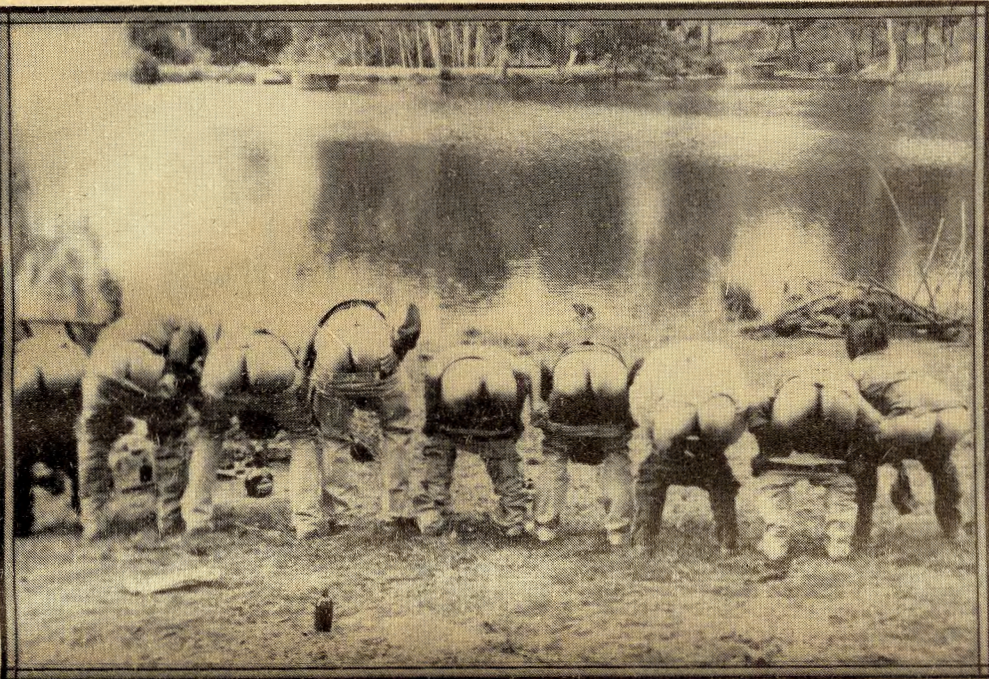


RHODEO

RHODES VERY OFFICIAL STUDENT PAPER

11 MARCH 1982



EXPOSE: Blots rears again p.3



Is Rag more than Royalty? p4



The SAB tour p.14



A Rag stunt p.13

INSIDE: Accomadation, arts, sports & Steyn

LETTERS AND EDITORIAL

CHEQUE OUT THE REAL SITUATION

Some discount it out of hand, others worship the idea. We simply hope you keep the true objectives of Rag in mind, even if the real solution still eludes you.

LESS ROOM FOR YOUR RAND

If you are sharing a res room you will know that you receive a 25% reduction in your fees, which means the university is making 50% more on your room than on a single. Squeezing too many people into a residence is not conducive to an academic atmosphere. The university it seems, is running a business rather than an academic institution.

BLOT ON THE COUNTRYSIDE

The pros and cons of initiation are debatable. We believe that anyone who wants to participate should be able to. But anybody who does not, should not be forced to - whether by physical coercion or by peer group pressure. One criticism to be levelled at the initiators this year is the amount of broken glass and human excrement to be found at the sites of the ceremonies the following day.

BALLS OR BATTS?

Even mercenaries armed only with cricket bats can deliver a powerful political punch. The repercussions could prevent individuals from playing county cricket, split the international cricketing community and perhaps even Britain in the same way that the recent rugby tour split New Zealand. Perhaps in a freer society we would expect local demonstrators too.

WHO NEEDS THIS FASCIST GROOVE THANG

We read of a split in the Nat groove thang. Will the real rascists please stand up? Recognising the vital importance of white politics in this country, does it really matter? Ho hum.

