perception of Grant as an actor had not changed in the slightest and that the

incident had failed to tarnish his appeal. Leigh Kilpert, a BAII student, enthused: "I still think he's lovely. He's very good-looking and I enjoy his acting, and that's got fuck-all to do with his private life." But others admitted that their view of

Grant had undergone a change. Kirsty Poppett, BJourn 11 student, had this to say: "I'm disappointed in the man."

This does point to the fact that modern society is perhaps more callous in its judgement of celebrities' behaviour. In the 1950's, rock star, Jerry Lee Lewis' marriage to his 13-year-old cousin attracted such a media furore that his career as a performer was instantly brought to an end.

Is society's estimation of stars now more easily persuaded by media opinion or is the public merely indifferent to the goings-on in the lives of celebrities? Danya-Zee Bulkin, BAI, maintains: "People tend to look at film stars as role models and by the media condoning Hugh Grant's actions, it relates the message to society that this kind of behaviour is acceptable."

Despite the on-going contention, it could be that the hype is beginning to wear thin. British magazine *ESQUIRE* recently ran a feature entitled "The 10 Things We're Tired of Talking about most", with Liz and Hugh's relationship rating high on the list. Enough said.

Stool talk

LAST term, shortly after its official O.K to grace the air waves, RMR frequency was hacked. Some unfortunate DJ dissipated into dead air as some asshole found his fifteen minutes of unseen, dubious fame. The only choice of sound this person made though was sound you could smell. This perfect opportunity to subvert the conservative order of student radio amounted to no more than some hick whacking your woofers by burping, farting and giggling, in short, shitting over the stratosphere of Grahamstown for all decent folk to hear, live.

It made me think of this column...

Imagine pre-revolutionary France. All of a sudden you appear on a platform, one that doesn't hold La Guillotine aloft, and before you shuffles a mass of potential mob. What would you say to unite this seething bunch of dirt and disease, some toothless, some hunch-backed, one-eyed? What hope could you breath into them?

Imagine you're about to set first foot on the moon. The world is watching you and even though from where you are Earth looks like a floating eye-ball, every possible fly-like focus in it is on you. What could you say to justify such a bizarre, obviously strictly exclusive, zero gravity, indulgence?

The point is, once upon a time one flew over the cuckoo's nest, and as academics and intellectuals alike, on the peripheries or undercurrents of common belief, and to an extent philosophically outside of the capitalist machinery, we have a privileged perspective. You'd think we have more to say and more voice to say it with?

But I am not just on about student air-pathy. There's something underlying that. I came here to get woken up to subtext, I thought of varsity as a dynamic place where I would be this apprentice to a groundswell and uprising of ideas, majestically conjured by maestros of myth and mind, creators of tornados not winds of change.

I got lectured. By a lecturer. In a lecture hall. Double spaced. Ruled margins. Handbooks. Overhead dictums. Library hours. Admin. Departmental police-ey. Real po-et-ry. Bab-y.

The idols of intelligence I hoped to emulated, the carriers of history and dangerous art, were bards of boredom, transforming dull lungfulls to lull-ful dung. On the occasions they asked for a measure of what I had learnt, the essays would come back weeks later, with gaping yawns of commentless white space, save

for the very accurate correction of spelling. We as students are criticised and dismissed because, guys, they've known all along that you don't have anything to say. They say that you only say what others have said. Those little numbers you put at the end of sentences might be mistaken for a word-count if you used footnotes mythodically after everything you've lifted. They've got a point. But the horror of it all is that you'll just take another note : *lecturer says that I must not write down what he's saying because thats all I ever do.*

But if we read a little more of this students notes...*Prof Hall says that Barker's crit of Williams follows Thompson's argument and that Davies' theor-ee about Barker draws paralels with Johnson's hypothesis,*

all of which is examinable.

When last have you heard a lecturer actually say something?

At school I remember being told how breathing occurs more from a need to expel carbon dioxide than to inhale oxygen. Inhalation is something you have no choice in, once the toxic carbon is out, you are like a balloon the atmosphere feels a need to fill. Pity that...all that we have control over is the stale gas, all that will ever come out of us is for the plants. Sigh.

