

a ctivate

Independent Student Newspaper
Edition 1 – 16 October 2003

PROUDLY
SOUTH AFRICAN

St. Andrews boys caught smoking dope in secret cellar

by Nicholas Haralambous

Six students at St Andrews College have not only been caught in possession of marijuana, but it has also been found that they have been harbouring the drugs in a secret cellar underneath their residence, Merriman House for nearly a year.

Five of the boys, all in Grade 12, were asked to leave St Andrews on the 17th of September, while the sixth, a Grade 11 pupil has been expelled.

According to close friends of the boys the cellar was "fully kitted out" with paraphernalia such as a "Hi-Fi system, CD's, lava-lamps, couches made from mattress and even an extractor fan to keep the smell out". The boys were determined not to be caught, so much so that they sealed the roof boards with sheets to keep the scent from travelling into their rooms above.

"They did it all the time," claims a friend of the boys. The boys would apparently go into the cellar to relieve the stresses of school life by getting intoxicated with alcohol and drugs; often smoking marijuana from contraptions made with hosepipes and coke bottles. Spray-painting the walls also formed part of the experience as the boys were supposedly the "artistic types".

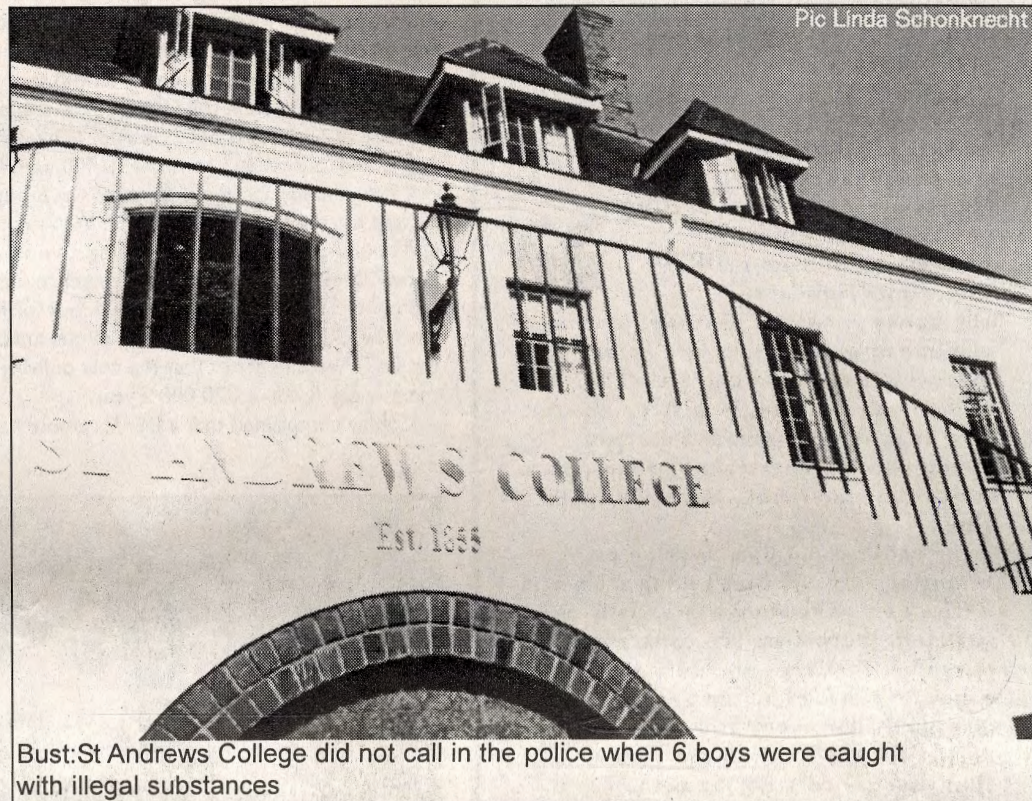
Headmaster of St Andrews College, Mr David Wylde, says that the school has recently discovered that the cellar has been in use for a number of years. Old Andreans have stated that the cellar was once allegedly an elite, black tie club for selected members in the school community. Another group of old Andreans claim that over the years the cellar has been used for many secret social gatherings with a variety of activities.

St Andrews, according to Old Andreans, has faced similar situations to this one in the past. The "Voodoo lounge scandal", only lead to the expulsion of one student and the rustication of another, while the incident apparently could have lead to a large number of students in authoritative positions being expelled. (In 2000 a few St Andrews boys began a drinking tab whereby they sold alcohol from their rooms to other schools in and around Grahamstown, using a pizza delivery man to deliver it. It was called the Voodoo lounge scandal by those involved.)

"These things have happened before, they will continue, there's nothing you can do to prevent it", said one old Andrean.

St Andrews has taken measures in the past to combat drug use in their school, as have many schools around the country. The school sees merit in the drug testing system, which used to be in place in schools but is no longer practiced.

Police spokesperson Milanda Coetzee comments that "no one can be in the possession of drugs other than the police through confiscation, it is unlawful." Yet she maintains that there is "not much the police can do to combat drugs within schools if they are not called in." The school has, in previous drug cases, involved police with regards to the suppliers of the drugs and are apparently in the process of involving



police about the situation at hand.

Wylde believes that "Children must understand the error of their ways and be allowed forgiveness." Yet this can often come at a price. One pupil, who wishes to remain anonymous, feels that "the school will never call the police." This could result in the recurrence of such actions by students. Yet many old Andreans, as well as students believe that St Andrews has handled the situation correctly, especially in regard to the boys' rehabilitation and reputations.



The soon to be vanished Spar sign over the Peppergrove parking lot

Pick 'n Pay takes over Spar

by Jacqueline Lazic and Natasha Boddy

As of the 1st of November 2003, one of Grahamstown's most profitable and infinitely busy enterprises, Peppergrove Spar, will become a Pick 'n Pay store.

The move comes after a much-anticipated decision about what would better benefit customers who shop at Spar. Ultimately, the owners of the Peppergrove Spar thought it would be beneficial to be bought out by Pick 'n Pay. Christo Pienaar, departmental manager at Peppergrove Spar, says: "It seemed to be the better business move."

Although Pienaar explains that customers "shouldn't be too worried because basically a lot of things in the store, including prices, will stay the same," at the same time, a much wider variety of products will be available, with over 3000 Pick 'n Pay No-Name

brands on offer. Added to this, there will be no change to the management of the store with most staff staying on and Joe Potgieter remaining in his post as manager of the branch.

Pienaar explains that the change will definitely be a great advantage to customers, in ensuring that they obtain the freshest food and best quality products available. As a result of the increased variety, the store has had to increase the size of their storage room. The new three-story storeroom means more stock can be housed and Spar trucks will not have to be sent from Port Elizabeth on a daily basis, as was the norm in the past. Added to this is the fact that, according to Pienaar: "Local people will no longer see it necessary to travel through to PE to do their shopping." According to Pienaar, the change-over will more than

likely involve less community involvement from Pick 'n Pay as they are more concerned with their nation-wide advertising campaign.

And what does the change mean for Rhodes students who make up a significant portion of Spar customers? Sarah Baisley, a 3rd year BA student, says: "It will be a good change, as Pick 'n Pay generally has cheaper prices, and for students this will definitely be a good thing!" Despite the increased variety in products, other students tend to disagree. "Spar has a lot of community involvement, which I doubt that a huge chain store, like Pick 'n Pay will be able to uphold," says Angela Cooper, a 1st year B Comm student.

With the proposed take over, only time will tell whether there will be more to pick and less to pay.

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fight for her life

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What you are holding at this very moment is the product of an interesting bonding session for the new Activate staff involving a rather wicked punch- with too many streamers, a very big plan, coffee that never got opened, but above all else hard work and ingenuity.

In contrast to what you will find in this outstanding publication, let us talk about a recent case of bad journalism. In the September edition of SL magazine there is an article written about the tragic suicides that have occurred on our campus. The article sets out to prove that Rhodes does not have enough emotional support facilities and basically implies that we are all hanging on to life by a very thin thread in a 'damn nuthouse' of a town. Not only is this article highly insensitive to the families and friends of our fellow students who have passed away, but she (an ex Rhodent, might I add) writes as if she was in people's heads and knew exactly how they felt while these incidents were occurring. How dare she presume what happened and then go as far as to put her version of events into print? How dare she quote a handful of students who are unhappy at Rhodes and ignore the rest who are coping perfectly fine? A million words could be written about how that article reshaped serious events into an entertaining soap-opera for the readers of SL, but I will spare you.

Instead I would like to bring to attention the fact that telling stories is a tricky art. Knowledge is socially constructed. Journalists are constantly reminded that they should acknowledge the views of all parties involved in a particular event and represent the truth. But the truth of the matter is that there is no truth as such.

As the political theorist Ransom writes, "Knowledge can never be of an absolute or final nature but instead a selecting out, among the many readings and possibilities present in a concrete instance."

One of my esteemed colleagues pointed out that stories have a beginning, a middle and an end but real life is a never-ending cycle that goes on and on like a broken washing machine. So trying to turn real-life into a story is a big task.

Was Smuts House really allocated R550 per person in res funds or were the House Comm right in calculating the figure of R10? Only those in power will know (see this page...). Is it right for St. Andrew's to cover up the illegal leisure activities of six of its students? (see front page)

As the new staff of Activate, we aim to give you objective and unbiased information, but as I have already pointed out, the 'truth' of any story can only be done justice to a certain extent. We can give you both sides of a story, but the real story lies somewhere in between and as readers, it is up to you to find out what is really going on in the world around you.

By no means am I inviting you to be sceptical about what you will find been Activate, all I am pointing out is that there is much about our world that is unknown to us, but that is nevertheless still affecting our lives. Here's to Activate 2003/2004 bringing these issues to your attention.

-The Editor

Res Funds allocations labelled as absurd

by Maire Bonheim and Nic Haralambous

Charles Copley, Head Student of Jan Smuts House, has criticised Rhodes University for its so-called 'meager res funding.' In a letter to Activate, Copley said: "Smuts was allocated approximately R1400 to last for the year of 2003. This is about R10 per person. I cannot see how this amount can be seen as enough of an allocation to a Residence, particularly when Rhodes actively advertises itself as a residence-based University." Andrew Morphew, Smuts House's treasurer, concurred, saying, "When organising a garden party I was quite bleak that it wasn't funded. The money we had wasn't enough." Both Copley and Morphew were concerned that Residence sports were not paid for. Copley said, "I don't see how a res can ask students to pay for their own sports. I don't think that's right."

However, Dean of Students, Dr Motara, stated that the University had in fact allocated an amount of R10 112 to Smuts House, which is about R544 per person. Besides this, the Smuts House Warden was allocated a sum of R2 385 at the beginning of the year for orientation purposes. According to Dr Motara, "He has not claimed one cent of this entertainment money, therefore the money is still in his pocket."

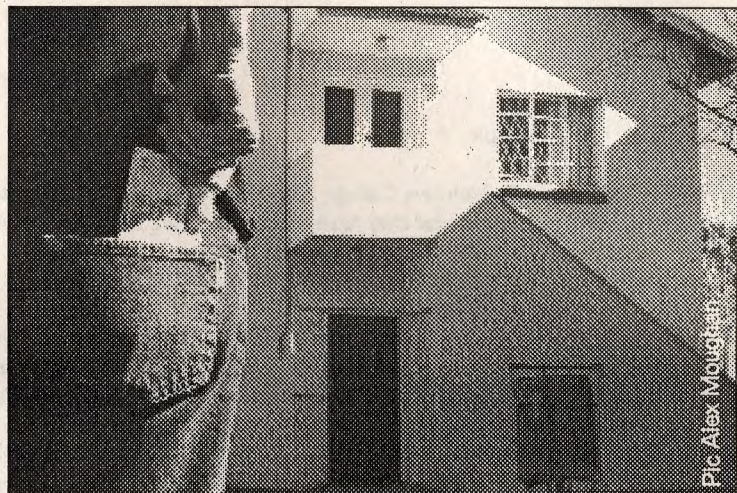
Copley compared his figure of R1400 to the 2000 budget for Kopano House, a Residence at the University of Cape Town, which shows an expense of over R162 000. He said, "That sum is extravagant and not warranted, but when I compare R1400 with R200 000, I feel like laughing, in a sick, choking fashion. I spoke to the Smuts Head Student of UCT and he told me they spend R30 000 on O-Week for things like buses, tours and booze-cruises. I started thinking it's only fair that people should know." Motara said, "The UCT residence fees are thirty per cent higher than ours." He stated that the 2004 fees for Rhodes would still be lower than the UCT fees, going up only by the annual 6.4 per cent. However, the UCT website states that the cost of living in Residence with three meals a day is about R20 000 a year.

Copley complained that a DSTV remote had to be purchased out of

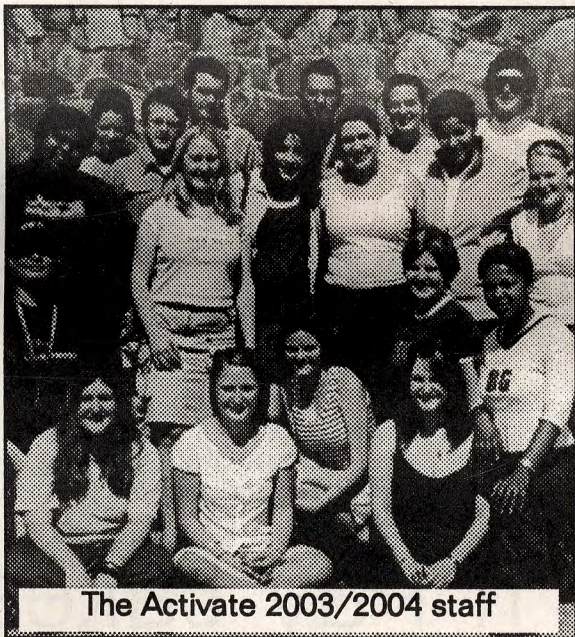
House Committee funds. But Dr Motara said that the University put aside R137 400 this year for miscellaneous repairs such as window breakages, and it would have been possible to claim the amount from this fund.

