

activate

Independent student newspaper at Rhodes University
Edition 9 August 2006

PROUDLY
SOUTH AFRICAN



03

Such a stink:
Where is Away?



06

The VC has
much to say



09

Battle of the
blands

Oatlands Road carnage

Three student vehicles left damaged as suspect flees the scene

By **Ciro De Siena**

Oatlands Road was the scene of a four-car accident on Wednesday night, August 16 when a double-cab bakkie careered into three parked cars, all belonging to Rhodes students, at approximately 10:30pm.

The cars were parked in a line along the left-hand side of the road, outside a student digs, just a few metres apart from each other.

"We were all just chilling in the kitchen when we heard this enormous crash outside. We almost left it, but went out to check in case," said Jordan Rainer. When they arrived at the front of the house however, they saw the grey bakkie making a break for it.

"We chose a car that wasn't damaged and three of us gave chase," said Rainer. The students followed the vehicle all over town eventually coming to a stop on Marshall Street, outside what they thought to be the driver's residence.

Rainer, who had been driving the chase car said, "When we stopped we watched him for a bit, and then approached him. He kept saying he wasn't drunk."

Meanwhile, *Activate* had been called to the scene, arriving to find no trace of the police or Hi-Tec. A few minutes

later however, a Hi-Tec vehicle pulled up to the small crowd that had gathered, and from his car said, "We've got him."

From an observer's point of view, it seemed as though the vehicle hit the first vehicle, a new VW Polo, glanced off it and lost control, before finally veering into the vehicle, an older Opel Kadett. The Opel's rear was seriously damaged and had been thrown onto the pavement in the collision.

The front of the Opel was also smashed however, and judging by the damage, it seemed as though the suspect had reversed into the Opel before driving off, finally glancing off the third student vehicle, an older Mazda.

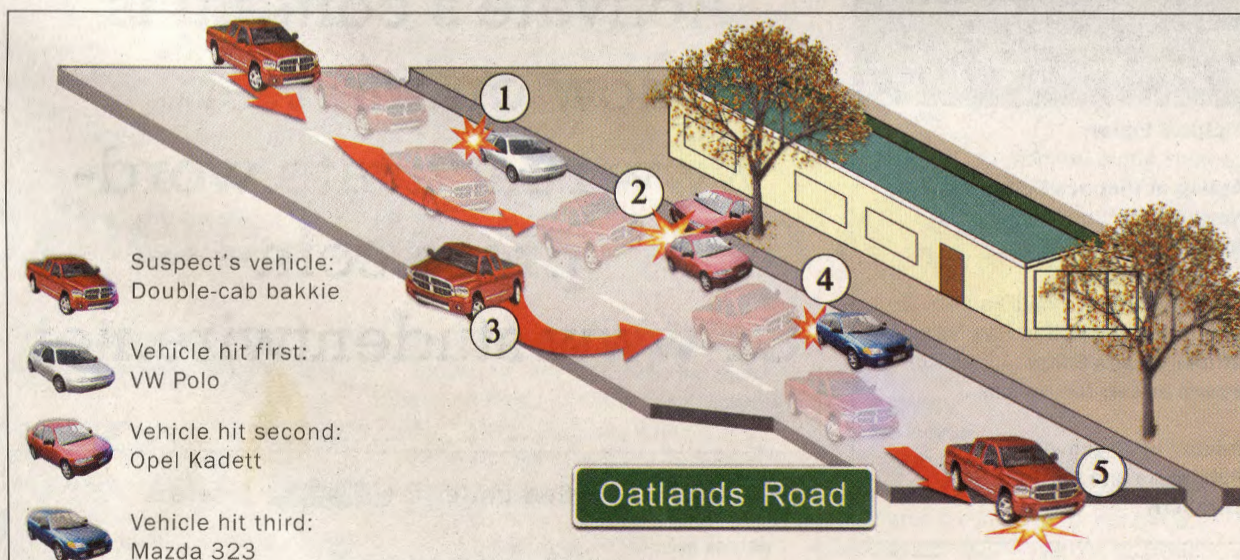
The police shortly arrived *en masse*, and the crowd watched as the suspect was arrested. After initially refusing to blow into the breathalyser, he was handcuffed and helped into a police van. With the police taking witness accounts and marking the scene, *Activate* went in search of the offending vehicle, finding it parked less than 1km from the scene.

Remarkably, the vehicle had very little damage, save from a burst front tyre and some front left-side damage. This was in stark contrast to the havoc the vehicle had caused on Oatlands Road.



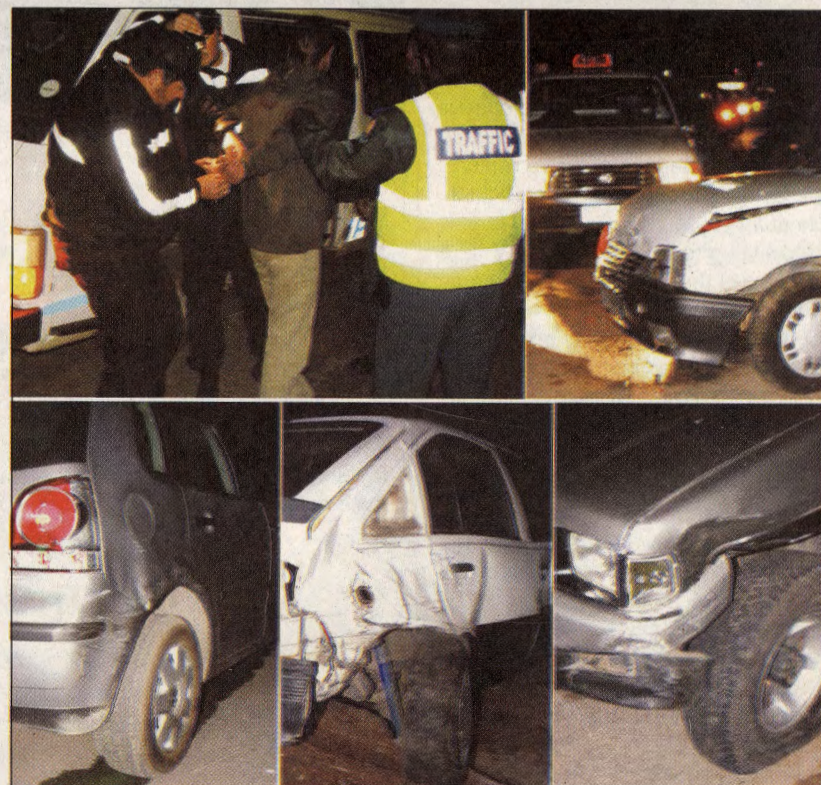
Hi-Tec Security handed the suspect over to the police after he was captured on Marshal Street. He was then handcuffed and breathalysed before being helped into the police van

JONI ELS



1. The suspect's vehicle travelled up Oatlands Road, first hitting the VW Polo.
2. It is assumed that the driver lost control and smashed into the rear of the Opel, knocking it over the gutter, onto the pavement.
3. Now stationary, the suspect started driving away, but not before reversing into the Opel, damaging the car's front.
4. He wasn't finished however, and somehow hit the third vehicle while escaping.
5. With a burst tyre, the bakkie limped off, and the student gave chase.

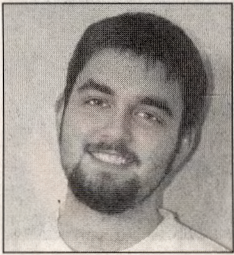
GREGOR RÖHRIG



Clockwise from top-left: The suspect is handcuffed as the tow trucks arrive, the suspect's vehicle's damage was limited in comparison

JONI ELS

Editorial The women-in-media recipe



By Peter Barlow

One year ago I wrote my first editorial. In it I ranted about the SRC elections and the general state of political awareness on campus. I am now writing my last editorial and while I am still trying to get my head around that, some things never seem to change. The SRC elections are coming up soon and it can be argued that apathy on campus is still at an all time high. I sincerely hope that I am proved wrong in the next few weeks.

A lot has happened on campus in the last year, we got a new VC and a new Dean of Students is coming, the Dolphin Kaif was closed, then open and then closed again and finally has re-opened just as the Kaif again. We won Tri-Varsity overall (see the sports section for a full round-up) and the SRC rated themselves and *Activate* has tried to be there as much as possible.

I want to let it be known that I am proud of the job my team and I have done this past year and I feel we have achieved our goals and improved our product for you, our readers.

However, I am still a bit disappointed. I am dismayed that for most of the year, time and time again, people on campus opted to slate *Activate* for reporting on certain issues instead of debating the issues themselves. This inability of people to move past the fact that we reported on issues on campus to actually talking about them and maybe finding some sort of solution is in itself a problem that needs to be addressed. I feel that *Activate* has endeavoured to create a discourse by bringing issues and problems to light, but as the old saying goes, you can take a horse to water but you can't make it drink. Similarly, on campus you can give Rhodents information but you can't get them to use it properly. How are we going to be responsible citizens when we get out there in the real world if we refuse to start taking responsibility for not only our own lives but also the life of the wider community. We can only do this if we begin to ask ourselves questions like "what is the bigger picture?" A case in point is the His People feature we ran earlier this year, I can tell you right now that the bigger picture is most certainly more than just the fact that *Activate* had the nerve to explore the issues surrounding this particular Christian group.

Moving on to what we have in this edition. On the front page, as you may have already noticed, we have run a story of an accident which occurred on Oatlands Road last week. It was fortunate that no-one was injured but this is yet another clear demonstration of what reckless driving can do. This edition we also run the second part of our three part series on digs and digs hunting in this town of ours: you can find this on page five and of course we have a full round-up of Rhodes' victorious Tri-Varsity weekend as I have already mentioned.

I wish the new editors and committee the best of luck and I have no doubt that they will continue to improve the quality of this newspaper and carry it into the future. This is Peter Barlow, signing off for the last time, goodbye.

By Bianca Silva

Fifty years after 20 000 women voiced their protests against the extension of pass laws to black women, Jane Duncan of the Freedom of Expression Institute (FXI) addressed a packed Rhodes University lecture theatre on the issue of women's equality in the media.

Current studies conducted by Genderlinks, the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA) and The South African National Editor's Forum (Sanef) report a hostile environment in newsrooms for women as well as under-representation of women in the media. Duncan addressed this in her speech entitled "Towards a Women's Media Movement". Sanef reports that "structural inequalities, prejudice, patriarchy and sexism" are present within South African newsrooms and "It is clear that, although South African society is supported by a constitution that entrenches equal rights, this only exists on paper."

Women's marginalisation within the

media has been categorised by unequal gender relations and addresses the source as being structural rather than voluntary. Globalisation has aggravated women's marginalisation in the economy and increased the amount of unpaid wages, leaving women to compensate for the cut backs and affecting their manner of media consumption.

The women's media movement challenge is in the current affairs programmes, a challenge which the South African Broadcasting Corporation should rise to, considering that 49% of women rely on TV as a news source, as reported by a survey conducted in 2002.

Duncan presented the view that apartheid has been replaced by a global apartheid, a harder to define enemy. The situation requires a new form of struggle: "The media is not a monolith."

"How we analyse the media determines how we change it," she says. Duncan says that contrary to the current tame women's media movement,



Duncan addressed Rhodes on women in media

MICHAEL ENGLISH

the movement should be more committed to changing both the media and social relations and should regard the politics of both areas.

Furthermore, Duncan said that the women's media movement should address stereotypes, the unpaid work women do, the gender quotas in

newsrooms and the representation of women in media. "Women's marginalisation in the media is not simply a result of a lack of sensitivity in media circles; it has a highly complex political economy," she said, adding that an "add women and stir approach" is not the solution to this problem.

Sasco youth speak

By Setumo-Thebe Mhlomi

The Rhodes University branch of the South African Students' Congress (Sasco) held its yearly youth week from August 7 - 11. This year's Youth Week was aimed at commemorating the 30th anniversary of the 1976 student uprising and the women's anti-pass march 50 years ago.

A screening of *Sarafina*, a film famed for its depiction of student involvement in the struggle against apartheid, was the week's first event. When questioned on the *Sarafina* screening, Xolani Nyali, Sasco's projects and campaigns officer, said that the purpose of screening *Sarafina* was to show the youth what achievements they are capable of when they unite. "When the youth come together, they are a force to be reckoned with," Nyali added.

On Tuesday August 8, Sasco held a debate on transformation on campus. The debate was held in Zoo Major and about 30 people attended. Dr Collin Johnson, Rhodes University's

deputy principal and chair of its Equity Committee, participated. Johnson said "there are many competing issues" surrounding racial transformation at Rhodes. One of these issues was whether the academic standards Rhodes University has set are of a higher priority than equal racial representation at the university.

Rhodes takes pride in having many of its graduates find employment within three to six months, and in having the highest university pass rate in the country. The question is whether these standards are worth excluding some of South Africa's majority black population.

Johnson admitted that transformation at Rhodes is slow, but also said that transformation is a developmental issue and not a mere facelift in terms of fulfilling racial quotas.

Finally, a well-attended poetry evening was held in collaboration with Bua poetry society on Women's Day, August 9, at the Old Gaol. Dr Dan Wylie and students were invited to recite poetry.

Sasco launch their publication

By Azwihangwisi Mufamadi

While Friday August 11 marked the beginning of Tri-Varsity for most students, for Sasco it marked the launch of their newspaper at the Great Hall.

Diphaphang Mofokeng, chairperson of Sasco at Rhodes said that the event was not only held to celebrate the launch of Sasco's publication and its website, but also to commemorate the 16th anniversary of the assassination of Chris Hani, former leader of the South African Communist Party. The publication is called *The Student Rhodes*.

Sasco's media and publicity secretary, Kholofelo Thalagale, said that the word "Rhodes" on the publication was there to differentiate the publication from the national one which is called *The Student*. She also said that the word 'Rhodes' symbolises the roads that Rhodes students go through in their everyday lives. Thalagale said that the publication was created "to provide a platform for students to state their views about

Rhodes".

The publication will be available once a month. It will contain a political review and letters written by students because "it is for students by students", Thalagale said.

Mofokeng said the events that were commemorated at the launch showed that Sasco had the continuous responsibility of mobilising people of different classes into a united force struggling for progressive change. He added that it was "the responsibility of all of us to ensure that we change things for the better".

The event was attended by Sasco's chairperson of the regional committee, Brinton Clinton, who said that the Rhodes branch of Sasco was the most progressive in the region. Clinton reminded everyone who attended the event that they "have a responsibility to guide the community".

SRC representatives attended the launch as well. Thato Ramagaga, the SRC student benefits councillor, said in a speech, that students need to help the community not because they are driven by pity but for the love of it.

activate staff

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

Editor-in-chief: Peter Barlow
Deputy Editor: Bianca Camminga
Managing Editor: Stacey Nel
Financial Manager: Alex Anderson
Content Editor: Michael Salzwedel
Editorial Consultant: Gregor Röhrig
Marketing and Advertising Manager: Jessica Deckers
Assistant Marketing Manager: Nikki Ritchie
Chief Sub-Editor: Xanthe Galanis
Assistant Chief Sub-Editor: Ian Siebörger
Assistant Designer: Tanya Rossler

Pictures Editor: Lauren Clifford-Holmes
Assistant Pictures Editor: Joni Els
News Editor: Ciro De Siena
Assistant News Editor: Boitumelo Mpete
Features Editor: Lionel Faull
Entertainment Editor: Siya Ngcobo
African Affairs Editor: Adrian Nel
Sports Editor: Tim Hancox

**Printed by Goshawk Litho
Publishers and Printers, Port Elizabeth**

How to contact us

Letters to the Editor: activate.editor@gmail.com
Advertising: activate.ads@gmail.com
Snail Mail: C/O Student Representative Council
P.O. Box 94
Grahamstown
South Africa

Activate's content is
now on the web:

www.ruactivate.wordpress.com

Or www.studentwire.net

Activate is certified under a License

You are free:
- to copy, distribute, display, and perform the work
- to make derivative works

Under the following conditions:

1. Attribution. You must give the original author credit.
2. Non-Commercial. You may not use this work for commercial purposes.
3. Share Alike. If you alter, transform, or build upon this work.
4. you may distribute the resulting work only under a licence identical to this one.
5. Any of these conditions can be waived if you get permission from the copyright holder.

