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September 1997

# activate

Independent Student Newspaper

FIFTH  
Edition

Trinity University

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1997



# Two winners for Ruth First Award

Alison Canter

**CO-WINNERS** of the 1997 Ruth First Courageous Journalism Award, Thomas Kwenaita and Justin Arenstein, recently told students how they were threatened with law-suits worth millions of rands for their brave investigative stories.

Held in the Arts Major lecture theatre on August 18, the award is presented in memory of Ruth First, an outstanding investigative journalist who died after opening a letter bomb sent by the South African authorities. This year's award ceremony coincides with the 15 year anniversary of her death.

In a televised interview, First's former colleague and ANC MP, Govan Mbeki said "Ruth was a giant of a journalist...she paid the highest price for it." The award is made possible by the Ruth First Memorial Trust Fund and is given to the journalist who most epitomises her search for truth.

*Sunday Times* journalist, Thomas Kwenaita (40), received this prestigious award for his story on fraud and maladministration in South African soccer. He was partly responsible for the resignation of Solomon "Stix" Morewa, head of South African Football Association (SAFA), through his coverage of the story.

"Writing the story," he said "was difficult, as my colleagues kept silent about the harassment of the soccer gangs and the threats from rival papers [that they received]."

"I lived like a fugitive, never staying in the same place for more than two days," said Kwenaita who was

threatened by Awesome Sport International with a law suit worth R45 million. Kwenaita put his life at stake as he believes "journalists must tell the truth, and nothing but the truth...the public has a right to know."

On accepting the award he said, "I feel humbled to receive this award. I never considered myself as brave."

Justin Arenstein (27), who writes for African Eye News Service, won the award for his story on the Deputy Speaker of Parliament Baleka Mbete-Kgositsile, who obtained a fake driving licence and Senator Patrick Mogale's involvement with a minor.

These stories were difficult to follow up, as threats prevented him from obtaining valid information. But nearly being sued for R8 million did not prevent him from uncovering these scandals.

He was also instrumental in exposing the secret deal between the Dubai-based Dolphin Group and the Mpumalanga Parks Board. One Mpumalanga MEC described him as being a "wicked spiritual force".

Arenstein said that "the greatest dangers facing us are individuals, businesses, gangsters, civil action and defamation of character [but] it is the journalist's duty to give underprivileged communities a voice."

The winners will each receive R4000, while the runner-up, Blackman Ngoro, a free-lancer for the *Sunday Independent*, will receive R1000.

Last year's winner was Phillip Van Niekerk, now editor of the *Mail and Guardian*.



1998 RMR COMMITTEE: (top, left to right) Ish Hohmann (Outside Broadcast Director), Paul "Vivian" Llewellyn (Music Director), Graunt Kruger (Talk Director), Ilda Jacobs (Music Resources Director), Simon Rowe (Technical Director), Charmaine Horne (Administration Director), Nicole Raubenheimer (Marketing and Communications Director), Jeanne du Toit (Programming Editor), (bottom, left to right) Emmanuel Minas (Finance Director), Chaka D. Kureva (Station Director), Sean Gardner (Advertising Director), Natalie Dixon (News Director).

Keep listening for changes in RMR sound and read the next edition of *Activate* for a programming update.

pic: Toast Coetzer

## Rhodes offers new courses

Hugh Ellis

**THE DEPARTMENTS** of Ichthyology, Geography and Botany at Rhodes will be offering two exciting new courses next year, broadening their curricula to include subjects relevant to today's world.

The Ichthyology Department will be offering the first undergraduate course in ichthyology in Southern Africa. Head of Department, Professor Tom Hecht, said there is a need for people in South Africa who are qualified to manage marine resources. He added that such people are also needed in Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries such as Namibia, Angola, Mozambique and Malawi, where fishing is a large part of the economy.

He pointed out that, "in a country like Malawi, fish forms 70% of the animal protein people eat", while the fishing industry in South Africa earns up to US\$550 million per year. "It is far from a useless science" said Hecht.

As well as lectures, the course will have a strong emphasis on tutori-

als, seminars and practicals, in order to have "close and intimate contact" between lecturers and students. Hecht said that ichthyology will be offered as a two-year major in the faculty of science. Students will have to do Biology I or Zoology I in order to qualify for admission to the course. To enter third year, students will have to have at least a half credit in mathematics or statistics.

Hecht said he would advise students to take any other physical or biological science subjects. Previously, ichthyology has only been offered at honours or masters level, but it is now being offered to undergraduates because previous honours students had encouraged it, and the department believes that this new course will be very popular.

Although the senate still has to approve it, the departments of Geography and Botany are planning to jointly introduce a two-year major in Environmental Science, starting next year.

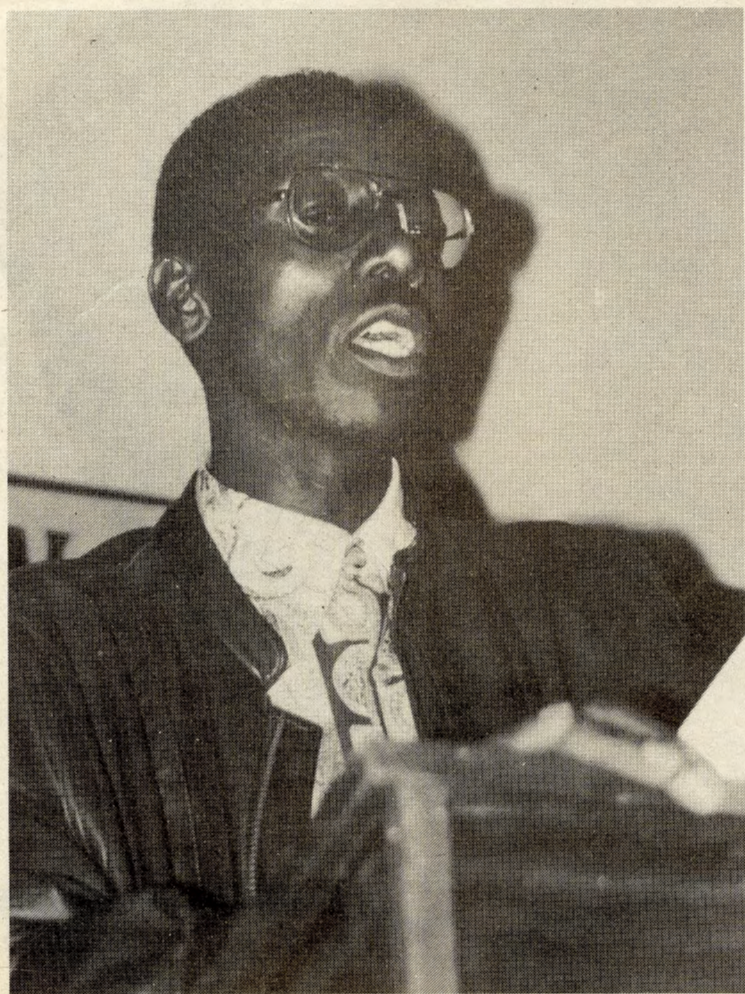
Kate Rowntree, Associate Professor of Geography, speaking to the Geography 1 class recently, said the course will be "broadly based on environmental issues," and will

be offered to BSc and BJourn candidates only at this stage.

She added that the course will train people "in many different areas," especially in environmental management and the conducting of environmental impact assessments (EIAs). It will also involve the use of geographical information systems and other computer technology.

According to the proposed calendar entry in the 1998 University calendar, the course will have "many prerequisites that must be satisfied". In their first year, students will have to do either Geography 101P (physical geography) or Geology I, as well as Botany, Zoology or Biology, and Geography 102H (human geography). Chemistry 101 will also be a requirement, although Rowntree said this might be relaxed for the first intake.

Environmental science II will consist of only one half-year course. Geography II, as well as a half-credit in ecology or botany must be taken with it. The third year course will be a full year and more in-depth. If all goes well, an honours course in environmental science may also be introduced.



COURAGEOUS JOURNALIST: Thomas Kwenaita, joint winner of the 1997 Ruth First Award risked his life to expose fraud in the soccer world. pic: Craig Hallett

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# Rhodes faces Mixed feelings staff cuts about changes

*In line with the new Higher Education Act to be implemented sometime in the next two months, Rhodes is facing staff cuts in certain academic departments. Activate reporters Celine Cloete and Memory Mzilethi sifted through the rumours to find the facts behind the planned changes.*

**THE VICE-PRINCIPAL**, Dr Michael Smout outlined the Administration's position on the cutting down of academic staff and possible closure of some departments at a meeting on August 19. The meeting was organised by postgraduate students in an attempt to get answers to their concerns.

Smout said that the proposals were not final decisions but were 'issues under consideration' and that the administration was well aware of the implications of the proposed changes.

He explained that the new government Higher Education Act to be implemented at the end of the year will determine changes in Higher Education and the funding that the University receives from the government.

"We can't run Rhodes University in a vacuum and we don't want to do that, we are part of the national set-up. For the first time in the history of South Africa we have a planned education system which is in the educational interests of the country."

The University's income is made up of the state grant, student fees and private income, with the state grant constituting the largest source of income. However, over the past 11 years, this grant has been steadily cut and student fees have had to go up. "We have severe financial problems," Smout said.

According to Smout, the government has indicated that technikons must grow six fold in the next 10 years and universities only two fold.

The government believes that technikon 'type education is needed more in South Africa and as a result university education will have to change.

The Academic Planning Committee (APC) recently conducted an audit of 23 University departments. The audit included the evaluation of staff to student ratios, resources, space taken up by departments and their financial viability. Departments were then divided into four categories:

Category A - the most threatened departments

Category B - fundamentally sound departments

Category C - departments that are satisfactory, but need attention

Category D - strong departments.

The departments facing closure or drastic reduction of staff members include Afrikaans/Nederlands, German, Classics, Physics, and Theology/Religious Studies.

The APC discussed the fate of these departments and their recommendations will be put to Senate which will reach a decision on August 29.

As with any business, the departments which make a lot of money have been cross-subsidising the departments which don't. However, some departments are losing more than half a million rands per annum, severely stretching the financial resources of the University.

Smout reported that although student numbers have not gone up over the past four to five years, the changing student population is showing new interest in different subject combinations, hence some departments have doubled in size while others have decreased.

In contrast, the staff numbers in these departments have stayed the same.

"We don't want to weaken any Humanities departments but we have to face reality and realise that some departments have to go. We do have a plan, we do have a vision - for a strong Humanities department."

However, there are those who strongly oppose these proposed changes. The concerned postgraduate body said that the cutting down on staff members is not in keeping with the University's depiction of itself as a university whose excellence is the result of a low student to staff ratio.

Debbie Seddon, a masters student in the English Department and member of the postgraduate group said "what really worries me about the cutting of staff, is that it means we will be throwing away highly skilled people and we can't do that."

The postgraduates also expressed their concerns about destroying the University's reputation of having one of the best Humanities Faculties in the country.

Seddon believes that a university should be made up of people with diverse academic backgrounds.

The postgrad group recognises the need for transformation and re-evaluation of tertiary institutions. They also understand the pressures placed on human and financial resources in the current economic climate.

However they argue that the closure of departments and the reduction of staff will diminish the strength and diversity of the University.

Until a decision has been reached by Senate on August 29, none of the proposals will be final. However, it is clear that some changes will have to be made.

*After an audit by the Rhodes Academic Planning Committee, it was decided that changes should be made to some departments, especially those in the Humanities. Departments under the spotlight include Classics, Religion and Theology, Afrikaans and Nederlands, Physics, and German. Memory Mzilethi and Celine Cloete spoke to several Heads of affected departments to ascertain their reactions to these proposed changes.*

**Afrikaans Department - will be reduced to two or three lecturers, probably sharing lecturing duties with UPE.**

**Professor Barbara Bosch**

**Q:** Your department falls into Category A, one of the most threatened departments. How does your department feel about this?

**A:** We realise that it was necessary for a redistribution of available funds. We are very sad that we have to lose some of our people, however we are also excited about the possible co-operation with UPE. It is important to have a strong Afrikaans department in our region rather than having a marginalised department. By sharing our expertise we can still offer excellent academia that is affordable too.

**Q:** How did the administration inform you about the staff cuts? Were these proposals imposed on you or did you have a discussion with Admin beforehand?

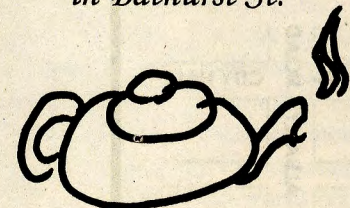
**A:** No, these proposals were discussed with the department and the administration and it was put to us that there would be staff cut backs in the future.

**Physics Department - will be reduced from nine to four lecturers.**

**Professor Paul Nathanson**

**Q:** How do you feel about the proposed staff cuts in your department?

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**A:** We fail to see the logic behind the magnitude of cuts that were proposed for the Physics department. We will keep pushing on this point.

**Q:** Did the administration discuss the matter with you before putting forward their proposals?

**A:** The only discussions we had with the administration were at the interim stage. We got the review of the proposals that was sent out to all departments.