Yet, although we fill the air with death, we have been given the potential to shape the emission into sound. We can stress, intone, BELLOW and whhhhhine, whistle and suck. Pity though, most of what does come out is for the birds.

So. Shit. The secrets out hch? We've been systemised into useless mutes through lack of stimulation. We've been lubricated as biology teachers at high school did with vaseline on those plant experiments...you know, the ones where the vaseline vacuumed the jar, denied the plant oxygen and showed exactly how well those that did get air could grow, synthesise, produce. Which is why you talk about the weather. Over cans of fermentation and little phallusses of smoke. And when you have your higher education and receive the honorary title of modern carrier of Truth, Intellectual Integrity and Justice, licensed to review, challenge and make a real History of a new generation of humanity, will you leave this idyllic oasis of fresh air for the hazy metropolises of smog and demand that the office you have be air-conditioned?

Robin Kelly

Self Portrait



ARTISTS continually challenge the reality around them. They charter the unfathomable depths of meaning underlying everything to break the surface with a glimpse of the truth. Very few make sense of what they see, if they make sense at all. And some see more than others.

But aside from what they see and encounter, its how they see themselves that ultimately filters their ideas and beliefs. With the same intensity they study systems and surfaces, they have to study themselves: most artists get lost, some fall in love, others see such fear they are unable to create anything remotely true to themselves.

When I look at Kirsty Jones I find no stains of emotional scarring, overwhelming guilt or vanity. She is beyond that. Her work shows very few of the tensions most of us need lifetimes to uproot and untwist.

Although she came to photography at a late stage, the art inside her was already at peace, waiting to find some way in which to show the incredible sense of self she had. I look at her and I see her soul. There is no hide and seek, there is only a powerfully honest spirituality so unassuming, simple and profound that most people did not even notice her. Those who come into passing contact with her will remember her as a quiet, sensible, withdrawn and introvert. She did not require adoration, she did not need solitude.

I'm not sure what else to say, other than I love her so much, and for those of you who knew her, and now know her by her work, you will know what I mean when I say that Kirsty left the footsteps of an angel, that although you sometimes weren't aware of, you'll always know they're there.

Rob Kelly

a NEW NINETIES NOTE?

Nicholas Wilson

"THIS is the dawning of the age of Aquarius"

Some may remember those lyrics from somewhere. Yes that's right, they're from the musical *Hair* - quite a hip musical to have seen if you savoured the avant-garde in the swinging sixties.

The other day while on the loo these lyrics came to mind and my illumination or satori as Jack Kerouac would prefer, was complete. Gee! Aren't the ninety's crappy! At least in the sixties there were causes to fight for. Yeah! If one was fortunate to have

lived in the ol' US of A and preferably in the Haight - Ashbury district of San Francisco you would have had some 'groovy' causes to champion. To name just one, the objectification of women (sounds intellectual, don't it?). You could have embraced the women's lib movement in a fresh way if you were a male. Hey, Man! Just help burn a few brassieres (I'm getting technical) in the streets and wham bam - you get to frolick naked with these hip happening babes. Picture the scene! Pot's evocative odour filling the air accompanied by the sounds of JEFFERSON AIRPLANE doing 'White Rabbit'.

Don't forget you also had the Vietnam War to contend with 'and now you can go out and get Those reds, 'cos the only good commie is one that's dead.' 'Yes, bands like COUNTRY JOE and THE FISH explain the woe and exasperation of those days. But hey - at least there was something to feel exasperated about. What I'm trying to say is that there is nothing left to do in the nineties. All we have are imitations. Who did Kurt Cobain really think he was? Another Morrison or Hendrix? The answer is obvious. You would also have to be bloody stupid not to see that the far-out threads you are wearing were around

before you were twinkles in your parent's eyes.

The nihilistic attitudes which your musical heroes ie. Eddie, Kurt, Evan and co. adopt or in poor Kurtie's case 'adopted' mirror those of Jimbo, Jimi, Janis, the Velvet Underground - you name it. The real thing has gone!

For all you neo-hippies/grunge-kids/coffin-kids or whatever you call yourselves, you missed the bus, sweeties - the sixties were three decades ago! ...So while you're contemplating the intellectual musings of the late, but not so great Kurtie Cobain, remember that it's better to stagnate than to imitate.