Editorial Board

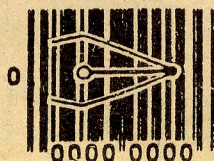
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RHODEO is the official student newspaper of Rhodes University. The editors are under contract to the SRC, but are given full autonomy. It is published by the SRC, and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the editors or the SRC.

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RHODEO Banning: Reason and Reply

Dear Sir

PUBLICATIONS ACT, 1974 :
PUBLICATION: RHODEO - VOL
35, NO 5, AUGUST 1981
In reply to your letter of 1 November 1981, I have to inform you that the committee's reasons for declaring that the above-mentioned publication is undesirable within the meaning of section 47(2)(d) and (e) of the above-mentioned Act, were as follows:

"1. The police who are responsible for the maintenance of peace and order are put in an extremely bad light. (see page 12)

See also the cartoon on page 13.

2. Strikes to attain certain political aims are propagated and support is given to boycotts. See page 7: 'The Sweet Struggle'. Strikes for worker demands are not unacceptable but strikes for political aims are totally unacceptable.

3. The article on Poland, p 10 to p 11 furthers the aims of the communist ideology. The uprising in Poland is regarded as a socialist revolution to attain Workers Power. The article is subtle propaganda for the so-called 'second' revolution.

4. Publicity is given to National Women's Day (August 9) organised by the FSAW. The article ends with a sympathetic paragraph towards the FSAW, WHICH HAD CLOSE TIES WITH THE WIDE (a Communist Front Organisation).

5. The publication has a cumulative effect which is prejudicial to the safety of the State."

Yours faithfully

S F DU TOIT

DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS

EDS REPLY It would obviously be unwise to comment on this letter - we don't mess with Big Brother. However all we would like to say is that we believe it is ridiculous to ban such material which can be readily found in any library or bookstall.

For example, the cartoon quoted in point one as a reason for the banning can be found in a Mad magazine! The deaths of 46 people in police detention we are told, "places the police in an extremely bad light." But 46 people have died and it seems to happen all the time.

For reasons like this, we believe it is our duty - as South Africans and not 'blerry commies' - to offer to students (who are meant to think at varsity) information which is not found in the commercial press.

We are part of an alternative press covering campus news, news from other campuses, sport etc. PLUS material which is necessary to (hopefully) evoke some thought and discussion.

Obviously this cannot be material that is put out by official sources (SABC, Paratus etc.). But that this material is different or alternative does not mean that we are in cahoots with the ANC, PAC, SACP, NRP, HNP, PFP, NP, AKSIE EIE TOEKOMS, TRADE UNIONS or even NUSAS. Rather, we believe that this is the one time in our lives when we as students have time to read alternatives, consider them and make up

our own minds. The government controls all other media to varying degrees, and pushes propaganda which people often accept as the truth.

We are here to supply you with different ideas, news and opinions and believe it is sad that these things are suppressed by a censorship board.

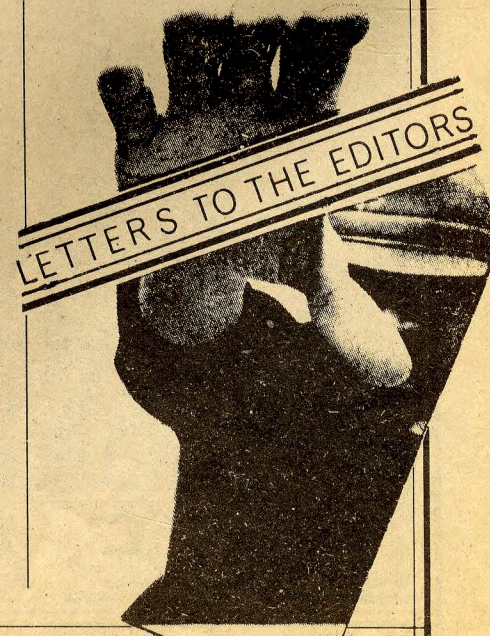
Lift up your conscience.