**Q:** What is the next step?

**A:** The final recommendations will be sent out to all departments who will review the final proposals and make recommendations to the Senate. We are not happy with the negative publicity that this has brought about.

**Religion and Theology - is facing complete closure.**

**Dr Peter De Villiers**

**Q:** What are your feelings about the proposed staff cuts and closure of departments?

**A:** We oppose them very strongly. It came as a shock to us that they are considering closing down our department. They came up with the proposal of finding churches to sponsor the department. Delegates from churches came from Jo'burg and they were very interested with the University's proposal. However the University does not understand how difficult it is for churches to actually fund someone.

We cannot understand why this process is being conducted with so much haste. To give churches two or three weeks to respond is unfair.

## News Briefs

**SRC President wins bursary**

1996/7 SRC president, Chicco Khoza, was recently selected as one of 14 South African university students to tour England on the Abe Bailey Student Travel Bursary in November this year. The students will travel to Great Britain, spending most of the time in London. Khoza said "we will be visiting present Rhodes Scholars who are studying at Oxford University." They will also be visiting the headquarters of the Labour and the Conservative Parties. But the tour is partly educational and fairly broad and "we will have a choice of what other places we would like to visit." Khoza will be completing his Masters in Law at the end of the year, and hopes to go into the academic field after being admitted as an attorney.

**Tin Roof closes**

The Tin Roof Blues in Hill Street closed on August 16 after a final gig featuring SA band Amersham. Owner James Truter, who also owns the original Tin Roof in Knysna decided to close the venue after firing the manager a month ago. He said that it was difficult to manage both places by himself. He has plans to open a second venue in Knysna.

**Most of campus at party**

The RMR party held on August 1 was attended by 2500 people, 1100 more people than last year. The money made from the party will go towards the hire of the venue, security, the media campaign and the payment of damages. A basin was broken, flooding the bathroom, a flagpole was torn out and fire hydrants were damaged.

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# Surtees resigns after investigation

**Solomon Makgale and Xolisa Vapi**

**PROFESSOR** Peter Surtees, the Master of Founders Hall, is resigning at the end of the year. At a special Hall Committee meeting, Surtees announced his decision to retire. The meeting was held to discuss the findings of an investigation into initiation at Founders Hall. Surtees said that the relationship between him and the Vice Chancellor, Dr David Woods, had already been damaged. "He doesn't have confidence in me, nor do I have confidence in him," Surtees said. Dean of Students, Dr Moosa Motora, said that two students complained to Admin that they were initiated during the welcoming braai at the beginning of the year. "They (the students) were ostracised," Motara said. Woods instituted an investigation which was headed by Mike Oelschig. In his report, Oelschig said that what had happened constituted initiation, because the students were intimidated and forced to act against their will. Although Surtees was not pleased with the findings, he said that he

believed that Oelschig acted in good faith. Surtees was further compelled to resign after a disagreement with Woods over the definition of the term 'initiation'. He said that he was given two choices: either to resign as Master of Founders Hall or to face an inquiry which could result in a disciplinary hearing. "I find this utterly unacceptable. I was approached as if I had committed the offence whereas I knew this was not the case. The Vice Chancellor acted as if I was guilty," he said. According to Hall Committee members who attended another special meeting, Woods said that he was saddened by Surtees' decision to resign. However, he insisted that it was upon the definition of what constitutes initiation that he decided to take action. He added that the University's stand on initiation included any form of peer pressure and coercion. Both the Hall Committee and Surtees contended that students were not forced to do anything and that some opted out during the activities at the welcoming braai. They argued that there was thus no coercion. Woods said that he admired those who opted out, but they were un-

der less severe pressure. Woods' definition of peer pressure as psychological pressure took Committee members by surprise. "It effectively means that if students are asked to introduce themselves in a house meeting it constitutes peer pressure, therefore initiation, even though the Vice Chancellor might not agree with this," said Vuyo Tetyana, Botha House Senior Student. "To have someone who has been working for 18 years forced to resign over such an issue is worrying. There are elements high up in Admin who are gunning for Founders," Brin Hodgkiss, Founders Hall Senior Student, said. "Prof was liked by many students as he took a lot of interest in them. Most of us had to fight back tears when we learned of his decision to resign after the meeting with the Vice Chancellor. Similar feelings of anger and shock were expressed by many students in Founders," he added. Members of the Founders Hall Committee are organising a march to Admin in protest against the Vice Chancellor's decision and the findings of the investigating officer. Dates had not been confirmed at the time of going to press.

## EL campus expands

**Babushi Maimela**

**THE ACQUISITION** of the Saunders and Wium building by Rhodes University's East London campus has beefed up the institution's plans to expand the campus, according to Rhodes Vice-Chancellor, Dr David Woods. Woods said it cost about R800 000 to buy the building neighbouring the East London campus as a starting point for expansion. He said the main reason for expansion was to create space to meet the educational needs of the fast growing population in East London, especially the Mdantsane community. In addition to the acquisition of the building, there are ongoing negotiations with Transnet concerning the transfer of land surrounding the East London campus to the University.

*The aim is to ease access to university...and contribute to the establishment of equity.*

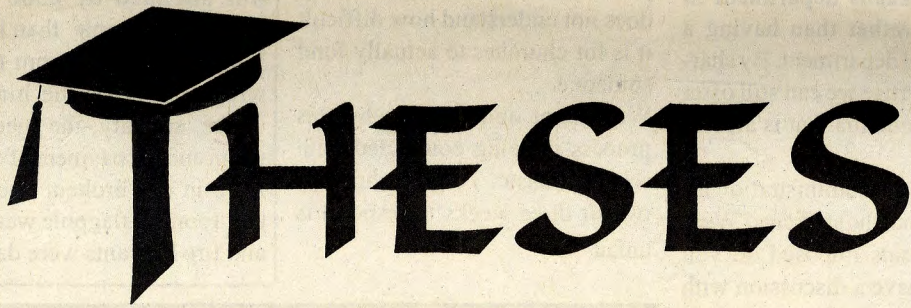
Woods said they had several negotiations with Transnet's Managing Director, Saki Macozoma, over the acquisition of the site. They held the last meeting in April this year. According to Woods, they are planning to use the site for physical expansion of the East London campus by building more lecture rooms and, in the long term, developing an engineering school. "We want to develop an engineering school in East London but careful research has to be made first on the technological needs of the city, and the viability of the idea," he added. The University has suggested to Transnet that the site be transferred to Rhodes free of charge as it is government property. "If Transnet is not willing to offer the land free, or at least a nominal rate, we will negotiate with the Education Department to purchase it for us. The Department has bought land and buildings on behalf of other educational institutions and I am confident that they will do the same to us," Woods said. There is a concern that Government may not be willing to offer financial assistance due to the University's historically "white" background. However, Dr Terry Marsh, the Director of the East London campus is confident. "63 percent of the student population at East London campus is black. We are confident that the government will cooperate, as the aim of the project is to ease access to university for the people from historically disadvantaged backgrounds. It will also contribute to the establishment of equity in higher education," he said.

## Campus Voice

*Pissed off, stressed out? Speak out! This is your space.*

**GRAHAMSTOWN'S** National Arts Festival is a great event. The variety of shows, stalls and the hectic night life, all combine to transform Grahamstown into a lively, glitzy city. But I found it alienating. The Festival's atmosphere was culturally white. My buddies and I could hardly hear any Kwaito or D'gong rhythms in town. Unless we were out in the township, it was all rock 'n roll in the New Street pubs. Thank the Lord that Bathurst Street was happening: Club Take Five and ALASKA were a lethal combination and with DJ Miles and Crew spinning discs, the Crillion was extremely vibey. Sitting and joking about the alienating nature of the Festival for most "niggaz", one pal mimicked a local storekeeper: "You black people never stop complaining. You blame everything on apartheid and never appreciate things as they come." But we concluded that the Festival is alienating, especially for the township, mainly because white people form the well-off section of our society. The conclusion might sound politically (in)correct, but the fact is that the organisers ignored the township by not scheduling attractive shows there. Such venues could incorporate the poverty-stricken township into broader Grahamstown. They could also have shown the well-off visitors that the community neighbouring the town live in poverty. Yet irrespective of colour or creed most people attending for the first time considered the Festival to have been excellent. But a bunch of Capetonians, who did not miss the '95 and '96 Festivals but never attended a single show, found this year's event "boring because attendance has decreased. There wasn't enough babes." True! Attendance at this year's Festival has been unsatisfactory compared to the previous years. Although the flocking of huge crowds to Grahamstown on the last weekend raised the organisers' optimism, the turnout of 103 307 as compared to last year's 148 428, raised questions about the future of the event. The decrease could be blamed on shorter stays by visitors due to expensive accommodation: a visitor could part with a grand for a 10-day stay. Let's hope the organisers will consider this year's depletion in planning for next year. If the situation deteriorates, Grahamstown will eventually vanish from the South African map. Mojero!

**Babushi Maimela**

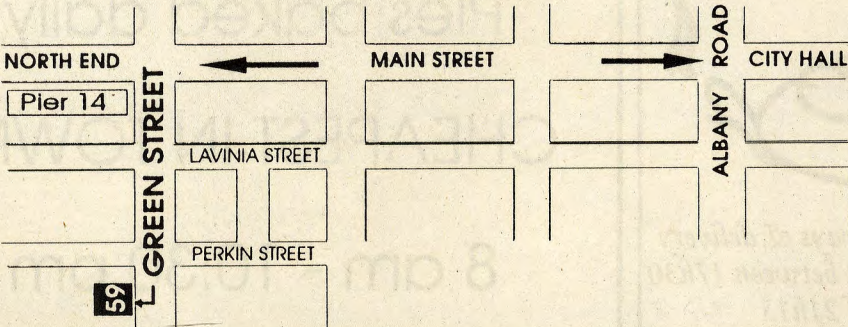


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# Student media: where are we going?

## Mboneni Mulaudzi

**IT IS COMMONLY BELIEVED** that student media has a particular function or role to play in tertiary institutions, and society at large. But what exactly should this role be?

In the past, South African student media was a political voice for the marginalised groups. It not only articulated the feelings and frustrations of students, but also expressed the views of communities.

Changes in the political environment have brought about change in how student media or campus media defines itself. Views vary, although there seems to be agreement that student media should also perform the traditional function of any media, that is of watchdogs informing their community. Like mainstream media, student media works in a society that is faced with the challenges of transformation.

Looking specifically at Rhodes University, there are those who feel student media could do more than it is presently doing, in terms of covering a wide range of issues. Head of the Journalism and Media Studies Department, Professor Guy Berger, believes campus media should be playing a leadership role and also creating a sense of unity within the community that it serves. He said campus media should strive to reach more people and build bridges between people of different cultures and racial groups.

*Activate* editor, Brigid Martin, believes that with the new political environment, there is no perceived common enemy any more and students have nothing to fight against. This has necessitated the change of focus for student media. She said the role, particularly *Activate*'s role "has become that of entertaining instead of being a political mouthpiece for radical students."

Gunther Deutsch, who is at the forefront of establishing a newsletter, said that it is wrong to say that politics are no longer relevant as this is "equivalent to saying that bread is no longer relevant." He said student media has become uncritical. "It should unearth things that Admin does behind doors and things that the SRC is doing," he said.

He said his publication, which will hopefully be launched next year, will be a forum for debate and will facilitate student participation in campus activities, ranging from politics to sports.

Rhodes Music Radio (RMR) station manager, Chaka D. Kureva, believes that campus media should be at the forefront of defining and "picking up" issues that the campus community needs to debate. Student media should highlight and expose inequalities that exist within the campus community, he said.

In terms of community involvement, Chaka and Brigid feel student media has a limited capacity, but that it should ensure that community issues are covered, as the University is not isolated from the greater Grahamstown community.

On transformation, the media "gurus" are convinced that student media can play a much more effective role. "Transformation has become too institutionalised, and student media could contribute by informing

people of what is happening in other institutions," said Berger.

He said that although campus media does not have the power to drive transformation, it should stimulate debate and monitor to what extent transformation is taking place. The general feeling is that more coverage on transformation should be done, although this will not guarantee that people will want to involve themselves in the process or, for that matter, want change.

Many media structures on campus are dominated by whites, with very few blacks participating. There are many reasons for this, but Chaka and Gunther both feel this can be attributed to the fact that these structures were started by white people and have thus remained predominantly white, and as a result black people have no sense of belonging.

Drawing a parallel between the South African situation as a whole, where we have a black government and a white controlled media, and the University with a black SRC and a white media, Berger feels this is a reflection of our society.

Brigid said *Activate* is not dominated by whites but has all racial groups, as there are many blacks who write for *Activate*. She said there should be more black writers than there are now, since anyone is free to write for *Activate*. She said that it "could be that black people perceived *Activate* in a certain way and were therefore less willing to write."

Many black students, however, protest that issues affecting them, and those they easily relate to, are not properly reflected in the campus media. Gunther believes black people have themselves to blame since they are not actively participating in these structures, but are just standing back and criticising.

In student media there has always been a contention from students that media should be completely independent from all forms of influence by the governing structures, and that editorial control should lie entirely within the editorial collective of the particular station or publication.