Copley also alleged that the fees increase and inability of students to get full meal refunds were in aid of paying for the Nelson Mandela Hall investments. However, Dr Motara denied this, saying that Rhodes University took out a separate loan for Nelson Mandela Hall constructions.

Cordelia Leggitt, Oriol Hall Senior student, said, "Smuts is talking nonsense. Oriol Hall gets a budget of over R20 000." In response to this allegation, Copley declined to comment as he could not make an informed decision.



POCKETED: Students fork out money from their own pockets in order to have a 'student life'



The Activate 2003/2004 staff

Report on recent crimes in Grahamstown

by Serena Chaudhry

-3 men were apprehended by Campus Protection guards whilst trying to steal a car from outside a student digs on Somerset Street. One of the men was later caught nearby Steers on High Street, and a car radio was recovered from a bin near where the incident took place.

-In two separate incidents, two cars were stolen from outside Kimberley Hall, Rhodes campus. The first occurred on August 24 and the second vehicle was taken on

1 September.

-There was a failed attempt to steal a bakkie from outside Beit House on Rhodes campus two weeks ago. The suspects have not yet been apprehended.

-Two of the men suspected to be involved with the thefts that recently occurred in Cory House and Adamson residences were caught by The Rhodes Campus Protection Unit.

-A 24-year-old man was found dead with a stab

wound in his chest by Nobedi's Tavern in Grahamstown Extension 6. The incident occurred on Friday the 19th September. -A 38-year-old woman was found dead on Saturday at Xolani squatter camp. She had a stab wound to her neck.

-Two teenagers were prevented from mugging an old lady in Henry Street by a passer-by who threatened them with his 9mm gun. The youngsters managed to evade arrest however.

-SPECIAL-

Mike's

Driving School

Mike (mobile): 082 430 9855 (24 hrs)

Cost: R80 p/h - Code 08

R120 p/h - Code 10

Activate is the Independent Student Newspaper of Rhodes University, Grahamstown. The paper is published every two weeks during term time.

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Printed by: Grocotts Printers and Publishers, Grahamstown

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THE COURTYARD
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At the
"Frontier Country Hotel"



Interior of the building where wooden floors assured the flames spread throughout

by Anita Funke

A local congregation are forced to continue worship elsewhere after a fire seriously damaged their 101-year old church in Frere Street last Friday afternoon.

Neighbouring buildings remained unharmed but the wooden floor, wall panels and rafters of the antique building, coupled with strong winds, ensured its near destruction. According to Captain Gouws of the Grahamstown Police department, the cause of the fire has not yet been ascertained and is still under investigation.

The churchgoers were first compelled to relocate their worship

Oldest Church in Grahamstown burns down

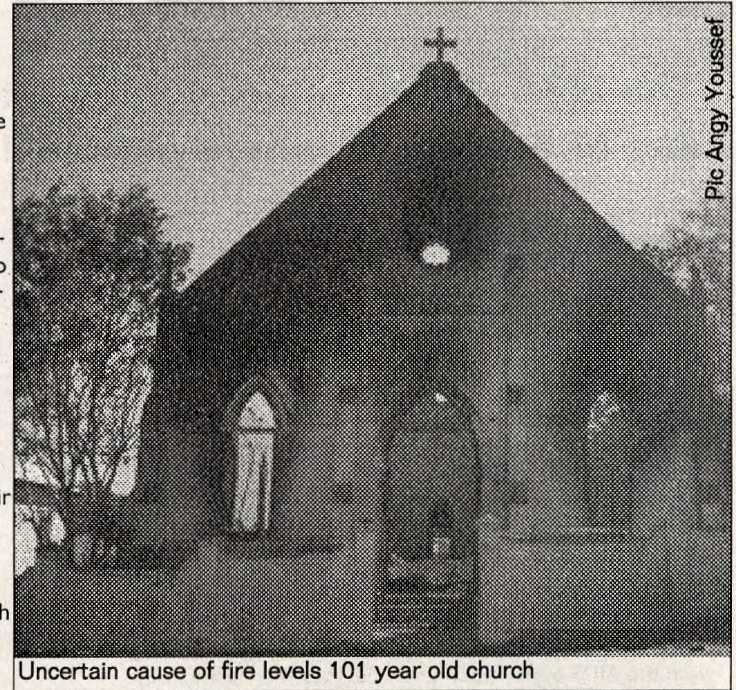
venue when apartheid legislation declared the property part of a white zone in 1972 and the land was confiscated.

The possibility for the church to resume its original function arose some thirty years later under the new government, when the land became the responsibility of the Grahamstown Municipality and was sold back to the Union Congregational Church.

Rev. Henry van der Linda, minister of the Union Congregational Church and warden of Atherstone House comments that "the congregation were always the owners of the land" and were obliged to buy their own property. A response to claims for compensation for this purchase has not yet been received.

According to van der Linda, the congregation regard the damage done as "a very, very sore issue - a tragedy," and plan to restore the church despite the heavy cost thereof. The effects of age alone made quotes for renovations exorbitant. Van der Linda adds that "the congregation always refer to the building as their church" and appear determined to worship there once more. He describes their present meeting place as little more than "a hall with a pulpit."

The Union Congregational plans a symbolic walk from Albany Hall, their current place of worship, to their original church to commemorate their past and now present struggle. A similar march was held in 1972 in protest of "the final locking" of the doors of their church.



Uncertain cause of fire levels 101 year old church

Parking Tariffs insight violence

by Kate Humphreys

The introduction of the Diversified Parking System (DPS) to the centre of Grahamstown earlier this year has caused a great deal of controversy amongst motorists.

The DPS replaces the previous parking meter system which was implemented by the Makana Municipality to curb the high costs of maintaining the meters. Car guards are issued with handheld parking sets and when a motorist parks his vehicle the registration number is punched into the set. The motorists are charged according to how long the vehicle remains parked and they are required to pay the set operators.

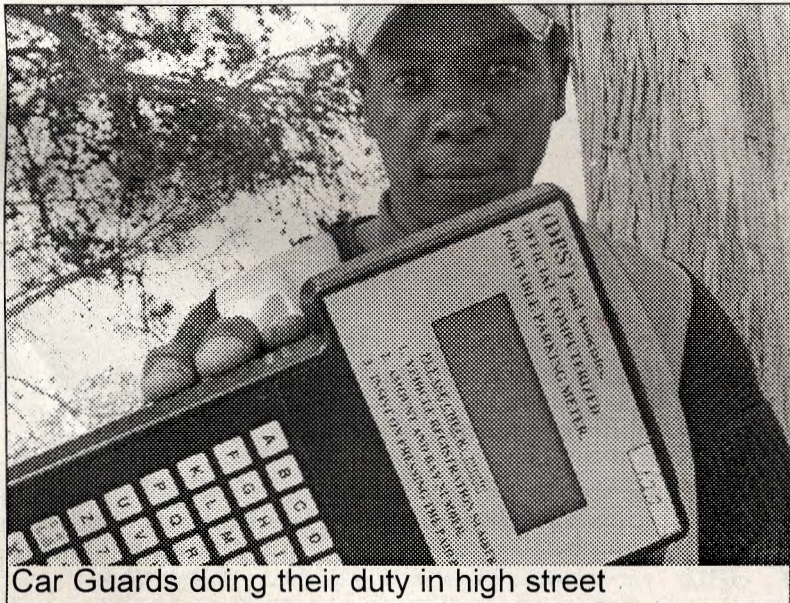
The new parking system, which operates on the town's major streets, is more expensive than the previous sys-

tem, as a tip for the car guards is added in to the tariffs. Many motorists believe that these charges are exorbitant and the charge often reflects the guards' personal opinion on the price, which is often too expensive and self serving. This has led to much aggravation from many motorists.

According to DPS employee, Brenda Mzalazala, "Some people refuse to pay." In addition, there have been reports that some angry motorists have become violent when the car guards have attempted to charge them. In one instance a motorist attempted to physically assault a guard for supposedly over charging him. The man, who wishes to remain anonymous recalls beating the guard into submission before leaving the scene without paying his tariff. If a motorist refuses to pay the parking tariffs, their registration number is recorded and they are issued with a parking fine.

There has also been opposition from business and shop owners in the CBD of Grahamstown, who claim that the increased parking tariffs have deterred customers from the areas controlled by the DPS, as reported in an issue of *Activate* earlier this year.

However, the traffic department believes there are advantages to the DPS. The DPS ensures greater safety to cars, as a relatively high number of car guards are deployed on each street under the system control. It is also no longer necessary to tip car guards, as a portion of the money collected will go to them. Therefore, although prices may be higher, motorists can rest assured that their vehicles are being closely watched and guarded.



Car Guards doing their duty in high street

Grahamstown on international HIV/AIDS arena

by Magriet Cruywagen

Grahamstown may be becoming an international Aids research site, as part of an international study of anti-retroviral (ARV) therapy.

What started out as a casual suggestion by a local doctor, has triggered a process that may have far-reaching effects on dealing with the problem of HIV/Aids in Grahamstown and eventually the Eastern Cape.

Dr Haubrich, an Assistant professor of medicine at the University of California, is considering a proposal by Dr Nommso Stubbs, the general practitioner at Grahamstown's 6SAI Battalion, to incorporate Grahamstown into his international study. According to an article published in the *Grocott's Mail* of 16 September, Haubrich spoke of this when he recently gave a lecture at Rhodes University.

He spoke of the need for continual development of Aids vaccines, as the virus mutates and changes with time. Stubbs is eager to see Haubrich's study implement-

ed in Grahamstown as soon as possible. She is fully aware of the procedures that must be followed to ensure that this can take place. Stubbs and other doctors from Settler's Hospital have expressed their willingness to get involved with the study and said that she is ready to start immediately.

However, they must wait for approval from the Medical Council and Ethics committee, to ensure that the process is medically sound. Stubbs told the *Grocott's Mail* that government involvement in improving the laboratories, hospitals and clinics in Grahamstown and the greater Eastern Cape, is essential for the success of the project. However, when contacted with regards to the project, officials of the Health Department were unaware of the project and what it involved.

Regardless of the impending obstacles such as administrative protocol and greater need for finances and infrastructure, Stubbs said, "It is up to us [Grahamstown medical personnel and community] to see that it is implemented.



activate

Next Activate
out on 16
October
2003

For more information on
HIV testing and counselling

Information is available at the
SAN, Settler's Hospital, the SRC
Counselling Centre, your local
doctor or the Raphael Centre on
Donkin Street - Monday and
Tuesday 1-4pm

Activate welcomes letters to the editor: e-mail g02o1390@campus.ru.ac.za

The NBA comes to Africa

The NBA recently joined forces with Love Life for a week of outreach, community development and lots of basketball, where the top 100 young African players got a chance to show off their skills

by Rob Boffard

Anybody in the US will tell you that most professional basketball players usually surround themselves with an entourage of chauffeurs, at least three photographers and numerous men wearing black suits and earpieces.

It is a good thing then, that when they came to Africa, they were so well received that the only heavy security they required was some strapping tape for sprained ankles.

You are probably a bit confused right now, so allow me to explain. The National Basketball Association (NBA) recently came to Africa to scout for the next African NBA stars. They picked the continent's top 100 young players from over 20 countries, such as Egypt, DRC, South Africa and Angola and roped in African-born superstars like the New Jersey Nets' Dikembe "Mount" Mutombo. Joining forces with the AIDS organization LoveLife, they then hijacked the American International School in Johannesburg for the Africa 100 Camp. It is the first camp of its kind and consisted of a week of training, community outreach and -

yes - international talent scouting.

The NBA has not just been here to play basketball either. Mutombo, who is from the DRC had said in an earlier press release that he believed it was important to contribute something to his homeland: "The NBA and its players work very hard to make a difference in the lives of young people, who we support as much as possible." With this in mind, the NBA players, in conjunction with LoveLife, set out to make a serious difference to the community. Besides holding seminars on HIV, substance abuse and leadership for the young players, Mutombo and company also opened a Reading and Learning Centre at the Ithuteng Trust in Johannesburg, the first ever to be opened outside of America. The NBA also donated basketball equipment to local leagues and multimedia materials to schools in the area.

Once you get on the court with someone, you don't need language to communicate.

Beginning on the 2nd of September and running until the 7th, the players began a week of intense training exercises, evaluation drills and games. They were coached by people such as former Boston Celtics superstar Sam Vincent, the coach of the South African basketball team, and current Philadelphia 76ers assistant coach, Alex English. The NBA players like Mutombo, Senegal's DeSagana Diop and Cameroon's Ruben Bountje-Bountjen assisted the coaching.

I caught up with the camp on the penultimate day, when the games had been moved to the Wembley Arena in central Johannesburg. Hip-hop blasted from the speakers in the indoor arena, while the two sunny outdoor courts were buzzing with TV crews, photographers, players and coaches. Chatting to some of the players on the outdoor courts, it was clear just what their response to the camp had been.

Botswana's Ratanang Tsagang described it as a great experience, and said that meeting the NBA players and coaches was a dream come true. The only problem at the camp, besides a few injuries, had been a language barrier, according to Tsagang, as three quarters of the players were not fluent in English. However, Tsagang says this soon became a non-issue. "Once you get on the court with someone, you don't need language to communicate."