Gripping Stuff



James Matcher, Mountain Club chairperson, assists Sports Officer, Sue Powers on the climbing wall during inter-res climbing at Alec Mullins

pic: Taryn Cass

LENDING A HAND

Debre Gillomee

RHODES' Mountain Club is doing its bit for development through a climbing education programme, in joint effort with the Gold Shield Award.

The two-phase programme, which has been running over the last term, aims to give young people the opportunity to participate in this expensive sport.

"Because climbing equipment is so expensive, it is an elitist sport. We want to break the mould and take the sport to people who would otherwise not have the opportunity to participate in it", says Mountain Club chairperson, James Matcher.

Thirteen scholars from Rhini schools, Benjamin Mahlasela, Nombulelo, Mary Waters and Nathaniel Nyaluza, attended the first session - a phase that consisted of a theoretical session on the basics of rock climbing such as safety tips and equipment. It was presented by Matcher and climbing co-ordinator, Stephen Holness.

A second phase consisted of a practical session at the Rhodes indoor climbing wall for the beginners, where each participant had the chance to "belay" and attempt a climbing route. Then came the real thing at "Crag X" in Mountain Drive. The young recruits were shown how to set up climbing gear and attempted to climb some of the easier routes at the crag.

Providing trainees with exposure to different styles of climbing is the goal of the club. Safety is also an important consideration.

"There is a surprising amount of talent in the group", enthuses James "Some of them have the potential to become very good climbers".

The Gold Shield programme is a non-formal educational programme. Its activities aim at self-improvement for young people between the ages of 14 and 30. An international programme, it offers courses at three different levels for which bronze, silver and gold awards are presented.

Skills training, sports coaching, community projects and an expedition have to be completed at each level before candidates qualify for an award.

In return for their coaching, the children will help the Mountain Club clean up the areas around some Grahamstown crags.

The club became involved in the programme because they wanted to make a contribution to the community in return for using the rock and natural resources of the area.

This term it will train a new group of children, while simultaneously running an advanced course for those who showed talent in last term's activities. James hopes this will be an ongoing programme.

"We'll carry on until they run out of kids to send us."

Sports Editorial

Volleyball

Sharin Sweet

DURING the second week of the July vacation, the Rhodes women's volleyball team participated in the South African Universities (SAU) tournament in Durban. Approximately 32 mens and womens

teams from around South Africa competed in the tournament.

The Rhodes team consisted of Andy Lumpp, Colette Mol, Sharin Sweet, Kathy Wright, Helen Shaw, Stacey Thomas, Bronwyn Gooling, Marlese Tebbe, coach Bronwyn Law-Viljoen and manager Ben Viljoen.

However, at the tournament the "jinxed" Rhodes team did not reach their usual high standard of performance. Several players suffered the flu, sprained ankles and torn ligaments.

Nevertheless, this did not dampen their spirits and the tournament ended on a high note with the selection of Rhodes students, Andy Lumpp, Colette Mol and Marlese Tebbe for the SAU squad.

FUNNY how time flies, isn't it? It feels like we took a monumental leap from June exams and landed bang in the middle of third term. The world of sport seems to be equally hectic on both the national and campus levels.

Firstly though, official *Activate* congratulations must go out to the Springboks. Yebo, gogo! Since their victorious opening match the South African team made their mark as a force to be reckoned with. The organisation of RWC itself was pretty impressive - hardly anyone remembers the Davis Cup disaster now...

Since the big win the main sports issue to dominate international news has undoubtedly been the dramatic t Murdoch-Packer- (Luyt) "money-go-round" saga. The ordeal is a grim testimony of what happens when money minded egoists interfere in the world of sport. Rugby players around the world have been reduced to pawns in a very different game - and one in which they don't know the rules. In this money game it seems that the only loser is rugby. Nevertheless, despite the financial niggling and nagging it seems that the domestic Currie Cup is well on track - marked by the exciting Natal

vs Transvaal match last Saturday. The now familiar RWC faces of Thierry LaCroix, Craig Chalmers and Rob Wainwright, are adding new flare to this season.