University managements and SRC's argue that media structures cannot be completely

independent as they are utilising students funds. Brigid and Gunther feel it is not possible to be financially independent as student media cannot generate enough advertising to sustain the publications. Chaka, however, suggests that student media should be independent, both financially and in terms of editorial control, without either SRC or management interference. He said student media should strive to get more advertising or engage in fundraising projects. Berger links this to the function of the student media.

He said if student media is performing an important job and deserves to be funded by the University, they should push for more resources. He suggested that for editorial control different parties need to draw up an editorial charter with broad terms that do not constrain student journalists in their watchdog function.

I personally think that the media should declare poverty and all forms of inequalities - be they social, political, economic or cultural - become our common enemy in post-apartheid South Africa.



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# Forgetting yesterday's world - crime on the rise in G'town

Jak Koseff and  
Wayne Groenewald

A FEW DAYS after trekking back from Jo'burg, Cape Town and Durban we tend to stop sweeping our eyes over every street corner and don't jump red-robots after midnight. But we make the mistake of assuming that since we don't have recurring visions of armed gunmen and ruthless criminality out here, that crime is kept to a minimum.

The sad fact is that the country's soaring crime rate has found yet another niche - and that niche is Grahamstown. According to Grahamstown police statistics, there were 143 theft cases in the month of July compared to 138 in June, and 118 in May. Of these there were 98 car break-ins in July, 57 in June and 44 in May. Car break-ins have therefore doubled between May and July, and robbery in general has increased by 21.2 %.

Campus security, despite facing the challenge of patrolling an open campus, are actually managing to keep down crime on campus itself. The number of reported cases has only marginally increased since last year. 24 hour foot patrols by guards working 8-hour shifts, with volunteer student assistance, has seemed to keep things relatively under control. Head of the Campus Protection Unit (CPU), David Charteris, claims that, while we are not divorced from the rest of South Africa, campus crime is far from extreme.

Dave Stowe, the second in command at the CPU, claims that students have a duty to report any crime observed and to work with his men. However, a lot of people feel that having security guards armed only with batons and two-way radios just isn't sufficient in a country that often feels like the

Wild West on speed.

There is also evidence of a more sinister element entering the usually petty crime dominated campus crime scene.

In the early hours of the morning on Sunday August 3, two strikingly similar cases of car vandalism and theft occurred. Oliver, a Rhodes student, had three mag-wheels stolen off his car parked outside Jan Smuts house around 5am. Lesley, another student, had one wheel stolen off a similar car also with mags, with the others loosened. Lesley had the dubious privilege of spotting the vandals and scaring them off. She described them as four or five young kids, with no transportation, hauling their "spoils" away on foot.

To many small-town dwellers this might seem coincidence; to those of us on more personal terms with big-city crime this has a more malevolent ring: syndicate crime. Lesley informs us this theory was put forward by police at the scene. However, she also claimed that the police acted irresponsibly and unprofessionally, even placing their hands and items on the car before fingerprinting it.

One might expect such behaviour from laid-back small-town law enforcers, but if, as their statistics show, crime is indeed running away with itself, a more rigid and professional approach is definitely necessary. We are not for a moment claiming Grahamstown is being thrown to the criminal wolves. We have the privilege of living a lifestyle devoid of the rabid vicious crime that characterizes big-city hijack and crime rings. But such a significant rise certainly shows that Grahamstown has officially caught the virus. Sadly, we can no longer afford to love Grahamstown as our haven from a gun-toting world, growing ever disrespectful of the rights of decent people.

# Shopping Spree

Lara Kastan

FOR STUDENTS, the weekly or monthly shop can be comparable to torture on a rack; not only are you parting with the precious allowance you would rather be spending on booze, but the whole expedition is a mission. The parking, pushing, parcels and queues can make you swear to send your mom to do bulk shopping at home before you return to Grahamstown.

Just call me Isabel Jones. I have taken it upon myself to be the consumer bulldog for Rhodes students. Armed with a shopping list and stringent evaluation criteria I visited the OK, Shoprite and the new Spar to find where you can get a fair deal with the least hassle.

I filled my basket with only the essentials for student survival, these being milk, bread, cheese, vegetables, fruit, tuna and cat food. I also added dishwashing liquid, toilet paper and washing powder, as an after thought. I chose only the cheapest items, all of the same quantity.

And here's what it cost:  
OK - R72.76.  
Shoprite - R73.01  
Spar - R72.25

The news is that prices are basically the same everywhere, but the quality of food, especially fresh fruit and vegetables, varies considerably. The fresh fruit and veg at

the Spar are really great and, unlike the other supermarkets, you don't have to hunt for one good apple in a batch of bruised ones. But low prices and quality are not the only plusses at a supermarket. Believe it or not, in Grahamstown, where service is a foreign word, I discovered that now shopping can be almost enjoyable.

Hallelujah for the new Spar. It is so clean that you could eat your food off the spotless floors. No more squashing through box-filled aisles or wading through muck on the floor.

The staff, many of whom are fellow students, actually seem to be enjoying their jobs and are polite.

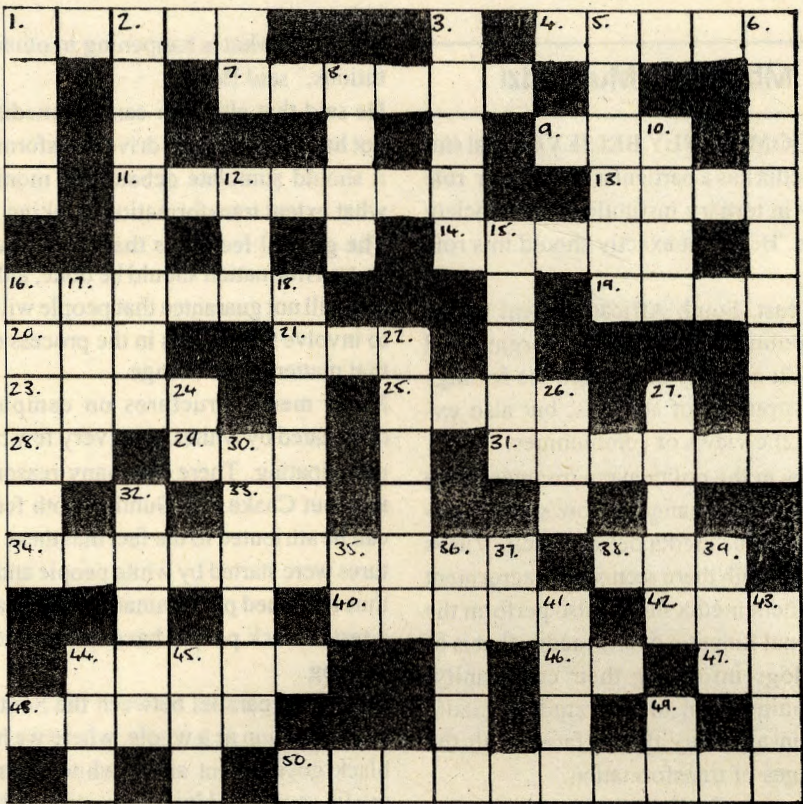
Most appealing at Spar are the student-friendly prepared meals like lasagna, curry or roast. They also have prepackaged sandwiches and ready to use veggies and salads. The fortnightly specials have sent me reeling. If you shop carefully you can now afford all the essentials and some treats.

Owner Gill Shelton said "the Spar is listening to the suggestions of students. We are extending our stationery range and are bringing in new vegetarian foods."

All the till points have barcode scanners, so no more sending the packer to find out missing prices while the queue fumes behind you.

All in all, the new Spar rates number one for quality and service. Perhaps other supermarkets will feel the burn of a new competitor and shape up.

WIN coffee and cheese cake for two at the BlueRoom! Return the completed X-word with your name and address, to the Library, Kaif or Day-Kaif by September 19.



- ACROSS
- DOWN
1. begin (5)

4. red-nosed circus performer (5)

7. \_\_\_\_ of noodles (6)

9. promise (3)

11. to submerge in liquid (7)

13. used to keep notes in order (4)

14. member of a tribe who moves from place to place for food and pasture (5)

16. a large tropical American lizard (6)

19. female chickens (4)

20. \_\_\_\_ the father (3)

21. to set up (3)

23. Christmas (4)

25. dry (4)

28. primitive instincts and energies in unconscious mind (2)

29. alcoholic drink similar to beer but not made with hops (3)

31. a formal agreement between two or more states (6)

33. operating (2)

34. a person present at an event who can describe what happened (10)

38. in good physical condition (3)

40. cutting one will make you cry (5)

42. to cry violently (3)

44. to take great pleasure (6)

46. either \_\_\_\_ (2)

47. \_\_\_\_ graph (circular representation of information) (2)

48. something with a hue as well as black and white (American spelling) (5)

50. something creamy and delicious that you can win from the Blue Room (10)
1. earth (4)

2. the manner in which a person views or behaves towards something (8)

3. answer to 91 divided by an unlucky number (5)

5. found on a tree and used as a bath sponge and for scrubbing the skin (6)

6. something that is crucial is a \_\_\_\_ (9)

8. South African term for 'town' (4)

10. opposite to 'narrow' (4)

12. short form of the first day of the week (3)

15. to circle (5)

16. to set on fire (6)

17. \_\_\_\_ vibrations (4)

18. intensely eager (6)

22. area outside of a house (6)

24. me, fa, so, \_\_\_\_ (2)

26. without moisture (3)

27. area in desert with water and shade (5)

30. to laze about doing nothing (6)

32. to go against (5)

35. yes means \_\_\_\_ (2)

36. as (5)

37. therefore? (2)

39. it's not inside it's on \_\_\_\_ (3)

41. be aware of (4)

43. to clench the teeth upon (4)

44. to steal (3)

45. interviews with members of the public are \_\_\_\_ pops (3)

49. Egyptian Sun God (2)

Last edition's winner - Taryn Dinkelman won free coffee refills for a month from the Blue Room.

Free Lunch

change

Wanna be an editor?

Activate changeover

28th September

10am - RA room



# Dear Activate...

## "World in Africa Day" Failure

AS CHAIRMAN of one of the most active student societies on campus, I am obliged to deal with the Students Representative Council perhaps more often than most. In fact, I have encountered every level of bureaucracy to which they subject student societies, from the founding of a society (in this case Rhodes Debating), to the everyday operations of a society like our own. In short, the impression is much like lemon after tequila. The process burns and leaves a bitter taste in the mouth. It is enough to deter the most enthusiastic and pro-active individual.

Little wonder that so many students after dealing with the SRC look around for a different drink.

There are some shining exceptions to this otherwise definite rule. This year, the notable exception has been Chicco Khoza. On behalf of Rhodes Debating, I would like to express our gratitude to Mr Khoza for the professional manner in which he has conducted himself. In all of our dealings with the outgoing SRC President, he has been most helpful and, to coin a phrase, a "true gentleman".

A further exception to the rule, is Mrs Sheila Cook, the SRC accounts clerk. Sheila is always a great encouragement and most resourceful. A useful person for any society to know and interact with (but then of course, she is on the permanent staff of the University and is not a student).

The specific purpose of this letter, is to highlight one particular incident which took place this year and which raises serious questions as to the competence of our outgoing SRC, or at least some of its members. Early this year every society received a letter (dated April 7), calling for them to participate in the "World in Africa Cultural Day". Naturally, Rhodes Debating took the initiative to become involved.

The event was to be organised by Mr Gunther Deutsch. A letter from our society requesting further information, was never answered. After the July vacation, however, we received a letter from Mr Deutsch, informing us that we would be taking part in the event. We were instructed to showcase debating and to prepare an exhibit to promote our passion.

To quote the original letter from Mr Deutsch: "The SRC entertainment portfolio will be hosting a cultural event of mass proportion on 2 August 1997 in the Great Hall." Or at least, that was the plan. Other plans were also afoot: Winnie Mandela was to be guest speaker.

The actual event was far from what was planned. On an overcast Saturday morning (August 2) two people arrived at "Freedom square" or more conventionally, Kaif Lawns (which was the new venue for the event). One of these people was Mr Khoza and the

other Miss Marika Muller (Administrative Secretary, Rhodes Debating). The World in Africa Cultural Day was called off, a message was received informing the SRC that Winnie Mandela would be unable to attend. To me it is fortunate that the event was called off since, had Winnie Mandela arrived, her address would have been to a handful of people under soggy canvas tents on Kaif lawns.

One has to wonder how Mr Deutsch justifies the effort and the finance which went into this event. In an earlier letter received from Mr Deutsch, he informed us that "I will be spending my entire June vacation planning the World in Africa Cultural day." It frightens me, that a year's planning culminated in a rained out event on Kaif Lawns attended by a handful of people.

Mr Deutsch, however, appeared quite indifferent. And to our society, a note of apology, not from Mr Deutsch, but Chicco Khoza. This is only one event and one example of the efforts of members of our SRC. The only reason that I am in a position to describe it, is that our society was directly involved.

Who is to know exactly how many other events of "mass proportion" came to nought?

Perhaps we should look to our "transparent SRC" but then the question arises: "Did you hear about the World in Africa Cultural Day?" Very few people did. The fact is, the advertising was very inadequate. How many other summits, meetings, forums and events fall into the same category? Are these the people who supposedly represent my interests?