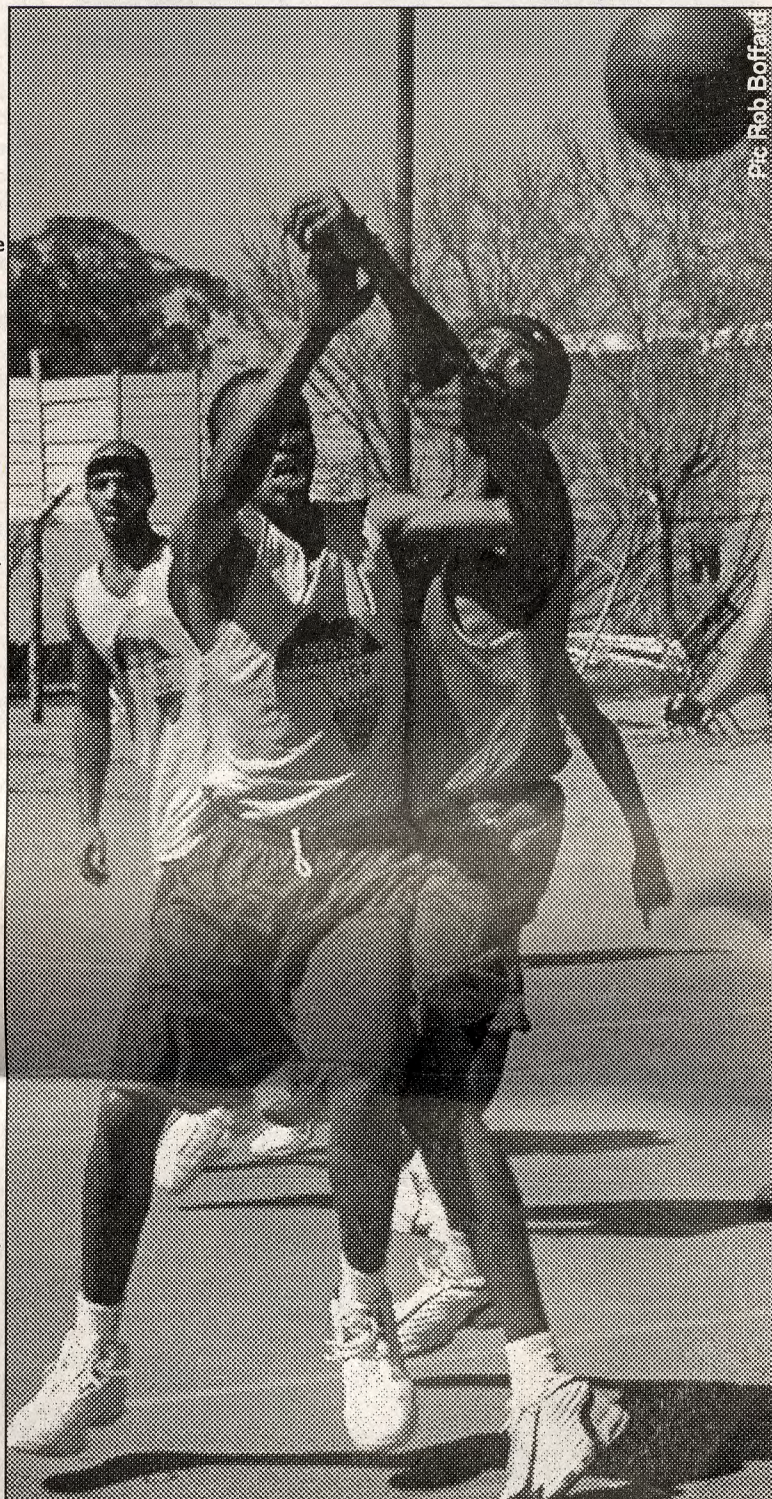
Takunda Chidimu, the Zimbabwean's sole player who participated in the camp, described it in this way. "We see these guys on TV, and them being from Africa gives us hope that we can make it as well." Chidimu's coach, Jabulani Maseko, upon seeing my press pass, tells me that he has children at Rhodes, and immediately undertakes to show me around. Chatting to him, he explains how the NBA wants to make this an annual event, and possibly get the women's leagues involved. "It'll have to become Africa 200 then!" he jokes.

Of course, it was not just the players I wanted to talk to. It was the NBA stars and coaches that I really wanted to interview. As mentioned before, heavy security can sometimes make this difficult, but here it was nowhere to be seen. Alex English is an NBA legend, but here he was coaching on the sidelines with not a black suit in sight. I wish I could have talked to him, but he was busy screaming orders to his team. Maseko tells me that the NBA players will be around later, until he suddenly stops mid-sentence and excitedly points into a large crowd next to the court. "There - one of the players." I'm about to ask where, but then realise that that is a seriously stupid question. Mamadou N'Diaye is 2.13m tall, which is pretty large even for basketball players. A centre for the Toronto Raptors alongside superstars like Vince Carter, he stands head and shoulders (and chest) above the crowd. And, superbly, he was only too happy to chat to me.

Even sitting on the sidelines, my 1.82m is dwarfed by N'Diaye. In a deep, heavily accented voice, he talks about the work the NBA has been doing in Africa. "It's not so much about coming to Africa, although that is a good thing. If you can help, you do so, wherever the help is needed. And the need now is in Africa." N'Diaye says he found it extremely rewarding coaching the young players. "I think it's a great opportunity - they're eager to learn and some have great talent. We've been trying to teach them things like leadership, the importance of goals and the value of education. It's been great."

I would love to say that I managed to interview a legend like Mutombo, who is a basketball icon all over the world. Unfortunately, I could not stay, so I decided to watch the African teams battle it out instead. Whether they have improved since the start of

We see these guys on TV, and them being from Africa gives us hope that we can make it as well.

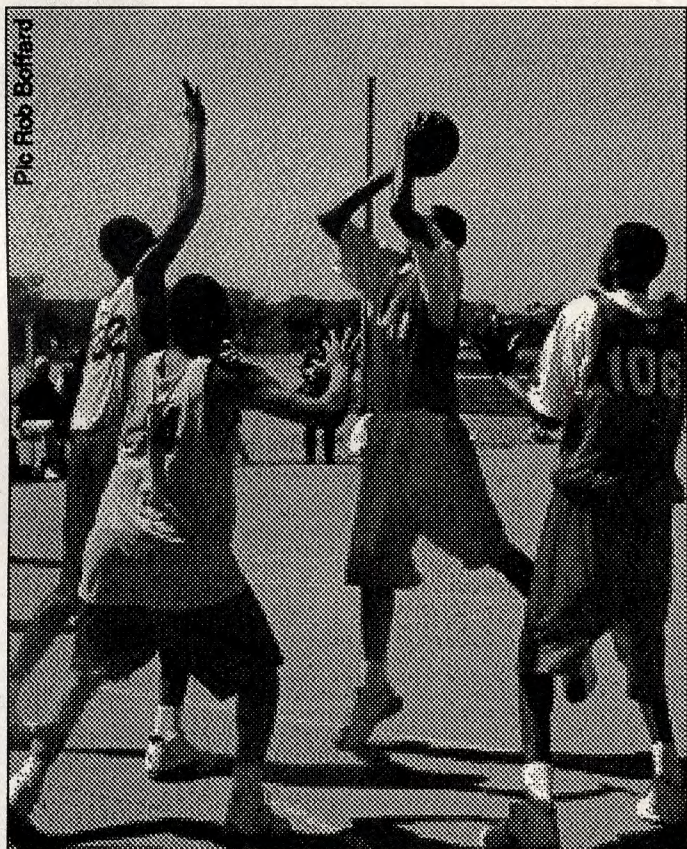


AGGRESSIVE? Two players get caught up in the heat of the moment

the camp I cannot say, but I will tell you this: we have talent in Africa. Huge dunks, superb ball trickery and some jaw-dropping behind-the-back passes got the crowd on its feet, and it's clear that some of these players have a bright future ahead of them.

Interestingly enough, the one question no-one knew the answer to - or was not willing to talk about, take your pick - was whether the international scouts had seen anything they liked. NBA International PR Helen Wong, in attendance at the camp, gave a wry smile when asked, and said she didn't know.

Despite certain question marks, there is no doubt that the camp was a huge success. The focus on assisting the community made it a refreshing change from past American ventures into Africa and it was great to finally be able to showcase the talent we have on this continent. Of the 100 young stars who attended the camp, maybe a lucky few will go on to represent Africa in the NBA and make us proud.



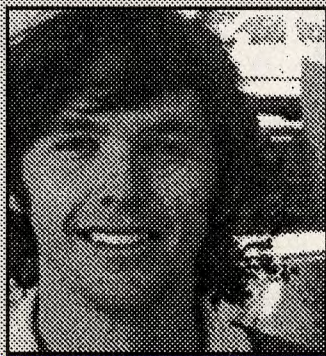
THREE ON ONE: Towering NBA player reach head and shoulders above his opposition.

Talking Heads 01

pics and words Angy Youssef

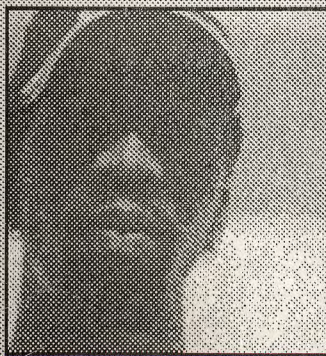
Traditional punishment, e.g Stoning - does it apply to modern day society? Where does it fit in?

Edition 1 2003/2004



"It needs to be re-examined before it is implemented"

(Ken King, BSC 3)



"Traditionally it was meant to instill discipline, but now in modern society it is regarded as a form of punishment that kills a person emotionally as well as physically, but because of Westernisation it is seen to be unacceptable."

(Lwazi Msimanga, Masters comm)



Walking the beaten path

In a perfect relationship both people would be in love. They would equally respect and care for each other. Men would give their girlfriends flowers or take them out to dinner. Spoil them. Love them. But not all relationships are perfect. Rather than spoil their girlfriends some men choose to ruin them. In these relationships couples resort to physical violence and harsh verbal abuse to solve their problems.

by Toni Ackermann

Liz* has an abusive boyfriend. But she is in denial about it. Her friend Sophie* says that Liz walks around with marks and black eyes but still she denies that Steve*, her boyfriend, hits her. "When she is asked about the marks or the abuse, she says she doesn't know what we are talking about," Sophie says. One night when Liz, Steve and their friends were out, Steve threw Liz to the ground and stood over her, kicking her. Nobody around them said anything or did anything. Liz is not the only woman on campus whose boyfriend hits her.

Dr L'Ange, harassment officer at Rhodes University, said that so far this year there have been about fifteen cases of student harassment (namely verbal and physical abuse) reported to him. "I speculate that this number is just the tip of the iceberg," L'Ange said. In 1997 the Survey of Student experiences revealed that 10% of students surveyed said they had been harassed. "It is a worrying phenomenon that people are resorting to abuse to resolve issues, rather than talking about them," L'Ange said.

According to L'Ange, the overwhelming majority of cases of abuse seem to result from the break-up of a relationship. "Men are totally unprepared for the break-up and resort to verbal or physical violence in an attempt to rescue the relationship," L'Ange said. He feels that men do not have the resources or the maturity to deal with their relationship ending. Things are insecure at home and then something seen as stable at varsity comes adrift. Guys feel that all their anchors have been ripped out.

Paula Akugizibwe, chairperson of the Amnesty International society here on campus, feels that women should be encouraged to speak out about abuse. "It is so serious but people just kind of blow it off and it develops into something far worse," she said. Paula said that people think it is the man's responsibility not to abuse, but that actually it is also the woman's responsibility not to take abuse but rather to take a stand against it. "I think ultimately girls need to be responsible and stand up for themselves. You can't fight for people who don't want to fight for themselves," she said. Dr L'Ange is also of the opinion that women should speak out against abuse. "It's almost as if there's a conspiracy of silence about it," he said.

Paula said, "I think domestic abuse goes so much deeper - it's a whole mindset. I think it is something people need to talk about. Things like this require counselling." According to Dr L'Ange all couples that have reported physical or verbal abuse are encouraged to seek counselling. He said that in all cases where couples have had counselling he has had no further complaints but that in those cases where counselling has not been sought, the woman has returned with complaints of continued abuse and harassment.

Lauren* is in her first year at Rhodes and on her first night here she met a man named Jim*, who became her boyfriend (now ex-boyfriend). Lauren said that although Jim never actually hit her he would often shove her around, grab her roughly and yell at her in public. He even forced her to look at horrific pornography against her will, later questioning her religious beliefs because of this.

"People would bump into him and he would turn around and take a swipe at them," Lauren said. Jim would often ask her to bring a friend home with her when they were out, even though

she had made it clear from the beginning of their relationship that she would not go as far as sleeping with him. "His main issue was me not wanting to sleep with him and after a while I would be quite nervous about spending the night with him because he would push

If you are a woman you can make a stand. We can't fight for people who don't want to fight for themselves



DEFENSELESS: A lot of abused women are too afraid to fight back

my boundaries," Lauren said. On the occasion of his birthday when Lauren said she did not want to go home with him he went "ballistic", even screaming and swearing at a passer-by who stopped to talk to Lauren.

"We met again four days later and he apologised. At the time his behaviour was very inappropriate but his excuse compensated for it."

On one particular night, Lauren recalls going home with Jim and two of his friends. "As we passed through the common room they got very aggressive, pushing and throwing stuff around. I was freaked out. I asked them to take me home but they just kept telling me to shut up and relax." A little while later the boys decided to light up a joint, except that Jim told Lauren his friend Mike* could

not inhale and needed her to blow the smoke into his mouth. Lauren did not want to do it but Jim got impatient and condescending with her. So she did it. "I smoked an entire joint and I had never smoked before in my life. I couldn't move. I just sat there thinking, 'I have to get out of here'. But I couldn't move and I couldn't speak. I just knew that I did not want to pass out there."