Still on the national front, it seems that it isn't only the traditional chiefs who are worried about being dethroned; Kaizer Chiefs (the great Amakhozi) seem likely to topple from the pedestal they occupied for so long at the top of the NSL - particularly after losing to the breathtaking play of Sundowns three weeks ago.

Here at home, Rhodes also had a brief bout of rugby controversy this month. Rhodes Rugby breathed a sigh of relief when first team captain, Andy Milne, was found innocent on charges of dirty play.

And while inter-res sport is mushrooming in size and popularity this year, it seems SRC sports events still never happen. Rhodes women were left wondering about the rugby and soccer matches that were scheduled to mark National Women's Day. It seems that a change

of venue was not advertised leaving the eager teams in the lurch. Once again the SRC missed its target.

However, it shouldn't take a public holiday to glean the many talented fullbacks and forwards from Rhodes' female population. Isn't it about time we catch up with the rest of the world by having our own women's cricket, soccer and rugby teams? So, get out there and hassle the Sports Administration.

Of course, and coming back to the Boks, despite all this women's libbing something just never change.

I'm thinking of Joel Stransky's interview with a 702 reporter after the ticker-tape parade in Gauteng. When asked what the highlight of the World Cup was for him, he joked:

"While we were in the parade some woman flashed at me; that was the highlight of the my World Cup". I guess when it comes to sport some can't decide whether to burn their bras or throw them...

One final note: be sure to catch the action of the inter-res finals on the weekend of September 1.

Dupli-print!

8 Hill Street
Grahamstown, 6140
Tel: (0461) 23602; Fax 27876

Internal League Heads For Final

Brian Booysen

THE Internal League is in the final competition stages. Only a few games are left to see who emerges as the victors in the A and B Divisions.

League

In Division A the three-tier struggle between Ratanang, Zimsoc A and defending champions, New Generation, is coming to a head. The next three weeks will see a winner from one of this three teams. Zimsoc A thrashed Ratanang 7 - 0 last Wednesday. Ratanang now faces the mighty New Generation on Wednesday - a game they have to win if they wish to remain in the running for league honours.

Old Fields are the favourites to win the Division B. Gold Fields, the only other team in the running for the league title, were unfortunate to lose three points for not providing a referee. This leaves Old Fields four points clear at the top of the log.

Knock Out

The knock out got underway two weeks ago with all 21 league teams participating in the competition. Two quarterfinal matches will be played on August 21, the winner of the Armpit vs

Oppies will play against Zimsoc. New Generation meets College in the other quarterfinal. Ratanang and HSS Ajax are the two early qualifiers for the knock out semi-finals.

Ratanang went through because AC Milan forfeited their quarter final match. HSS Ajax scored a convincing 6-0 victory over Graham House with Man-of-the-Match, Eric Mcetwya, scoring four goals.

HSS Ajax and Ratanang will now meet in the semifinals on August 28.

The final of the knock out competition will be played on Sunday September 3.

Latest league scores:

Division A
Zimsoc 7 : Ratanang 0
HSS Ajax 2 : De Beers 0
Atlectica 1: Ratanang 3.

Division B
Skidd 4 Zimsoc B 1
Retief 2 : Botha 0
Youngsters 3 : College 2
Old Fields 4 : Salisbury 0.

SHE LOVES THIS GAME

Carlien Vavruch

"BASKETBALL has attitude!" Well, so has Martha Banda.

The captain of the Rhodes Basketball team, Martha is not your average jock. She is an independent woman who thinks for herself and stands up for what she believes in, and at 6ft2 you can be sure she makes a lasting impression!

She gets animated as she talks about the game - describing the NBA adverts that say it all: "It's the sweat, it's the muscle, I love this game!" She admits she loves winning, but does not mind a loss if the team did everything they could.

For instance when she played for Zimbabwe against Zaire in the Africa Women's Tournament, the game was a walk-over in Zaire's favour, but the challenge of playing against brilliant sports people and the stiff competition they provided made it her favourite game. The fact that, for once, she wasn't the tallest on the court also forced her to work a lot harder...

"it's a people thing"

The 10th child in her family, Martha says she studies hard for her parents' sake, but her basketball is a personal indulgence - it's the one thing she has always wanted to do- "it's energetic, it's powerful and it's good fun".