Rhodes' rubbish on display

By Shellique Carby and Michelle Solomon

A new form of student protest caused irritation on campus last week. This time, numerous ecology-conscious students had a week's worth of Rhodes's waste dumped in the library parking lot last week.

The campaign, entitled Where is Away?, focuses on proving to the University that at least half of the waste created by students and staff is recyclable, and may even be profitable because some materials like glass can be sold to companies in Grahamstown.

Leigh-Anne de Wet, currently studying her Masters in Botany and one of the organisers of the campaign, says she's been trying to organise a movement like this for years. "The University does nothing [in aid of the environment], students are apathetic, and posters don't work. So we decided to do something that would really piss them off."

The campaign hopes that it will encourage Rhodes to take part in the Polokwane Declaration which was started in 2001. The declaration, initiated by government, aims "to implement a waste management system which contributes to sustainable development and a measurable improvement in the quality of life,



Organiser Leigh-Ann de Wet (right) aimed to show Rhodes that recycling can be feasible
SEAN MESSHAM

by harnessing the energy and commitment of all South Africans for the effective reduction of waste". The declaration aims to reduce waste generation by 50% and waste disposal by 25% in 2012, and achieve Zero Waste by 2022.

Where is Away? offers solutions for managing waste through talks, displays and handouts. It hopes all individuals will take responsibility by changing their actions.

The Where is Away? team consists of Jessica Cockburn, Julian Baker, Elodie Heyns, Leigh-Ann de Wet and Julie Coetzee, as well as several other

green-living students.

One such student, Susan de Wet, an Accounting Honours student, states that, "The response to the campaign has been good, but if you consider the size of the student body, it isn't really that great." In order to encourage participation, the team set up a reward system. Two marked tennis balls were hidden in the piles of garbage, and finding one brought an instant finder's fee of R50.

Unfortunately, no student volunteers managed to find either of the balls, but the campaign's sponsor, Institute for Waste Management (IWM), has



Volunteers helped all week by sorting waste into separate piles. There was an amazing quantity of glass bottles
JONI ELS

focused attention on Grahamstown thanks to the efforts of the Where is Away? campaign. There are plans to unite the small recycling companies of the region, as well as make them more accessible.

The Where is Away? campaign is hoping that, due to last week's success, the library quad will be used as a dumping area during Waste Week next year.

The team is hoping to change the way students and staff think about where their waste goes, and change their habits accordingly, before "away" becomes "here".

Some of the weird stuff the Where is Away? team found in their pile of trash:

- 4 left shoes
- 6 pairs of sunglasses
- 1 pair of underwear
- 1 dead pigeon
- Several unopened alcoholic beverages
- 1 lifetime's supply of Debonairs and Steers containers
- 1 rather large collection of condoms, only a few used

VC Saleem Badat holds student Q&A session



With his new post keeping him busy, the VC had his first formal interaction with students on August 15. Badat outlined Rhodes's greatest challenges, which he thinks are not political or economical, but rather apathy and dwelling on past glories.
MATTHEW MIDDLETON

Christians on a mission

By Candice Bradfield

African Enterprise, together with the Christians @ Rhodes (C@R) organisation, will be facilitating Mission 2006 at Rhodes from August 27 to September 2.

The mission will consist of morning prayer meetings, Christian documentary showings and various talks to be held at lunchtime and in the evenings. Celebrities such as Michael Mol and Penny Heyns have been invited to give presentations, while informal talks will also be held in residences.

The mission will start off with an opening rally on the Drostdy Lawns.

Highlights of the week include Baby Jake Matlala's personal testimony, a talk by Michael Mol entitled "Are you really living?", as well as an inspirational talk by Penny Heyns. Former cricketer Gary Kirsten will be attending student society sports on the morn-

ing of Saturday September 2, as well as speaking in Mullins. Rhodes staff member Francis Williamson will also be giving *Lectio Divina*, or spiritual readings, in the Zoology boardroom.

Dr Heather Davies-Coleman, one of the organisers, said "The basis behind the mission is to attract non-Christians into understanding and accepting Jesus into their life."

The mission is mostly aimed at students, but it will not exclude the rest of campus. The lunchtime talks are more staff-orientated while the evening talks are aimed at attracting primarily a student audience. Rhodes University can also expect to hear Benjamin Dube in concert as well as some choirs and Christian bands.

Davies-Coleman hopes that these celebrities will act as drawcards to those who would otherwise not attend. The speakers will be coming in their own free time as they are not being

paid. "They really want to share with the Rhodes community," says Davies-Coleman.

Vernon Jones, student and member of C@R, hopes that students' responses will be positive, but believes that it will spark debate among non-Christians. "I think it'll stir up a lot of controversy because lots of people will be hearing stuff they don't want to hear," says Jones. "For me personally it would be nice to see more people come to Christ."

Based in Pietermaritzburg, African Enterprise is a Christian group that performs outreach programmes around the country. According to Davies-Coleman, a large team from African Enterprise will be here to give talks and hold discussions for students. C@R was launched in October 2003 and represents the community of Christian students and staff on campus.

Aids Week: Taking it back to the individual

By Bianca Silva, Cairen Harry and Georgia Lennard

"Taking it back to the individual" is the focus of this year's Aids Awareness Week at Rhodes. The Treatment Action Campaign (TAC) and the Student HIV/Aids Resistance Campaign (SHARC) have organised numerous events to mark the awareness week running from August 21 to 25.

Numerous events have been lined up for the week. These include a keynote speech by the vice-chancellor, presenting his vision for the Aids policy at Rhodes, talks by HIV-positive students and a mix of prominent Rhodes figures being publicly tested.

Other societies, sports clubs and residences have also showed their

support by getting involved. TAC Secretary Larrissa Klazinga believes that: "You can't stop a disease if people don't get involved and take personal responsibility." Last year R10 000 was raised and there is hope that this year's fundraisers will be able to top that amount.

TAC and SHARC members hope that the theme will encourage individuals to face up to Aids. SHARC Chairperson Lesley Odendal explained that they hope that this week will make people really think about Aids and what may put themselves or others at risk. "We want people to reflect on their own behaviour and their behaviour towards others," she said.

While last year's theme involved questioning Rhodes' HIV/Aids policy,

this year the emphasis is on students taking responsibility for themselves. Despite the perception that there is a low HIV/Aids prevalence at Rhodes, HIV/Aids is still a problem that needs to be addressed. "The Aids rate is low at the moment, but how long can we keep it that way?" said Odendal.

The awareness week aims to eliminate prejudices and stigmas surrounding the disease and provide a more established support network for students affected by the epidemic.

Odendal added that Aids Awareness Week at Rhodes is an important part of the struggle against HIV/Aids and that no matter who you are, you should face up to Aids. "A journey begins with a single step. Step up to Aids."



SHARC and TAC prepare banners and signs two weeks prior to Aids Awareness Week
JACKY SMITH AND JONI ELS

BRAMPTON

STELLENBOSCH, SOUTH AFRICA



The Brampton wines are a vibrant, fruit driven range with the structure to satisfy the most discerning palate. New this year is the 100% Cabernet Sauvignon. The name Brampton comes from the Champion Jerseybull Brampton Beacon Bloomer whose descendants now graze the luscious Rustenberg meadows. Retail prices for Brampton range from R38 – R48 / bottle.

Find them at selected retail outlets and restaurants.

Or contact Rustenberg Wines on 021 809 1200 | email wine@rustenberg.co.za | website www.rustenberg.co.za

WORK & TRAVEL OVERSEAS



THE SOUTH AFRICAN
LEADERS IN GLOBAL
WORK AND TRAVEL.

Work USA Winter Employment Fair

Date: Mon 11th September 2006

Venue: The Highlander, 10 Worcester St

Time: 3pm - 5pm

Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity.
call SASTS today on
021 4183794



SASTS
WORKING ADVENTURES

021 418 3784

www.sasts.org.za

011 325 8888



GRADLINK.CO.ZA

Searching for a career?

Check out top

South African companies.

Send them your CV Free!

www.gradlink.co.za

Albany Business Machines

OfficeNational

All your business needs

**SALES & SERVICE OF OFFICE EQUIPMENT & COMPUTERS
STATIONERY**

For all your office, home & school stationery requirements
Growing art & craft section

We have the widest selection of paper & card in town.

Cartidges: Original & Generic (printer specific)

28 New Street

Office: +27 (0)46 622 4611

FAX BUREAU

PHOTOCOPY SERVICE

CRAFT MATERIALS

TYPESETTING



MATTHEW ACKERMANN

Student self-help series part two:

Digs hunt: the great Odyssey

Layla Leiman, Kim van Beeck and Kelebetseng Scheppers put on their walking shoes and go digs-hunting.

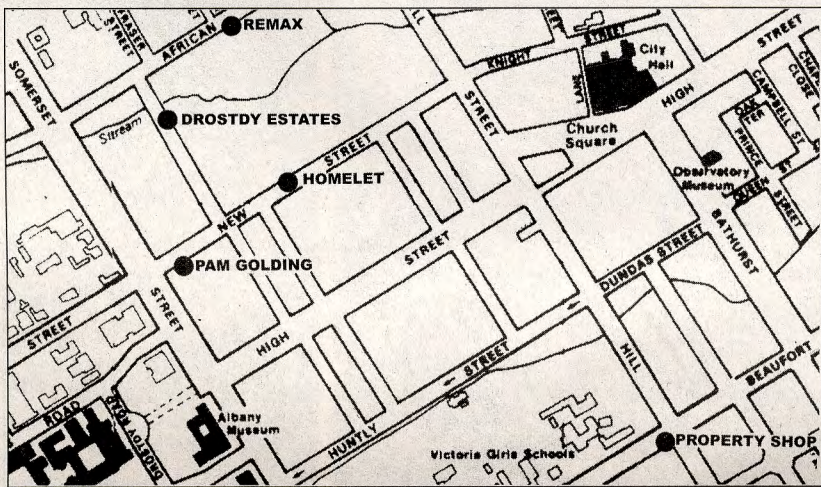
The time has come for the 2006 edition of the frantic student rush around, scribbling down information from notice boards, collecting lists from estate agents and listening to last-minute advice from smug friends already in digs. For first-time digs hunters, this can be a daunting process. Everyone seems to know what's going on except you. As each day ticks by, you feel like prime property is slipping through your fingers and you'll end up living in some dump with people you hate on the road to Bathurst.

Our first stop was Drostdy Estates in Peppergrove Mall. They seemed nice enough, although it didn't really feel like they took a personal interest in our search. We received digs lists, not very detailed, but we were told to make an appointment and they would take us around to see the ones we were interested in. The lists were not very professional, with no prices, contact details or anything other than the address. For frantic digs hunters, this seems like a long process because you could only eliminate digs based on distance, and even this was an estimation because we were without a map at that point.

Remax was second on the list and just around the corner. It was relatively easy to find, situated next to the back entrance of Peppergrove. Instead of simply having a digs list thrust at us on first glance, we were asked to have a seat and wait for a consultant to help us.

Although we were just looking for a digs list, Jean Rodgerson, the friendly consultant, was willing to offer us her time. She asked if we wanted to have a chat and go into specifics, but because we were just doing a preliminary digs search, a list was all we required from her at this stage.

Rodgerson invited us to make an appointment with her at a later date, after we had looked over the list she provided us. The digs list was long and detailed. It took a bit of time to



GRAPHIC BY JONI ELS

go through it and sift out the places that fitted what we were looking for, but the estate agent seemed helpful, willing and enthusiastic to help us in our quest to find the most awesome digs ever.

Next up was Homelet on New Street, with their sprawling 'Big in Digs' banner. We were greeted by Robyn Kuper, an incredibly energetic estate agent who threw fast but friendly questions at us. Because we were only looking for a list of digs at this stage, she gave us the relevant list for the size of digs we wanted.

Size is measured according to the number of bedrooms in the house. On a previous visit, these lists had not been available yet, so we had put our names down for it and were promptly SMSed when they became available. The lists and their SMS response were extremely helpful and efficient. Homelet does not set up appointments for you to go and view the digs, this is left up to your own initiative, using the names and numbers provided on the lists.

The biggest bonus from Homelet was getting a free map to plot our upcoming digs hunt. Map in hand, we set off to conquer the next estate agent on our list.

Just up and across the road from

Homelet is Pam Golding Estates. It seems removed from the casual and slightly dim interior of Homelet. We were greeted by a receptionist with neat hair and soft pink lipstick and a water feature gurgling in the background. She attended to us immediately, and we were soon chatting to our potential estate agent, Jackie Vermeulen. Efficiency and helpfulness seem to be the key words at Pam Golding.

Vermeulen gave lots of helpful suggestions, asking us, "Would you like to live in the Greens? They're close to campus and quite affordable. In fact, the rent there is staying the same next year." Within ten minutes we had received a digs list of all available rental properties, as well as her contact details so we could hunt during our own leisure time.

The list also provided information about the furniture and fittings included in the digs. Pam Golding looks rather expensive on the outside, but having calculated the rental price per person, they turn out to be within the usual Grahamstown range of R1200 to R2000 per person monthly. Of course, there are more expensive rentals, but overall Pam Golding provides quality estates within student budgets. "They're getting filled up quite fast so

contact me as soon as you find one you like," Vermeulen called as we continued on our quest.

Property Shop was our next stop, but proved rather tricky to find. The store has recently relocated from Somerset Street to a peach and cream office on Beaufort Street. One of the downfalls of Property Shop is that they do not provide a digs list.

Instead, Jeffrey Horner – one of the estate agents – provided us with helpful information on digs availability. After a short discussion about what we were looking for, Horner drove us to view two properties: "They're right around the corner. You don't have a car right, so we should just look at the places close to campus? Would you like to take a look now?" Within half an hour, Horner had showed us around.

He also explained whether electricity and water was included in the rent and whether furniture was provided.

After scouring Grahamstown's estate agents it was time to check out the notice boards. There are stacks of them on-, around- and off-campus. Great ones to check out are at Pick 'n Pay, the arch on the way to the library and outside the Jac Labs entrance, but there are also plenty stuck up anywhere with empty wall space.

The only way to find notices is to keep your eyes peeled and your brain in constant digs-hunting mode. But this shouldn't be so difficult, granted that this is the main activity occupying students minds, mouths and dreams at this time of year. Just remember that anonymous notices do not guarantee professional service.

When you've found a digs that suits you, it's time to sign the lease agreement. Make sure you understand what's expected of you before you sign your life away. Most estate agents will give you one or two weeks to pay an advance deposit (one month's rent, refunded at the end of your lease) to secure your place for good.

Why, oh why, is students' rent so high?

By Kelebetseng Scheppers

Why do rental prices in Grahamstown increase by 10% every year, despite the already-high cost of renting a digs? This question leaves digs students baffled and embittered.

"These increases are insane. Do they renovate the places or is it just an increase for the sake of it?" asks Mandisa Mrabalala, a second-year student in digs.