Were this a debate and not an article for your publication, I would have to conclude: "Mr speaker, I beg to oppose!"

**Philip Sigsworth**  
**Chairperson Rhodes Debating**

## Pre-abortion counselling

WHEN I WAS 19, I fell pregnant and had an abortion. It seemed to be the easiest option just to get rid of the problem. I was completely unprepared for the emotional, psychological and physical problems which lay before me.

With abortions now legal in South Africa, I want to appeal to anyone who is considering having one to seek counselling first and to make an informed decision.

Believe me when I tell you that having an abortion makes an enormous and permanent impact on one's life

There is a pregnancy crisis centre in Port Elizabeth called 'Alternatives' and they offer a free, confidential counselling service to anyone facing a crisis pregnancy or to people suffering from post-abortion trauma. Their telephone number is (041)55-3959. Having had the experience and worked through a lot of pain and confusion, I am willing to speak to anyone seeking more information on the subject.

If you want to talk to someone who has felt the anguish of an unplanned pregnancy and understands the dilemma one faces, please contact me at 28176.

If I am not there please leave a name and contact number on my answering machine and I will get back to you.

**Julia Goodwin**

# Editorial

**THE WORD** retrenchment is bound to strike fear into anyone's heart, and for the past month, the University has been buzzing with rumours about staff cuts and closing departments.

First there was the announcement that staff cuts were imminent. Then there was a snippet in the EP Herald saying that the number of staff at Rhodes would not be decreased - what this really meant was that the number of staff will stay the same, but some departments will lose staff, while others will gain.

A group of very concerned postgraduate students got together to make a submission to the University on the behalf of the affected departments. They contacted academics and Rhodes graduates across the world, who wrote to condemn the move, and they got the Vice-Principal Dr Michael Smout to attend a meeting of postgrads. He very kindly explained the whole situation, meeting high idealism with hard reality.

Basically it all comes down to money. For 11 years now, the government has been cutting back the subsidy that Rhodes relies on so heavily. Cuts which most students felt this year, with bursaries becoming harder to get, and societies having their budgets cut. After many green and white papers on the subject of education, a new higher education bill will be passed in the next two months.

The point of this bill is to make some kind of coherent system by which future generations of South Africans can be educated. Of course this is a welcome change in an education system which has suffered under the divisions of Apartheid. But with the new Bill, will come changes in funding to universities and of course Rhodes is going to suffer - and to quote Dr Smout "we are really scratching for resources".

Hence the proposed cuts to several departments in the Humanities. The postgrad group argue that universities cannot hope to produce well-rounded members of society if we close departments such as German and Religion and Theology while severely decreasing the power of other departments like Classics, Afrikaans and Physics. But if, as Dr Smout said there are two people at university for every one person at technikon in South Africa, it would make sense for universities to become more specialised in what they offer. By this I mean that every university in the country should get together to conserve departments like Classics which has limited appeal, but which is undeniably an important area of study. In this way, certain courses will only be offered at one university, and if people want to take that course, they will have to go to that particular place to study it. Then the university can use that course to attract more students.

Thinking about the people who stand to lose their jobs because of these changes, this attitude may sound hard and callous. And perhaps it is, but it is one of the horrors of this world that we can't "live in a vacuum", cut off from the realities of the market place.

Although at times it seems hard to believe, it is obvious that the Rhodes Administration is fully aware of the implications of these changes and just as clear is the fact that they are taking these decisions with their backs against a very rocky, solid wall. But judging by the shock waves reverberating around campus, perhaps the whole situation could have been handled a little more tactfully.

**ON TO MORE PLEASANT** things... Thank you to everyone who took the time to respond to our questionnaire. The results were varied, but generally positive and sometimes even complimentary. Many people asked for more coverage of campus events and although it is difficult to publish up-to-date news because of the time it takes the paper to be printed, it is something that we are aware of and will be working on. Strange requests included a stock exchange column and a TV guide. There were also requests for competitions, so I will direct you to page 6 where there is a crossword competition with a yummy prize.

Lastly, I would like to direct you to our web page which can be reached at <http://activate.ru.ac.za> - check it out, it's really cool.

# Creditorial

Brigid ("eeeeee...it fits!"), Ian (burp {smell of pizza} - "curse the radishes!"), Jo (how can you believe a man who says: "curse the radishes!"), Francoise (since I became a radical feminist I can't deal with life anymore), Heather ("it's because nobody loves me"), Lineke ("I'd like to think of something funny, but I really can't"), Ilda (lady in pink), Mboneni, Jason, Celine, Philani (all four flying the Activate flag in East London), Maria, Teresa, Jak, Wayne, Mary Lou, Lara, Solomon, Gina, Roman, Mass Dosage, Toast, Xolisa, Babushi, Alison, Hugh, Craig, Jennifer, James, Marisa, Hairy Harriet, Geoff, Ilja, Sports Admin, Bryon + pizza (again), SRC - thanks for holding up our pages!

Toucan

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# Ye Olde Tale of

Marisa Dean

**DELVING INTO** the Intervarsity archives may be a mere trip down memory lane for the few souls who were actually alive when it all started. But for the rest of us, it is an amusing and sometimes embarrassing account of the trials and tribulations of the sportsmen and women of years gone by.

The very first Intervarsity took place in May 1968 on the Rhodes campus. A Champagne Queen was elected for the occasion, to serve the "celebration booze", while each university's cheerleaders strutted their stuff before the main matches. About 150 men and women from each university competed in 14 sports, with the highlight of the programme being the first team rugby match, won by Rhodes 30-3.

And then of course there was the floodlit supper on the Great Field for competitors, and the first Intervarsity Ball, where tickets were R1 each.

From 1968 on, Intervarsity was to become a major annual event on the university calendar. The competition was briefly interrupted in 1971, when Intervarsity was cancelled. The Rhodes student body voted that the event be boycotted after UPE refused to allow Chinese members of Rhodes teams to attend social functions.

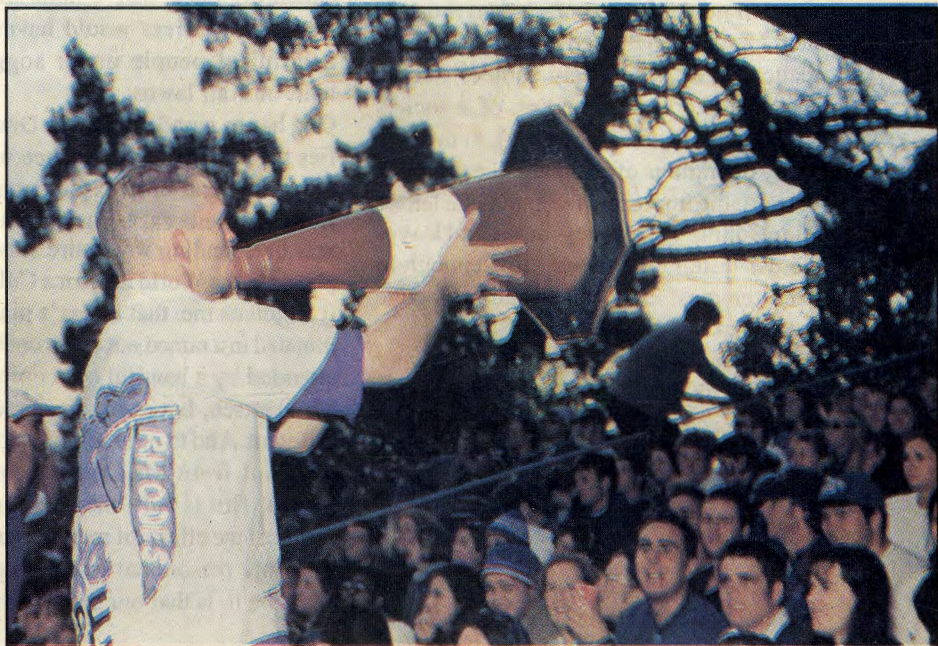
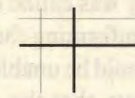
In previous years, Intervarsity was split between summer and winter sports, where summer sports were played in May and winter sports in August. Intervarsity rugby matches were scheduled on the same day around the country and televised

on a national scale under the supervision of the South African Rugby Union.

This year's Tri-Varsity marked the 29th annual meeting between Rhodes and UPE. However, this year's competition marks a notable and positive change from the past history of the event. In 1995, Fort Hare was invited to take part, but this endeavour was disorganised and unsuccessful. In 1997, for the first time ever, Fort Hare became a fully fledged participant in the sporting events.

A welcome change to the history annals is the introduction of a Mr and Miss Sports Personality award as opposed to the original Champagne Queen. Although it seems that this year's Mr and Miss Sports Personality, Brin Hodgkiss and Kath Duthie, could well have been chosen for their champagne pouring skills, this award is aimed at recognising the organisational or managerial efforts made off the sports field and not necessarily sports achievements.

Another interesting twist to add to the history books is that this year there was no overall winner. In an attempt to minimise transport difficulties for the UPE teams and still provide a range of team strengths to play against Fort Hare, Rhodes, as the hosts of the event, competed against Fort Hare on a much greater scale than UPE. The prospect of enjoying more competitive and regular play from Fort Hare is an exciting one and the organisers are aiming to move back to having an overall winner of the event next year.



pic: Mary Lou Minaar



pic: Mary Lou Minaar



pic: Iija

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# f Inter-Varsity

## James McKay

ONCE, in a time of peace and harmony, existed a small town known as Grahamstown. There, nestled beneath a slight hill, stood a beautiful, clean place of learning frequented by a small community of scholars concerned only with learning. Then one day, from a distant land heralded as the dreaded Pulsating Egg (PE), came tales of a vile entity of evil, adorned in blue, threatening invasion. At first, fear gripped the God-fearing citizens of the town but soon murmurings of rebellion and opposition began to stir in the hearts of the people. Preparations began, the will of the people grew in strength and a date was set for a mighty clash of Titans. News about the mighty struggle spread far and wide and soon it was branded: INTER-VARSITY!

Like wild men of the jungle, the students of Grahamstown were transformed. The young gentlemen bleaching the colour from their hair and like warriors preparing for battle, streaked their faces and bodies with purple paint. Even the once reserved maidens shocked their hair with dashes of purple. What of nourishment and refreshment during the battle the people asked? Kindly, the Sandwich And Baguette company (SAB) ensured that all the local taverns and inns were sufficiently stocked. It was rumoured that the Union

Tavern sent messengers to all the neighbouring lands, collecting the finest ales for the triumphant victors.

The sun set on the eve of the mighty duel and all lay silent in wait for the coming danger....

Finally the great day arrived, and from the distance, the united forces of the Rampant Unleashed (RU) viewed the approaching armies of their foes, the Ungodly Pulsating Eggs (UPE). This sight marked the be-

hundred voices, downed! The battle had begun.

Over the period of three warring days, from morn 'til eve, the opposing sides had to complete daring tasks of strength and skill. "Rucks and mauls, hockey balls and drinking halls" was the anthem that rung out over the heads of the eager participants. Each fighting with dogged determination, showing unwavering allegiance to their people. Some, over-come by sheer physical ex-

haustion and an abundance of ale, lay unmoving on the battle field covered in a purple haze. Taverns and inns were filled constantly with battle-weary warriors who numbed the pains of their daily efforts with the cool ales available.

Finally the setting sun of the last day marked an end to the almighty clash. Out of the confusion of unconscious bodies,

pic: Mary Lou Minaar

upset stomachs, aching heads and weary men and women arose a feeling of general good and victory among the RU warriors. Although many had been lost in the dangerous tasks and in some of the taverns, the sight of the fleeing UPE instilled a powerful feeling, common in all the hearts of the mighty RU, of emancipation.

And in the dying light of day, there rang out a triumphant cry of: FREEEEEEEDOOOOM! (to be sung in a Brave Heart fashion).



pic: Ilja Graulich

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Hilton Sinclair gets the crowd going with a road pylon; John Broukaert takes us through the motions; official Rhodes transport; the annual "dredded" purple hair disease strikes again; despite superb defence and excellent support, Rhodes 1st XV lost 12-5; Crispin Stopforth of the 1st XI outmanoeuvres Fort Hare in the soccer final, which Rhodes won convincingly 2-0; the 1st XI hockey team takes a half-time break during their match which they lost 2-1.



pic: Ilja Graulich



pic: Mary Lou Minaar



# Hog-heaven

Jason Norwood-Young

## Friday afternoon:

Departed from Grahamstown and arrived in Hogsback two and a half hours later, after experiencing the most contrasting scenery - scrubland gave way to mountain passes that drop breathtakingly (and heart-stoppingly) to thick, luscious forests. Nearing Hogsback, the forest transformed into jungle-like bush with the road swinging around hair-pin turns with nothing but a cliff on the far side of the tar.

We stayed in the lovely Amatola Self-Catering Guest House (budget of course). It is a comfortable set-up with a small kitchen, braai area and lots of space for visitors. The beds were soft and comfortable (for the price I was expecting straw mattresses).