It "doesn't need that much space" she says - if you have a hoop and a ball you can play wherever you are.

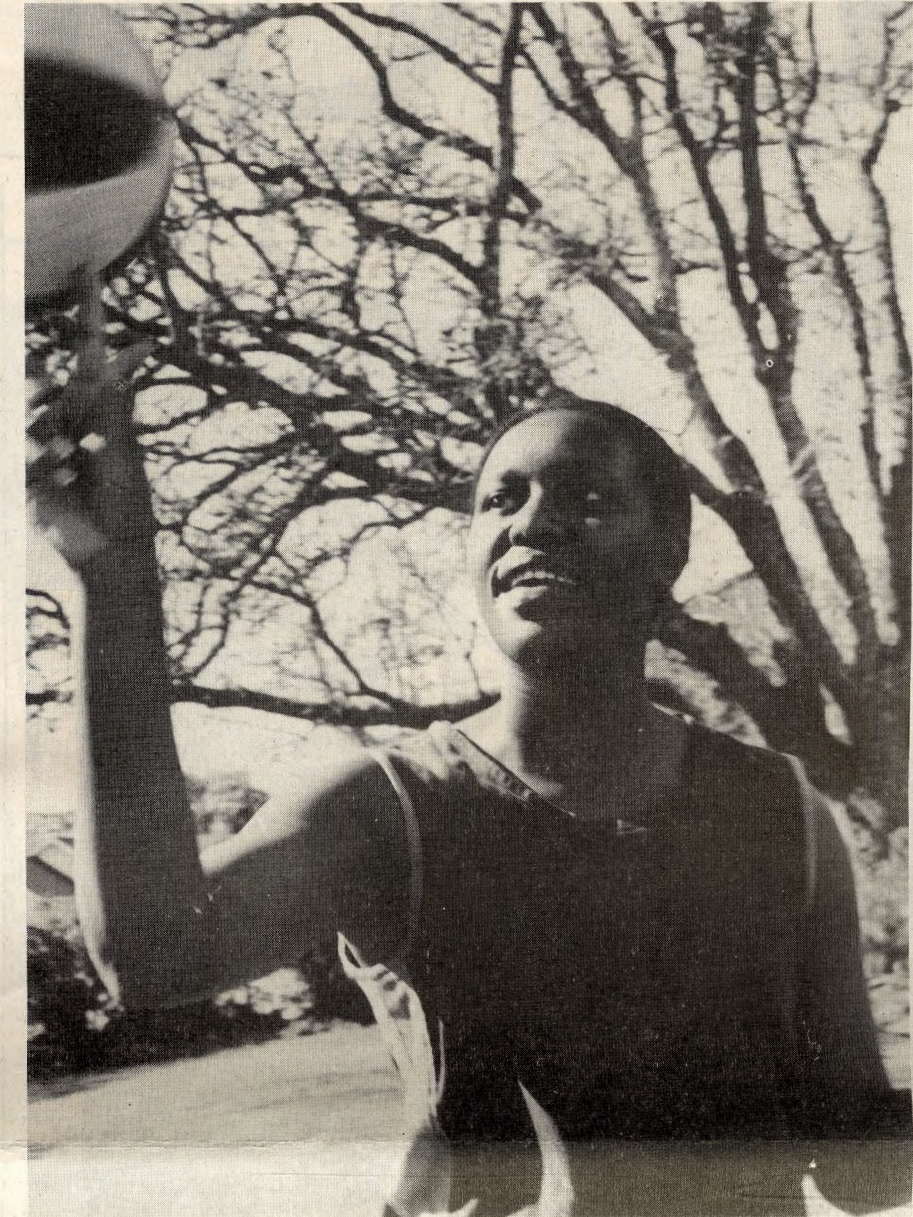
And it is something she will never get tired of, especially because it's such a social game, played within a confined space with a lot of people.

To Martha sport is a "people thing" and she likes sports people - not the "arrogant types", but those that enjoy good competition, meeting people and learning together.