"It just seems like we're being taken

advantage of, and no one can explain it," says Lebohlang Thulo, a third-year student in digs.

When quizzed by Activate, Pam Golding estate agent Jackie Vermeulen said, "It's just standard practice."

Jeffrey Horner, an estate agent from Property Shop, had more to say: "Rent increases in Grahamstown are dependent on landlords. If they do not manage to rent their place out over December, they still have to pay

their mortgage bond, so by increasing the monthly rate by ten percent, they manage to keep up with their payments. At the end of the year, though, it adds up to the same thing."

This still does not explain why students – many of whom pay their initial deposit as early as August or September, and pay their first month's rent in December – still have to pay 10% more each year.

Cate Cunningham of Drostdy Estates provided another answer: "Landlords

still have to pay interest on their mortgage bond during student vacations. They also have to pay increased Hi-Tec prices and garden services as well [which are usually included in digs rent].

"In addition to this, the property appreciates [gains value] each year. If the rent prices remained the same, the landlord's profit margin decreases and he can barely cover the basic costs. It makes sense that rent increases."

Ciro De Siena: on London

This vac I had my very first experience of London, starting in a place called Harrod's. Arriving straight from the airport I was quite simply dying for the loo, and set out in search.

I arrived in Garden Furniture after a painful detour through Women's Clothing. A helpful young chap informed me that there was a loo in Rugs, which I would find straight through Home Appliances.

I ended up in Pet Accessories. Begging the nearest assistant for directions, I was politely informed that she hadn't the foggiest idea and went to ask a colleague. While she was away I wondered whether Harrod's employees had iron bladders, or were just stupid. She returned, pointing me to Garden Furniture. I decided on stupid.

Resisting the urge to throttle her with a nearby diamanté poodle leash, I moved on, finally arriving at Rugs. Relief.

The horrors didn't end there. On the street, I began noticing *them*. One after the other, they marched on, expressionless.

Don't believe all that rubbish about cloning being possible in 2020. It's happening right now. Somewhere in London, probably in a Harrod's basement, is a machine churning out the 'business person'; clad in ruthlessly-ironed white shirt and black power-suit. This frightened me more than the prospect of paying R36 for a cappuccino, and so we made a hurried retreat to our hotel.

The young gent who came out to help with our luggage said nothing, but I ventured a "Howzit." He smiled, looked at me and replied, "Howzit." Turns out he was from Brakpan. Welcome to London indeed.

On a glorious Sunday morning we decided to tackle London on foot. Setting out with no particular direction in mind, ending up after a while in the Banking District, which, surprisingly, is quieter than the dark side of the moon. In fact I'm quite confident that here, on a Sunday afternoon, Bono and Kofi Annan could mud wrestle in aid of Congolese orphans and no one would notice. It was terrifying.

The rest of London was a termite mound of tourists. Needing some space, we found Waterloo station aiming to get on a train to anywhere-but-here. The tube to Piccadilly Circus would do just fine.

In the midst of the madness stood a sunburned man clutching a cross and a microphone, kindly informing everyone that we were going to hell. The traffic seemed grateful for having been given a sense of direction. Oddly, it was here that I saw London for what it is.

Over the years I've said teary good-byes to dozens of friends who've scurried over to London in search of fortune, laying bricks and pulling pints, and no doubt, so have you. According to a report prepared for the UK's parliament, there are over 350 000 South Africans working in the UK, and now I understood why. There's more luring us to London than the exchange rate.

London is an impossibility; it just should not work. It is certainly more than the sum of its parts. However it doesn't just work, it breathes. It is a heady concoction of elements - all of them crucial.

Every single entity in that city tacitly knows that they are integral; that they belong, that they are part of *something*. Ultimately, we all need and want to belong.

And in London, you have a purpose to the day before you've left your bed.

To the point with...

Professor Saleem Badat, Vice-Chancellor

By Bianca Silva and
Ines Schumacher

Q: What have you achieved at Rhodes so far that affects the students?

A: Since I've started I've had to finalise the terms of reference for the appointment of the new dean of students. I was very happy that the way it had been refashioned was to focus on the development of students outside of teaching and research. Another thing I've set into motion is a statement that has come out of my office which makes it absolutely clear that in a democratic society we have to start to learn to advance and protect rights. I refer to the alleged homophobic attack that happened in May before I came. I wasn't very chuffed to have to read that on the front page of *Grocott's Mail*. The constitution of this country protects everyone irrespective of race, gender, sexual orientation, and nationality. That incident shows a lack of understanding of rights and the fact that we have to defend rights in this country. More frightening is that if this happens again and a student was to be badly injured and end up in hospital, we are all culpable for having kept silent. Now I'd like to suggest if that had been a racist attack, all of you might have been up in arms. Perhaps because it was a homophobic attack we are a little hesitant because it doesn't accord to our own views of sexual orientation. Let's not fall into the trap of only selectively opposing certain rights because once you start to be selective, it becomes a slippery slope. And I think that if I can inculcate that way of thinking at Rhodes, then the entire institution and all of us will be better people for it.

Q: What role should students play in the university and what should their relationship with the institution be?

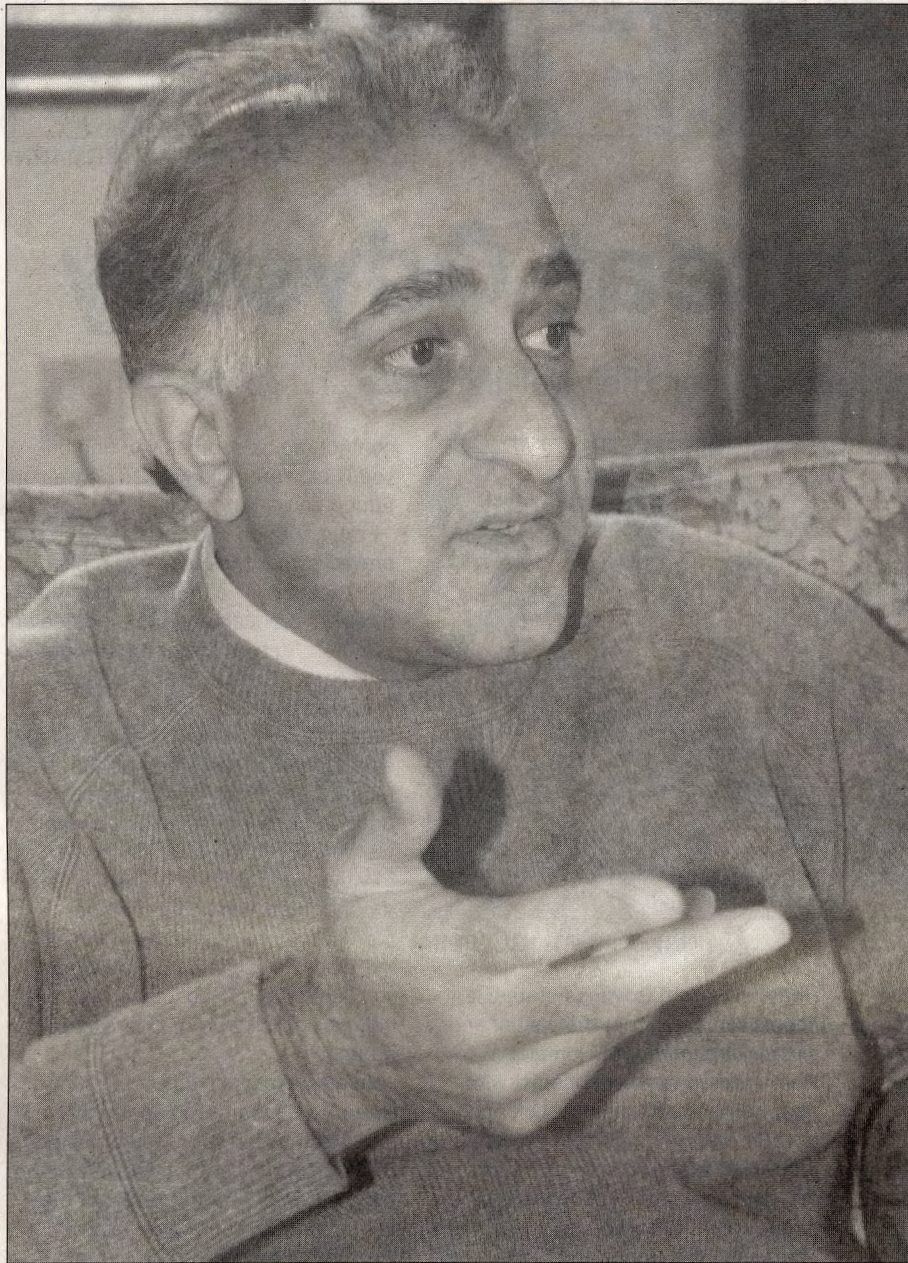
A: I'm firmly opposed to the idea that students are clients of a university. Those that think in that way don't really know what education is all about. It's a fundamental misunderstanding of the role of a university. I would like to see students recognised as partners in an education process. I think this university offers a myriad of opportunities for student involvement. The kind of relationship that one needs to have with the university is what I would call critically supportive. You support the university where it is making and taking the right decisions. I don't think you represent students effectively if you're simply antagonistic for the sake of showing how radical you are. That's not a meeting of minds and it actually undermines what a university is about.

Q: What is the most challenging part of your job so far?

A: Heading the advisory body to the minister of education during the past seven years has had me thinking nationally, at the level of all universities. What's been challenging is the idea of now thinking at the level of a single institution.

Q: What advice, if any, did Dr Woods give you?

A: I suppose it's a kind of rule that when you meet the person who is



Away from the pressures of work, Professor Badat likes soccer and CSI

taking over from you, you don't give advice unless asked for it. It's pre sumptuous. That doesn't mean that we don't have an arrangement. Should I want to hear his views on something, he's just a phone call away.

Q: What are your hobbies and non-academic interests?

A: Golf and soccer. Reading, obviously. If I can get to the TV, which is not very often, then it's really to watch *CSI* or *Inspector Morse*. Something where you have to think about who did it, but without having to think too hard.

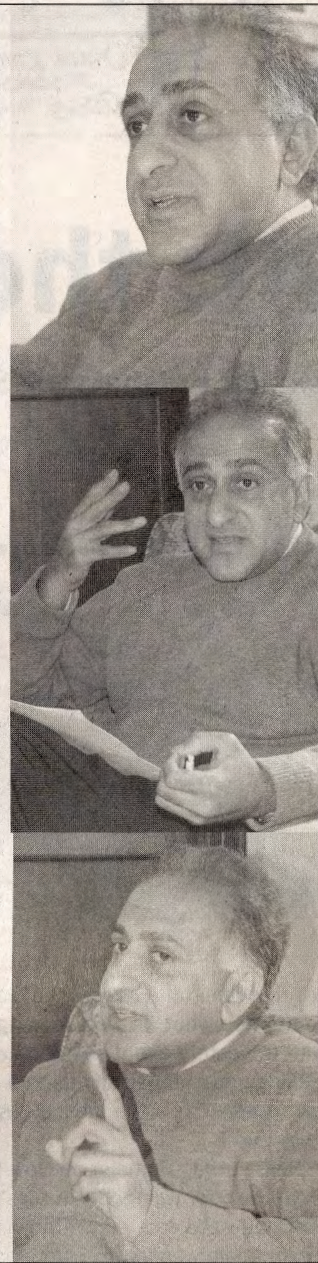
Q: Who is your favourite author? Do you have a favourite piece of literature?

A: Well, in my view, one of the finest pieces of literature is a trilogy on Leon Trotsky, the Russian revolutionary. It was written by Isaac Deutscher. It's the most amazing three volumes.

Q: Do you have a favourite quote?

A: My favourite one is from a Jewish sage called Hillel. It simply goes: "If I'm not for myself, who will be, but if I'm only for myself what am I? If not now, when?"

“I've braved the Rat & Parrot with some postgraduate students.”



JON ELS

Q: We hear you're qualified to coach English FA football. When in your life did you acquire this qualification and what made you decide to do so?

A: I did that when I was doing a PhD in England. I have had a ticket now for about 10 years, but I haven't been able to use it. I got it because I'm passionate about soccer.

Q: What are your feelings about the World Cup 2010?

A: Very ambivalent. On the one hand, I like the idea of hosting the World Cup. I like the idea of being able to get to a World Cup game, but let's see what the ticket prices are! There's another part of me that thinks we are spending 10 hundred million rand on an event where the benefits may not be all that positive. We are putting public money into something, and the profits from those events really go to hotel groups and so on. I'm also concerned about stadiums that once built never get filled again – it has happened often.

Q: How have you and your family adjusted to Grahamstown?

A: I'm not here with my family. I have a son who's in Matric this year so we

quite sensibly didn't want to affect his schooling. My partner, Shireen, will move here at the end of the year.

Q: Will she be able to continue her work in Grahamstown?

A: She works for the body that regulates the Matric exams and is not likely to be able to continue that work in Grahamstown. She's going to have to give up a well-paid job and her post when she moves here. She's going to have to take her chance, like the partners of many others that come to Rhodes University. It's a particular challenge for this university, which doesn't exist for Wits or UCT. Job opportunities in Grahamstown are limited. There's a challenge of how to recruit and retain the really good academics if their partners are being asked to give up their jobs elsewhere.

Q: If you had to join a student society at Rhodes, which society would it be?

A: Amnesty International, because the world is a lousy place in many senses. Whether I was a journalism student or not, *Activate*, because I think that provides an exciting possibility for leadership, and then I would be in a member of a political student organisation.

Q: And what do you do in Grahamstown when you are not working? Have you ever set foot in the Rat & Parrot?

A: It's early days and I haven't had much time off. But in terms of social-

ising, people have been very kind. I have been to many people's homes for dinners. I've had the opportunity to go to some restaurants, but mainly for work-related activities. I've braved the Rat & Parrot with some postgraduate students. When some of the Equilibrium people heard that I'd been to the Rat & Parrot, they invited me to come to Equilibrium next, so I will in due course.

Off the Point

Q: If you had to sum yourself up in three words, what would they be?

A: Committed, considerate and disciplined.

Q: Which song do you think best describes your life?

A: "Stand up for Your Rights" by Bob Marley.

Q: What is your favourite ice-cream flavour?

A: Almond.

Q: Would you rather invent a time machine or travel to a different galaxy?

A: Invent a time machine, because I'm fascinated by history.

Q: Which sauce could you have on almost any type of food?

A: Peppercorn.

A very Captivating concept

By Mma-tshepo Mokgoko

The word is out that Rhodes University will soon be abuzz with media professionals and budding student journalists from all over South Africa.

The Captivate Student Media Conference began at Rhodes in 2003, with the aim of enriching students' knowledge of journalism and student media by bringing them into contact with the pros.