Other luxuries include a gorgeous dining-room with lots of finely-crafted wooden furniture: old kitchen dressers, cabinets and trunks. It adjoins a homely living room with lived-in couches and chairs and a large selection of books (since there is no television).

We departed to watch the sunset from the top of a cliff overlooking an exquisite valley that led into a plain - complete with large lake - that extended for miles to the distant mountain ranges. The valley is deep and surprisingly green for winter, and we were treated to a spectacular sunset.

I returned to supper and an early night in expectation of the sunrise we were to get up for. Most of my party went to the local coffee shop but did not return with favourable reports of the service.

## Saturday:

I dragged myself out of bed at 5:30am to go sunrise-hunting. The roads are clearly marked around the town but are all dirt roads. I discovered that I have an aversion to breathing dust constantly, and that's what I found myself doing a lot of. I do not recommend Hogsback to anyone with a dust allergy or a weak bladder since the roads are definitely suited to four by four's, horses and not much else.

I've never really been into sunrises and my hangover didn't make me any less responsive to the cold that usually goes with standing on a hill before dawn. The sunrise was okay, but not memorable. All I could think of was coffee and breakfast.

We had another stop to make before such luxuries, however: "The Edge"!

The Edge is another guest-house (there is no shortage of guest houses in Hogsback) and is on the edge. A very high edge. Of a cliff. Very high. I cannot express this enough: VERY high! As Hugh Ellis said: "If you are not living on the edge, you are taking up too much space."

The people on The Edge take up quite a lot of space, with tons of accommodation for visitors. The best spot on the property is a bungalow built right on the edge of the cliff, and I don't advise running out of the door in the morning to greet the sun. The view is, needless to say, amazing.

I finally got to my coffee, cigarettes and breakfast, which I consumed all at once. Ah, heaven.

"Today we are going to see waterfalls," Ryan Watt, our fearless leader informed me. Great! I love waterfalls, since they are both high and wet. The first one, however, cost the group R39 to get to (thanks to the parks board) and was most disappointing. It might have been better if the short and badly marked walk had not been totally deforested recently. Huge trees lay uprooted in various degrees of being converted into telephone poles and walking sticks and whatever else they use wood for. The actual waterfall, optimistically termed "The 39 Steps", was small and not exactly breathtaking, but did prove a pleasant place for me to have a nap to recover from being up for five hours already at only 10:30am. I awoke to find that I had been deserted, but managed to find the rest of the party on the way back to our transport (a Rhodes kombi that will never be the same again). After lunch we set off to the next waterfall, "The Madonna and Child". This is for non-smokers who can actually get down a vertical slope for 15 minutes' worth of sliding, falling and tree-climbing. It is worth it - this baby is high. There was no doubt that it was a waterfall. We still had to climb back out however, and that almost killed me.

I returned to my bed and didn't care that everyone deserted me to climb to the top of Tor Doonee, a shockingly steep hill overlooking the town and described in the tourist's booklet as "very strenuous". They didn't see the sunset anyway, because a large bank of mist rolled in (ha ha, suckers!).

That night we went bar-hopping - the first bar-hop in which thirteen people did not manage to find a single drink. The Kings Arms Hotel's barman was "having supper" and the hotel recommended the Hogsback Inn, where we were told by a very friendly lady that all the guests had gone to bed and so they were closing the bar. At 9:00pm. On a Saturday night.

## Sunday:

We went for a late-morning walk to what is definitely the best fluvial feature in Hogsback: the "Swallowtail" waterfall. The walk is fantastic, not too strenuous and through a stunning piece of woodland. The



BATHTIME...Only fairies could have built Hogsback's breathtaking waterfalls.  
pic: Jason Norwood-Young

path comes out at the top of the falls, and these were high. Huge. Amazing. At least 20 metres high, they fall onto a ledge which then drops away further into the most luscious forests seen on this trip. The view is spectacular, and I could have stayed there for hours. This is the reason why Hogsback inspired J.R.R. Tolkien to write *The Hobbit* (or so they say).

Our last stop was the Ecology Shrine. Like hey, man, this place is like, very trippy. New Age religious sculpture in a circular shrine-shape, man, with all kinds of art mediums on the walls and a fish pond in the middle.

Since we had snuck in without permission (it usually costs R5 per person), it wasn't explained to us, so I am still clueless about what it all means. But it was cool nonetheless. And of course there was a great view from the shrine.

And after that, we returned home.

Hogsback is an amazing place, unless you're scared of heights or allergic to dust or pollen. Apart from that I highly recommend it, especially if you are into views, waterfalls, views of waterfalls, views from waterfalls, and so on. There is a little bit of magic in the air, and I have it on good authority that it is a regular vacation spot for Gandalf.

## Hairy Harriet H'lala

Fiddly-Diddly Dee!

SO THERE I WAS busy fiddling at Dave's concert, while all around us Rhodes burnt. And in the smoky haze of restructuring, someone made a smouting comment about morale amongst the staff and subsequent effects on students.

Not that anyone was listening - seems we've lost that particular interpersonal skill - what the hell, we've sacrificed all others, why stop now!

Now that we've got rid of all that icky personal type stuff, lets cast our beady little eyes at what's lurking about our campus.

I saw some treaty little SRC type posters flapping about rather forlornly in the remaining breeze of student activism, more like a farty draught actually, but still - I suppose one must take what one can get, even if it is as disappointing as an interrupted shag.

One is getting perhaps more than one bargained for from our feisty collection of postgraduates - I suppose having four times as much worth as an undergraduate, (in terms of subsidies, of course) affords one the opportunity to make a little bit of noise about things - and what a \*lovely\* little noise you have been making, my sweet things!

Here's hoping your fabby little post-grad uniony thing takes off like an election promise after the voting!

Imagine students from every faculty working together to deal with all those tricky issues - one is almost willing to believe that with a combination of intellect and imagination solutions might actually be possible!

Chukkas chicklets - aluta continua!

Oh, the energy of that activity has made me come over all queer! No, darlings, not come over THE queers - shame on your dirty little minds!

But while we're on the subject lets take a little stroll down that shiny sequined road of sexuality.

I was at a little affair the other day when this engaging young man informed me, with the utmost sincerity, that all nasty moffies should be shot because what they did was rather yuck and horrible. Naturally I had to dig a little further to find out exactly what he meant - it turned out he didn't like the idea of gay men hitting on him - and all this time hetty boys wondered why women got upset about harassment... go figure!

Now, I reminded this tatty little piece of testosterone that it was better to have gay men hitting on him, than him hitting gay men - but I'm not sure if he had enough cranial capacity to deal with that specific thought.

Needless to say he also volunteered to show all those pieces of totty out there (dyke-wyse or otherwise) what they'd been missing out on - girlfriend, if this is what's available, dip yourself in honey and get someone to fling you to those lesbians!

As for me - well, let's just say I like to keep my options open - I'm definitely of the 'If it's got a pulse (and at least an inkling of intelligence) lets shag it' school - as long as it's done safely of course!

But unlike the approach to academic unplanning and staff restructuring here in our little nest of iniquity, I can differentiate between a good screw and a good screwing over!

Ta-ta!

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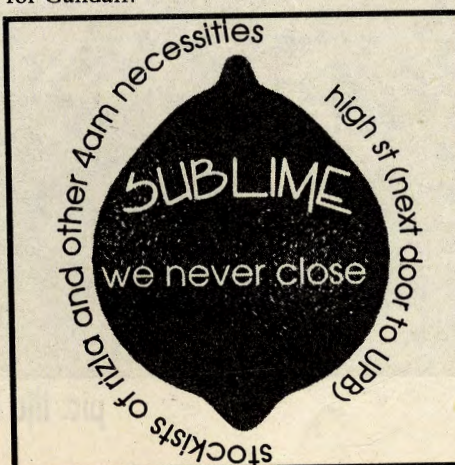
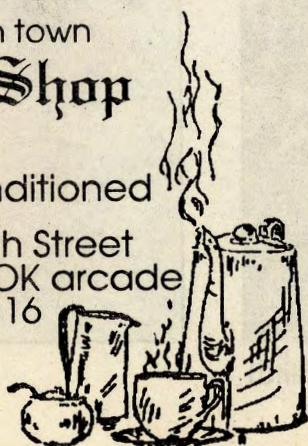
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# Tandebantu: the man who loves people

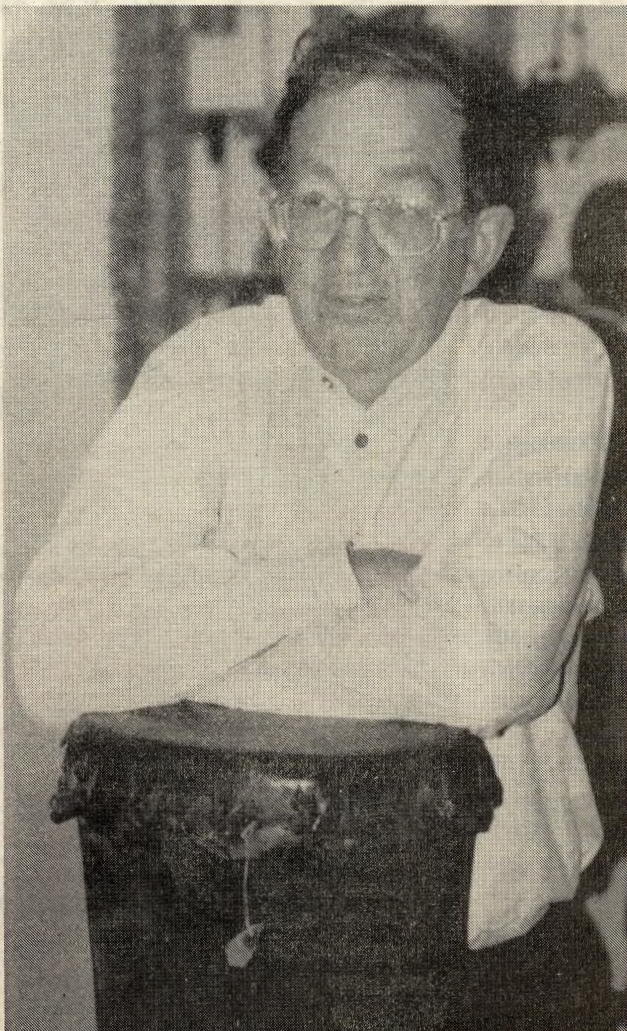
Heather Ford

**THINKING OF** Dr Andrew Tracey, I envisioned an ageing African white man, playing the mbira and singing an African folk song while he rhythmically taps his foot to a complex beat. His talent for rhythm and dance is a talent which whites often only associate with black people, yet one can see that it has become an inherent part of his soul.

The Head of the International Library of African Music (ILAM) also espouses African values when he speaks, so much so, that I suddenly realise the truth in what he says, that "African music values are similar to their life values because music is so much part of Africans' way of life".

He was born in Durban, where his father held the post of director at the SABC, recording Zulu music around the province. It was into this strong background of African musical tradition that Tracey was born, fating him to follow the path of his father. From a young age, Tracey danced and sang with Zulus and learned to play the guitar "African style". He left South Africa for England when he was 10 years old and went to Oxford University after school to study Anthropology.

Tracey said there was no doubt in his mind that he always wanted to come back to Southern Africa, and so he did in 1959, to work for the Bulawayo Municipality. He was employed to help found a College of African Music and develop new music for Zimbabwe.



pic: Ian Rowett

It was at this stage that he came to the conclusion that "playing the music yourself is the only way to get into it", rather than pure research. Tracey can now play almost all

the instruments at ILAM, although he makes a clear differentiation between merely being able to play on an instrument and playing the more complex instruments properly, which often takes a life-time to learn.

When the College fell apart in 1960, Tracey went back to South Africa. At this stage, his father had founded the ILAM in Roodepoort, but musicians were scarce during the 1960's because many had left the country in the wake of some of the harshest Apartheid oppression.

In 1962, Tracey went on tour with a show called "Wait a Minute", which ended up running for seven years. It was an international folk music show which toured Australia, New Zealand, the USA and Canada. It even hit Broadway and the West End for extended periods.

After this exciting spell, Tracey returned to ILAM, and was subsequently involved in field work for about eight years. Up until 1977, ILAM had received in-

ternational funding and was an independent organisation. However, with the increasing isolation of South Africa in this period, international funding soon dried up.

The Chamber of Mines stepped in with a proposal for ILAM to join a university, and Rhodes happened to come up with the best offer.

The department has come a long way since then. It was initially housed in a small, cramped building, but in 1990 Tracey managed to find a donor to erect the building which exists today.

When I asked him what the importance of such a department is, Tracey replied that it is the only archive for African music in Southern Africa and it is the only source of recordings in the world. ILAM is also credited with publishing the only journal of African music in the world. Teaching African music to students is very important, since there are so few ethnomusicologists around.

At the moment there are plans to establish ethnomusicology courses which could be taken in conjunction with a BA degree.

Tracey's view that, "music is one of the best ways of getting to know Africans because it provides a safe ground that you can share" seems to be the greatest contribution that ILAM can make to the world. In a society where a need for understanding and acceptance of other cultures is paramount, getting directly involved in African music provides a safe playground for sharing and learning about cultures which all South Africans should learn to understand.