Sign of the Times

Dear Editors,

The author/ess/s/esses of Rag Times No.2 editorial should go stick their heads down a toilet. I hope when they reread it they'll realise how petty and vitriolic they are. Several stereotypes like Rhodesians, cripples and hunchbacks were left out though. Pity, your comments would have been enlightening. Maybe a slag-off of Vincent's narcissistic 1/4-page glossy would have generated some heat? Irresponsible sociological raves are dangerous and guaranteed to grow hair on your palms.

Prof. Q Sartre-Smith.



CAMPUS NEWS

*Is initiation really
a helluva good show?*

BLOTS

PICTURE THE cool serenity of an off-campus haven during the early weeks of the term as sundown approaches. Introduce the inmates of a male residence into the peaceful image, then sit back and witness the degradation and destruction of 'Blots'.

The new-comers to the house sit isolated from the balance of 'true' second and third year buggers around a crackling braai.

Smartly dressed in camouflage kit and rank insignia, the 'sergeant-major' accompanied by a fair number of colleagues hurling abuse, 'drills his squad'.

Amid horrific screams and imaginative curses, the first years are brought to attention for inspection. Cuffs and kicks, spitting and hurled abuse as the "oldies" get the initiates into order.

The first years tentatively eye the proffered beers as the seniors attempt to outdo each other in intimidating their cowering victims.

The first beer is shot down the hatch, with

veiled threats to discourage any slow drinkers. The second bottle is handled with the unfortunates spreadeagled on their backs. Swiftly it is choked back. One unfortunate surreptitiously brings his lunch up in gulps over his shoulder. Another is shaking uncontrollably as the bottle is forcibly held to his lips, dribbling down his front.

They retreat to isolation once more, sing a song for the seniors and then face the monster brew containing anything from Coco-Rico to raw eggs. A huge tankard of the foul smelling liquid will make the unworthy instantly worthy - the initiate will become a fully fledged man.

But first 'flotation'. The lad drops his trousers and lowers himself over the brew to test its consistency. The spectators howl gleefully.

At last the ordeal is over. Slobbering, alcohol-soaked freshers are slapped on the back by enthusiastic, still screaming housemates.



Prostrate initiates are force-fed their second down-down by seniors.

One initiate pukes on the spot. Another falls face first on the grass. The evening degenerates into a drunken slur. One initiate angrily hits out after receiving a beer bottle to the temple, another sits shivering, ramming his finger down his throat to release the vile mixture in his gut. A senior cuffs a first year for the 'cheek' of introducing himself.

Such is 'blots'. But the bruised, dribbling victims' reaction is stunning: "What a great show"; "Wouldn't miss it for the world"; "What great guys

these second and third year buggers are," they reply as you ask aghast for their reaction. Inexplicable.

The next morning they're bruised and battered, and chronically hung over. One has a smashed windscreen, another a sprained neck. Several have heavy colds, one sports trousers torn in two. More than one motor car will remember 'blots' vividly. But they all laugh together like long lost brothers. I guess that's 'blots'.

At least six residences on campus still practice this now

banned tradition - most, safely outside Grahamstown. Most houses - female too - still have some form of initiation: "It breaks the ice"; "What would spirit be without it?"; "No-one complains. Afterwards, they all fit in better"; "There's no harm in it."

Indeed "blots" has become optional. "People attend of their own free will, and they can drink coke if they want, however social pressure does exist."

Ask me, I went through it twice. Hell of a good show too, or so they told me afterwards.



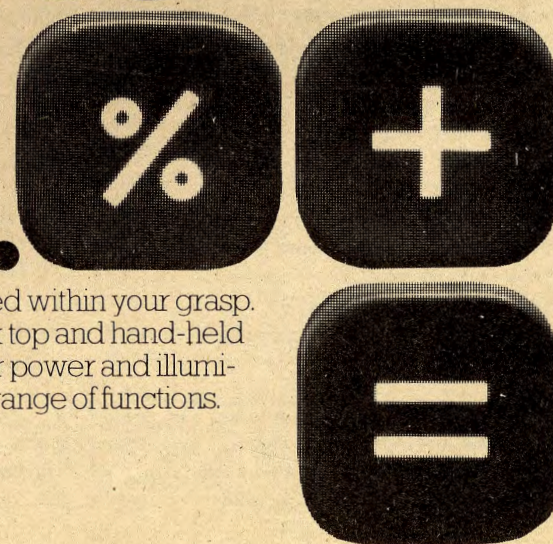
Seniors watch "ink" enjoying the good show.