"At the time I did not realise that they wanted to get me stoned so that they could

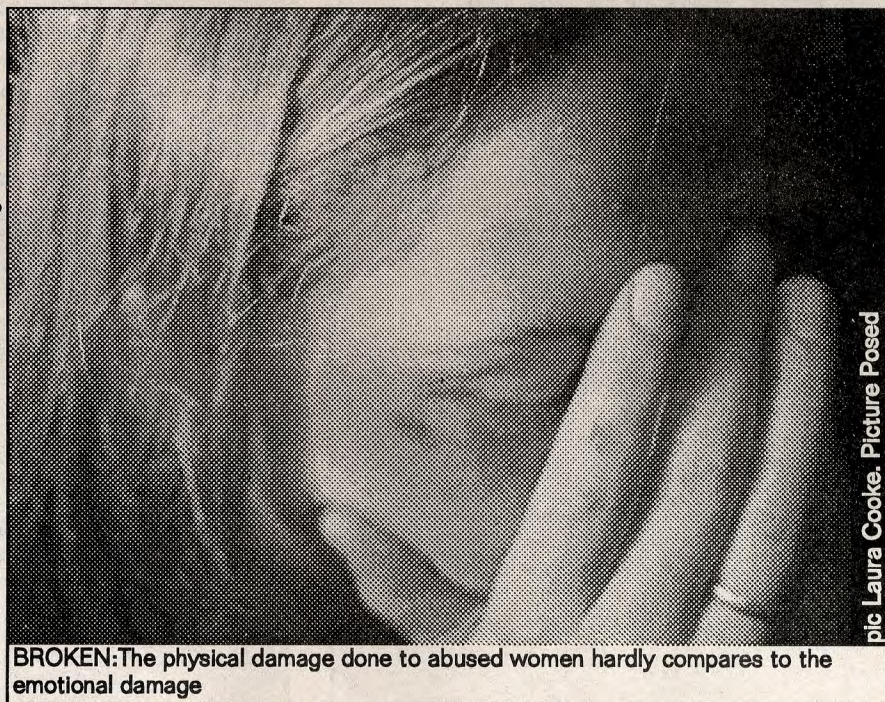
do stuff to me. It was all a lie. I only realised when I got home. I was beside myself - hysterical. I was embarrassed about how pathetically naïve I was. I'm lucky nothing happened to me."

Looking back now, Lauren wonders if he really was that bad. "I keep wondering if I was over-

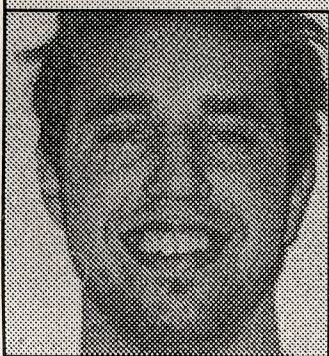
reacting. But then you remember how scared you were, how you felt when he grabbed your arm, yelled at you or made you feel guilty. No-one can take away what it felt like to me."

According to POWA (People Opposing Woman Abuse), research shows that over half the women murdered are killed by their partners. Most men who are killed die at the hands of a stranger; most women who are killed die at the hands of their partner. Not all relationships are perfect.

*Not their real names. Names and places have been changed to protect the identity of the people concerned.



BROKEN: The physical damage done to abused women hardly compares to the emotional damage



"Corporal punishment does not have a place in modern society, mostly because of its misuse in the past."

(Brain Hayward, BJourn 1)

“ 3



"Individual cultures and traditions are important but so are individual rights. These cultures and traditions should thus be evaluated in this light and in the light of our constitution"

(Tracy Hammond, BA Honours)

“ 4



"I think traditional punishment is outdated because the ideas they were originally based on have now changed, and it often fringes on basic human rights."

(Masenoametsi Letlala, BComm 1)

“ 5

Sunburnt and tired after a half-marathon, 20 members of the Rhodes Athletics Club were recovering in the lounge. The silence was broken by one Lindsay Parry:

"Do you ever get that feeling?" he asked. "When you're just walking down the road and you stop and you think to yourself... 'F**k I'm mean'".

Ever since then Parry has been regularly reminded of exactly how 'mean' he is, to save himself the trouble. But he was right. I congratulate myself all the time, usually because no one else does it for me.

The principle doesn't just apply to people but places too. An hour and a half of winding, pot-holed road away from Grahamstown lies Cradock, a town with a larger population of miniature windmills than people.

Farmers, clutch-plate mechanics and crackpots park their bakkies outside the murky Sports Bar where they spend the town's GDP on brandewyn-en-cokes, and talk about the rugby, the rain and where they'd be if they'd won Big Brother.

Not the place for a spiritual epiphany. A few weeks ago I found myself playing pool in said Sports Bar when the heavens opened up and shone down on Wimpie Grootboom as he

roared onto the pavement on the 'Harlee-Davisson' he'd just finished building. My jaw dropped with my pool cue. I tried to utter, "Wow. Big Wow".

His arms stretched to reach the handlebars, his legs splayed out around the engine, his posture resembled a spatch-cock chicken, and his expression was that of the proudest chicken ever to be spatch-cooked.

He propped his mobile up on the pavement, displaying its crowning glory to all in the bar. There, painted on the black fuel tank, was a naked blonde, her hair billowing in the wind, a look of ecstasy on her face - the cherrie on top.

Every man at the bar walked his klip-pies out to see the machine. They formed a circle pointing fingers, talking quietly and nodding their heads. Wimpie, he stood back in his tight-fitting helmet and thought to himself, "F**k I'm mean".

This weekend he'll have an even bigger audience as more than 3000 South Africans descend upon Cradock armed with spandex, spray-decks and bananas for the Great Fish River Canoe Marathon. No doubt he's saving his best teesavs for the occasion.

As for the canoeists, they will race over 80km of raging river, some will shoot Keith's Flyover, the rapid that did in excess of R50 000 of damage in the '99 race, and all of them will be wet and muddy for the 5 or 6 hours that they spend on the river. They will have moments when they seriously question their place in the world. But when it's all over, every one of them will sit down at a quiet moment and think to themselves, "F**k I'm mean". And that's what it's all about.

(t m-f l-r) n. pl.
tom-fool-er-ies,
1. Foolish behaviour;
nonsense.
2. Balderdash, bilge,
claptrap,
hogwash, shenanigan,
tommyrot,
trash



Tom-tomfoolery

Tom Mapham

Are you gonna eat that?

What happens to the leftovers in the dining halls? It is not going to the feeding schemes, and it is up to students to make sure that less of it goes to the pigs.

by Magriet Cruywagen

Most university officials will tell you that the question, "What happens to leftovers in the dining halls?" is pondered and investigated by concerned students annually or at least biannually. Many students feel that the university should see that untaken food is donated to feeding schemes to counteract hunger in Grahamstown, where many people live below the breadline.

Dr L'Ange, the Assistant Dean of Students, who oversees the catering department says, "We [the university] have explored at great lengths giving food to shelters in Grahamstown. Issues of hygiene with regards to effective trans-

port, storage and reheating of donated food have always hampered their attempts. Rhodes University's Catering Procedure Manual stipulates that the food in dining halls must be kept at an optimum tempera-

ture during serving to avoid bacteria growing on the food. If the untaken food in the serveries gets donated to feeding schemes, it would have to be transported and stored at strict temperatures and reheated to specific temperatures to avoid the risk of bacteria growing on the food. According to Jay Pillay, head of catering at Rhodes University, they consider the option of donating the food to feeding schemes at the beginning of every year, but the risks involved have led to it being repeatedly declined. The university, the feeding schemes and the shelters in Grahamstown do not have the facilities to ensure that the food is handled according to the hygienic standards stipulated by the Health Department when exchanged between them.

Rhodes University's meal booking system was introduced to minimise wastage. It allows students to plan the meals they take in the dining halls according to their preference and schedules to avoid their money and the prepared food going to waste. According to Dr. L'Ange this has cut down on the amount of food that is wasted. However, many students book meals and do not take them, and this creates a further surplus of food. To counteract this problem the

university implemented the seconds and now thirds option where students have the option of helping themselves to more helpings of food if available. Certain untaken foods are also reused in the dining halls, such as meats in stews and in pastas.

All the food left on trays and in the serveries is collected by pig farmers from the surrounding areas on a daily basis to feed the pigs on their farms. This system has been used for several years as it is a constructive way of recycling leftovers preventing hygiene problems. The university is paid a handling fee of between R2 and R4 per barrel depending on the size of the barrels provided by the farmers. In turn the university is not belaboured with the task of disposing of

several kilograms of food that is not fit for human consumption. The income from this process, which amounts to about R3000 a year, is credited to the general catering account as an offset for other costs incurred throughout the year. Many students are shocked by the thought of "perfectly good food" going to the pigs, but

according to legal regulations enforced by the Department of Health, food that has been dished up on a plate may by no means be redistributed to another person.

The fact remains that the Eastern Cape is the poorest province in the country. In Grahamstown alone, around 70% of the population is unemployed and as Professor Brian Gaybba, the chairman of the Grahamstown Feeding Association aptly notes, "That's a lot of hungry people.". The Grahamstown Feeding Association has been working to feed the hungry and poor in Grahamstown for the past three to four years by distributing food and food parcels at various venues. When Rhodes University has particular functions or events the leftover snacks that can be refrigerated are given to the Grahamstown Feeding Association to distribute. Gaybba also iterated that the majority of the food that is actually going to waste in the dining halls at Rhodes University is the food on the students' plates, especially the bread that they take and do not eat. Gaybba's comment on this, "It's absolutely appalling, because the people I want to serve (the food) to are digging in bins for food."



When asked what students should do to minimise wastage on their parts, L'Ange simply replied, "Only take onto your plate what you think you will eat." He stated that students should exercise control over the meals they take and un-book those they cannot, or do not want to eat. He added that students should decline certain foods that they do not eat if they are dished up for them, or ask for smaller portions if the standard helpings are more than they want.

The catering department recently put up notices in all the dining halls indicating that students are only allowed to take two slices of bread and one fruit out of the dining hall. A question that was subsequently raised was: "Doesn't this lead to more wastage in the dining halls, and wouldn't it be better if students could take food from the dining halls and eat it in their own time?" The central problem with this suggestion, according to L'Ange, would be that of control. If students are allowed to take food from the dining halls then it will become impossible for the university to exercise control over the amount of food leaving the dining halls and where it is going. Due to past experiences where residence rooms were left in a state of almost uninhabitable lack of hygiene, the university has decided to implement this system of regulation.

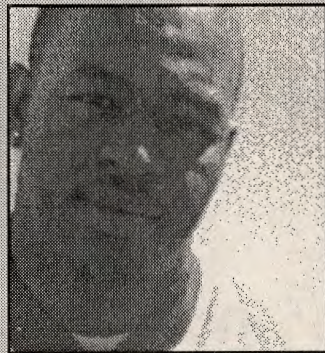
In Grahamstown, a trip down High or New street, usually leads to an encounter with several hungry people begging for food. The university and the various feeding schemes in Grahamstown are not currently in the position to redistribute the leftover food in the dining halls. However, students have the facilities, such as the meal booking system, to assist them in exercising control over what they do and do not eat. Students need to be aware of what they have at their disposal and utilise it accordingly so they can ensure that they are not worsening the problem.

Continued from pg 5>



"It's wrong, either way, to stone a person."

(Tarryn Reynders, BSocSci 2)



"I don't think it has a place in modern day society, I think there are other ways to deal with people. Traditionally and culturally we need to move away from our barbaric ways. There needs to be some sort of progression."

(Vuyani Mahluza, BSocSci 3)

Amina Lawal wins the fight for her life

by Sean Naidoo and Hayley Axford

Thirty-year-old Nigerian, Amina Lawal has won her appeal against the harsh sentence that was meted out to her last year.

Lawal made world headlines when she was sentenced to death through stoning, by a traditional court, due to the fact that she had given birth to a child while divorced. Her sentence was then suspended for two years so that she could take care of her baby.

Some Nigerian States that apply Sharia law, believe that pregnancy outside marriage constitutes sufficient evidence for a woman to be convicted of adultery. The case of Lawal had provoked strong opposition from Amnesty International and other human rights organisations. They were concerned that Amina together with others in Nigeria, who faced cruel and inhumane punishments, remained at great risk.

The man identified as being the father of Amina's child was acquitted due to a lack of evidence against him. He reportedly denied having sex with Lawal and this was enough for the charges against him to be discontinued. For him to be convicted he must have confessed to the adulterous act or four other men must have testified that they witnessed the adultery.

Women's rights groups believe that under Nigerian federal law, Amina had the right to life and dignity. These clauses were enshrined in the 1999 Nigerian Constitution, which confirmed the sanctity of human life. These groups were also aware that Nigeria protected individual states such as Katsina State and tried to keep their interference minimal. Ibrahim Abdullahi, a spokesperson for the Katsina State authorities, believed that the government would not have interfered in the appeal process and if the appeal was turned down, Lawal would most certainly have died. Execution would have entailed burying Amina up to her waist and stoning her until she was dead. The execution could only have been carried out and witnessed by men.



Amina Lawal and baby Wasila: Being a mother is hard but it should not be a crime.

"We note that women on the African continent are confronted with discrimination and oppression and continue to be subjected to violence, abuse and torture", Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula, chairperson of the African National Congress Women's League, said. But according to many activists, Amina's new found freedom will definitely be an achievement for women on the continent.

People all over the world became enraged by what was happening to Amina and this sentence shocked civil society in and outside Nigeria. Amnesty International headed the list of human rights organisations fighting against Amina's execution. They believed that the Nigerian government had to intervene and do all that it could, to stop the blatant abuse of basic human rights. Jody Collapen, the Human Rights Commission chairman said: "Nigeria is a signatory to the African charter on human rights and the country was obliged to offer Lawal a pardon."