Tracey is a perfect example of dedication. His passion for recording and teaching others about the significance of African culture will probably mean that so much more will survive as a direct result of one man's clear-sightedness and determination.

## Keeping Africa's Drum Beating

Jennifer Smit

**IT IS A GREAT PITY** that so few people know about the existence of the International Library of African Music (ILAM) here in Grahamstown. For, hidden away behind the departments of Politics and Ichthyology is an oasis of the music of Africa. Founded in 1953 by Hugh Tracey, father of the current director, Andrew Tracey, ILAM is not only home to numerous rare recordings and literature focused on the music of Southern and Central Africa, but is also a research institute and museum of African instruments.

Its aim? To rediscover and promote the music of Africa. Without this knowledge it is impossible to fully understand the people of this continent whose histories are so heavily based on the oral tradition.

Being affiliated to Rhodes University, ILAM collaborates with various other university departments, notably the departments of Music and Anthropology and - this year for the first time - the Art Department, whose students have been avidly sketching instruments. The recently held lunch-hour concert was proof of this collaboration, the main aim behind it being to expose students to the actual performance of African music. Unfortunately, the limited number of bands in Grahamstown playing indigenous African music and the lack of funds available, means that concerts like this cannot become regular events and will have to remain annual happenings.

Lack of interest and understanding amongst the public also means that when outside artists are brought in by ILAM the concerts are poorly supported and therefore not viable options. This was made obvious recently when a concert featuring the *Nqoko Women's Ensemble* - whose split tone sing-

ing is unique - and the Tibetan monks, drew a disappointingly small audience.

But don't be fooled into thinking that the community of Rhodes is the only one of any significance to ILAM. Tourists, enthralled by all things African, often make an appearance and the library staff keep in regular contact with musicologists and research institutes the world over.

Sadly though, all is not well at ILAM. One of the biggest challenges facing the library is the fact that it is understaffed, having only a librarian, a clearly overworked secretary and the musicologist cum lecturer/director. For almost a year now a post has been advertised for an ethnomusicologist to take over the position of lecturer from the director, which would leave him free to record and make accessible all his knowledge. As yet, a suitable candidate has not been found. This indicates that not only the lack of funding but also the relative "newness" of the discipline are factors affecting the survival of the institute.

Although my source complained of a lack of awareness and understanding regarding the importance of preserving the music of Africa, she went on to say that global interest is growing. Within South Africa itself, white people are paying more attention to Africa's musical heritage while black people are feeling more free and comfortable to practise it.

However, good as this sounds for the survival of ethno-musicology, the limited resources and funds suggest that ILAM may not be able to cope adequately with this growing interest in the future.

Surely as Africans it is our duty to preserve that which is intrinsic to our histories? To do this it is necessary to become aware of what that history is comprised of. So don't just sit there, do yourselves a favour and make a point of paying ILAM a visit - it's worth it!



SOUNDS OF AFRICA: Local musician, Monwabisi Gladstone Sabani demonstrates the marimba at ILAM.  
pic: Ian Rowett

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# Oppikoppi goes Bananas

## Toast Coetzer

**EARLY IN AUGUST**, local student band *One Large Banana* hit the road North to make their first appearance outside of Grahamstown at the Oppikoppi festival in the Bushveld.

Girlfriends, an RMR posse and various other Rhodes students ducking lectures followed to see *OLB* perform at the premier event on the South African music calendar.

Oppikoppi turned out to be more than just

top-class music. It was about brilliant sunshine, dust, dirty hair, dagga fumes and the inevitable mass consumption of alcohol.

It was about campfires, talking shit (lots of it) and being part of a 9500 strong crowd (including samples ranging from Pretoria suburbia to Cape Town yuppies to local bushmasters) making history in the middle of nowhere. But we also went to see "our" band.

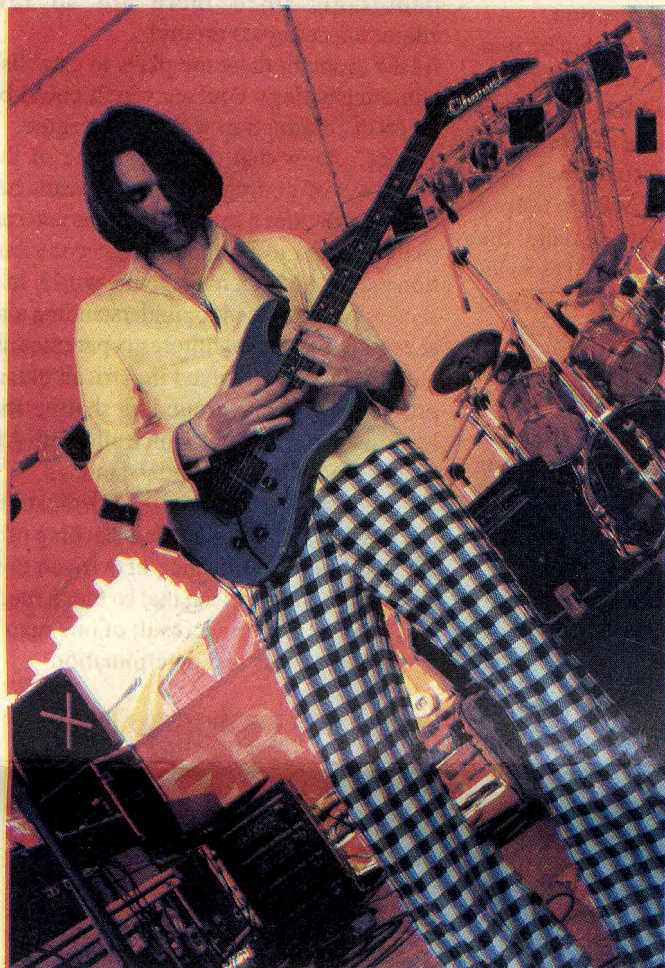
So there we were, pink hair and clothing (in support of the Oppikoppi campaign for the promotion of fake pink fur) when 5FM's Phil Wright walked onto the main stage to

introduce the big crowd to *One Large Banana*. Of course we were ready with our bananas which we threw at the unsuspecting Phil.

And then came *OLB*'s big moment - the dudes decked out in their yellow shirts playing their perfect poprock on the country's biggest stage with the biggest sound imaginable (just think of speakers as big as the tower on the Admin building and you're getting there).

I asked frontman Jo Edwards what the whole experience, and especially playing on such a great stage, felt like.

"We had a blistering time, it was loads and loads of fun - stuck in the sun with all the highveld people - it was super. Playing on that stage was strange, I mean, it was the most enormous thing we've ever played on. You could jump up with-



**CHECK ME OUT:** *OLB*'s guitarist John Taylor zooms in on the high notes.  
pic: Toast Coetzer



**THINK PINK:** *Activate*'s feature editor Ilda Jacobs, in full festival regalia, contemplates life, the universe and Oppikoppi.  
pic: Toast Coetzer

enough people enjoyed it. And we had a look at a little handycam video which a friend of ours took and just sort of watched the crowd, they were all bopping and jolling and waving their heads around - so I think we were pretty well received."

*OLB* was one of the very few bands who played on both the main and campus stages, with Jo obviously enjoying the main stage more.

"It's easier to play a night-time gig with lights and things, because there's a bit more general excitement around. The campus stage was a different kind of atmosphere - people sitting by the pool, just listening, there was less of an adrenalin-push."

The band is also full of plans for the rest of the year and hopes to record their debut CD before December.

They are still looking around for the best studio rates, but also plan to gig during the evenings to pay their bills. So whether they decide to record up north or in Cape Town, they will be exposing new ears to their stuff.

Chances are also good that the band will still be together next year, even though Jo should finish his studies by the end of the year. Guitar man John Taylor and drummer Gareth Sweetman will still be studying, while bass player Brett Lock will still be lecturing in the Journalism Department.

out hitting your head on the tin roof, which was rather nice. You could basically jump around and make a performance of yourself."

As far as crowd response to the band went, I thought it was great, even though it was mostly the gang in pink who demanded an encore (which we got). But what does Jo think?

"Well, people went to Mainline Music (the music stall at the festival) asking for our CD, which I think is a fair indication that

# Horrendous Horoscopes

*Hmmmm...Hmmmm...Jason the Omnipotent will once again peruse the ever-circumnavigating planets and tell you what lies ahead in the endless cycle that is your life. Like sands through the hourglass...(etc,etc).*

## Aquarius (January 21 - February 19)

You should beware of strange men wearing long black raincoats as they spell trouble to you, especially if you have a weak heart. If you see one, your only defence is to scream: You have a small sausage! You have a small sausage! and run away as fast as your little legs can carry you.

## Pisces (February 20 - March 21)

You should stop playing with yourself or you will go blind. Black cats crossing your path are actually good luck this month, so you don't have to tote a pellet gun around to shoot them as they approach you anymore. Leave your aggression at home, dude(ette): the world actually really loves you more than anyone else.

## Aries (March 22 - April 20)

A sudden death in the Yugoslavian Royal Family will result in the unexpected news that you are the next heir. This, however, is too good to be true because if you bother to make the trip to this war-torn country you will be horrified to learn that every other Arian is also there to collect his/her inheritance. But don't worry, a fight to the death amongst you all will quickly prove who is the true leader of this Arian race (so to speak).

## Taurus (April 21 - May 21)

Grab the bull by the horns and you will get trampled. Flap your luminous red underwear around and you may distract it long enough to get away.

## Gemini (May 22 - June 21)

Your misfortunes that have been following you so doggedly for so long will suddenly dissipate into misty nothingness as long as you meditate every day on the following Zen quote: The sound of one hand clapping. Happy meditating.

## Cancer (June 22 - July 23)

Your doctor will be sorry to inform you

that you have three months to live. If you can't pay him, however, he will give you three months more.

## Leo (July 24 - August 23)

You will have a good month. I have been told this by my sage and wise editor who told me that she would cancel my column if she had another bad month. So joy, rapture, have a good month, Leos.

## Virgo (August 24 - September 23)

When you are crossing the street, beware of cars being driven by evil children of seven years old or less. In fact, don't let your seven-year-old (or less) sit in your car whilst you do the shopping. Better idea: don't have children.

## Libra (September 24 - October 23)

Once again Librans are the fortunate recipients of calm, peaceful and fun-filled months. Gee, Librans have good luck. I wish I was a Libran...

## Scorpio (October 24 - November 22)

You are cruel and obnoxious to your lec-

turers. This will not do as they have more power over your life than you think. Besides, lecturers are people too (even if they take away your DP's with impunity). If you continue on this evil path, all your children will have small penises (including the girls).

## Sagittarius (November 23 - December 22)

This is a good month to crack open that cute little pink piggy bank that you have diligently been dropping one cent pieces into since you were three years old. In there somewhere is a special mint-edition golden Kruger Rand cunningly disguised as a one cent piece. (Muahahaha, I just like to see the death of all cute pink piggy banks!!!)

## Capricorn (December 23 - January 20)

Next time you are exposed to the smell of alcohol you will go into a mad rage and smash every bottle you see. No one will know why you are doing this. You won't know why you are doing this. Not even I know why you are doing this, and I know just about everything.



# Woods makes music

Roman Liptak

**FOLLOWING THE TRADITION** of Central African rulers, Rhodes Vice-Chancellor Dr David Woods got himself a kudu horn band to open what is to become the annual VC's Concert, "hopefully continuing long after I'm dead" as Woods put it. Those who came for the actual concert at eight, missed the *Kucha Marimba Band*, led by Rhodes music student Miki Tame and the *Masakheke Youth Choir* conducted by Radio Macuba. Sitting on the steps in the Settlers' Monument foyer, spectators of all ages were treated to a genuine post-festival atmosphere for half an hour, before everyone moved into the main venue. Addressing the full auditorium before the concert itself, Woods said that South African universities may become as good at organising annual musical performances as they are at organising Intervarsities. The audience, with lots of purple-dyed heads

in it, agreed. The free admission, contrary to R2 required to watch Intervarsity, was appreciated.

The success of future concerts is beyond question, in Woods' opinion, and in a couple of years a search for a sponsor to build a new monument to accommodate future concerts may have to be launched, Woods jokingly predicted.

The blend of African, jazz and Western classical music that followed, made Woods' prediction seem likely to come true.

The breathtaking *Rhodes University Jazz Band* set it all off with "Now's the Time" and "Grahamstown Groove". The latter was composed by conductor Michael Skipper of St Andrew's College and dedicated to the artists of Grahamstown, not the "Arts" of Grahamstown, as the erratum in the programme suggested.

A duet from the first isiXhosa opera "Temba and Seliba" by Bongani Ndodana, a music graduate of St Andrew's and Rhodes, struck the right African note.

Senior students and staff from the Rhodes Music Department played and sang some European numbers, namely Robert Schumann, Knud Jeppesen, Evad Grieg and Handel. As far as the Department is concerned, they took this unique opportunity to expose the best from their ranks to the public eye. Professor Christine Lucia, the new Head of the Music Department, turned out to be a brilliant kudu horn player and orchestral director.

Mozart and Pinsuti were well mastered by *Rhodes University Chamber Choir*. (Attention all music students: the spread of Pinsuti's music in Southern Africa calls for a terrific postgrad research subject!)