Conserve your brains.

Sharp puts the exact calculator you need within your grasp. Scientifics for every field of study. Desk top and hand-held paper printers. Pocket, miniature, solar power and illuminated display models, featuring a vast range of functions.

You can count on Sharp.

SHARP
Making it all add up.



CAMPUS NEWS

IS RAG A DRAG?



*The Debate continues
Who really benefits?
Do students give a damn?*

SO FOR new-comers to Grahamstown there are two principal institutions to contend with: bright, bawdy Rag and the controversial, liberal SRC.

Both recognize the short-comings of the system, or to put it another way - "They're both too bloody liberal," as one student put it. But there is this difference between the two.

Why do SRC types dress funny? Why do Rag types play sport and wear tight-fitting pants? What is going on? Are they also different?

The SRC and other 'leftish' groups theorize about malnutrition, oppression and fascism, while Rag whips campus into a frenzy of flower and float building to alleviate the problems of their beneficiaries: But few serve both masters.

"People in Rag are in it for the wrong reasons. They don't truly grasp the problems they're trying to solve. The money seems peripheral to their getting a great big pat on the back and 'Rag royalty' nominations," suggested one leftie clad in proletarian rags: "At least that's the overall picture I get of it."

Alternatively, a rag comm member reckons: "I'm just as set against oppression as any leftie. I don't have meetings about it, I go out and get money and organize - surely that is more relevant?"

The principal hassles the left suggest as their

disputes against Rag are issues like the way in which a lot of money is wasted on floats, cheese and wines, drummies and drink. They dislike things like the 'Miss Freshette



RAG IN DRAG....

competition', where women are displayed and selected like "bloody prize cattle."

"You can try and ignore the way people use Rag as a binge to get pissed and rape and plunder campus for an evening, you can try and forget the poor people who get auctioned but no-one will pay for them at a stunt, but it all goes together to look like a rich man's party - the money is incidental", asserted a prominent leftie. "And that sort of collection makes people feel good, subdues conscience and just creates a dependency relationship between the privileged and the underprivileged. Rag doesn't look at why people are in such dire straights," he added.

"That's ridiculous comes the predictable reply. "The money is the

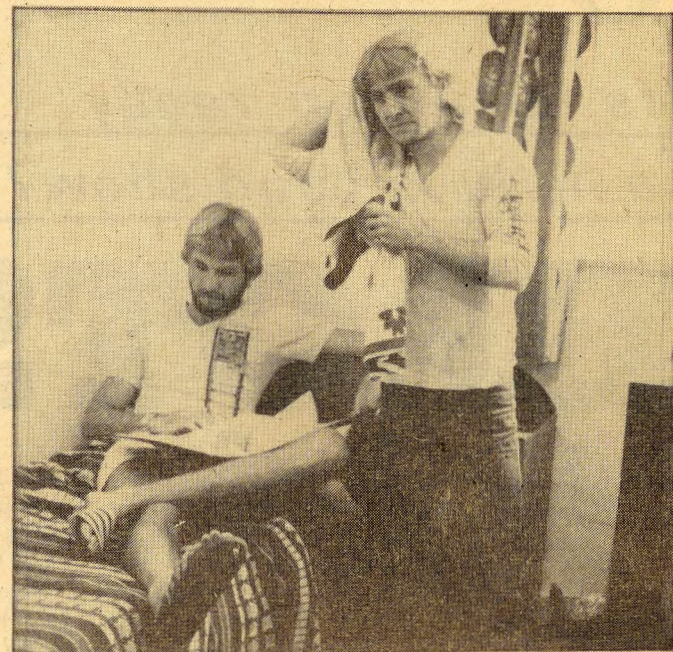
object. We need variation, excitement, a carnival atmosphere to keep the average person interested. If we acted like the heavies, we would get no support, campus would remain apathetic."