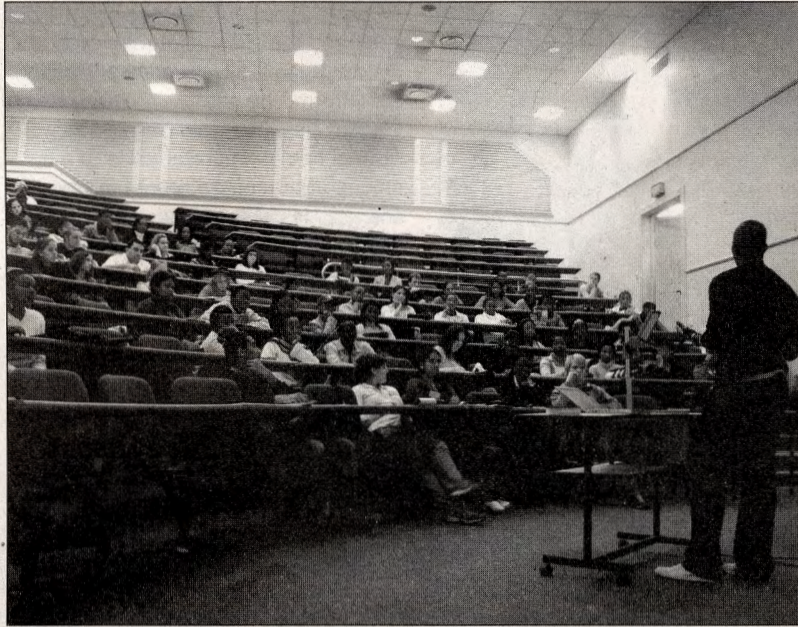
This year's conference (September 22-24) again welcomes some top names from the South African media scene: YFM's Unathi Nkayi, Rhodes University alumnus and *Mail and Guardian Online* editor Matthew Buckland and 94.7 Highveld Stereo's Graeme Joffe, to name a few.

Joining them will be student journalists from the University of Pretoria, University of Kwa-Zulu Natal, Walter Sisulu University and AFDA (Cape Town), among others.

The speakers will give workshops to address this year's theme: "Evolution of Student Media". South African student media has undergone a marked transformation in the last two decades. Strict rules and regulations of an oppressive government in the 1980s and early 1990s prevented students from expressing themselves in ways that are possible today.

Student newspapers such as Rhodes University's *Rhodeo* were faced with the challenge of operating under "a state of emergency and rigid censorship", as former *Rhodeo* editor, Simon Pamphilon, recalls. Pamphilon was also national media training officer (1989) and general secretary (1990) of the South African Student Press Union (SASPU). "Journalists were detained on many occasions for simply being present to report events, such as protest marches," he says.

Today, however, journalists and stu-



Sami Sabiti, Travel Channel presenter, one of the many speakers who has attended previous Captivate conferences



MATTHEW MIDDLETON

dent journalists alike are at liberty to move around and report on whatever they wish. The forms of student media have also evolved from being primarily in print towards a combination of print, radio and computer-orientated new media.

Each year the conference focuses on a particular aspect of media. With the rapid advancements that technology and computers are making as well as the way they affect many aspects of society, including journalism, it was fitting for the primary focus of this year's conference to be on new media.

So, what does Captivate have in store this year? Delegates can expect a packed weekend of work and play, beginning with an official welcome by Rhodes University's Vice-Chancellor Saleem Badat on Friday September 22.

This will be followed by a tour of the School of Journalism and Media Studies' Africa Media Matrix building,

which boasts state-of-the-art media facilities.

Many delegates will have travelled far, so Friday will also be a day to rest. Or not. Pre-conference Friday nights have been traditionally known to unearth student journalists' party talents.

Saturday will begin early with workshops and talks that focus on various aspects of media. Delegates will have an opportunity to engage in a Q & A session with the media professionals during the tea breaks. In the evening, the delegates will be treated to an exclusive social event.

There will be a peer review on the Sunday, in which the producers of various student newspapers will engage and discuss the challenges that they face as student journalists.

The final workshops will take place in the afternoon and the conference will come to a close at 7 pm.

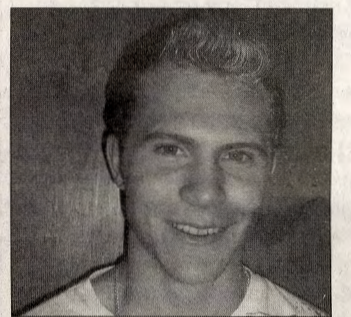
What you said:

MICHAEL ENGLISH AND SEAN MESSHAM

What was your favourite Tri-Varsity slogan?



Siya Makwabe
Second-year BJournal
"Rhodes rider."



Warren Soll
First-year BCom
"From the the crowd, 'Number six is a poes.'"



Megha Bhatt
Second-year Pharm
"R U Single?"



Nish Vora
First-year BAcc
"On an over-all, 'Please tell your boobs to stop staring at my eyes.'"



Elle Blignaudt
Second-year BJournal
"Travesty!"

The Internet in your pocket

Vincent Maher, director of the New Media lab in the Department of Journalism and Media Studies, predicts how new media will shape our lives in the future...

Ten years from now, the debate about the digital divide will still be raging, even more so despite the presence of the Internet almost everywhere.

Web access is going to be wireless and invisible. By the time student numbers start with G16 everyone will know this.

Some of the key areas of online development and growth during the next ten years will be in the area of social networking, information networking and what technologists refer to as the "semanticisation" of the web. What this means is that everything will become more and more connected and the new forms of knowledge that will emerge on the web will come from patterns of articulation rather than individual bits of information.

The early stages of this can be seen already with new knowledge systems that currently fall under the Web 2.0 label. Web 2.0 is not a revision of the way the web works on a technical level, it's a change in the way people use it. Web sites like del.icio.us, Flickr, MySpace and Digg are all examples of how connecting bits of information can form new types of knowledge whether it be who you know or what relates to what.

The idea that your mobile phone can double up as a computer with as much power as the one on your desk-top right now may seem odd, but it will become a reality soon enough. Keep in mind that your current phone has more processing power than Sputnik. As the Web 2.0 trend continues, your mobile phone will simply become a networked gateway to all your digital properties. If products like ShoZu, which are available right now, enable you to manage your photographs and videos online, imagine what it's going to be like in the future.

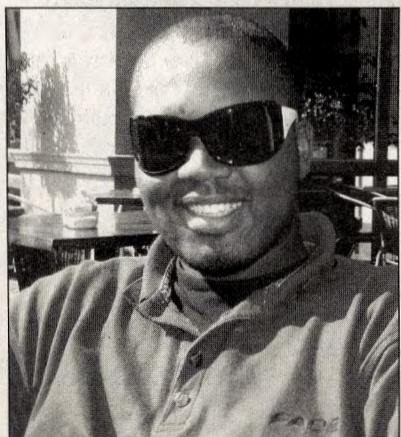
The key difference between then and now is that the generation will not be defined by what media they consume, like the MTV generation, for instance, but by what media they produce. Everyone will be able to produce media via blogs, moblogs, vblogs and all sorts of other publishing models that we haven't yet imagined.

So if you think web stuff is for geeks, you're already a dinosaur.

Three captivating companions return

Jade Fernley and Carly Ritz profile three Captivate delegates who have made waves in the South African media scene, and are all ex-Rhodents...

Mlungisi Dlukulu (Mlu)



Captivate welcomes another ex-Rhodent to its conference this year: 5fm DJ Mlungisi Dlukulu, otherwise known as Mlu. This young and vibrant DJ was actively involved in RMR while at Rhodes, and was appointed Programming Manager of the station in 2003. Mlu has worked as a radio sports presenter and currently hosts the Official Ministry of Sound show on 5fm. He is looking forward to returning to his hometown for the conference and says, "It's always cool to go back and re-root yourself, because you can get totally lost in a big city."

Matthew Buckland



One of Rhodes' first new media journalism graduates, Matthew Buckland is currently working with *Mail and Guardian Online*, the first online newspaper in Africa. He has been involved in the online medium for more than ten years and owns his own web development company, Creative Spark Interactive (www.creativespark.co.za). Buckland has previously been involved with BBC's commercial website division as a web development producer, with *Carte Blanche* as an interactive editor as well as with *iafrica.com* as senior producer.

Natalie Dixon



PICS SUPPLIED

Natalie Dixon is the editor and associate publisher of SL magazine. She is by no means a stranger to the Captivate conference after having been a speaker in 2004. About her job, Dixon says she loves working with a team of creative people but the downside of her career is having to deal with PR companies who try get you to write stories about their client's new cat food range. Her advice to aspiring journos is to do as many internships as possible to get a foot in the door and to find out what it is you want to do.

Reviews



Movie review:
The Fast and The Furious: Tokyo Drift

By Stuart Thomas

The third instalment of *The Fast and the Furious* offers the same drift as the previous two: lots of fast cars and beautiful women with basic and uninspired dialogue. The only changes are the setting – now Tokyo – and the format of the racing – now drifting, which involves controlled skidding around corners. The film stars newcomer Lucas Black as a high-school teen who is forced to leave America after a slew of driving offences. He moves to Tokyo to live with his military father and is befriended by Bow Wow, who plays a hustler and lifelong military brat. There, he sinks into the illegal racing scene. *The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift* is full of eye candy, adrenaline kicks and copious amounts of cool, but don't expect to be challenged on an intellectual level.



Movie review:
Miami Vice

By Yashen Moodley

Director Michael Mann, responsible for brilliant directorial efforts in both *Heat* and *Collateral*, brings the big screen adaptation of the acclaimed hit 80s show, *Miami Vice*. Mann is known for his unique style of movies and, like *Collateral*, he shoots the movie with digital video cameras. Academy Award winner Jamie Foxx plays the character of Detective Ricardo Tubbs who lives with Trudy Joplin, played by Naomie Harris. They work undercover, transporting drug loads into South Florida to investigate a group responsible for three murders. Colin Farrell (sporting a weird mullet-like hairdo) plays the role of Detective Sonny Crockett who, while working undercover with the supplier of the South Florida group, gets romantically involved with Isabella (Gong Li), the wife of an arms and drug trafficker. The movie promises loads of action scenes which inevitably lead to a giant shootout. An old-school type of action flick like this should win over action fans but no one else.

Up close and personal

Ready D blazes on the decks

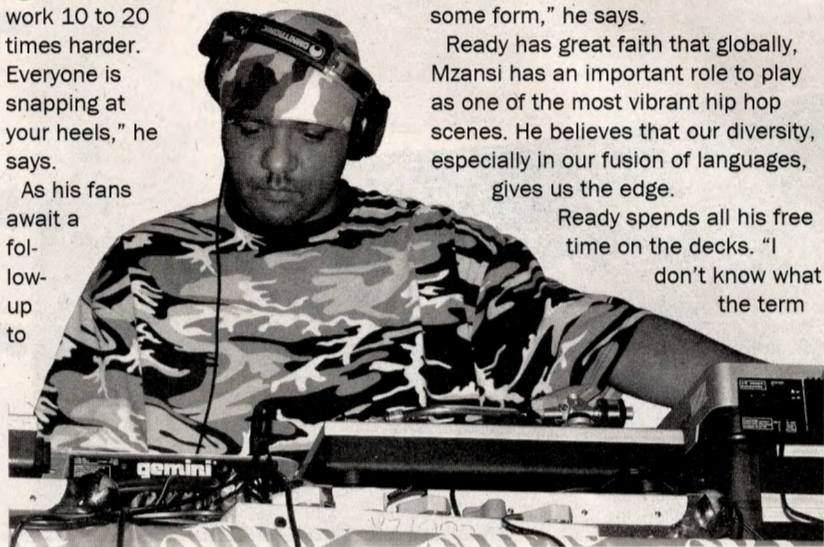
By Deva Lee

Born in District Six, Deon Daniels aka Ready D has had a steep climb to the top. His family was among those who were relocated to the Cape Flats, which is where his love of music began. He has been making hip hop music since the early 80s. He was the producer of the first South African B-Boy album, and has a number of DJing awards under his belt. He has been linked to names such as The Fugees, Will Smith and Jazzy Jeff, and is one of the founding members of both Prophets of da City and Brasse Vannie Kaap.

With groundbreaking pioneers such as Abdullah Ebrahim (aka Dollar Brand) and DJ Superfly as his favourite artists, Ready says he has been seduced by hip hop ever since he saw his first music video with B-Boys and DJs. He identified with the characters and feels that with hip hop one can grow spiritually, mentally and physically. "It's a non-pretentious movement. I firmly believe that it's not about the big baggy pants or the latest bling," he says. "Artistically, it pushes the boundaries and I have always operated in that environment," he explains. "There is one basic rule. You can't succeed if you don't struggle." Ready says he was not spoon-fed and had to stand on his own feet from a young age, "I

had a lot to prove. When the odds are against you, you work 10 to 20 times harder. Everyone is snapping at your heels," he says.

As his fans await a follow-up to



MATTHEW MIDDLETON

his previous album, *Not for the Faint Hearted*, Ready can barely keep his head above water but says he wouldn't have it any other way. His independent record label is called Full Contact Records and the latest issue of *Hype* magazine (of which he is a guest editor) is about to hit the shelves.

As one of South Africa's hip hop icons, Ready D has watched the genre grow and transform in the last 20 years. "Hip hop is always reinventing

itself and the old-school will never die, because it always comes back in some form," he says.

Ready has great faith that globally, Mzansi has an important role to play as one of the most vibrant hip hop scenes. He believes that our diversity, especially in our fusion of languages, gives us the edge.

Ready spends all his free time on the decks. "I don't know what the term

"chill-out" actually means," he says.

After two decades on the scene, he keeps fresh by staying focused on the music.

"I treat every event as if it's the first and the last," he says. "I feed off the crowd...the audience dictates where I take the party. I once did an eleven-hour event by myself. If I had my way, even when the club closes and people have gone home, I'll just carry on going...and see where the music takes me."

Ready for a good time

What do you do in your spare time?

I like underground street racing, custom cars and so forth, but end up speaking hip hop at the race track anyway. When I have free time and there are decks close by, that's where I spend most of my time.

Who is your favourite DJ?

DJ E20 is a genius in his own right.

What are the perks of having celebrity status?

People are always keen to do you a favour, which is quite cool. I received quite a lot of sponsorship through being a high profile DJ. That really helped me. But other than that, I prefer working for what I've got. I firmly believe that you gotta pay your dues and you gotta work hard.

Favourite quote?

From the cradle to the grave, we're always gonna be students of life.



CD review
Muse – Black Holes and Revelations

By Ilana Koegelenberg

British group Muse make a telling comeback with their long-awaited fourth album: *Black Holes and Revelations*.

Debuting at number nine on the billboard charts in the US, the album comes three years after the success of their last album, *Absolution*. The powerful 11-track album is still an intense mix of modern and alternative rock, and maintains the band's definitive electronic sound. Lead singer Matthew Bellamy's haunting voice varies in true Muse-style from slow and pained to catchy and feel-good.

Muse has definitely succeeded in not falling into the common new-album trap of sounding like they're just repeating the same songs with different lyrics.



CD review
Christina Aguilera – Back to Basics

By Siya Ngcobo

She came, she dominated, she conquered and now sultry singer Christina Aguilera is back to basics. The album reveals a softer, more mature and versatile side of Christina. She has explored and resurrected the 1920s era of blues, swing, funky jazz and R&B, mixing it up with her sexy new Marilyn Monroe look. The single "Ain't No Other Man" has shot to the top of the charts and is a funky dance track fusing old-school bass, trumpet and saxophone with some new school bouncy beats. She keeps up the tempo with funky jazz single "Candy Man" which epitomises the old school vibe that flows through the album. The album soulfully mellows down with intimate songs like "Oh Mother" and "Save Me from Myself".



CD review
Rihanna – A Girl Like Me

By Lula Hlatshwayo

Robyn Fenty, better known as Rihanna burst onto the scene with her track "Pon Da Replay".

She then starred in the movie *Bring it On*. It is unfortunate that her only tracks played on radio are "S.O.S" and "Unfaithful" because they are not a fair representation of what she can brew up. Yes, her voice in these songs can get a bit overbearing, but "S.O.S" is the theme song for NIKE women's line so no one can argue about her skills. The Barbados-born teenage artist claims that she wanted to find songs that express the many things young women want to say but might not know how to.