The closing (and repeated on request by the audience) "Va pensiero" chorus from Verdi's "Nabucco" by the *Chamber Choir*, the *Masakheke Youth Choir* and the *Rhodes University Orchestra* marked the concert's emotional climax. Although it didn't lead to "political demonstrations" as it did in Verdi's time, it certainly implied the success of the VC's Concerts to come.

## Techno-culture: welcome to the info era

Jason Norwood-Young

**FOR THOSE** who didn't know, we're living in the Information Era. It's precursor, the Industrial Age, brought us great things like mass-production and dehydrated ice-cream, but also a great headache for those at the top with regard to information. Managers must know how many packets of mass-manufactured dehydrated ice-cream are being shipped to individual countries and shops. Their advertising departments like to know whether the ice-cream is being sold to Buddhist monks in Nepal or American housewives with 2.5 children, a late-working husband and a dog. When you're selling 300 000 ice-creams a day, you end up with a lot of information. Hence computers: a convenient tool to bring essential statistics to your desktop, cut out the bullshit and enable you to fire unnecessary workers at the touch of a button. Cool!

But something happened that made computers more relevant to us non-managerial types, a sub-revolution of the Information Age, one might say: the Internet.

Suddenly a world of information opened up to Joe Bloggs on the street. Everything from cooking recipes to secret societies like the Illuminati can be accessed by everyone with a computer and an Internet connection. "What would I want with cooking recipes? I already know how to make Spaghetti Bolognese," I hear you say. Maybe so. But you'll be interested to note that you can get pre-written generic essays for university students off the Web. It's also an excellent source of information to those who legitimately research their assignments and theses. To do this, students must know how to operate a computer and how to use the Internet.

Being computer literate also opens up many other doors for students, especially those intent on graduating and moving off into the Real World. No matter what course you are doing, from Information Technology to BFA, computers will be a useful, if not a necessary tool for you.

### The BComm student:

You want to work with money some day: moving it, playing with it and hopefully keeping a large percentage for yourself. Your days with ledgers are numbered. Most decent accounting firms now equip their accountants with a powerful laptop with infra-red networking capabilities and a modern spreadsheet programme. Next time you audit a company, you'll find yourself armed with your Apple Power book and a diskette rather than a pen and pad. Internet banks are also being developed which plan to convert most of our currency into on-line cash which will not be taxable, be moveable across borders and never have to exist beyond a binary form. A global currency, if you like. This is one of the many developments on the Net, along with on-line marketing and contracting on-line that should interest a prudent BComm student.

### The BSc student:

I shouldn't have to tell you why you need computers: if you are a mathematician, a geographer, a nuclear physicist or something similar you will be called upon to occasionally implement difficult, time-consuming mathematical problems. So unless you want to manually work out three thousand simultaneous equations involving complex numbers, you should know how to use a computer. If you spend your Ichthyological life with a net in a swamp, you might want to check on the Internet to find out whether the rare Albino Mino you have caught is the first of its type found in South Africa, or to check that the University of Budapest's star student has not just written the new ground-breaking thesis you have been working on for five years. You can also use the Net to let the rest of the world know that you have completed your five-year thesis and have made a breakthrough in Ichthyology that will make people look at fish in a different light. Your life is based on information, information, information. You might as well access the best info source to get at all this stuff.

### The BA student:

Since this is such a diverse degree, I will only touch on a few common courses. English major: Just about every novel, short

story and play is now available on-line. The library as we know it is transmogrifying into a book store where none of the books are ever out and they are all for free. You also don't ever get a library fine or, as I have experienced, eternal banishment from the campus and city library.

Journalism major: "Mass media is dead; television is dying. It's just that nobody's been invited to its wake," says Marian Salzman, a leading Internet expert, in an interview with *Intelligence* magazine. Internet Journalism is where it's at, man.

Fine Arts: The Web holds tons of information on arts. One noticeable site is The Louvre's on-line gallery. Peruse The Louvre's famous paintings without having to travel to France, wait in queues and catch a ten-second glimpse of a disappointing Mona Lisa. If you are doing graphics, find out about the power of computer graphics over conventional acid baths - you could save yourself a lot of time. Many graphic and sculpture artists' tools are now controlled by computers.

Computers are not as hard to use as you may think: it's worth the effort to guarantee you a job one day. Be in the Technology Haves, not the Have-nots.

### Interesting web sites for:

#### BComm

Who's Marketing Online: [www.wmo.com](http://www.wmo.com)

Electronic Commerce Network:

[www.ecnet.co.za](http://www.ecnet.co.za)

The Black Business Network:

[www.bbn.co.za](http://www.bbn.co.za)

DigiCash: [www.digicash.com](http://www.digicash.com)

#### BSc

New Scientist: [www.newscientist.com](http://www.newscientist.com)

In Search of Giant Squid (for all the Ichthyologists):

[seawifs.gsfc.nasa.gov/squid.html](http://seawifs.gsfc.nasa.gov/squid.html)

ESKOM (an excellent page):

[www.eskom.co.za](http://www.eskom.co.za)

National Geographic:

[www.nationalgeographic.com](http://www.nationalgeographic.com)

US World Wildlife Fund:

[www.wwf.org/action.US](http://www.wwf.org/action.US)

#### BA

The Minneapolis College of Art and Design: [www.mcad.edu](http://www.mcad.edu)

CNN (for all those Journos): [cnn.com](http://cnn.com)

# THE FLIPIDE

## Divisional calculus

**WE SHOULD ALL** know rule 4080 of the record industry by now - it's a shady business where you often cannot afford to trust anyone. You've got record execs pimping their artists and enough internal bickering amongst the artists themselves to make Willie Lynch a very happy corpse. For those not up on their segregationist history, Willie Lynch was a slave owner who devised a method of controlling his slaves by subtly polarising them against one another. This eventually led to a situation where there was so much in-fighting that he could deprive them of their rights and mistreat and abuse them without anyone lifting a finger to stop him.

Who is responsible for this today is a question best left to the conspiracy theorists. While I do acknowledge that there *are* groups out there who would like to see Hip-hop culture destroyed, and that these same groups may have a lot to do with existing divisions, members of the culture must take some of the blame too.

To illustrate this, I do not want to focus on the tired East/West theme, but instead want to use an example that shows just how narrow-minded a supposedly open-minded culture can be. Judging by the lyrics of too many a rapper, if one looked up the word 'homosexual' in the Hip-hop dictionary the entry would simply say "see faggot". Under 'faggot' of course there would be plenty of defining terms, most of them derogatory.

For years Hip-hoppers have been quick to protest at the slightest hint of discrimination that may be directed towards them (the gangsta-rap debate, censorship etc.) This (over)sensitivity *is* in part justified when one looks at how Hip-hop has been scorned by the masses since its inception (how many hardcore Hip-hop acts win Grammy's?) But how can a minority culture that is supposedly opposed to discrimination turn around and discriminate against another minority culture that has suffered through just as much oppression and hatred?

When are we going to stop using the stereotypes we hate being labelled with to label others? Just because someone is homosexual does not mean that they cannot rip a microphone or catch wreck on a pair of turntables. Some rappers may equate sexual virility with lyrical skills and popularity, but as far as I know there has been no proven link between penis size and voice quality. The same stands true for sexual preferences - why care who or how many people someone sleeps with? This kind of bragging benefits nobody and makes no sense in the AIDS-inflicted 90's.

In conclusion, I am patiently waiting for the day when someone has the **courage** to step up to the microphone and, instead of saying how many blunts they've smoked or 40's they've drunk, is willing to admit that they are homosexual. *Then* I want to see who within the Hip-hop culture has the maturity to accept this person regardless of this fact, and who will show themselves to be ignorant and hateful by rejecting them (thereby falling blindly into yet another 'divide and conquer' trap). As much as I hate to say it, Willie Lynch was onto something, but only for as long as we let arbitrary grounds keep us isolated from one another...

Mass Dosage



# Singing glorious praises

**Solomon Makgale**

THE ANNUAL Voice of Glory (VOG) concert recently took place at the Rhodes Theatre where Christians gathered to celebrate this year's theme of "The Unchanging God".

"In a world of relativity and uncertainty, we declare that our God is the same: yesterday, today and forevermore," said Simphiwe Nojoko, the Master of Ceremonies.

Vuyo Tetyana, the out-going secretary said after the concert that he was extremely pleased with the attendance.

"The turn-out was good. We had about 300 people despite intervarsity activities. It just shows how hungry people are for spiritual food and we are happy we can provide it," he said.

Just like the variety of music, the audience were from different race and ethnic groups. Tetyana said this has never happened in the history of VOG concerts.

"It is such an awesome thing to see people from different cultural backgrounds praising one God together," he said.

The VOG choir entertained the audience with the Afro-American music of artists like Kurk Franklin, as well as popular African

hymns. The audience was kept on their feet by Grahamstown's charismatic *Nu Lite Choir*, and *Sounds Alive Band*, who have just released their first album. Nomsa Siyo and her band from Port Elizabeth sang gospel Xhosa songs. Rhodes students also displayed their talents, forming groups like *His Majesties* and *The Comforters* who sang mainly gospel R&B.

*Lincoln* added to the extraordinary variety - a western country music flair - which was well received. The concert reached a climax when the VOG choir closed with the moving song, "I feel like going on", echoing the feelings of most concert goers.

# Acting against aids

**Gina Flaxman**

EIGHT O'CLOCK on a freezing morning, and Lisa Greenstein and I are peering through the frosted windscreen on our way into the township.

Lisa is a member of Dramaaid, a group that attempts, through movement and drama, to educate schoolchildren on AIDS and sexual abuse. I'm just bloody stupid to be up at this time of morning.

We park outside a primary school and then realise that it's the wrong one. The one we want is next door.

"You can't believe how many schools there are," says Lisa. "When we first started targeting primary schools in the township, I thought there would only be about four or five schools, but there is a list as long as your arm. There are just so many children in the township."

After talking to the principal, the Dramaaid members set up on the playground. This school is organised, but often the team arrives only to discover that the school has forgotten about them or teachers are striking. This time the principal has specifically called them in because of the high incidence of rapes reported at this school.

Dramaaid was started as a pilot project in KwaZulu-Natal in 1992, and the Grahamstown group has only been going for a year.

The group start off with drumming and dancing, with the children participating, and then move on to acting out situations and encouraging the children to respond.

The children, from standards two to four, although eagerly participating, are often easily distracted and many run off halfway through.

"You often wonder whether you're actually getting through to them," says Lisa, "but you can't force them to stay and listen."

With the high schools, the children participate in acting out situations.

"We'll get one person to be for the use of condoms and another one against, or one for love and the other person for sex," Lisa tells me.

"We try to reverse the usual roles, and have the boy be for condoms and the girl against them."

"You can't believe the ideas some of them have," Likhaya Ngandi, another Dramaaid member, says. "Many believe that condoms are what cause sexually transmitted diseases."

"One boy said if his girlfriend wouldn't have sex with him after one day he would slice the deal," says Lisa.

Another said, while making a fist, that he would give his girlfriend "take five" if she refused to sleep with him.

The focus with the primary schools is more on sexual abuse than AIDS. Two days before, when Dramaaid had targeted the grade one's and two's at this same primary school, a girl told Lisa she had been raped by her brother's friend.

"I'm not a counsellor," she says, "I'm not really trained to deal with that kind of thing. We try to liase with FAMSA and tell them where they can go for help, but it's difficult."

"Basically we're just trying to break down the barriers surrounding sex," says Lisa. "Sex is do-able, but unspeakable. We have to break that silence and bring these issues out into the open."

## A New Concept in Humanities and Social Science Graduate Education: Linking the World of Work and Study.

The Faculty of Arts at the University of the Witwatersrand recognizes the need for graduates to have clear career paths where they can utilize the strengths of their education. Towards this end, we are setting up a dedicated Graduate Office which will act as a bridge between the university and the world of work. Students do internships and undertake research for outside organizations. The Graduate Office provides a

point of access for employers to make their training, employment and research needs known.