"We get support in terms of money and work from the most unlikely quarters. A lot of people in Rag hate the deaths in detention and racism as vehemently as anyone on campus. They just express it differently."

Significantly, relations may be improving. The SRC has received assurances from the Rag Comm members that the infamous 'Athles Auction' "will not be forced on anyone" and there are other vague statements that point towards a de-sexing of Rag. We seem to be approaching a time when women's semi-naked bodies and drunken fiascos won't be festooned around campus under the guise of "Well they like it."

On then, hopefully, to a more dedicated, less disguised Rag. "That it does good is not the point, and it can do better in nicer ways is our focus," said a Rag Comm member, "It should involve people and make them aware of the issues involved."

We hope you enjoy Rag. We also hope you appreciate why surely such an institution is so necessary in South Africa. Exactly why are people poverty stricken in our town? Think about it.



Students shoehorned into residences

FULL HOUSE

IT'S 1982 and once again Rhodes University residence accommodation is inadequate.

At the beginning of each year, as happened last year, a number of students have too wait weeks until they can be accommodated. This year the number of roomless students is significantly higher than previous years, partly due to an 8% increase in the intake compared to last year.

This year has also seen a drop in vacant houses for students wishing to live out of res. Compared with 1981, there are about 150 fewer 'opple beds' available. On campus, various residence alterations have been made. In some instances, duty rooms are now bedrooms, while the number of double rooms has increased.

New rooms are being built in Atherstone and Stanley Kidd Annexe. Each room is costing approximately R2900. However, these expenses have not solved the situation. Even after these rooms were built, there were still almost sixty rooms still needed.

Just over half of the roomless students are staying in the Grand Hotel, where they will be until the second term, when Stanley Kidd is expected to be complete.

Without wanting to dampen anyone's enthusiasm - the rooms in this res are being built to conform to 'minimum requirements'.

One student has opted for a second full year of hotel living, and is saving himself several hundred rand a year in the process.

Admin, however, is hoping that the thirty students who will not be in Stanley Kidd will be able to move into res by the second week of March. By this time, the 'fallout' will have occurred.

'Fallout', refers to the number of students who are expected to leave university within the first three weeks of each year. Who's volunteering?

None of this answers the question why the university takes more students than it can handle. One of the reasons is that the government allows each university a grant every year, calculated per head. Therefore the more students there at Rhodes, the bigger the grant the university receives.

The ratio of double rooms is therefore bound to rise in the future in order to shoehorn in as many students as possible. For example, half of the rooms in Stanley Kidd are to be double rooms.

So there I was in my obscene long underwear, staggering up High St. belching lustily & shaking this coffee

But j/shey! these little beggars kept hanging around like flies, asking for ten cents for bread.

Getting in a ole's way when he tries to do something for Charity, sis de se.

CAMPUS NEWS

Call to join democratic movement

Joffe launches Nusas theme '82

"THE GOVERNMENT has become the biggest threat to public order in South Africa" said MP for Pinelands Dr Alex Boraine, at Rhodes University.

Launching the 1982 Nusas theme "Campus Action for Democracy", with Nusas President Jonty Joffe, Dr Boraine said, "So many of our laws are in stark contradiction to justice itself. Every time the government transgresses the rule of law, they encourage the opponents of their action to lose all respect of all law."

"They have become a risk in our society, and if they followed their own logic, should be themselves detained."

Calling for the complete removal of security laws, he said, "The onslaught by the state on basic democratic values is nothing less than an invitation and encouragement to those who seek change through violence and revolution."

Dr Boraine, whose son, ex-Nusas President, Andrew Boraine, is under a five-year banning order, said underlying the students, trade unions, political groups and parent groups is "a

desperate cry from the heart of people who see no future for South Africa is the present regime continues."