Sean Paul helps her bring in some reggae; Gwen Stefani inspired her to bring in some rock. Worth a listen!



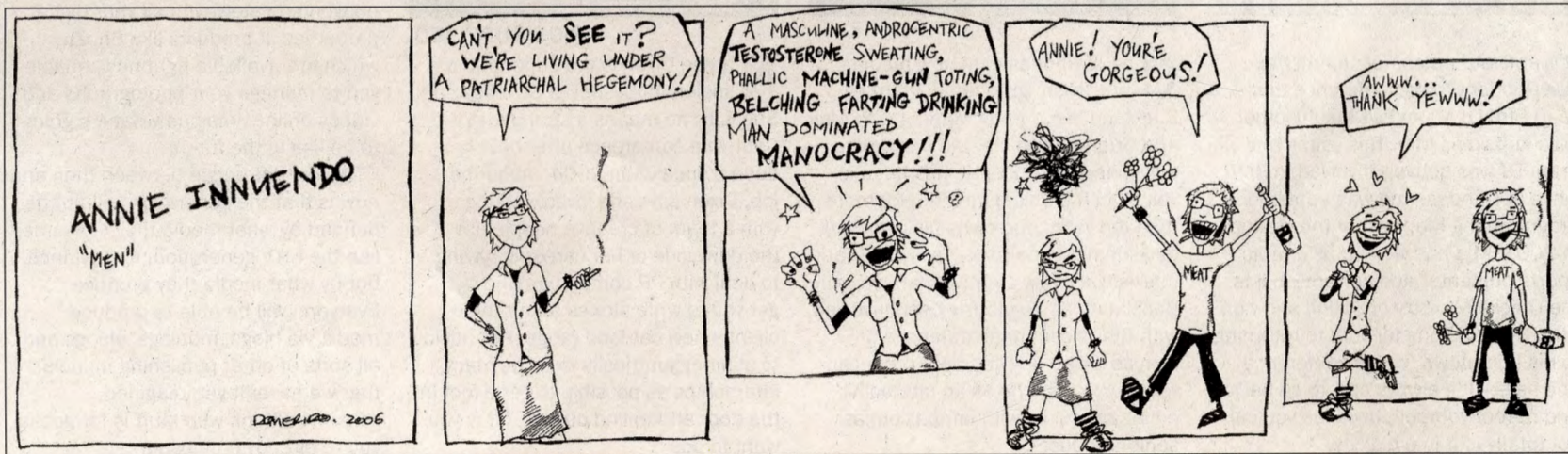
Book review
Graceland
Chris Abani

By Katlego Disemelo

Evis is a poverty-stricken impersonator of the legendary king of rock 'n roll music, struggling to make something of himself. Growing up in an abusive home in Lagos, terrorised by alcoholism, he leaves in search of stardom as a dancer and impersonator. His journey takes him along a dangerous route as he moves from construction work to drug dealing and everything in between. This novel is about a boy whose triumph over poverty is told alongside the myth of the kola nut (an important symbol in Yoruba culture), written with pretentious verbosity. The incorporation of the kola nut is the story's redemption from its bad construction. *Graceland* is a novel that is sometimes an annoyance but is, at its best, an interesting read.

Annie Innuendo

BY DAVID QUERIDO



Battle of the Bands hits again

By Stuart Thomas

Week one of the third annual Grahamstown Battle of the Bands saw The Line Above, Undone and Acoustic Kill Session pitted against the scoring system of the judges. Each week does not present a knockout stage but the bands are judged according to set criteria, with originality and crowd reaction weighted heavily.

This was only the second time The Line Above had performed. The first was at the pre-Battle gig held on August 2. They showed an improvement in their performance and appeared to be gradually finding their stage presence and a sense of unity. Although their grungy sound is typical of many South African bands, they pull it off skilfully. Nevertheless, it is unlikely that this year's battle will be anything more than a valuable learning experience for them.

Perhaps the greatest challenge for Undone is being original, since they are Battle of the Bands veterans and stalwarts of the Grahamstown scene. They will have the difficulty of not sounding too much like themselves. Their set consisted mainly of new

songs and they do appear to be pushing their musical boundaries. They and Acoustic Kill Session were crowd favourites.

As their name would suggest, Acoustic Kill Session presents a heavier sound. In their debut year of doing gigs, they have rapidly become favourites on the local scene and have learned the art of audience engagement. Their cover version, a poking medley of the commercialised pop tunes that many people hate, presented a fun edge to their heavy sound.

Week two saw, interestingly, Breach in the opening slot. This meant that the crowd reaction was not what it should have been for a band that is such a favourite on the local scene. The presence of cameramen filming a music video for them may have seemed intimidating to some of the crowd. The reaction they did get was intense. They gradually seem to have made themselves easier to appreciate without compromising on the raw energy of their sound.

Red Star is the only woman-fronted group to have played so far. They show potential but need to work more on finding their own sound as well as tightening up their skill, especially in



Red Star performing live

MATTHEW MIDDLETON

the vocal and drumming departments.

Motara may look like Breach with a few role swaps and a different guitarist but their death metal screamathon makes Breach seem friendly. They provided DIY pyrotechnics with the help of an angle grinder. They now have the challenge of feeding the hunger of frenzied fans. Toxic Sludge

and the Killer Hadedas continued the trend of members from existing Grahamstown bands forming new ones. Taking themselves seriously is not something that comes naturally to these guys, unlike their music.

For the Battle of the Bands line-up, see the Live Music Society website at <http://livemusic.soc.ru.ac.za>

Reviews



DVD review:

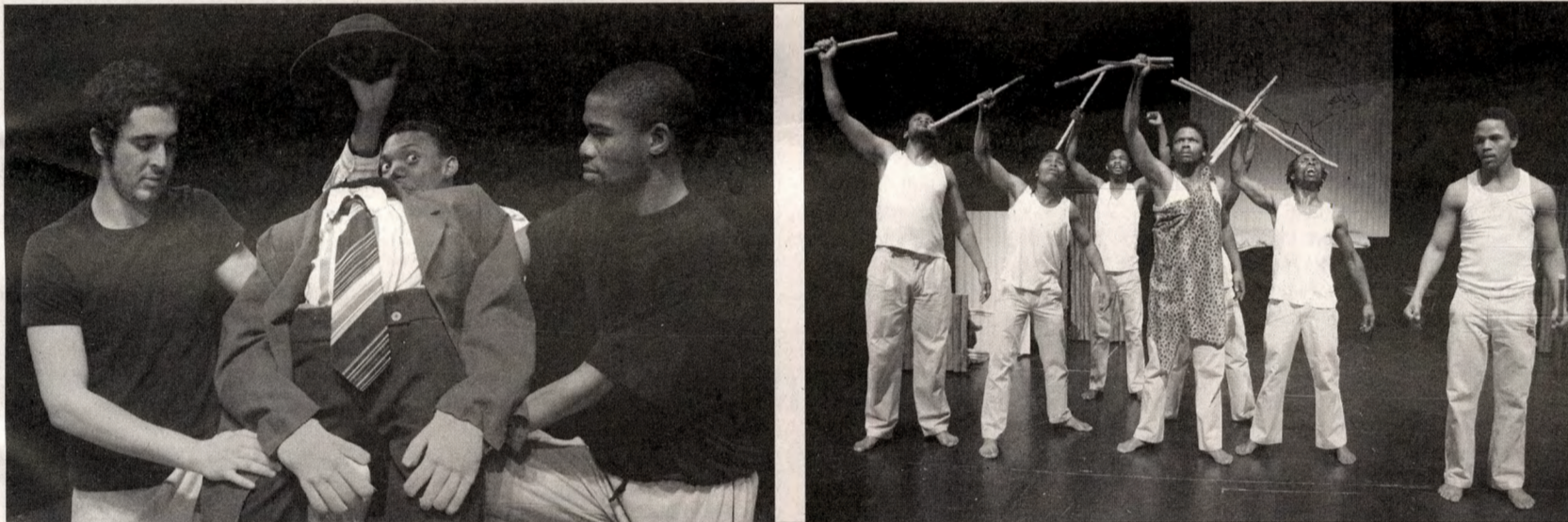
Lolita

By Danielle Bosch

Based on the famous, provocative novel by Vladimir Nabokov, *Lolita* has a controversial storyline and talented performances. Jeremy Irons stars as Humbert Humbert, a middle-aged man who falls in love and pursues a sexual relationship with a 14-year-old temptress, Dolores 'Lolita' Haze.

Irons' character is tastefully developed not as an evil predator as most paedophiles are depicted, but rather as desperate, needy, and strangely likable. It is rather Dominique Swain's character, Lolita, whose performance teeters on the delicate balance between seductress and victim. Their mutually consensual love affair is enthralling and captivating, yet disturbingly taboo. This 1997 classic is still definitely worth watching if one is looking for something more gripping than a fluffy romantic comedy.

A delight of boot-kissing and wet feet



The Ubom Theatre Company has been heating up the stage during the passed two months. They have brought the two stunningly choreographed plays to the Rhodes Theatre a few weeks ago. The sold out show *Kiss My Boot* is a satirical look at our local history of colonialism and *Wet Feet* is a very energetic and refreshing look at world events and society's reaction to them.

LAUREN CLIFFORD-HOLMES

Tidbits – your guide to happenings in and around G-town

By Siya Ngcobo, Shea Karssing, Nqobile Shoba, Bronwyn Seaborne and Lindy Timm

August 25

The Sports Personality Gala evening will take place on Friday August 25. This is a formal event that brings together all the sporting codes at Rhodes and is a good excuse for a party. Many sports personalities will be getting their groove on as the new Rhodes University sports personality of the year is crowned in the men's and women's categories. There will be food and drinks available. Tickets cost R30.

August 29 and September 5

The international filmfest is back this term with more heart-wrenching films from all over the world. The setting of *Control*, showing on August 29, is the massive labyrinth of the Budapest subway system. The film is a high-speed thriller which follows the adventures of a gang of ticket inspectors, the "Kontroll", in their dealings with the diverse mass of people they

meet every day and their encounters with a rival gang of inspectors. It's an enjoyable story with elements of noir comedy.

Using almost no dialogue, the film *Huckle*, showing on September 5, follows a number of residents in a small rural community in Hungary – an old man with hiccups, a shepherdess and some folk singers. This is blended with documentary footage of Hungarian wildlife to create a collage of quirky observations of rural life. In the midst of this, a murder mystery unfolds, showing there is as much happening below the surface as above.

August 28 and September 4

Next Monday at 7.30pm, the Battle of the Bands will feature Marsplastic, Buccaneer Jack's Wooden Wagon, Soma and Super Agents. An exciting line-up can be expected at the last Battle of Bands session, featuring Monstrous Regiment, The Tygers, The Screaming Far-q's, The Omophobes and Rhodes Big Band. The venue is De Tap Huijs. Entrance is free for Live Music Society members and just R10

for non-members.

August 29

The Tuesday night Open Mic nights at Olde 65 provide a stage for many artistic souls to gather, share and entertain. These are events not to miss because they cater for poets, dancers, musicians, artists, mapant sula and many other kinds of people. The small stage at the back of the pub is where people perform and groove to the Grahamstown beat.

Frank Rautenbach as Hansie Cronje

The movie about the famous cricketer Hansie Cronje, directed by Regardt van den Bergh, will feature popular soapie star Frank Rautenbach. Frans Cronje, the film-producing brother of the late national cricket captain, said: "Frank has the depth of personality that will help him make a great success of this role." Cronje works for a production company called Global Creative Studios which produces books and films that tell the stories of ordinary South Africans. Filming is expected to start once Cronje,

Rautenbach and Van den Bergh have completed their latest movie, *Faith Like Potatoes*, due for release in October. Hansie Cronje's biography was an instant hit and the story told on the big screen should be just as interesting.

Bunny Chow gets international nomination

A yet-to-be-completed South African film, *Bunny Chow*, has been officially selected for the Toronto International Film Festival. The film will have its world premiere at the festival, which runs from September 7 to 16 this year. Its director, John Barker, will be one of several new directors whose work will be shown as part of the Vanguard programme at the festival. It showcases films that are stylistically bold, structurally playful and appeal to adventurous, risk-taking audiences. *Bunny Chow* follows the raucous and often ridiculous journey of three stand-up comedians.

The film will be released in South Africa in early 2007. (Information provided by SAPA)

DVD review:

The Others

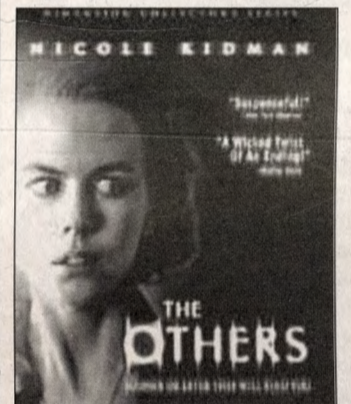
By Siya Ngcobo

This gripping thriller stars Nicole Kidman as Grace, who retreats to a house in New Jersey at the end of the Second World War with her two children. Her children suffer from a rare disease that causes them to be subjected to many obscure and oppressive rules. Grace acquires the help of two servants and they begin to believe the house is haunted.

Together they unravel the mysteries that lie deep within the house. This movie plays with the eye's field of vision and with psychological understandings of our surroundings and parallel realms.

The chilling cinematography, intriguing twists, humorous dialogue and impeccable acting make this movie an excellent addition to the genre of horror.

The ensemble cast work together incredibly well to create the suspense that does not seem to be subdued until the very end of the story. This movie promises a great night in with lots of chills and shivers.



The Native Club controversy

By Hlawulani Mkhabela

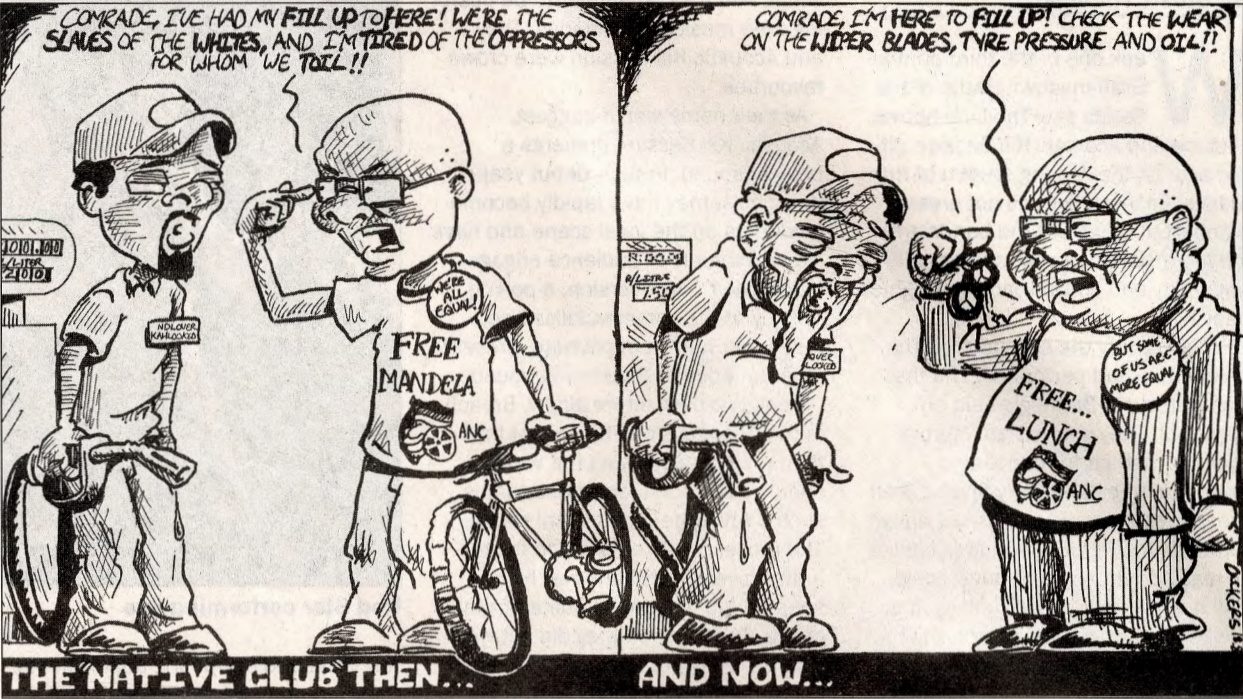
The controversial Native Club, chaired by the president's own advisor, Titus Mofolo, is an attempt to address the problem of black identity. Based in the African Institute of South Africa, the exclusive alliance is an effort to encourage dialogue within the black intelligentsia and nurture a distinctly African image in academia and social debate. The Native Club claims to have a vision to promote a vibrant and critical consciousness among South African people. It includes prominent black intellectuals such as author Thandika Mkandawire.