Courtesy of Amnesty International and www.sabcnews.co.za

Bid country for the 2010 Soccer World Cup

Profile: Morocco

Head of State: King Mohammed VI

Prime Minister: Driss Jetou

Population: 30.5 million

Capital: Rabat

Area: 274,459 sq miles

Languages: Arabic (official), Berber, French, Spanish

Religions: Islam (98.7%), Christian (1.1%), Jewish (0.2%)

Currency: Dirham

Major cities: Casablanca, Tangiers and Fez

Transport: Taxis, buses, trains, motorcycles and planes

Stadiums: Has 7 stadiums that can hold more than 70 000 people

Proposed expenditure on World Cup if successful: \$2.4 billion USD

Other Attractions: A shopper's paradise, beautiful coastline and ancient buildings

Crime: Virtually non-existent

Climate: Mediterranean, more extreme in interior

Cherise fever hits Zambia

by Hayley Axford

Cherise Makubale, a twenty four year old procurement officer from Zambia, is the new queen of African reality television. This comes after she won the Big Brother Africa challenge and \$100 000 USD.

Cherise, who lived in the house for a hundred and six days under constant surveillance, remained true to her morals and values for her entire stay as a Big Brother housemate. When asked how she conducted her behaviour during her stay, Cherise said, "You just need to be yourself all the time. I managed to win because I remained who I am, myself." Known for her loud voice and Tumba dancing, she proved very popular with housemates and audiences alike.

Amidst much jubilation, Cherise arrived in Zambia and was presented with a diplomatic passport by president Levy Mwanawasa. He commended her further by saying, "We are proud of you, Cherise. You showed us what is good for Zambia". She has been hailed a role model for young Zambians and an icon of hope amidst all the hardship and poverty in her native country.

Cherise will soon be using her ambassadorial status to represent Zambia at a youth conference in Australia and will also concentrate her efforts on an AIDS campaign that is going to be launched shortly in Zambia.



Cherise Makubale: The new queen of African reality television.

Africa in focus

by Patricia McClelland

- Miss HIV "stigma free" beauty pageant is a success in Botswana.

- Doctors in Ghana have found evidence to prove that the use of traditional plants can help heal wounds.

- Staff at the Daily News in Zimbabwe are shut out, equipment is confiscated and the paper is declared illegal.

- Zimbabwean vice president, Simon Muzenda dies in hospital after a brief illness.

- A military conference

reveals statistics

to show that in Southern African countries, almost 50 percent of troops are HIV positive.

- Sunday Times political correspondent, Ranjeni Munusamy, resigns after being suspended for giving the City Press newspaper her report on the Bulelani Ngcuka debacle.

- Morocco's Hicham El Guerrouj and South Africa's Hestrie Cloete are crowned world athletes of the year in Monaco, following their performances in the 1500m marathon and high jump.

Apartheid Reparations: Should they pay?

by Bronwyn Jacobs

The government has taken a firm stance on the issue of apartheid reparations. Both President Thabo Mbeki and Justice and Constitutional Affairs Minister, Penuell Maduna said that although the government will not stand in the way of these lawsuits, they will not support them. Maduna said, "We recognize that everyone has the right to approach the courts and have matters settled. We are not taking away this right but are merely spelling out our own position."

President Mbeki believes that people seeking reparations should use dialogue rather than litigation because many of the

companies involved in these lawsuits are helping with South Africa's development. Mbeki said, "We have no desire to prejudice those who go that route but let's dialogue on these matters first."

Anglican Archbishop, Njongonkulu Ndungane, said lawsuits had been filed against corporations on the basis of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's findings, which showed that these were significant beneficiaries of apartheid. He said that these lawsuits were filed out of sheer frustration because people were not being taken seriously in a call for dialogue with corporations.

Courtesy of SAPA

In the beginning there was apartheid...and life was good...for the minority of white South Africans...and life flourished, for the Rand was strong (£3 to the Rand at its peak). There was an abundance of cheap labour and every white household was equipped with a plethora of mod-cons operated mostly by someone whose real name could not be pronounced, so she was given a simple name like Rosy or Anna or simply "the maid". The economy, the industries, everything bloomed and became the shining jewel in the crown of Africa.

Of course all you had to do was take a crowded taxi back to a nearby Bantustan to see another, harsher reality. Despite the rock-hard financial status of the country, black families had to live apart so that they could legally earn enough to support their children and elderly. Despite the ease which was involved in hiring skilled yet inexpensive labour, a worker could never advance beyond a specified rank, regardless of achievement or loyalty. Despite being the jewel in the crown, sanctions were slapped on South Africa at every port.

It is understandable to perceive a place as ideal for working and living. A strong currency, every convenience and ample leisure activities at your disposal are surely high on the priority list, but how different is the reality? Life teaches us time and time again how appearances can be deceiving.

My dentist lamented recently that out of the 52 fellow students he qualified with he is 1 of only 2 who have remained in S.A. That's a lot of qualified dentists in a developed world market where there is probably a glut of them in any case, all scrabbling through the classifieds looking for work. So why did they move? I mean what is so wrong with S.A. that tickets to the U.K. have to be booked a year in advance to secure a place on the plane?

This column is here to answer that question. Why do people leave? What do they think the developed world is going to give them that they cannot get here? I am sure we could come up with a worthy list. So there's AIDS and the crime rate compounded by the weak Rand by the international trading standard but aren't there other problems they have over there?

Of course they have problems; they have over-population, pollution, and a range of taxes we have not even considered. They have poverty (even if it's masked better than the Joza location is), over-stretched health and education services and more first world illnesses than your imagination could conjure.

These are the kinds of issues Patriot Games will investigate. Why we should be "Proudly South African" and why "local is lekker". At base, this column will point out the good things about S.A., the diamonds that are currently buried in the rough. It is time to dig them up, polish them and hold them up for all to marvel at.

Oh and just in case you haven't noticed, I will be taking a strictly pro-African line. I hereby purposefully fly in the face of all that

is encouraging Africans to abandon the country that made them. This country made me, and I'm staying!



Patriot Games

Justine Cottrell

Activate Africa & Speak Out
Welcome to the African Affairs discussion forum.

This week's topic concerns Nigerian, Amina Lawal who could have been stoned to death for having a child out of wedlock. What do you think about inhumane practices such as stoning being used as punishment in certain countries?

Mail your views, thoughts and suggestions to: g03n0709@campus.ru.ac.za All opinions and views will be respected.

Meet Siyabonga Mtembu. Only in his first year of the Bjour that his mother sent him all the way from Johannesburg for, the dreadlocked fella is already something of a recognised force. Renowned for, among other things, his noise-making sessions in Allan Gray, Siya is an all-sorts kind of guy. I first noticed him when he took part in Andrew Buckland's South African version of the 1950s play "The Kitchen". Since then, Siya has become one of Grahamstown's most visible performers, performing his poetry, rap and song at various Open Mic sessions. It is one particular session at the now defunct Pop Art that forms the basis for this one-on-one: A local Hip Hop group decided to initiate a ridiculous rhyme battle against some of Rhodes's own MCs. Siya is one of them though he refuses to be identified as a rapper and tried his utmost to stop the fiasco. He is passionate about Hip Hop, claiming a good understanding of the art (his extensive background knowledge proves this) and exudes this ardour when he speaks disparagingly about battles...

I don't like cliques



Q. So what exactly are you?

A. A boy. (laughs) I promise. I like to think I'm a man but... (He obviously thinks he's also funny.)

Q. Okay I'll rephrase that, what do you do?

A. I perform as much as I can; singing, acting, rapping, because I love the high it gives me and the chicks one has access to...BUT, I am in love with my girlfriend.

Mmm, so who are you then?

I once thought I was gay, because of all the stuff I like, until I stared at guys' asses for a day...hahaha (laughs again and shouts) jokes! I do not know who I am and I think that qualifies as knowledge of myself (okay, maybe a little deep too).

Q. How does this (lack of) self-knowledge affect your life?

A. Well, I do not limit myself as a person, a student or as a performer. I hang with all sorts of people - my friendship groups comprise of people from different faculties and age groups. Take the Theater Café, for instance...

Q. What's wrong with the Theater Café?

A. I hate it. They make good food but the 'exclusivity' portrayed by the people who hang there puts me off - I don't like cliques. (and this reminds me of the real reason I'm interviewing him).

Q. Is this why you did not want to take part in the rhyme battles between the Def Boys and the R.U project?

A. Battles are great for refining your skills, but when spurred on by hate they just become ridiculous. Hip Hop may be American, but if you are going to do it, rather bring it home... Stop buying into the marketed nonsense because our situation as Africans is different to theirs. Don't use it as a vehicle for ill will, do it for the love of the game (there it is!).

Q. So what did you think of the R.U project's recorded comeback?

A. No one won that battle, not even Hip Hop (wow! and I just forgot my next question...)

Q. You seem to have your head screwed on right, man

A. I want to grow. I had an American accent and now I sound like a coconut (I laugh but he is very serious). I got tired of putting up a façade and I am no coconut, only Siya.



Silent Utterances
Olerato Moreosele - Arts & Culture Editor

Positively Wylde

by Verashni Pillay

Lucy Wylde bounces into the Theatre café. She is all flamboyant as she spins from table to table, greeting people. "Are you coming to my show?" she says to some friends. "I don't know you, but are you coming to my show?" The girl she is addressing cannot help but laugh and nod. It is a brazenness that is altogether charming, I realise as I later chat to her. It is probably this energy, coupled with her incredible talent, which landed Lucy the opportunity of a lifetime. On the second of October, Lucy will begin her MA degree at the Central school of Speech and Drama in London, which has trained the likes of Laurence Olivier, Judy Dench and Kate Winslet. "I never thought I'd get in, it's bloody hard to get in!" The requirement, amongst others, is a live audition. Lucy managed to get away with a VHS recording. Now she is in the process of raising money for her MIP clearance: roughly R19 000. That is what her show staged on the 23 September is for, asking patrons for any donations from R20 upward. She laughingly begs me not to describe her show as a cabaret, but promises acting, jazz singing, some surprises and a few clowns to top it off.

She will be specialising in Classical acting and has landed one of two positions as assistant director at the school. I mention how different this will be from the general theatre-making approach at the Rhodes Drama department. "The department here is not big enough to offer such specialisation, financially, physically or in terms of staff." She explains: "You have six people doing the work of forty!" I ask what she would say to the first year drama students who are disillusioned with the lack of acting skill taught. "The focus here is on theatre making, if you only want to act, don't come to Rhodes, but if you want to make theatre, don't go anywhere else!" "I wouldn't take back anything I have done here," she adds. And she has certainly done a lot. Besides the numerous plays she took part in over the years, she has also been involved in Eastern Cape Drama company, Ubom, as well as sitting on the board as student rep at the Elita Arts Convention in 2000. I ask the inevitable question, will she become famous? She throws her head back in a characteristic throaty laugh. But then she is serious again. "If I can make just one good piece of theatre or film, one that changes people, I'll be happy." She speaks with quiet passion



Lucy Wylde in the rehearsal studio

and I have a second realisation, Lucy may have all the delightful trappings of the diva, exuberant and vivacious, but there is a passion and focus underlying this which has brought her this far.

CJ's to replace Pop Art?

by Candice Jansen

When Cecil John Rhodes is mentioned, what springs to mind? One of Africa's great colonial forefathers or Rhodes University's "black" student hangout? In all likelihood, the former should, but here students think of CJs, the RnB, Hip Hop, Kwaito, Dancehall and South African House music joint.

The club's management, is taking a new spin since the closing of Pop Art in August. "We recognise that there's a glitch in the market and to try and correct that we are trying to cater for everyone", says Zuma, the co-owner of Black Gold. As of 1 October 2003, Wednesday and Thursday nights are going to be branded 'Alternative Night' to attract and serve a different clientele. Ironically, Reggie aka Res Prez, a former Pop Art DJ, will be spinning the decks with Alternative and Deep House music.

Regulars at the club are excited about the new installments, saying that they are happy to

see that CJ's is "eager to evolve and integrate", while others "appreciate the club trying."

Many student hangouts are starting to adjust, seemingly on a mission to patch up the apparent glitch. Champs is hosting many more live music events and the Old Gaol is also playing host to live bands and 'open mic' nights.

Whatever your taste, Grahamstown nightlife is up for the challenge. Wonder what Cecil John Rhodes's sentiments would have been.

Memoir of a serial gatecrasher

by Kathryn Halkema

It's Friday night and everyone is excited for a good night out, but it's only seven o'clock and there's nothing to do. The Union is not open yet and The Rat and Friar Tuck's are dead. Society evenings are the best to attend in such instances. It's not difficult; just keep an eye out for the posters all over campus.

The French society held their bourgeois-type function on September 19 at The Purple Horse. The theme was Casablanca

and after various rumours had it that "R7 can get you in", some friends and I decided to make an appearance. We merely wandered in, at no request for student cards and idled over to the buffet table, trying to look confident. In this situation it is always good to look at people and smile as if you know them or have met them somewhere, nothing too obvious as you don't want to draw attention to yourself.

The food looked and tasted good, but it was the cocktails that caught our attention. The blue

colour and elegant glasses drew us towards the bar. The drinks were divine, so we had another...and then maybe another. Tip: When gatecrashing, avoid standing in large groups, especially if you tend to get a little rowdy together. Our visit to the buffet table was not well-received. The head of French Society slowly made her way over to us and chimed, "Sorry ladies, I have to check student cards to ensure there are no gate crashers." At this point we all showed her, rather sheepishly, our R7.

We were met with a blank look

and thus tried to explain: "We heard we could come if we paid R7". I did say this was a rumour, so we were, very nicely, requested to leave. The French are friendly people and so we were fortunately allowed to finish our drinks and take our plates of food home with us.