"If this government persists in its refusal to negotiate honestly and fearlessly with the true leaders of all South Africans, it can only lead South Africa down the road to civil war."

He warned students not to be discouraged when friends, family and colleagues were banned or detained.

"S.Africa down the road to civil war" Boraine.

"If you give up, we betray the people who dared to risk on behalf of us all."

"We dare not allow the brutality of our system to brutalize us."

Nusas President, Jonty Joffe, said, Security Legislation does not protect South Africa against a "total onslaught."

"It is designed and used to protect a small minority of privileged people, who exercise both political and economic power, from the majority of our own people."

"It protects at all costs, the current system of Apartheid, and prevents the majority of South Africans from

expressing their democratic right to decide how to run their own lives."

Mr Joffe said two areas which must be covered by the 1982 Nusas theme "Campus Action for Democracy" are the self-education of students about the reality of South Africa, and preparation for what lies ahead.

"Helen Suzman's claim that Nell Aggett was assaulted and violently humiliated before he died - only scratches on the tip of the iceberg of what is happening to people in detention."

"We cannot accept the answers of Inquests on what the Min. of Police says in Parliament."

"Forty-six people have died in detention and yet the police always come up clean."

Mr Joffe said security trials should not be separated from the issue of detention.

Quoting Prof. Charl Vorster of the department of Psychology at RAU, he said: "No court would accept a statement made under the influence of alcohol. Solitary confinement is much worse."

He called on students to make a political choice to support the democratic movement, to reject security laws and to work for the ending of the system of apartheid.

BY CHRISTINE PARKINSON

OPPIDAN committee chairperson Sue Lund, a final year student, was received with acclaim by packed Oppidan common room on her election to the vacant SRC seat last month.

Sue joins Jeremy Price as the second Oppidan rep following Mike Loewe's departure to the University of Cape Town.

SRC president, Mike Kenyon says of Sue: "Sue's a good worker and eminently reliable. She'll be a boost to the SRC and to Projects Comm specifically."

Originally two nominations were received for the by-election, but a last minute withdrawal left Sue unopposed.

It's a Lundslide

No contest as Sue wins SRC election by default



Sue Lund, Oppies Rep

Tagless clothing returned by Rhodes laundry

Students are irate and dirty

DIRTY WASHING swamped most of the residences recently when the University's Laundry refused to clean "improperly marked" clothing.

Irate students were curtly informed to "use the tags provided" to label their laundry. The instruction was written onto the laundry books of very nearly all students and the items returned dirty.

"It's ridiculous," said one fourth year student in Founders Hall, "I've always marked my stuff clearly without the tags, now everything's gone haywire."

Official sources told RHODEO that often clothes were marked in ink that faded, resulting in piles of anonymous laundry.

"We're heavily snowed under," said a laundry official, "we handle Rhodes,

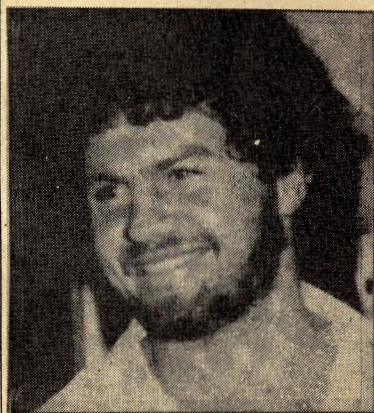
Kingswood and St. Andrews Prep. That means 10 000 shirts a week and 4000 pairs of jeans."

"The staff at the laundry did about 90 hours overtime sorting things out last year... we are going to carry on the blitz until all the laundry is properly marked."

According to the laundry, all residence wardens were informed of the clampdown: res wardens deny this. Admin. put the discrepancy to a "break down in communication."

At present Rhodes is faced with hundreds of angry students in dirty clothes and a laundry intent on cutting out unnecessary work: So if you're in res, you'd better get out your little reels of cotton and start sewing!

BY NEAL COLLINS



NATIONAL NEWS

Violence in SA system

MAN TO MAN IS SO UNJUST

by STEVE HILTON-BARBER

AFTER LAST year's massive state clampdown on student leaders, trade unionists and other progressive South Africans, the death in detention of Dr Neil Aggett comes as a nasty aftermath.