The idea of a native club intuitively evokes images of a Chinua Achebe-style portrayal of the new African. But this public initiative by the Department of Arts and Culture has fled the pages of African satire. The club's mandate is to rid Africans of the mentality of colonialism and encourage social discourse, but it has sparked considerable and unexpected controversy: it runs the risk of being an orgy of back-patting and intellectual self-gratification for the black elite.

Those who subscribe to the "new groups" principle follow the theory that a primary facet of initiating social change in the country has to be the revitalisation of a distinctly South

African and, more precisely, black way of being and thinking. "South Africans seem to have an identity crisis. Through our dress, music, cuisine, role models and reference points, we seem to be clones of Americans and Europeans," says Mofolo.

Professor Peter Vale, head of the university's Politics and International Studies department, warns against this reasoning. He said, "the continued impoverishment of all our people and the continued appropriation of wealth to minorities whether black or white" is the real issue that may be overshadowed by racial determinism. The true crisis, according to Vale, is not of race determining economic condition, but of inappropriate and ineffective systems of wealth distribution in Africa's foremost state. Further issues surround the term "native", which naturally elicits discomfort in Africans as a term used to delineate African populations as inferior. The "new native" according to the club, uses the term to restore the dignity of those who were once stripped of their personhood by it. The paradoxical problem arising, however, is that a new cadre of elite seems to be created by the club's exclusionary philosophy. Vale is critical of the association's elevation of a particular ideal of black South Africa. He says this was against the ethos of non-racial ideals, which has been cen-



MATTHEW ACKERMANN

tral to the beliefs of the ruling party and central to the liberation struggle. The club demands a cogent examination of what it means to be African and whether all those who consider themselves Africans can contribute to forming new ideas of African identity. "The club implies that to be African one needs to be black," which flies in the face of "rainbow nationalism",

argues Vale. The parallel between Mbeki's strong Africanist ideals and those of the Native Club cannot be missed. Though the president has not given public support for the club, it is chaired by his advisor and boasts numerous black ANC members. Vale further warns against placing a great deal of emphasis on the ability of the club to form a critical think tank. "The

club is in danger of becoming merely the president's project, because one cannot be critical if one hesitates to be critical of authority," he said. Amidst all this controversy, it remains to be seen whether genuine social change on the deeper issues of social inequalities can, or should, be inspired by such an apparently exclusionary ideology.

Ghana, HIV and the peril of complacency

By Ricardo Pillay and Monique Senekal

With the SHARC Aids Week in full swing, it seems logical to turn our gaze towards Africa to see how our continent is doing. Has Africa been taking the necessary steps to prevent HIV's spread, or is complacency still a problem? Only 3.5% of Ghana's population is estimated to be HIV positive. This may seem a low prevalence today, but can it be sustained in the future? When HIV/Aids first hit in the 1980s, the world was vulnerable and clueless about both the disease and its transmission. As massive sensitisation campaigns increased, people were

able to make intelligent choices that safeguarded their bodies. However, some groups of people remain unreachable or unconvinced. In developing countries, for example, many communities lack the technological means to receive broadcast messages. Others receive them in a language or at a level of complexity that they do not understand and some feel so desperate that the notion of modifying their sexual behaviour to protect themselves seems ridiculous. Ghana is slowly becoming one of those countries with a problem. When HIV/Aids was first identified in Ghana in March 1986, the national rate of

infection was 1.5%, today that rate has risen to 3.6%. Since then, more than 52 961 HIV/Aids cases have been reported at health institutions in Ghana. This represents only 30% of cases in the country, as the majority of victims attend traditional health centres and prayer camps, or do not report their illnesses for fear of stigmatisation and discrimination. This means the 3.6% prevalence for Ghana, and 5 to 11% for West Africa may be misleading because of such problems of identification. According to the Ghana Aids Commission, an average of 130 people in Ghana contract HIV/Aids daily and it is estimated

that 125 people will die each day from the disease by 2009 if it continues unchecked. This hints at a major problem in the fight against Aids in Africa, that of complacency. For Ghana's fight against HIV/Aids to be successful, it needs a major injection of funding to work effectively. Sadly, like so many small NGOs in the regions where their work is most needed, that potential is severely hampered by a lack of funds. So far, Ghana is mostly self-funded, but is concerned about its ability to continue its work in the near future unless it can obtain further financial backing. If this is not addressed, a major epidemic may be on the cards for the

West African nation. Russia experienced a similar scenario. In the past, its economic priorities led it to ignore its seemingly low Aids prevalence rate. Now, according to epidemiologists, Russia currently faces a catastrophic epidemic. According to the BBC's Moscow correspondent, Robert Parsons, Russia is paying the price for ignoring the problem in the past. With dilapidated resources and a severe shortage of funds, African countries such as Ghana should place their emphasis firmly on combating the epidemic. Complacency on this issue is not a luxury anybody can afford.

Africa reels under severe climate conditions

By Leila Hall

The past few weeks have seen some drastic weather in Southern Africa, with a bitter cold front gripping most of the region. There have been reports of snowfalls in Lesotho, Gauteng and the Free State, torrential rains and flooding in the Southern Cape and even a tornado in Dullstroom, Mpumalanga. At one stage Port Elizabeth was declared a disaster zone, and parts of Ethiopia have also been severely flooded in recent weeks. It seems Africa is beginning to be seriously affected by climate change and experts have warned of the extent of damage this could cause in a continent already besieged by poverty, poor infrastructure and an overwhelming dependence on natural resources. In the most dramatic example, on Friday August 4, an airborne rescue operation saved 39 people trapped in heavy snow in the Lesotho mountains, where some of the people had spent three days in snowbound vehicles. One person was in a critical condition

and had to be airlifted to hospital. The snowfall was reportedly metres deep in some areas of Lesotho. Meanwhile, an incident of light snow was reported in several areas of Johannesburg. Until then, there has been no reports of snow in Gauteng since 1981. Temperatures in Bloemfontein dropped to minus five degrees, with heavy snowfall resulting in numerous road closures. Other parts of the Free State were also affected - with snow falling in Bethlehem as well as on the Eastern Cape border. Torrential rains hit areas of the Southern Cape, with devastating floods in Port Elizabeth. More than 7 000 people from 1 500 homes had to be evacuated. Large parts of the city were left without power and several roads were closed. At least two people died and dozens had to be rescued. Thirteen vehicles were pulled out of flood waters. Rich and poor alike were affected, with townships very badly hit - several areas of informal settlements were under water. Houses in the upmarket suburb of

Amsterdamhoek were flooded. George and East London were also badly affected by heavy rains and strong winds. The tornado which hit Dullstroom in Mpumalanga injured six people and tore off the roofs of at least 10 houses in the Sakhelwe township. The cost of damage is estimated at over R100 000. On a larger scale, recent floods in Ethiopia killed over 200 people after a river burst its banks. The floods destroyed hundreds of homes, damaged telephone and power lines and cut off the main road to Addis Ababa. The flooding caused millions of rands worth of damage, particularly to small farms. Low-lying parts of Ethiopia are often flooded by the heavy rains between June and September and over the past two years, hundreds have been killed and an estimated 250 000 displaced. With such dramatic and unpredictable changes in the weather, Africa is especially vulnerable to disasters in terms of loss of life, damage to



Eastern Cape hit: flooding in our own backyard
MICHAEL SALZWEDEL AND GREGOR RÖHRIG

an already fragile infrastructure and adverse effects on investment and the economy. A dependence on natural resources and small-scale farming also increases people's vulnerability in the face of extreme weather conditions. Climate change is likely to be

even more drastic in the near future. It is crucial that these trends be investigated and that future models of development for the continent take into account strategies which will increase human resilience in the face of climate change.

Are SRC's unnecessary?

By UCT Student

Does any of it matter? On Tuesday night I found myself on the losing side of an argument. This rarely happens, or rather it happens all the time, but I enjoy the privilege of having enough arrogance not to acknowledge defeat. The person in question had interjected during a heated debate I was having with the rest of the table.

We were discussing the obvious lack of presence in student affairs and the apathy that had taken over student government after anti apartheid rebellions had become redundant post 1989. They had leaned across the table and asked: "But if the SRC does nothing and yet UCT students are still surviving why do we need an SRC at all?" I smirked at the sheer ignorance

of this remark and moved in for my back hand when I realised (excuse the sustained tennis metaphor merging into the slightly sexual) but I had no balls. There was nothing I could say to her. I suggested that we need someone to fight for the students' rights, to ensure that we have our say. But when I offered this to her she dismissed it by retaliating that if students are riled up enough, they fight their own battles, i.e. the political protest in the 70s and the freedom fights and solidarity marches in the 80s.

Furthermore, students do not appear particularly concerned with decisions made by the board, as no one complains that we lack that knowledge of what goes on during these meetings.

What about rallies and rising up against unfair administration? Her response: "Do you see any students

getting aggressive about these issues? When the SRC wanted to fight the possibility of us remaining behind during vacation to finish exams they were not taken particularly seriously."

If a student is only at a college for an average of three years, what does it matter to them what happens with student affairs? A friend of mine listening in on the conversation made a suggestion that worsened the situation. "Why don't you get some good people to run for SRC, wear funny hats and provide booze, that's all you need to get the vote. That's what happened in WITS, they made up some stories and went to each lecture handing out posters which resulted in a majority win."

God. If he thought that would make me feel better he was severely wrong. If all one needs to win a paid position

as the representative for the student body is to sell beers, lie about who paid for the university benches and where interesting grandiose on your head, then I tend to agree with my conversational nemesis.

Why do we need an SRC? If a lack of any sign of presence is not affecting us now (and if it is no one is doing anything anyway), why do we need an SRC in the future? If the only point in going to Varsity is to learn what you're told and get a degree, then she was right, there is no need for an SRC, and the UCT board can count its blessings that more money can be saved.

If serious issues come up then we, as the students can rise against them, and if we don't, well then I guess if we don't give a damn about our rights as students, we deserve our fate.

Live life: Opportunity comes once in a lifetime

By Kgalabi Phale (Taxi)

The South African Constitution states that every citizen of the country has a right to education, but actually not all people are able to exercise that right.

Let me explain that statement. Even though we are now studying, it did not take the Constitution for us to be here, but the availability of financial resources.

The fact is that if you do not have those resources you cannot study at a tertiary institution.

Yes, there are NSFAS bursaries and all the organisations that help students with their studies financially, yet not all aspiring students are able to get that precious help for their studies.

Let me show you an example. Do you remember the guy/lady you went to high school with, who was so passionate about being able to study one day?

Guess what, they are not here and that is because they did not get the opportunity you did of being able to study, due to a lack of resources.

The unavailability of financial resources has even led to some people who had this opportunity before dropping out of their studies because it was impossible for them to continue, since they had no more resources.

In other words, you, being here, got an opportunity some could not get, so please make sure that you study hard and make the best of it, because this kind of opportunity comes once in a lifetime and you cannot afford to misuse it when you have it.

CARPE DIEM - SEIZE IT WHILE IT LASTS!

Tyra Banks: Fighting a losing battle

By Munene Khoza (UCT)

Everybody thinks they're a talk-show host. And that's okay, because luckily, most people never realise that dream. It remains a dream confined to the cobweb-encrusted crypts at the back the mind; along with aspirations of world domination and Branson-esque riches. However, it seems Lady Luck does, on occasion, have one too many at the local pub and ultimately, and indeed unfortunately, smiles on an unlikely few. Tyra Banks is one such case. The former supermodel made her day-time talk-show debut last year in the United States with The Tyra Banks Show, and had some speculating that she was the new Oprah. And evidently, it appears that the SABC

echoes these sentiments following their decision to phase out Oprah, in favour of The Tyra Banks Show. But I am not convinced that Oprah's time is up. Herewith, a brief a blow-by-blow explaining why:

Tyra donned a fat suit during an episode of her show with a view to identifying with the struggles that the horizontally challenged face daily. Yet, the woman still had the luxury of being able to unzip and jump straight onto the Victoria's Secret catwalk. Lies. (-1)

Who could forget Tyra's moving portrayal as 'victim' in the extraordinary horror classic, Halloween: Resurrection, or her inspirational performance as a grating barmaid in Coyote Ugly? A marked many. (+½)

Tyra was the first African American to grace the cover of GQ magazine, and was named one of the most 50 beautiful people in the world, twice, by People (USA) magazine. (+1)

Oprah donned a fat suit for the better part of the nineties. A real one. Oprah's struggle with her weight had America rooting for her, through fat times and thin. (+1)

Who could forget Oprah's performances in the Academy Award-winning, The Colour Purple or Beloved? Not quite as many. (+1)

Oprah was the first African American day-time talk show host and named one of Time magazine's Most Influential People of the 20th Century. (+2)

Oprah donated millions to the

establishment of The Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls in South Africa. Not forgetting the billions of USD she has donated to various other causes on throughout her career

Tyra 2½, Oprah 4. Eish But of course, this entire competition was formulated, played out and umpired in the mind of a jaded second-year media student. Who am I to make this sweeping judgment call? There is no doubt that Tyra has made strides in her career. But, as one critic so eloquently put it, "I could go a lifetime without ever seeing Tyra Banks on television again." With Oprah's billionaire status and 20 year run as a talk-show host, it's probably safe to assume that she does not have to look behind her shoulder anytime soon.

Fables Bookshop

119 High St. (nxt to King Pie. Tel: 636-1525)

BOOKS AVAILABLE

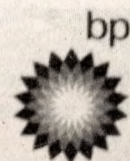
Romance
thriller
crime fiction
sci fi and fantasy biographical
sociology.

Books for gifts, books for
yourself,
Books for children of all ages

Literature (modern and ancient)
new world
esoteric verse
cooking
art & crafts
travel.

Heavier non-fiction like
anthropology, psychology, and
archeology

Looking to buy thick recent clean and glossy
paperback fiction.



KWIK SPAR

SPECIALS

Maggi 2-Minute Noodles
(All variants) @R1.99 each

Country Fresh Ice Cream
(All variants) 2L @R19.99

SPAR Lemon Creams-200g
@R3.59

Open 24/7

Our car-wash operates 7 days a week from 08h00 to 17h00



Medium: @ R79.99
Large: @ R159.99

TRANQUILITY Health & Beauty Clinic



122c Hew Street

(behind High
Corner)

Tel: 046 622 6077
Cell: 082 777 3966

August Specials:

French Overlay on toes	-R70
Deep Cleanse	-R120
Eye Lash tint	-R35
G5 Slimming & Cellulite solution (12 sessions)	-R500

10% Discount for students and scholars
"Gift vouchers available"

Buddy's Liquor Store

Address: 14 New Street (Opposite Slipstream)
Tel: 046 622 9560

Biltong Bar @ R55.00 per 500g

Come in and visit us at Buddy's Liquor enjoy
all our latest specials on offer.