All said and done, our attempt at achieving cheap (read: "free") pre-drinks was enjoyable, if not entirely successful. Here's to gatecrashing!

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Tired of pop? Champs has the answer

by Lauren Hills

If you've had enough of cheesy pop and hip-hop at The Union, CJ's and Friar Tucks and if Tap Huijs is just too far to get your alternative music fix, then Champs Action Bar is the answer. Recently, Champs decided to become a live music venue. September saw the launch of this initiative and three student bands (Fallen, the Bubbahoons and Thus Far) rocked three hundred audience members at the launch. The atmosphere was electric and the success of the event was phenomenal. Focusing on hard rock and punk, Champs is providing a much needed live music venue.

Henk Smit, manager of Champs Action Bar and The Albany Hotel, says that he wants to provide a venue for the exposure of up-and-coming Grahamstown bands. Smit wants to change the image of Champs and by using his passion for alternative music, he hopes to attract a greater crowd and more students to this previously intimate bar and pool lounge.

The launch proved Smit's plan to be a huge success, as rock music revelers enjoyed a live alternative music experience. Smit hopes to have bands

playing at Champs twice a week- on a Wednesday and Thursday night, including Bubbahoons, Fallen and Thus Far, which are now regular bands at Champs.

Brett Dale Bridge, the manager of Fallen, is very excited about the Champs change. "Champs as a live music venue is much needed in Grahamstown as a platform for student bands", he says. Hard rock band Fallen is a newly formed band that has refreshing talent and energy, and Champs provides the exposure for this band and others to hundreds of people.

We can also look forward to a further revamping of Champs in the future. R200 000 has been put aside to renovate this bar in December, so next year students can enjoy a whole new party venue.

With new music, awesome drinks specials and exciting renovations as well as live music twice a week; the revamped Champs will be a unique G-town experience. With further gigs by G-town's up and coming bands, future events should be good fun and the Grahamstown community can look forward to a packed experience of microphones, booze, guitars and lots and lots of rock.



Pic Alex Maughan

Movie Review



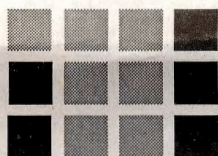
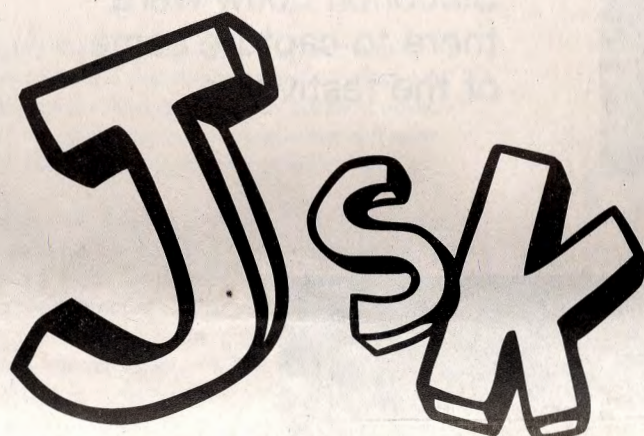
Tomb Raider Bombs

by Maire Bonheim

I found Tomb Raider: Cradle of Life, a terrifying and emotionally draining experience, mostly because there is no way Angelina Jolie could have fitted a bullet proof vest under any of those outfits. Cradle of Life opens with Jolie splashing around in the ocean in a black bikini. She then changes into a silver wetsuit specially designed to reflect the stage-light so that it showcases the exact shape of her nipple stands. The old man sitting by himself directly behind me started breathing heavily at that point, and it all went downhill from there.

The movie tells the story of Lara Croft (Jolie), a 'tomb raider' who uncovers a magical orb, the map to the lost Cradle of Life, and promptly allows it to be stolen from her. Croft must then recapture the orb before it is used to open Pandora's box and unleash colossal evil into the world, but you already knew that from the previews. In any case, the plot is merely an excuse to deck Angelina out in increasingly ridiculous costumes and get slow-motion shots of her sensually whipping her guns around or leaping Matrix-style off of rooftops. There are lots of breathtakingly expensive locations and costly special effects. And, of course, other characters besides Jolie. Noah Taylor scuttles along in her wake as Bryce, while Terry Sheridan (Gerard Butler) brutally flexes his muscles and talks about his intense and poignant feelings for Angelina, but they too are simply obligatory instruments for setting events in motion.

The script is wildly improbable and absurdly unconvincing. My favourite low-point was when, on being attacked by a ferocious computer-graphics-at-their-worst shark, Lara punches it on its nose. It howls, looks enormously distressed and majestically carries her to safety. Sadistic monstrous trees also feature. See Tomb Raider if you are into girls, hormonally charged and extremely bored.



2 0 0 3

Gig Guide

by Sipetile Sixishe and Lauren Hills

Feel like getting out of the time warp, even if it's just for a few hours? Local bands, as well as several visitors, will be rocking all over Grahamstown this month to put some spice back into the local music scene.

- Johannesburg rockers Ystervark and Libido will be down on Saturday 4th October at Die Taphuijs. The following Tuesday Muto, a band formed out of the break-up of SA rock legends Perez, will bring some Durban flavour to Grahamstown. R20 gets you in on both nights.

- Remember all those ads a while back, inviting you to email monkey-punk outfit Boo to get them to come to Grahamstown? Well, it worked. Backed by local rockers the Bubbahoons, Boo will perform at Die Taphuijs on the 9th or 10th of October. The dates haven't been finalised yet, so keep a lookout, especially on JSK.

- Of course, you can catch the Grahamstown regulars such as Fallen, Thus Far, Eve'n'Me and Cypher giving the visitors a run for their money. They'll be playing at a number of venues, including Champs and Die Taphuijs, throughout the month.

- It's clear that rock rules the roost this October and should prove worthwhile for those looking to party right up until swot week. Check this space for even more gigs in the next Activate edition- we promise to have plenty lined up for you.

CD Review



The Volume live: a jaw-dropping experience

by Rob Boffard

Live at the Bassline - Tumi and the Volume (**Ready Rolled**)

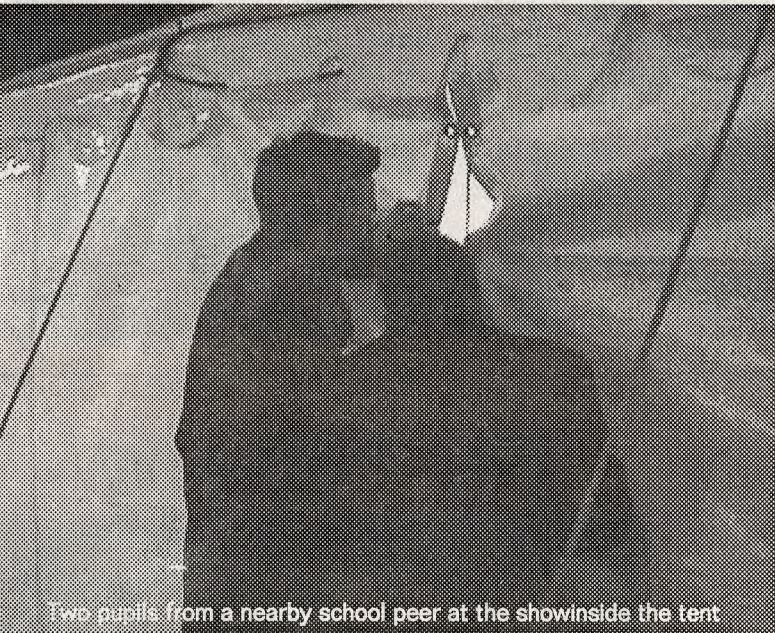
Live album debuts are normally a big risk. So many things can go wrong: the sound can be bad, you can mess up your words or you can get stuck with a crowd who couldn't care less about the fact that the rest of your career depends on this performance. Not so with the Volume. This five-piece jazz / hip-hop collective have been rocking South African stages for years, so a debut album was just a matter of time. They recorded this album at the Bassline in Melville, Johannesburg, last year. And it sounds pretty damn impressive.

Led by Tumi Molokane, a fantastic MC with a soothing voice and a love for wordplay, the Volume manages to effortlessly rock the good-natured crowd with a sound that melds jazz, hip-hop and even a little poetry. With no backing track, Tumi begins the album with the touching poem Yvonne, a story of a girl he met who was later raped.

The rest of the album is taken up by some of the most memorable South African hip-hop ever recorded. The chilling, beautiful 76, which discusses the Soweto Riots; the violin-backed Story Behind the Paint and the phenomenal People of the Light, where Tumi is joined by singer Pebbles on one of the best choruses I've heard in a long time. For a live album, this is as close to perfection as you can get, and as a debut, it is absolutely stunning.

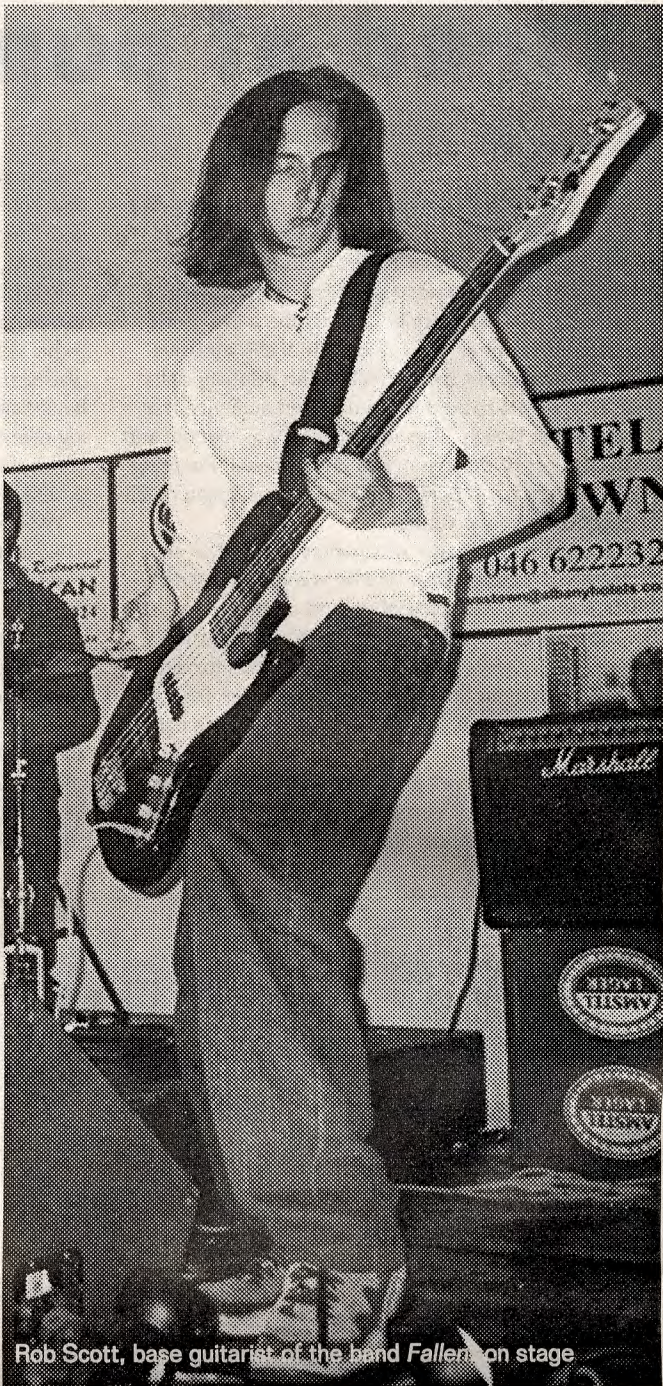


Party on High Street



Two pupils from a nearby school peer at the show inside the tent

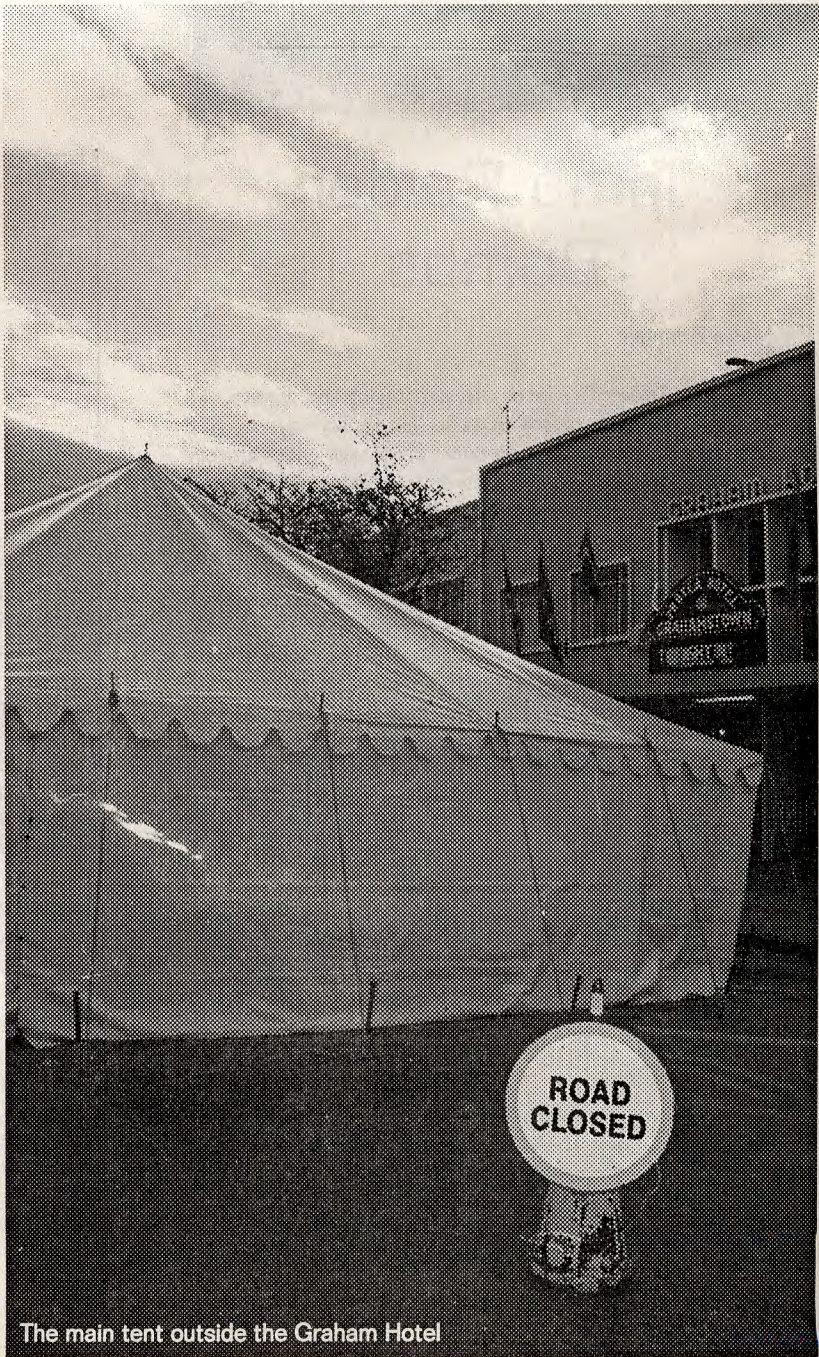
On the 20th of September, High Street closed off a portion of its road to make way for a day of arts and crafts, fashion shows and live bands. Photographers Shannon Randall and Sibbonon Louw were there to capture some of the festivities.