Her greatest wish is to go to the States - not permanently but only for a season of basketball, just to have had the experience. She dreams of being discovered by an American scout, who would then offer to pay off all of her teaching bursary, which is the one thing that she feels is holding her back.

Martha loves psyching out her opponents - a crucial part of the game. She explains: "it's very much a mental, as well as a physical game".

Basketball is also very team-orientated and getting anywhere in



At 6ft.2 inches, Martha Banda makes a lasting impression.

pic: Indressa Naidoo

the sport depends on the support of your team. Regardless of how good a player is "if your team is not as good as you are, you're not going to get anywhere" says Martha.

The failure of the Rhodes Women's team to try-out for the World Summer Student Games was a big disappointment. She believes several of the women could have made the SAU side, but lack of interest prevented them from getting there.

With her already heavy workload, missing so much could be detrimental to her final result. Therefore, she would not be heartbroken if the Union cannot fund her, although given the opportunity she wouldn't say no.

Women have as much potential as men

Martha feels basketball is very small at Rhodes, especially among the women. She attributes this to the lack of a coach who would inspire them to improve their play.

She says women have as much potential as men to play fast and dynamic games, all the sport requires is more commitment.

The All Africa Games are being held in Zimbabwe, in September and her coach at home wants her back to start training for the National Women's Team. However, Martha has to rely on the Zimbabwean Basketball Union to fund her return. And going to the games entails missing at least 5 weeks of varsity and that might be a price too high to pay.

Martha started playing basketball when she was 13 years old and was chosen for Zimbabwe when she was 19. Now, at 21, she also plays for Eastern Province.

Coming to Rhodes has had its drawbacks. At school, in Harare, she played basketball, volleyball, hockey and athletics, but academic pressure has meant she only has time to concentrate on one sport at Rhodes.

Even keeping a good basketball form requires more time than she has. At the moment she trains about 7 hours a week, but she feels it

should be almost double that!

At school she also had more time for extra-murals - she was involved in chess, debating, Toastmasters and Interact, and she was head girl of her school.

Grahamstown is a big change from Harare - it is much smaller and there is no basketball league here.

Martha admits she has become more introverted since arriving at Rhodes, adding that she gets bored very easily. She spends her free-time reading and spending time with good friends - most of whom are Zimbabwean. She finds it strange that she had to travel to a little town in the Eastern Cape to make some really good Zim friends.

Her own person

Commenting on Rhodes social life she says "this getting pissed every single night - that's not my style.

Every once in a while... I like to have a big booze-up and really go wild. But it's not the be-all and end-all of everything. You can have fun without getting pissed, you can have fun without smoking a joint".

It bothers her that some people seem to lose their identities when they come to Rhodes, because they try so hard to fit in with a certain group. She is determined to be her own person, and she definitely is.

Last words from Martha? "I'm free and single and willing to mingle!" she laughs. Requirements for Mr Right? "You just have to be 6ft5 and if you play basketball it could help!"

SPORT

Activate supports Rhodes sport. Submitted details of all match fixtures and resulting scores will be appreciated.



SLAM DUNK! Rhodes Basketball's Simon Walsh (facing) takes on team mate Mark Gordon in an impromptu practice session after the inter-res matches last weekend.
pic: Taryn Cass

SPORTS RESULTS

Hockey

Women

RU2 vs Lotus	won 1-0 (2 Aug)
RU1 vs Old Grey	lost 1-3 (4 Aug)
RU2 vs Old Grey	won 3-0
RU4 vs Old Grey	won 4-1
RU1 vs UPE	lost 0-4 (6 Aug)

Men

RU2 vs UPE	lost 1-2 (6 Aug)
RU3 vs Ramblers	won 2-1

Rugby

RU1 vs Parks	lost 0-55 (29 July)
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Tennis

Men

RU1 vs Westview	lost 2-12 (29 July)
RU1 vs UPE	lost 6-8 (4 Aug)

Women

RU1 vs Westview	lost 0-14 (29 July)
RU1 vs Victoria Park	lost 0-14 (4 Aug)

Basketball

RU1A vs Trojans	lost 51-96 (31 July)
RU1B vs Trojans	lost 47-52

Volleyball

Men

RU vs Tech	lost 1-3 (1 Aug)
RU vs Spartans	lost 1-2
RU vs UspecA	lost 0-3 (3 Aug)
RU vs UspecB	won 3-0