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UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND  
GRADUATE WITH HONOUR



# Tri-Varsity Results

<b>Golf</b>	RUM vs UFHM	RU1 vs UFH1	3rd Rhodes 20
RUM1 vs UPEM1 vs RU.EL.M1	Rhodes won 2-0	UFH won 22-10	<b>Rugby</b>
Rhodes won 18-6	<b>Basketball</b>	UPE1 vs UFH1	RU1 vs UPE1
<b>Tennis</b>	RUW vs UPEW	UPE won 17-16	UPE won 12-5
RUM1 vs UPEM1	Rhodes won 54-29	<b>Women's Hockey</b>	<b>Chess</b>
UPE won 5-4	RUM vs UPEM	RU1 vs UPE1	RU vs UFH
RUW1 vs UPEW1	Rhodes won 68-59	UPE won 2-1	Rhodes won 3-2
UPE won 9-0	RUW vs UFHW	<b>Men's Hockey</b>	RU vs UPE
<b>Road Relay</b>	Rhodes won 76-12	RU1 vs UPE1	UPE won 3-0
RU vs UPE vs UFH	RUM vs UFHM	Rhodes won 2-1	UPE vs UFH
<b>Men</b>	Rhodes won 73-51	<b>Women's Touch Rugby</b>	UPE won 5-0
1st UPE 35:49	<b>Squash</b>	RU vs UPE	<b>Karate</b>
2nd RU 37:37	RUM1 vs UPEM1	0-0 Draw	UPE vs UFH
<b>Women</b>	Rhodes won 5-0	<b>Soccer</b>	Men Kata
1st RU 17:00	RUW1 vs UPEW1	UPE1 vs UFH1	UPE won
2nd UPE 18:00	Rhodes won 5-0	UFH won 3-0	Women Kata
<b>Volleyball</b>	<b>Badminton</b>	RU1 vs UFH1	UPE won
RUW vs UPEW	RU vs UPE	Rhodes won	Men Kumite
Rhodes won W/O	Rhodes won 4-0	(both goals by Dylan Rogers)	Draw (UPE won on points)
RUM vs UPEM	RU vs UFH	<b>Pool</b>	Women Kumite
Rhodes won 2-1	UFH won 3-1	RU vs UPE vs UFH	UFH win 4-0
RUW vs UFHW	<b>Netball</b>	1st UPE 34	<b>Surfing</b>
Rhodes won 2-0	RU1 vs UPE1	2nd UFH 27	RU vs UPE
	UPE won 24-17		RU won

# Sports Editorial

**ZIYADUUUUUUUMA!** Masinga's goal not only ricocheted through the goal posts, it also sent all of South Africa's hopes soaring. The crowd must have leapt at least two feet off the stands and Clive Barker took to flying around the field like a jumbo jet.

Thank-goodness for video machines because I not only got to scream and shout at the Rhodes versus Fort Hare game, but I also managed to sneak home, avoiding anyone who tried to tell me that we had beaten the Congo, and watch that game as if it was being played live.

During the Congo game I was watching the crowd quite closely, in one of those fruitless attempts to try and spot someone, hoping that the camera might carelessly cross over his face. It didn't but nonetheless I had visions of my father and the rest of his office staff, getting liquored and waving the South African flag about. The only part I had trouble imagining was their intended visit to a shebeen for the party afterwards. My dad's plan was to get the majority of his white, middle-aged staff to realise that there is another vibrant culture right on their doorstep.

I think part of the reason why I was so tense during the game was due to my curiosity over how his staff were going to respond to it all. I am constantly amused by the "white man's realisation" that black people are normal and fun to be with.

Although white naivety/stupidity over this issue always makes me laugh it is also at the same time quite frightening when one considers just how deeply the Apartheid ideology has permeated the consciousness of South Africans.

I found this to be especially disturbing when I started asking students about how they enjoyed the soccer match between Rhodes and Fort Hare. Some people didn't know it had been Fort Hare playing. One old Rhodian even said that he really enjoyed the soccer match between Rhodes and some all-black side. There was no maliciousness, only ignorance in the responses, but we all know, and it's been said a hundred times, that it was because white people chose to remain ignorant that Apartheid existed.

Unfortunately, the rivalry and friendly competitiveness between UPE and Rhodes is built on the foundations of an Apartheid past and although it is a refreshing and positive change to have Fort Hare participating in Intervarsity (now Tri-Varsity), the greatest change needed is in the attitudes of the players and spectators. Friendships have to be forged, Fort Hare's competitive levels have to be raised in certain areas and there needs to be a real integration on a social level.

It is easy for us to all sit back basking in the glory of the elections and waving our New South African Flags at matches, but how many times have we explored the subtle traces of racism so engrained in us?

Change is said to take time. It takes time for old attitudes to die and new ones to take their place. I'm tired of waiting for old attitudes to die. It is time people took responsibility for their attitudes and started to work on changing them NOW.

As sports players we have an ideal opportunity to develop the kind of human relationships that will make a real change. But we need to take it one step further. Intervarsity isn't just the sports matches on the field - it's meeting new and old friends. How many people from Fort Hare University did you meet or go out of your way to meet? Our challenge is to get Fort Hare involved in the spirit that fuels both the matches and the partying afterwards.

## Volleyball players: some of SA's best

### Activate Reporter

#### THE RHODES VOLLEYBALL

Club's first team presently boasts five of South Africa's top volleyball and beach volleyball players.

Dominic Goliath, Ulric Hargreaves, Gershon Rorich, Nathan Davenhill and Justin Powers make up this crew of unbeatable players. Gershon is presently ranked number one in South Africa, Dominic and Ulric are sitting at number seven, Nathan is defending his rank of 12 and Justin is seated at 15. On a provincial level, Chris Daniels and Ugesh Pillay, who are also members of the first team, both made the Eastern Province team after competing at the South African Students Sporting Union (SASSU) Winter Games in Port Elizabeth in July. Nathan Davenhill has also been included in the EP Men's Volleyball Squad for the Interprovincial Tournament (IPT) on September 22-27.

The women in the club have also been very successful. Stacy Thomas, Colette Mol, Andrea Lumpp and Louise Thurlwell play for the EP Senior Ladies' team. They too are preparing for the IPT to be held at the UPE Indoor Centre in September.

The ranking system for volleyball is very dynamic, which means the players have to work hard to maintain their position or to climb the

ladder. Volleyball uses Triple A scaling - the most important of the games being the Triple A events, with the Double A and Single A following behind.



NATHAN IN ACTION: Camps Bay, Cape Town.

After every five Triple A games, players' points are reassessed and they are ranked accordingly. Dominic, Ulric, Gershon, Nathan and Justin hold their present rank after a series of five Triple A games in Margate, PE, Plettenburg Bay, Cape Town and the Lost City. The points gained at the Double or Single A games also contribute to their ranking.

One particular member of the first

team, Nathan Davenhill (Rhodes' Assistant Sports Officer in charge of community development), has shown remarkable drive and enthusiasm, as well as talent. In two years, he has managed to climb from 26 to 12 on the South African Individual Beach Volleyball rankings.

He also seems to have an incredible knack for coaching the sport. Last year, while working at Stellenbosch University as the Head Coach of the Men's and Women's Volleyball, he coached the Western Province Student Volleyball team to a gold medal in the 1996 SASSU games in Port Elizabeth and his starting six players were selected to represent South Africa at tertiary and national levels. He is presently coaching the Rhodes Women's Volleyball team.

The most recent set of tournaments that the Volleyball Club have been involved in is the Toyota Tazz Student Beach Volleyball Contest.

This is a 13 leg tournament being played at various venues in South Africa. On August 20, Rhodes hosted the event. Nathan Davenhill was largely behind the organisation of the event.

RMR ensured that there was a lively vibe going, pumping out the music, and quite a few students collected to watch the action. The Rhodes team won the event and will be going to Camps Bay, Cape Town, to compete in the final tournament at the end of September. The most recent set of



# SPORT

Activate supports Rhodes sport

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

## ilja's innings

I THOUGHT about renaming this column "Sport is a bastard" or "Four minutes in August", but that would give the design team a big headache, so I'll leave it as "The Innings."

Why the pondering? Simple - the rugby guys deserved better. Standing on the touchline in the second half trying to get some good pictures, I saw some of the best defensive rugby I have seen since the World Cup semifinal in 1995 against France. Rhodes played the better rugby, made better use of their opportunities and...lost. Yip, those fateful first four minutes, which the players I have spoken to can only remember as a blur under the post, trying to regroup and avoid a slaughter. But they came back and played 76 minutes of near dominant rugby and...lost. But, onto the next sport that I am flagrantly biased towards: soccer. Being part of the committee that was partly responsible for taking the side, from a managerial point of view, to where they are at the moment, makes one proud to be a student sports manager. It does of course take a good soccer side to complete the circle and looking at them on Saturday was simply amazing. The only missing link in the circle was the much sought-after win - to beat UPEn....s, as the t-shirt stated, in the final. But the inclusion of Fort Hare was a good start to this year's event and we welcome any ass that likes to be kicked!

To get back to this Tri-Varsity issue: it worked well. I know as I was running around taking pictures it will only be a matter of time before we pee on UPE and we will make something up for Fort Hare.

It was also good to see that there are always ingenious ways to get alcohol into a stadium, although the beer canning event from last year was a welcome withdrawal from the programme.

I'll miss this Inter/Tri-Varsity weekend, and sitting here and writing about it makes me get out my calendar and mark it down for next year. Once a Rhodent, always a Rhodent!!!

Ilja Graulich

## "Not all Sportsplayers are Mindless Vegetables"

Geoff Lashbrook

ONE OF THE MANY similarities between the newly crowned Mr and Miss Sport Personalities of the Year was their affinity for streaking.

I was beginning to suspect that this was a prerequisite for the award until Brin Hodgkiss (who forms one half of the birthday-suit loving couple, with Kath Duthie the other) told me that Sports Admin made two requests of him in return for the honour: "don't streak" and "stay away from the VIP's tent when you are mothered". These are apparently two operations that Brin is known to perform with surprising regularity.

Brin - probably better known for his striking resemblance to Forrest Gump - answered my request for an interview with the words: "I don't want any of that hero-worshipping crap." Despite this, some mention must be made of his sporting life since he is a talented runner and made the EP duathlon team in 1996. We were impressed with this accomplishment until Brin informed us that he had only two opponents, one of whom was a paraplegic.

He says that he enjoyed the Intervarsity Ball, during which he



THE 1997 SPORTSPERSONALITY WINNERS: Kath Duthie and Brin Hodgkiss

pic: Foto First

and Kath were crowned, because it was "a real Rhodes occasion" with most of the crowd attempting to guzzle as much champagne as their partners would allow.

"Gump" agrees with Kath that the award was not based on ability at all, which one is a bit dubious of when one watches him anchor the Intervarsity Road Relay team. He says that it is rather a recognition of their involvement in the clubs that they play for. Kath added that it was more as a result of her effort and contribution than of her prowess. This coming from a woman with four provincial team colours under her belt (hockey,

waterpolo, golf and tennis), and who also rows for the Ladies A Eights! Kath's major contributions have been in the pool with the waterpolo team, from whom she received the nomination for the award. Her attempt to set up an EP League has borne fruit and the results indicate that Rhodes will be the side to beat at SAU in December this year.

They realise that there are loads of people who do loads of work for their clubs who are not the renowned sports people. Brin hoped that this award would help people to remember that not all sports players are mindless vegetables.

This was an issue that Kath took objection to, as she felt that maybe next year more emphasis could be placed on why the award was given, instead of to whom it was given. She felt that this could emphasize the roles played by less talented players in keeping sports clubs ticking over. She said that she was surprised to receive the award as she missed the Cheese and Wine during which the five finalists were picked (true to form, out rowing), and that because she was such a loud and independent character, she would not suit the judge's wishes.

Brin, on the other hand, obviously expected to win, since he expressed no surprise that he did and is only disappointed that friends have interpreted his victory as more of a polite recompense for his looks than a tribute to his personality. Nevertheless, he encouraged any groupies who were taken in by the award to come along to Matthews Room 19 and talk about items of mutual interest.

In spite of both Kath and Brin's assurances that the judges took effort and contribution as major yardsticks, I am left thinking that during the process of their decision, they must have realised that these were two wonderful people who deserved recognition for their cheerfulness and optimism.

## Rhodes community development takes off

Brigid Martin

SINCE April this year, the dynamic duo of Nathan Davenhill and Graham Carlson have been inspiring people with their love of sport and zest for life.

After Fiona Williamson left Rhodes Sports Admin at the end of last year, the post of Sports Development Officer became available. Both Nathan and Graham applied for the job and it was decided that they should work together as Assistant Sports Officers and Community Development, with Nathan focusing on external development and Graham co-ordinating internal development.

Most clubs have a development officer who liaises with Nathan and who will organise club mem-

bers to run activities in the township. The sports offered range from volleyball and soccer to mountain climbing and hiking, and are very well supported by children who may not have the chance to play sport at school. At the end of August, the Mountain Club is organising a hike in the township, during which the participants will pick up rubbish.

Nathan believes that by keeping kids absorbed in sport, he is stopping them from getting involved with crime. Many of the people he coaches belong to "Sports Against Crime", a national programme which attempts to train people, and give them something positive to focus on.

At the beginning of August, Rhodes sports clubs hosted a community sports day, which was held at Alec Mullins. 120 people

from school and community teams took part in this successful venture. The highlight of the event was the excellent and amusing performance given by a volunteer netball team of males from Mary Waters. Although none of these boys had ever played netball, they drew on their basketball skills and walked away with first place. In the soccer, an under-13 team almost caused an upset before they were beaten by their under-19 opponents. Nathan hopes to make this an annual event which will be held just after Orientation week in the first term.

Graham's main job is to organise inter-res which often collapses into a shambles because of lack of interest. The plan this year is to have the events as soon after Tri-Varsity as possible, to keep the sports vibe alive, although

Graham acknowledges that it is a bit of a rush to arrange in time. Much of Nathan's job is infusing people with enthusiasm. "If you enjoy something, I can get you to come back again," he boasts. Nathan hopes to become a full-time Sports Officer "to do things for kids I only dreamed of when I was young," although it seems he is already well on the road to fulfilling that dream.

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