Rob Scott, base guitarist of the band *Fallen*, on stage



The fashion show



The main tent outside the Graham Hotel

NETBALL DEVELOPMENT DAY

by Zoya Mabuto

This year sports admin embarked on an exciting venture: the inclusion of a development sector to all the sports clubs. The aim of this initiative is to increase active involvement of the various clubs, both on-campus and off, in community development. On 30 August, as part of this initiative, the netball committee held a coaching clinic at the Indoor Sports Centre in Joza township for the grade 6's and 7's - under 13's in netball terminology. The day commenced at 09:00 with a group of children enthusiastic to participate in the various games designed to improve their netball skills. The turnout was higher than expected and this proved that there is a need for developmental programmes similar to that held by the netball committee. This event was a great success as great learning and fun was had by all. Though the first of its kind, it definitely will not be the last.

Victory for top seeded Pool team 'One'

by Melanie Triegaardt

The Rhodes University Pool Society had two of their League Team matches played on Monday 22 September. The match to take note of however, was team 'One', a Goldfields team, playing against team 'Absolute'. The up-and-coming 'Absolute' was heavily thrashed by 'One', one of the top three teams in the league, with a score of 16-9.

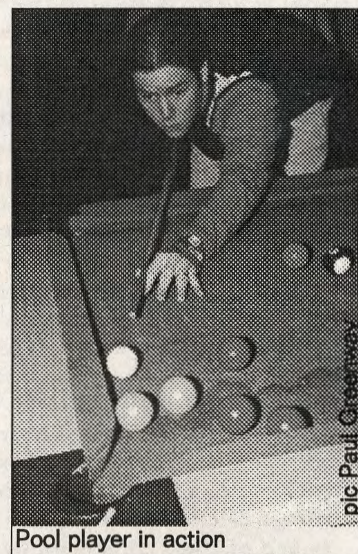
The first match played had one of the most unpredictable outcomes: Patrick Stevens of 'Absolute' beat Damien Potgieter of 'One' 1-0. This match reeked of tension and anxiety from beginning to end with Stevens and Potgieter taking constant, tedious turns to sink the black ball. Potgieter and fellow team mate Tim Hasluck are Eastern Province Pool players.

On paper, team 'Absolute' is not as experienced as team 'One'. However, the first two and a half hours of the matches played proved otherwise. The players of

'Absolute' challenged 'One' time and time again with meticulous shots played with great thought and planning. The first half proved to be quite close matches. "I didn't think they would be. I thought they would thrash us", ironically exclaims Dena Shearer, a team member of 'Absolute'. However 'Absolute' could not hold onto their fighting spirit long enough as the second hour and a half of matches belonged to 'One'.

It is evident how 'Absolute' have improved their game since the birth of their team at the start of the year. Shearer explains that fellow team player Chantelle Gladwin has won five of her last matches, while playing in the league.

Media Representative of the Pool Society, Tim Hasluck, pleads for support from Rhodes students to continue joining and participating in this "popular club".



Pool player in action

Rhodes Canoeists Excel at SA Champs

by Staff Reporter

Rhodes canoeists Nick Burden and Miles March paired up for the South African K2 Champs held early this month and placed 2nd in the U21 category. A competitive field of more than 600 paddlers battled it out at this year's event, held on the Breede River. The river is renowned for its fast-flowing water and lack of rapids which make for intense and exciting races. While on the banks seconds get to enjoy the spectacular scenery of the Cape wine-lands and of course the wine.

Jaques Theron and Len Jenkins won the 80km endurance event in a time of 4:25:01. They were followed by Ant Stott and Graeme Solomon in second place, and the van Deventer brothers in third. Only 0.54 seconds separated first and third place.

Burden and March were

the first U21 pair home at the end of the 41km first day in a time of 2:13:06.

The second day saw Natalian, Brett Bartho, and Stellenbosch student, Jason Tucker, take the lead while Burden and March held onto second place, finishing in a total time of 4:47:44 and placed 26th in the open category.

The next Rhodes boat home was that of David Wood and Kelvin Trautman who placed 6th in the U21 category, and 68th overall.

More recently, on the 20/21 October, 21 Rhodes paddlers took to the Great Fish River for the Pre-Fish race; a two-day event that allows paddlers to test themselves on the river in preparation for the Fish River Marathon which takes place this weekend. Brushing off an attack of the deadly African flu, Miles March excelled once again to come second at the end of the first day.

Unfortunately the strain was too much and he was not able to start the second day.

Rhodes Results:

Breede River SA K2

Champs:

Nick Burden / Miles March: 26th overall, 2nd U21, 4:47:44; Dave Wood / Kelvin Trautman 68th overall, 6th U21, 5:05:42; Pip Mortlock / Tom Mapham: 150th overall, 5:33:27; Andrew Morphew 171st, 5:42:28; Matt Smith 264th, 6:22:43. Of the 333 boats that started 302 finished.

Pre-Fish:

The following completed the two-day event: Nick Burden, Kelvin Trautman, David Wood, Pip Mortlock, Alex Joiner, Tom Mapham, Graeme Roberts, Rob Clarke, Mike Sears, Andrew Morphew, and Greg Chaplin.



The Oppidan team, consisting of Catherine Walker, Jeanie Fox, Simone White and Gordon Simpson, won the grueling Allan Web Adventure on 24th September. They proved their superiority over eleven other teams to win the newly founded Adventure, which provides an opportunity for a team of energetic and determined individuals to show off their combined mental and physical skills. Founder's Hall achieved second place while Nelson Mandela Hall was judged as the Best Dressed team. Not surprisingly, Jan Smuts Hall was announced as the Most Spirited team at the event. The proceeds from the day went to Synergy, a non-governmental organization that works in townships in the Grahamstown area teaching entrepreneurial skills to high-school students.

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On your marks, get set, go! Activate has been refreshed, refuelled, and restaffed, and no stone, rock or boulder has been left unturned. The sports section is no exception. Rowan has, after a magnificent run, handed over the baton to myself, and you can expect nothing less than what you've seen on the two sports pages in the past. In fact, you can expect even more diverse and comprehensive coverage of everything sport-related at Rhodes. After some rather mild persuasion and interrogation from certain members of the staff, who shall remain anonymous, I have made it one of my primary aims to include significant coverage of women's sport at Rhodes, which is often played down or just plain ignored. So keep an eye and a half open for stories on the sporting achievements of the fairer sex.

Those of you who are receptive to all things cricket will no doubt be well aware of the rather wobbly stance the UCB has taken with regards to the planned tour of Pakistan. The tour was initially called off due to security fears, but has now been given a shaky go-ahead, although with a shortened itinerary. One cannot help but question the consistency of the UCB. A few months ago at the World Cup, they were quick to quack at New Zealand for refusing to play in Kenya for safety and security reasons. Now, they have conveniently forgotten that scenario and seemingly are not hesitant to call off an entire series, the results of which would be financially and logistically devastating for Pakistan. Nevertheless, thumbs up to the UCB for putting their pride in their pocket and re-considering. It appears highly likely now, after lengthy discussions, that the Proteas will indeed take to the hard flat tracks of Pakistan, albeit accompanied by the largest security contingent ever to accompany a touring South African team. With the Rugby World Cup kicking off in Australia on 10 October, the Springboks can literally count the remaining preparation days on their fingers. I wonder what thoughts have been passing through a certain Geo Cronjé's mind of late. All the much-publicised alleged racism in the Springbok camp has not benefited anyone, especially Cronjé, who was not offered a place in the World Cup squad. One could argue endlessly whether he was excluded on the grounds of performance, or his supposed racism towards Quinton Davids. Fact is, they're both watching the World Cup on their TV's. This prestigious competition comes around only once every four years and it would be an aching pity if politics interfered to the detriment of the Bokke's tournament strategies and their supporters' patriotism. It is the Rugby World Cup, not the Racism World Cup, seems as though the South African rugby fraternity has let that fact slip their minds. We wait with bated breath to see how Cronje and the rest of the gang fare when they lock horns with England on October 18. As you all are well aware, exams are coming up in roughly a month's time. To mark this exciting period, sport fixtures on and around campus are starting to diminish in frequency and importance. However, there are still a lot of games to be played, races to be won and points to be scored. So get out there and flex those muscles - a healthy body is home to a healthy mind!

Between the Lines

Michael Salzwedel - Sports Editor



Rhodes rowers make a splash at Boatraces

by Janine Beron, Lauren Prior, Megan Cooper and Kate Humphreys

Grey clouds and dampening rain were no deterrent to the zealous Rhodes supporters who gathered in overalls and appabands beneath the finish line bridge to watch two of the University's teams steam home to victory at Boat Race finals in Port Alfred on the 13th of September.

Both Men's A and B crews triumphed, leaving the competition in their wake. Their success was a culmination of a year's worth of gruelling training and personal sacrifice. Men's B Stroke, Christo Crampton, elated with their performance said, "It's tough staying home while everyone parties, and after twelve training sessions a week you're pretty exhausted. Winning made it all worth it."

Both rowers and supporters of Rhodes pulled out all the stops and went to extremes in terms of showing their patriotism. The Men's B fraternity was passionate, sporting double Mohawks. "The enthusiasm of the supporters was an awesome motivator as we came close to the finish," beamed Jenni Stewart, Men's B crew Cox.

The Rhodes Ladies also performed well even though neither crew was able to win their event. The women's B crew came in fourth, whilst the A's lost in a closely contested final against the RAU team.

In comparison to the third position they attained last year and their fourth in the SA University's competition earlier this year, the A Crew has shown a remarkable and commendable improvement. "We never do as well in the sprint season [SAU and SA Champs] because our focus is on Boat Races all year. It's a whole different ball game," explained Sasha Stevenson, Stroke for Ladies' A.

The rowers' outstanding performance in this year's event confirms Rhodes' reputation as the premier rowing University in the country. Rhodes made it into three out of a possible four finals. But this was simply not enough for the determined crews: they went on to win two of those three finals. This accomplishment evidently put the Rhodents streaks ahead of all the other teams, none of whom were able to emulate the performance of the legendary champions.

Results round-up

The Rhodes Women's 1st soccer team finished second in the PEFA Women's League, giving them a place in the Sanlam Regional Play-offs, while the Men also had their taste of victory by beating PE College 1-0 in the Campus Soccer League on 20th September.

Rhodes basketball players have been performing well lately, with no less than fourteen players being selected for the EP men's and women's A and B squads. Tisayi Mungandepufpu was appointed as coach of the Men's B squad while the title of Assistant Coach was snapped up by Molupe Mothepeu.

In Athletics, Antonio Blom beat 10 other contenders to win the 300m EC Open Development track and field meeting in a time of 36.3 sec on 17 September. Coming in at a decent 23rd position in the Algoa 10km race was Andrew Slaughter, stretching in under the 40 minute mark by 6 seconds.

Both the Rhodes men and women basketball teams won their matches against Invaders on 20th September, a day before the Men's B team convincingly outplayed Turf-Rockers (80-66) and Heats B (walkover).

Rhodents put the ball in the back of the goals three times to beat Occasionals 3-2 in their hockey match on 19 September. On the same day, Jan Smuts House clinched the men's inter-res water-polo competition, dunking Piet Retief into second place, while the women's competition was won by Atherstone, followed by Ruth First.

On the 19th and 20th September, the Rhodes 1st squash team won three of their four games in the Spar Doubles Squash League, convincingly beating Walmer, Londt Park and UPE, but narrowly succumbing to Westview (112-122).

Laura Pretorius and Shane Snyman proved to be the best pair on the 19th September at the tennis Wimbledon Day, outclassing second placed Susan Powers and Andrew Smit.

The Rhodes Men's volleyball team experienced mixed fortunes on 20th September, losing 1-3 to UPE before outdoing Goodyear with a walkover.



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Briefs

SOCCER
England striker Michael Owen became Liverpool's leading goal scorer of all time in Europe after netting in a 1-1 draw against Slovenia's Olimpija Ljubljana in the Uefa Cup last Wednesday. His 78th-minute equaliser was his 21st in European competition, surpassing Ian Rush who hit 20.