Women

RU vs Uspec	lost 0-3 (1 Aug)
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Hockey

Women

RU vs Dodgers	w/o to RU
RU vs Tycon	won 3-1 (6 Aug)
RU vs Striders	lost 2-3
RU vs Proteas	lost 1-3

Climbing

3rd National Sports Climbing Champs

Masters Men

4th Jeremy Colenso
30th Shannon Law

Intermediate Men

Three way tie for first, then 3rd James Matcher

22nd Kevan Watkins

32nd Erik Bouvier

James Matcher is top ranked Intermediate for 1995

Ladies

1st Shannon Law

Shannon Law is top ranked lady for 1995

Vac Results

Climbing

2nd National Sports Climbing Champs

Intermediate:

2nd James Matcher
13th Steve Holness
20th Dave Holness

Hockey

RU vs B.A.C Select	won 2-1
RU vs Queens	draw 0-0
RU vs B.S.C	won 6-1
RU vs B.A.C.	lost 0-4

FINAL POSITION: 2nd in tournament

Duathlon

E.P. Champs

1st Elite Men - B. Knox-Davies

S.A. Champs

9th Elite Men - B. Knox-Davies

To Run a Mile

Mboneni Mulaudzi

AFTER a three year break Winchester House is once again organising the Winch Street Mile, scheduled for the afternoon of September 30.

This year's Mile will be the first of its kind since it will include the greater Rhini community which has previously never been part of the event. "This is not just an ordinary mile nor a mile for Winchester alone, it is a mile for the greater Grahamstown community. It is envisioned that it will in future extend to the Eastern Cape at large", explains Winchester House sports representative, Justin Brown.

Asked who is likely to participate in the event, Brown says runners will mainly be Rhodes students and staff, and pupils from all Grahamstown government and private schools.

The structure of the race is likely to include a Men's serious race and a Women's serious race, followed by a Fun Run. The Mile record so far stands at 4:44.7 minutes for men and 5:27.31 minutes for women.

According to Winchester House warden, John McNeill, the Winch Mile began as a RAG event in the 1980s.

He adds that at the time RAG was predominately a white event with which few black students identified. As a result the Winch Mile stopped being hosted under the auspices of RAG.

The Mile, which is supposed to take place every two years, was last held in 1991. Its main objective has been to raise money for charity. This year the money will be donated to the Assumption Convent Nutrition Centre.

Grahamstown TLC chairperson, Mzukisi Mphahla, has pledged his participation and will also make the presentation of prizes after the event. Mphahla has been invited because, according to Brown, he is "the unifying figure of the Grahamstown community, and since one of the objectives of the Mile is to unite the community, Mr Mphahla is the suitable person for task".

Rhodes Music Radio is likely to broadcast the event live. McNeill challenges other residences and societies to involve themselves in similar activities.

Potential participants may contact Justin Brown at Winchester House (311452/29038) or via e-mail at g94b9406.

Innocent Andy

Joanne Levitan & Brigid Martin

RHODES' First XV rugby captain, Andy Milne, was found innocent on charges of rough play at a disciplinary hearing on August 2.

Milne appeared before the Eastern Province Disciplinary Committee after allegations by referee, Andre Greyling, that the Rhodes captain had stood on the head of a Parks' forward with malicious intent during a first team match two weeks ago. Milne was ordered off the field five minutes before the end of play. At the time he was unaware that he had done anything illegal. "It was a completely harmless incident," he said.

The hearing found that the players were in a ruck when the incident

occurred and Milne was justified in using his foot to release the ball.

Had the verdict been guilty, Milne would have faced a six month suspension from EP rugby. His plea was supported by letters from the Parks team and Rhodes coach, Lipi Sinnot, saying that he did not deserve a sending off.

According to Milne the outcome of the hearing "was a surprise to everyone involved as it was one of the first times in recent years that a referee's decision had been overruled.

"It was a tremendous relief. If I had been found guilty I would have got a dirty name as a player. If I played anywhere in the world there would still be a stigma of being sent off and being banned. It's something you can't hide."