SRC Update

2006

News From the SRC 2006

Last Update!

By Mike Winn

As my this is my last SRC Update, I would like to thank Activate for the space and all those that have read SRC Update over the last year. I hope you have found them informative and worth the read. If not, show your disapproval and Vote in the Election next week, and someone else will be put in charge of this Space!!

SRC Elections 2007

By Carol Freeman

Its SRC election time again, and this year, we have an incredible group of candidates running for positions on the general executive. You will note that this year, candidates will not be running for portfolios, but only as general candidates. This is because the SRC constitution clearly notes that the five candidates with the top number of votes shall form the executive. The person who has the most votes shall take the presidency and the remaining 4 choosing the other positions between them! We feel that as very little of the work that is done on the SRC is portfolio based and as there is not guarantee that a candidate will necessarily get the position they campaign for, it would be misleading to promise something which you cannot deliver.

We have also decided to include the "spoilt ballot" option again this year. We feel that students who are not apathetic to the process and wish to express their grievances should be allowed to do so and this is one way in which this can be done.

If you have any problems with the election process or a particular candidate, you may contact me via email at vice@src.ru.ac.za. Mr Gordon Barker, one of the university's proctors, will be acting as the independent observer to the elections, so any concerns about the election process, will be handled by him. He will also be responsible for deciding whether the elections were free and fair, after they take place.

In order for the elections to be valid, 40% of all full time students have to vote. It is for this reason that elections in the past have often had to be extended. We are hoping to reach quorum in 4 days this year and not have to harass the student body anymore than is absolutely necessary, so get out and vote on Monday! Apart from being able to vote in all the computer labs and on res-net, we will also have 3 polling booths set up around campus, so there is not excuse not to vote!

The Election Guidebook, containing the manifestos of each of the candidates are available in all dinning halls, as well as at the day kaif, the block house and the SRC offices. It is very important that you get to know the candidates. It is crucial that the SRC of 2007 are a strong team, representing the diverse and specific needs of Rhodents. The introduction of a new Vice Chancellor, Dr Badat, as well as the appointment of a new Dean of Students, means that a new vision for Rhodes's future will be decided over the next year, and it is essential that the student's interests are properly represented at this time. The SRC is the student's voice to the administration, so be sure to chose the people who you think are best going to fight for you!!

Date	Event	Venue	Time
Monday 21	Allan Webb Grazzle	Allan Webb Hall	13h00
Monday 21	Drosty Grazzle	Drosty Hall	17h30
Tuesday 22	Founders Grazzle	Founders Hall	13h00
Tuesday 22	Hobson Grazzle	Hobson Hall	17h30
Wednesday 23	Nelson Mandela Grazzle	Nelson Mandela	13h00
Wednesday 23	St. Mary's Grazzle	St. Mary's Hall	17h30
Thursday 24	Main Grazzle	Library Quad	13h00
Thursday 24	Kimberly Hall Grazzle	Kimberly Hall	17h30
Friday 25	Jan Smuts Grazzle	Jan Smuts Hall	13h00
Friday 25	Oriel Grazzle	Oriel Hall	17h30
Monday 28	Elections Start	-	00h00
Thursday 31	Elections end	-	24h00
Friday 1	Announce new SRC	-	12h00

SRC 2007 Candidates



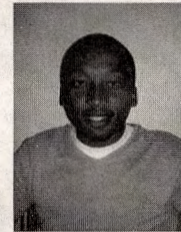
Anele Makhwaza



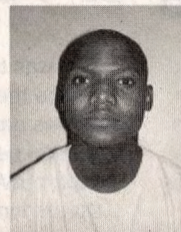
Siphamandla Javu



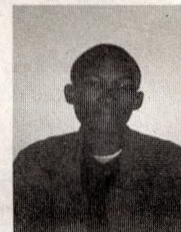
Katherine Furman



Thato Ramagaga



Sandile Siyaya



Thapelo Tselapedi



Bryony Green



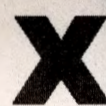
Nikki Ritchie



Evan Ford



Fatema Morbi



Xolani Nyali

Oppidan Candidates



Kelebetseng Scheppers



Keith Kachambwa

The SRC Election Guidebook is available,! Check out each of the candidates credentials, and make an informed choice for your SRC 2007!

THE VUVUZELA



Only R25
GET YOURS NOW
FOR TRI VARSITY

LOOK OUT FOR US ON CAMPUS

Contact: vuvuzela2006@yahoo.com or
sms 072 639 8222 to get your Very own
"VUVUZELA"

DO NOT MISS OUT!!!

THE VUVUZELA



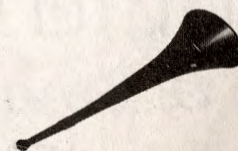
Only R25
GET YOURS NOW
FOR TRI VARSITY

LOOK OUT FOR US ON CAMPUS

Contact: vuvuzela2006@yahoo.com or
sms 072 639 8222 to get your Very own
"VUVUZELA"

DO NOT MISS OUT!!!

THE VUVUZELA



Only R25
GET YOURS NOW
FOR TRI VARSITY

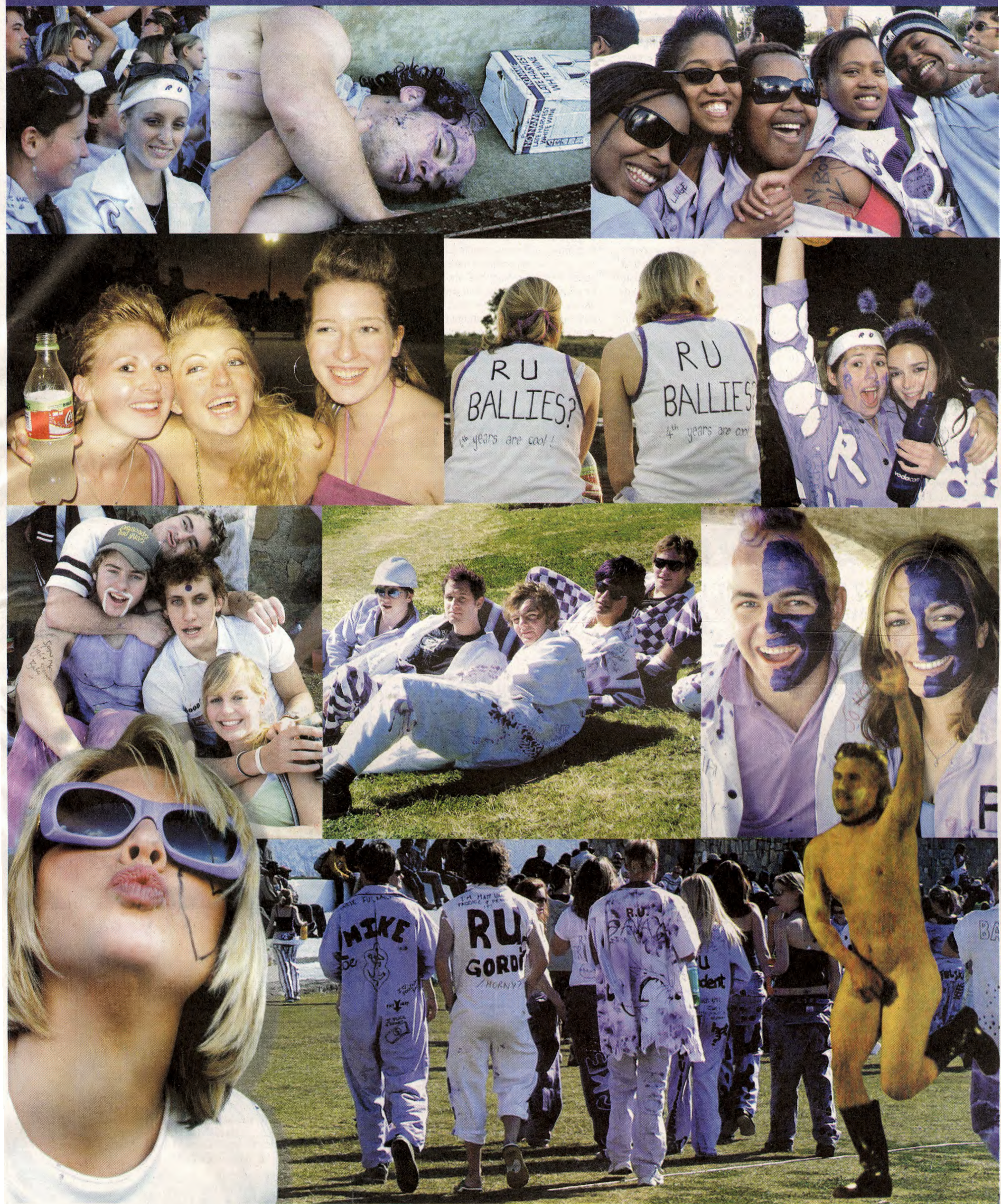
LOOK OUT FOR US ON CAMPUS

Contact: vuvuzela2006@yahoo.com or
sms 072 639 8222 to get your Very own
"VUVUZELA"

DO NOT MISS OUT!!!

TRI-VARSITY 2006: What went on behind the goal posts!

pics by Stacey Nel, Karolina Komendera, Phillipa Ehrlich & Geoffrey Wakefield



If you're serious about quality Tel: 046 622 7787

FOTO FIRST

FUJIFILM

DIGITAL PRINT SHOP

Students in the slammer

Festival High

By Twanji Kalula (UCT)

At times, some of us would like to think that our degrees provide us with some kind of diplomatic immunity. The reality is that like the rest of the nation, getting into prison is a feat that is easily accomplished. Many students have found themselves spending a night in prison for acts that qualify them for an appearance on The World's Dumbest Criminals. Alas, a degree is not a measure of common sense and some students just fail to realise that crime does not pay.

We only need to look to daily papers to find high-profile cases involving UCT students. But more and more students are finding themselves sobering up in prison cells after a night's debauchery turns into an early-morning disaster. Unfortunately, as Jacques*, a first-year Humanities student found out, being arrested for a petty crime can find you in an even more dangerous situation.

On a Saturday night out on Long Street, Jacques was apprehended by an inner-city security guard who saw him holding an unlit joint with some friends. Jacques attempts at asking the guard to identify himself went unnoticed, "he was completely irrational and unreasonable about things, he kept telling me that he was going to put me in chains," said Jacques.

The police officers took him to Barrack Street, where he was detained in a cell designed for six people, but occupied by about thirteen hardened criminals. From the outset he stood out. "I got in there looking like a rich white kid from the Southern Suburbs," he says. He kept a low profile, until a prisoner, who he later discovered was a gang leader, walked in.

The gangster strip-searched everyone in the cell, before turning to an under-age boy who was being held for driving under the influence. "He got the worst of it, the dude completely molested him. He was feeling him up," Jacques said. He watched the gang's hierarchy take shape as lunch was served and then witnessed prisoners smoking. He was eventually told that he would have to stay in police custody over the weekend. The gang leader later discovered a R5 in Jacques jacket, which he forgot declare during the strip search.

After smacking him around for not disclosing the R5, the visibly high gang leader instructed Jacques to perform oral sex on him. Jacques managed to evade the situation, until the gangster tired and sent him away. The gang leader then complimented him on his blonde hair and pretty green eyes; which are apparently favoured at Pollsmoor Prison. He kept saying "tonight you're gonna see what happens in Pollsmoor," Jacques

recalls. Despite repeatedly asking for his phone call, he was denied this request.

On Sunday, he was eventually allowed a visit from his sister, who managed to get him released on Sunday evening with a written warning, subject to an appearance in court the next Monday morning. Through a plea bargain he was able to serve 40 hours of community service, something he already believes in and plans to continue. At no stage was he ever proven guilty or even asked to plead and was told to accept the bargain to avoid a lengthy drawn-out battle.

But perhaps Jacques was the lucky one. As more of us are finding out everyday, there really is no such thing as justice for all, because the system appears to often fail those who need its protection the most. And while no one is above the law, the most vulnerable are the poor, who cannot afford legal representation or go public with their stories.

Jacques' tale is similar to a seemingly increasing number of UCT students who have found themselves on the wrong side of the law. Unfortunately, due to the questionable state of our prison system, being at the wrong place at the wrong time can result in witnessing or even becoming the victim of an even more heinous crime.

*Not his real name

By Clint Tessendorf (UCT)

I've been going to the National Arts Festival in Grahamstown since about the time we used to go to the 'big city' of Queenstown to go to the 'bioscope'. I recently found a programme from 1996, but it started way before that.

Back then I just followed my parents; they took us there on Saturday mornings to go shopping at the stalls. It's a blur of tie-dye with enough fairies to make you want to strangle them in the nearest dream catcher. For a while that was all it was. Later, I felt the need to consume anything and everything I could get my student-card-flashing hands on, from camp cabarets in de-consecrated churches, to ambiguous physical theatre. I booked seats for everything even hinting at Shakespeare and even went to the National Shakespeare Society conference there one year. I sat in on workshops and debates at WordFest and stumbled between student and snooty art exhibitions. All the while I was spurred on by the burning desire to catch 'the big one', the one that would keep everyone talking - the one to be featured on next year's posters or programme cover. This year I managed to spend seven days in Grahamstown, taking in the reprisal of Sizwe Bansi is Dead from the rafters, Sylvaine Strike's dizzyingly fabulous Coupé

(which actually featured on this year's cover) and a marvellous fantasy piece from one half of Corne and Twakkie, amongst others. I've generally been pretty good about choosing performances, which is probably a symptom of safe selections. This year however, my growing appetite saw me sitting in on some of the worst performances I have ever seen. The pick of the bunch would have to be a show called the Forty's in which the two performers presented (or rather decimated) forty stages of dramatic heritage in under an hour. I have never tried so hard to suppress the urge to walk out. Others did not try as hard. One performance with a prominent UCT presence was Artscape's The Boy who Fell from the Roof. The astounding acting and extraordinary set design set it firmly apart from all those below. UCT also presented An African Syzygy as part of the official Student Theatre section. These few drama offerings aside, the rest of UCT continually appears to be poorly represented at Festival. I'm still hoping to bump into a UCT academic one day, perhaps while walking down High Street, from where we could ruminate on all things Festival over a cappuccino at Madhatters coffee shop. But, alas, I feel I wait in vain.

The next step for me, I suppose, is opera and dance, all with a nosy eye scanning high.

PHARMACY WEEK

1ST-7TH SEPTEMBER 2006

THEME: KNOW YOUR MEDICINE

1/09: Expired Medicines Night

7pm-10:30pm

Bring all expired medicines to Olde 65 for free entry R10 for non members, R5 for members

2/09: Collection of Expired Medicines

A drive at all residences and Pick and Pay.

Correct disposure important.

3/09: Fun Day

2pm-5pm

Fun races (4 per team) at athletics track

If interested email: g04d5203@campus.ru.ac.za

Prizes to be won

5/09: Clinic day and seminar

10:30-17:30 at Eden Grove Foyer

Clinical activities to be held:

☐ Blood pressure monitoring

☐ Glucose testing

☐ Reflex and reaction time

Lecture by Prof Santy Daya on drugs for brain disorders from 2-3pm.