RUGBY
Australia's Special Forces will be on hand and may be called out if a terrorist incident occurs during the upcoming Rugby World Cup. Tactical Assault Groups based in Sydney and Perth will be on standby, along with the Incident Response Regiment in Sydney and the Army's 5 Aviation Regiment in Townsville, Queensland. The tournament is the biggest sporting event to be hosted in Australia since the 2000 Sydney Olympics.

MOTOR RACING
The season-opening Japanese motorcycle Grand Prix at Suzuka has been dropped from next year's calendar because safety demands cannot be met, the sport's governing body the FIM said recently. The Suzuka track, which also hosts a Formula One race, came under scrutiny over safety after Japanese rider Daijro Kato died from internal injuries following an accident during this year's motorcycling Grand Prix on April 6.

CYCLING
Robbie Hunter will not ride for South Africa at the world championships in Canada next month. South Africa's only grand tour rider broke the news to SA team manager, Tony Harding, during a telephone call to South Africa early last week. "He has only been able to get in some very minimal training since he broke his wrist in the Tour of Denmark last month, and he feels that he will not be able to do the SA jersey justice in Canada," explained Harding.

ATHLETICS
Obadele Thompson of Barbados burst out of the blocks last Tuesday to win the men's 100 meters at the Yokohama Super Track and Field meet. Thompson got off to a quick start at International Stadium Yokohama and crossed the finish line in 10.20 seconds. World record holder Tim Montgomery of the United States was second in 10.32 followed by Japan's Nobuharu Asahara in 10.39. Montgomery broke the 100-meter world record mark with a time of 9.78 last year.

Courtesy of www.super-sport.co.za

All aboard for the Maiden Voyage



Jin Jean
International Affairs



Sakina Nosarka
Oppidan Councillor



James Barry
Societies (Kimberly Hall)



Joy-Farai Mika
Residence Councillor
(Founders Hall)



James Chiuta
Entertainment
(Nelson Mandela Hall)



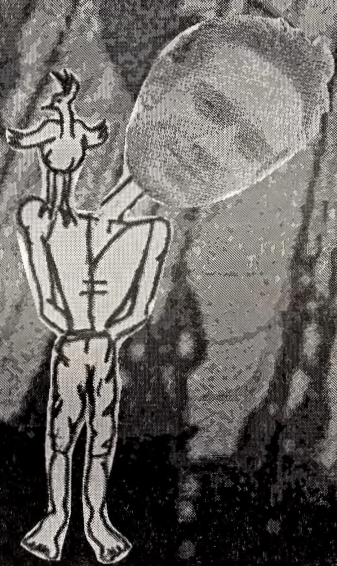
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Sports Councillor
(Allan Web Hall)

SARU 2004

Captains Log

Whilst many were recovering from hangovers or just spending the day snuggled in bed with a cup of coffee because of the chilly, biting wind outside, the old and the new SRC were meeting at the Continued Education Centre (CEC). The 'oldies' were dishing out advice and helpful tips about their various positions to the 'youngies'. The discussion consisted partly of what work their portfolios had entailed, but mainly stating which portfolios were lots of work, not too much work and lots of fun. We were also told by the 'oldies' things that we should do for the students, probably shouldn't do, should try to do and definitely should not do under any circumstances.

Being shown the ropes made all our ideals about transforming the university a little misplaced. The basic amount of work that needs to be done daily to maintain those ropes, to ensure students have a good education, have their problems addressed, being available to the students and organising entertainment for them was job enough without all our idealistic goals. Realism began to set in and just as our moods began to reflect the weather outside, an old SRC member announced the braai and things began to look more hopeful. Despite the cold weather and realisation of all the work that must actually be done by the SRC for the students we managed to put away some boerewors rolls, a couple of drinks and put on a really frozen smile for the camera.

From this icy evening and being whipped about by the wind we arrived on Tuesday evening to a clam serene evening. One where the garden looked like it had peaches and honey melting over it, with the last finishing drops for warmth. It all began by walking into the Vice-Chancellor's house for a cocktail evening. The smell of the cooling evening carried by the breeze, was mingled with cologne, perfume, soap and nerves. You have your jacket removed and placed into a special cloakroom before you are shown into the lounge, which is spotlessly white. The ornaments that are placed on the table and mantle piece give it a nice homely feel. Being handed a drink you enter the dining room, frantically searching for a familiar face but there are only smartly dressed people that are hiding the 'everydayness' appearance. All 16 members of the SRC can really clean up good! We were charming, polite, amiable and completely sophisticated.

The food consists of cheese (we all decided that we preferred the blue to the brie, despite the smell) and crackers, biltong pieces and little rolls with precariously balanced garnishes and slivers of meat perched daintily on top.

Gazing at the nametags and then the faces is a bit like a flashes of sequences in a movie. You see the name and into your mind flashes some official looking document, letter or poster that has that name and signature attached to the bottom. Then you flash back to reality to where you are now faced with that ominous, powerful and daunting name and the person attached to the name. The name is far scarier than the person.

Politely we devour the delectable food but before we tire of these tasty treats we are graciously ushered out into the fresh evening. We stand united as a team in the fading blue and rapidly gaining dark and realise we are there for every student and their needs (as well as the food!).

But shedding our slinky cocktail dresses, stripping off the high heels, dangly earrings and graceful necklaces, pulling off stylish suits and spunky ties, the new SRC piles on Factor 30 sunscreen, running shoes, our funky new team shirts and head off to the Grey Dam for the Allan Webb Adventure (ADA). We, our tram of Dom, Tham, Vicky, Charmaine and Ryan, were put against the Mountain Climbing Club Team who has been training extensively but we planned to mentally out strategise them.

After the long run uphill, we let them go ahead as we had planned to pace ourselves rather than exert all our energy in one go. We got back down to the dam we had to pop condoms filled with water that were swinging wildly in the wind with only a blunt spear Ryan managed to lose a spear in the vast bush. Nonetheless we got out our clothes and bravely into the icy water. We did manage to get across, despite our frozen feet working against us and pulling us down under. We also managed to bring across our stretcher and a plastic bag filled with our paraphernalia.

On the other side we had to fix Ryan's 'broken' leg and then carry him on the stretcher back to camp. This could not have been too comfortable with Dom, 'the friendly giant', in the back and Tham 'the grump dwarf' at the front. But as we did not have to fix any real broken limbs as assumed it worked.

After we had done our dramatic finish, we realised we had been beaten by the mountain club by a mere half an hour but we did have along wait by the side of the dam for a stretcher. It was a great bonding experience and we had a fantastic support base made up of the other 11 SRC members. So until next time good-bye, unless you want to pop in to meet us or drop us an email at council@src.ru.ac.za.



After the run and all looking forward to the swim except Tham.

From left Tham Moyo, Charmaine Jelbert, Dom White, Vicky Heideman, Ryan Hancocks

Here we go again

Yes it's that time of the year again when a new SRC comes into existence and this year we have come in on the back of what could be described as a successful SRC. This puts us in a rather challenging position for the upcoming year but it's a challenge we look forward to beating as the new council is enthusiastic and dynamic with many ideas streaming out already. We have a few short term goals have been set out already:

1. We hope to begin looking at safety on campus for students and ideas such as "green routes" on campus for students coming back from late nights out are being explored. Whilst on the security issue we intend continuing the Oppidan Bus in the following year and are actively searching for a means to keep this going. The bus temporarily didn't run for a period this term, but is to continue running for the rest of the year.

2. We hope to gain some airtime on RMR and have a permanent spot for a radio

show or segment of a show. This time will hopefully be used for discussions relevant to student life and will allow the campus to drill any of the SRC through call-ins. Negotiations with RMR are at an advanced stage we hope to roll out this idea by the end of the year.

3. Orientation Week plans are in their teething stage with Dominic White chairing the SRC O-Week Committee. We intend on going big in the Centennial Orientation Week, so if you

have any ideas please forward them to any SRC representative.

In closing we are looking forward to creating a relevant perception of ourselves in the minds of students. We could get all the ground work done ourselves, but we hope to get more student involvement to increase awareness in the following year. We look forward to working with you during our term of office in Rhodes Centenary Year.

Thamsanqa Moyo
SRC President



COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Please feel free to contact us at:
SRC Office

Phone: (046) 622 7122

Fax: (046) 622 4162

E-mail: council@src.ru.ac.za

ALL ABOUT OPPIDANS OPPI.NYON

Signing leases

We are all guilty of considering the signing of the digs lease as the perfunctory conclusion of the annual scramble for accommodation and the plethora of clauses framed in legal jargon make leases an off-putting read. Yet as Grahamstown attorney John Haydock advises, we should 'check everything' before we sign on the dotted line. A second reason why Rhodes students should pay more attention to the specific clauses is that even a basic knowledge of the latest legislation suggests that many of us are being sold short and denied rights (and money!) that we are entitled to.

First, let's start with the great news. The Rental Housing Act of 1999 states that when tenants vacate the property, they are entitled to not only the deposit, but to the interest on their deposits as well. That's right - when we pay the landlord our deposit it is his or her obligation to put it in an interest bearing account and to pay us back the deposit plus the interest within seven days of the expiration of the lease (unless you've trashed the place of course!). You and the landlord should undertake a joint inspection of the property before you move out. Haydock advises students to 'always write verbal agreements with the landlord onto the lease', otherwise you may have no grounds to

LEASE AGREEMENT

Memorandum of agreement of lease made and entered into by and between

..... (herein after called the Lessor)
(Full name of owner/landlord)

and

..... (herein after called the Lessee)
(Full name of tenant)

duly assisted by
(Full names of parent/guardian in the case of a minor tenant under the age of 21 years)

WHEREBY:

PREMISES: The Lessor agrees to let and the Lessee agrees to hire certain premises, being (herein after styled the PREMISES) solely for the purpose of residence.

Upon the following terms and conditions, to wit:

PERIOD: 1. The period of this lease shall be for months, commencing on and terminating on

RENTAL: 2. The rental shall be R..... per month payable (without any deduction for any cause whatsoever) on or before the day of each month at Grahamstown or at such other place as the Lessor may from time to time appoint in writing.

3. A deposit of R..... shall be payable. This deposit shall be refunded upon termination/expiry of the lease provided no damage has been done to the premises. The deposit, or part thereof, shall be used to defray the costs of the repair of any damage caused by the lessee to the premises.

enforce any broken promises (such as an understanding that there being no pets in a shared courtyard, for example). You can of course try to negotiate for clauses to be removed. A friend of mine successfully removed a clause that would have made him continue paying rent for the property even if it burned down!

Should you feel the landlord is not meeting their side of the stated bargain (not maintaining the pool/garden or not carrying out repairs etc.) you have a number of options. "Check whether the lease states if you must inform the landlord of problems within a certain time period, or in writing" says Haydock. If you have done so and you still don't get anywhere, you are entitled to get a court order for 'specific performance'; forcing the landlord to carry out the repairs or meet their obligations.

The really-useful stuff guide

Stuff

Oppie cheese and wine on Wednesday 1 October at 6.30 pm until 8pm. Bring your stamped student card for entry.

Announcement/ Advert

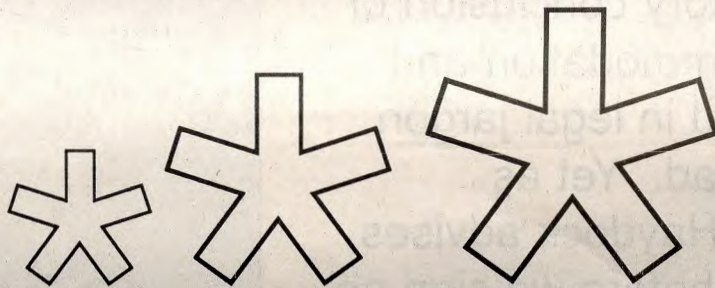
Oppidans selling old furniture are welcome to advertise on this page (for free). Send all requests to Joy at j.v.allcock@ru.ac.za. Next deadline is Monday 6.

Contact details

- Oppidan warden - Gordon Barker - 603 8443 (g.barker@ru.ac.za)
- Oppidan secretary - Joy Allcock - 603 8229 (j.v.allcock@ru.ac.za) She works mornings only from 8.30 to 12.45pm.

Oppidan committee members:

Charity Ncube (Head student)
Kirsty Hunter (SRC oppidan representative)
Shavonne Randall
Donate DeBruin
Catherine Smith
(Committee members organise balls, cheese and wines, sporting events, etc. Anyone interested in joining the committee should see the oppidan secretary Joy Allcock)



Signing leases

(from the previous page)

If you are really unhappy, be careful of withholding rent (or making your own deductions), the lease will probably give the landlord the right to sue you. Take the lease to the Legal Aid Clinic and should things not be resolved, the only option may be to cancel the lease citing a 'material breach'. In cases where the landlord has not met the obligations of the lease you have the right

Quick 'n easy recipes

Garlic potato and pepper salad (Serves 6)

Ingredients

2 kg baby potatoes, unpeeled and halved
2 red peppers, seeded and cut into finger-sized strips
10 whole cloves garlic, unpeeled
50 ml olive oil
45 ml balsamic vinegar
salt and freshly ground black pepper
125 ml fresh basil

Method:

Preheat the oven to 220 °C and brush a large baking sheet with oil. Arrange the potatoes, peppers and garlic on the baking sheet and pour over the oil. Mix and roast on the centre or bottom rack of the oven until golden brown and cooked, about 35 minutes. Transfer to a mixing bowl and drizzle with the balsamic vinegar. Remove the garlic if preferred and press out the paste. Add the paste to the potatoes or serve on slices of toast. Season the potatoes generously with salt and black pepper and add the basil leaves just before serving. Serve the salad at room temperature.