6/09: Professional panel day:

(Free private consultations with the experts)

13:00 -17:00 at Eden Grove Foyer

The Panel will cover :

☐ Chronic diseases

☐ ARVs

☐ Common NSAIDS- e.g.Paracetamol

☐ Asthma

7/09: Movie night at Roxbury

8pm Movie, R15.00

Title to be announced

Prizes to be won.

Address:

P.O. Box 94,

Grahamstown, 6140

email: rupsa@ru.ac.za



Rhodes University

Pharmacy Students' Association

DO YOU NEED A GARMENT?

RENT -A- GARMENT @

DO YOU NEED A GARMENT?

NOW LOOK STUNNING FOR THAT SPECIAL EVENING - HIRE A SPECIAL DRESS FROM AS LITTLE AS R50!!!



Pearl Reef Boutique

61 African Street

Tel: 046 622 2611

RE/MAX

Frontier Properties

22 African Street, Grahamstown

Student Digs Accommodation

• 2007 Digs list now available

• RE/MAX offers you top quality service

• We are changing the frontiers of how rentals are done



Janine Harris

082 808 8557

046 622 6061

janine@remaxfrontier.co.za

chantilly

31 New Street - Telephone No: 046 622 9136

Stockists of: River Island jeans, Gottalotaluv, Desray, Soto and G. Couture

THE VUVUZELA

Only R25

GET YOURS NOW

FOR TRI VARSITY

LOOK OUT FOR US ON CAMPUS

Contact: vuvuzela2006@yahoo.com or sms 072 639 8222 to get your Very own "VUVUZELA"

THE VUVUZELA

Only R25

GET YOURS NOW

FOR TRI VARSITY

LOOK OUT FOR US ON CAMPUS

Contact: vuvuzela2006@yahoo.com or sms 072 639 8222 to get your Very own "VUVUZELA"

To advertise here

contact Jess

at

activate.ads@gmail.com

RIVERVIEW LODGE

Five Star Budget Holiday Accommodation

Conveniently Situated Close to UCT and all that Cape Town offers

CAPE TOWN

ACCOMMODATION AND CONFERENCES

Rates:

From R85 per person sharing (Bed & Budget Breakfast)

Meals available upon request

Contact Details:

Phone: (021) 447 9056

Fax : (021) 447 5192

Email: info@riverview.co.za

Visit our website or www.riverview.co.za for additional information.

Tries and tribulations at Tri-Varsity

By Robbie White

It all started with a few very hungry Rhodes students watching the women's touch rugby. After NMMU pulled out, the women's touch rugby ended up being an all-Rhodes game. By the end of the weekend the rugby was again the most well-attended sport of Saturday's Tri-Varsity fixtures.

After a few weeks without rugby, the Rhodes U21A team made a valiant attempt in a close encounter against NMMU. The Rhodents held the NMMU U21A team to only 3-0 against a strong wind in the first half and came out the tunnel focused for the second half. A slip led to an NMMU try which meant Rhodes would have to score twice to win. After a converted penalty from Jamie Renton, Rhodes was back in the running. But it wasn't Rhodes's day and the game ended with the score at 8-3 to NMMU.

Off the field, the stands had begun to fill up during the U21A match, and by the end there was barely space to put your 'water bottle' down. The cheering crowds and sound of vuvuzelas were deafening. Both sets of supporters launched into song as the first XV emerged from the change rooms.

Rhodes knew they would have their work cut out for them, going into a game against one of the top-rated teams in the country. NMMU had recently won a rugby competition,

fending off universities historically strong at rugby. This was not going to scare a determined Rhodes team though, who had the support of a home crowd.

Rhodes started well and, at times, looked like they were going to score first. Then a great break down in the flanks of the Rhodes defence saw a NMMU player score. A yellow card followed for Damian Bailey, which left the Rhodes team a man down. Although the defence was maintained fairly well, with special mention going to flanker Vaughan van Rheede van Oudtshoorn, NMMU were allowed to run in a number of tries at critical moments in the game, which led to a steady safety gap in the score-board. There were a few interludes in the game for injuries and streakers, and the atmosphere in the crowd was as enthusiastic as ever. The crowd were rewarded by a Rhodes try from Khaya Dada late in the game. NMMU were not to be caught, though, and they ran off the field victorious, with a final score of 32-10.

Many may argue that this weekend was a disappointing display by Rhodes Rugby Club but considering the results against NMMU before this, it is clear that Rhodes rugby has developed this year. Furthermore, with the U21A match ending in a close loss, it shows that the future for Rhodes rugby looks bright.



The thrills and spills as our boys tackled the NMMU challenge ANWEN EVANS AND MATTHEW MIDDLETON

Hockey sticks it to NMMU

By Nicholas Stroucken and Jonathan Terry

On Friday, August 11, Rhodes AstroTurf sported a sea of purple students who were entertained by many a bottle of booze, and of course, the hockey.

For a university that is not renowned for mass sport turnouts, the stands were packed with students keen to have a good time. Most of the spectators wouldn't be able to remember the game, let alone the end score, with the main focus for many Rhodes students being the drinks in their hands or waiting for a streaker to let it all hang out.

Although all the festivities were happening on the side of the field, the real action was taking place on it. According to the women's first team captain Gina Eley, they had "no guarantee of victory but were super pumped to win in front of our home crowd". The team dominated their



Hockey gives Rhodes high-profile wins on the AstroTurf

STACEY NEL AND KAROLINA KOMENDERA

opponents from NMMU, slotting in six goals, whilst the opposition only found the back of the goal once. Goals were scored by Catherine Lewis and Gina Eley, with Jenna Beuthin and Rosie Davis both scoring twice. Although the women appreciated all the support they said that the whistles in the audience made it difficult to hear the ref's whistle.

All of the women's teams won their games. On a lighter note, the women's

team was especially disappointed that they missed seeing the streaker.

The men's first team played a mixed NMMU side which consisted of their first and second team. The Rhodes men played well and came out on top 3-1. The rest of the men's teams won all of their games against NMMU. The third team however lost to Fort Hare's first team 4-3. At the end of the eventful weekend, Rhodes finished first overall for hockey.

The animal inside us

By Candace Whitehead

The smell of grass fills your nostrils. You're lying face down, dripping with sweat. Suddenly something connects with your shoulder. You're blinded with rage and fists start flying.

During the Tri-Varsity tournament, students witnessed a number of aggressive attacks by players on both the opposing teams and the spectators. Two of the most memorable were the rucking of a streaker by an NMMU first XV rugby player and the fly-kick to the back of a spectator during the first team soccer game.

According to Gary Steele of the Rhodes Psychology Department, aggression in sport may have both positive and negative associations. Steele says that in many sports, aggression is often seen as necessary for the sportsperson to appear assertive. It is when aggression turns to violence that it becomes problematic.

Violence need not be physical. Any verbal abuse may also be considered

as violence. An example of this is the infamous Australian cricket team who have been accused of sledging opponents to attain a mental edge.

One of the main reasons for excessive aggression in sports is pure instinct. Sportsmen may be provoked to such a degree that instinct demands that they protect themselves in whatever way necessary. Frustration with umpire decisions, pumping adrenaline, or the pressure of the game may also lead to outbursts of aggression. It has also been found that the losing side is more prone to violence than the winning team.

It is not only men who display aggression in sport. Recent studies show that female participants, when provoked, display similar reactions. Women have a higher frustration threshold, and require a larger amount of aggravation.

Suddenly someone grabs you around the neck, pushes you away from your opponent. You're so pumped up you don't feel the pain. You feel alive.

Where Rhodes won it away from the Great Field

By Adam Wakefield, Fleur Rollason and Warrick Smith

The dust has settled on yet another Tri-Varsity, and students with bald heads are seen roaming around campus.

Tri-Varsity is usually about the bigger sports like rugby, soccer and hockey, but what about those sports you don't usually hear about? These are a few of the sports that helped achieve an overall Rhodes victory.

Athletics

Rhodes has been on a losing streak with the round-the-block event which they last won in 1991. For the first time in 15 years, Rhodes won round-the-block despite having to weave

between several drunken students. Rhodes narrowly lost both the men's and women's 4x100m event. Overall, the Athletics Club had a fine Tri-Varsity weekend and will be looking to improve next year.

Rowing

Rhodes once again claimed victory in what is traditionally one of stronger sporting disciplines. The rowing took place in Port Alfred.

Rhodes women had an 8+ and a 4 competing while the rest of the crews had an 8+ each. The women raced 4km in a howling wind, and won convincingly with NMMU coming second and University of Fort Hare third. Due to the tough conditions, the men's race took place over 500m, with the

Rhodes 8+ grabbing a narrow victory from NMMU. University of Fort Hare came third.

Table tennis

Although the atmosphere was relaxed and sporting, the competition was fierce on the table tennis tables. Rhodes men got the day off to great start with a 10-0 victory over Fort Hare but then lost an absorbing contest against NMMU 4-6.

NMMU men proceeded to take the men's honours with a 10-0 clean sweep of Fort Hare. Rhodes men's second team did however beat their NMMU counterparts 6-4. Rhodes women did us proud by beating NMMU 10-0 and Fort Hare 9-1 to take the spoils.



Was it the last of the Mohicans? No, it was domination over a range of sporting codes that saw an overall victory for Rhodes at Tri-Varsity. Our purple soldiers targeted NMMU for the crown MATTHEW MIDDLETON

From left field



BY Tim Hancox

Naked people on a sports field are like paprika on a hot curry, they add the necessary colour. Streakers brought the crowd at Tri-Varsity into a state of mass hysteria. Any good rugby game is that much more memorable and streakers add to the entertainment. The harmless actions of daring fans willing to bare it all are always encouraged by the crowd at the annual event.

There are three unanswered questions in the world of sport. What is Jake White's problem with Luke Watson? Who died and told Kevin Pieterse he was God? But the one for the array of Tri-Varsity pitch intruders is, why run on the field with your clothes on? Everybody knows that there is an unwritten rule that clearly states unless you are naked, you have no right to interrupt a game of rugby.

Even the most unappealing of streakers received a cheer from the intoxicated Rhodes crowd. That being said, there could be a system of quality control in place to ensure the product on display is of a pleasing nature to the eyes.

Without being too picky, it is preferable to have assets exhibited that are worthy of the public eye, as we wish to attract people to the game. Not to send them fleeing for a dark corner where they might hide from the wounding images unwillingly burned into their retinas.

An excitable mob mentality needs both a hero and a villain. During the rugby both were selected early in the proceedings.

Our hero was first team 'bad boy' Damian Bailey, after he was sin-binned. The heroic loose forward managed to calm the impulsive crowd and convince them to stop throwing beer cans onto the field.

The villain was undoubtedly the NMMU number six. The appointment came after his wild rucking of a streaker. The chants of "Number six is a poes" continued throughout the game. The verbal hostility towards NMMU was amplified after the entire team 'flipped the bird' at the Rhodes



An elusive search for the back of the net as Rhodes men narrowly went down.

KAROLINA KOMENDERA AND GEOFFREY WAKEFIELD

A view from behind the posts

From the crowd: A perspective of the legends of the ball

By Tracy Lynn Chemaly

I'm photographed behind the soccer posts. Hands in the air to the beat of the music. I look at the camera as it clicks. In those two seconds I miss the game's only goal. NMMU beats Rhodes 1-0.

The players warm up, jumping to the beat of the music. Both teams run onto the Great Field like rock stars. Screaming girls take photographs.

The game kicks off after sign-of-the-cross rituals and psych-up fists-beating-chests.

Players standing, hands on hips, looking in one direction means someone's gone down. He's taken off. My

drink arrives and I'm told about a girl in the beer tent who fell off her table and proceeded to throw up under it. Toss-up as to where the action is.

I hear a longer whistle than the normal foul-play, one that is heard whenever players raise their hands. First half is over.

I check the crowd's reaction. Twenty girls gyrating against an overall-clad guy. Surely the beer tent will provide some commentary about the game, but no one speaks soccer.

Second half. More people running across the field. One tackles the NMMU goalie. He doesn't go down, but his teammate in the number four jersey runs into the goals and kung-

fu-kicks the Rhodes supporter. The purple overall seems unharmed as he tries grabbing the ball from the referee. Harmed when he jumps over the wire fence and lands on his peroxided head.

Are people interested in the game? A soccer lover points to the stands. But those on the right-hand stands are more intoxicated than those in the tent.

Mind you, the Mexican wave only takes off for two meters in the left-hand stand because people are so engrossed in the game.

I need soccer insight. Kabelo Maponya tries to educate: "That was a bad tackle. That's good play." NMMU's

number 10 looks to be faking a leg injury. He tumbles. Bottle-carriers run on. Later, the referee shows the NMMU goalie a yellow card. He's taking too long to kick the ball. His number four sidekick moans but the referee waves his protests away. With five minutes left, I turn around and join the booty-shakers.

The final whistle and a purple sea floods the field. Garden games of soccer unfold under the sun. The Rhodes team walks around clapping in appreciation.

Their avid supporters jump to their feet and cheer.

The social supporters raise squeegee bottles. "Cheers!"

By Joy Niemack

Rhodes University took the overall trophy at the annual Tri-Varsity last weekend.

The Rhodes teams attained an overall score of 205.5 points to achieve a close victory over NMMU 204 points.

The University of Fort Hare (UFH) finished third with a meagre 65.5 points.

Head of sport at Rhodes Aziez Madatt commented, "We always can find ways in which we can do better. However, we continue to marvel others as we can get so many people to watch and participate.

If we could host the event again and establish Rhodes as the Mecca of uni-

versity student sport and get a good sponsor, we would seriously consider it."

Rhodes gained points by winning the men's and women's basketball matches, taekwon-do and waterpolo.

In archery, the Rhodes A team came first and the table tennis team won four out of their five matches.

The Rhodes underwater hockey team won four goals to none over NMMU.

The women's soccer team won their match after a penalty shoot-out with

NMMU.

The hockey teams produced an impressive series of victories over both UFH and NMMU at all levels.

The men's volleyball first team won two matches and the netball team won two out of their three matches.

The rowers impressed as usual, securing points for Rhodes by coming first in the men's and women's races. Last year NMMU won the overall trophy, but it is Rhodes University which has had three consecutive wins from 2002 to 2004.

NMMU is comprised of approximately 20 000 students in their seven campuses, while Rhodes University has approximately 5900 students registered.

However, the competition against NMMU remained close throughout the weekend, despite the smaller number of students at Rhodes.

Rhodes' teams might not have excelled in the main focus matches, but they do have the diversity to win in all forms of sport, to bring the prized Tri-Varsity trophy home where it belongs.

We are the champions!

sup-
porters.

Mike's
9 Leicester St
Grahamstown
6139
**DRIVING
SCHOOL**

Beginners to Advanced

CONTACT

Us on:

082 430 98 55 (24 HRS)

Cost: R100 p/h Code 8

Cost: R140 p/h Code 10

THE VUVUZELA



Only R25
GET YOURS NOW
FOR TRI VARSITY

LOOK OUT FOR US ON CAMPUS

Contact: vuvuzela2006@yahoo.com or
sms 072 639 8222 to get your Very own
"VUVUZELA"

DO NOT MISS OUT!!!

Work
Earn American Dollars
Experience
Ski American powder
USA
Summer jobs

VOUCHER - VALUE R100

Present this Travel voucher with your
completed application and receive R100
Discount off your application fee.

* Conditions Apply

FREE INFO SESSION

Thurs, 31st August 19:00-20:30
Eden Grove Red - Rhodes

APPLY ONLINE: WWW.CCUSA.CO.ZA

CPT: (021) 425 7100 JHB: (011) 8074150

CCUSA

chilli adventures