The ruthless, brutal and unjust state has claimed the life of another person dedicated to the cause of equality in South Africa, the first white (as yet) to die in detention. An inquest has been set up to ascertain the nature of the death of the Transvaal Secretary of the African Food and Canning Workers Union, Dr Neil Aggett. When Jame Lenkoe died with traces of copper, signs of electric shocks, bruises and a haemorrhage at the base of the skull, the magistrate's findings were suicide by hanging and no-one was to blame.

Even if we were short sighted and were unable to realise that commission's of inquiry tend to show a bias towards the state, why in detention is death preferable to life?

Security laws allow for indefinite detention without trial and solitary confinement. Solitary confinement is classified as torture, so the law that governs you allows torture to be practised!

The security laws also prohibit ministers of religion, members of your families, doctors and lawyers to visit you.

An example of the brutality of the state

and its agents are the Thozamile Gqweta incidents. Thozamile is the president of the South African Allied Workers Union (SAAWU). In the last two years he has been in detention five times. He was detained by South African Security Police in October last year. His brother visited him (Christmas concessions) and said Thozamile was in "good health". Less than two weeks later he was admitted to the psychiatric ward of the Johannesburg General Hospital.

The South African Security Police released him a few weeks ago and he returned to his home in Mdatsane near E.L. On the same day Ciskei Police arrested him and took him about forty kilometres away to interrogate him. He was



released after two and a half hours and told that he must report to the Ciskei Police three times a day. Doctors have advised him to rest and be near his family and friends. On top of this, last year his mother and uncle died when the house they were in burnt down under mysterious circumstances.

As students we must be aware of the injustices in our country and must dedicate ourselves to a free and democratic republic.

This is a matter that concerns all of us. Our future is being ruined by a group of power-hungry people who refuse to recognize the most fundamental aspect of a society...CHANGE.

Shaun Johnson looks at the Steyn Commission and the student press

ANOTHER STAIN

Student newspapers are invariably massively unpopular with their audiences. There is no simple, single reason for this, but I am going to dwell on one, that which I consider to be the most positive, and a vindication of the role of an alternative press in South Africa.

Looking at the English campuses, each boasts an official, SRC-financed newspaper. Like Wits Student, Varsity at Cape Town, Dome and Nux from Natal, our own Rhodéo and Oppidan, do have one unifying thread, running more or less unbroken throughout their turbulent histories. That thread is a fierce commitment to justice in the society that spawned them. I think most people in the national media would concede today that student newspapers have a history of raising issues before they are

considered issues by the established press, championing causes considered too 'hot' to be touched, and battling on in the face of escalating harassment in countless forms by the state.

One of the most common salvos fired at student publication is that it is "always negative", and "never says anything good about the government."

What critics fail to note is just how long student publication have been addressing themselves to fundamental problems in South Africa. One can randomly pick up a Wits Student from many years ago, and find

arguments for fundamental change to avoid the situation deteriorating to such an extent that polarisation finally blocks the channels for peaceful social transformation. And it is this overtly politicising tone which I see as the proudest heritage of this alternative press; it speaks of a patriotism of a different sort to that we have become accustomed to on the SABC.

How does the Steyn commission fit into this scenario? There is a different reaction to the Commission between the national and student press. I think it boils down to levels of cynicism, and fundamentally differing concepts of that well-worn, much quoted but seldom-defined concept, the Freedom of the Press. I don't intend even to put a toe into the quagmire of that crucial debate here, because fleeting references can only serve to further confuse the issue: it deserves stringent and lengthy debate elsewhere.

But, of course, the student press opposes the Steyn Commission, its proposals, and most important of all, its premises. The student media has been subject to the myriad of laws affecting the press for as long as it has existed, and in many cases, because of its relative economic weakness and

lack of political 'clout', has borne the brunt of them.

This press sees Steyn in the same ominous light as others, but seeks to understand it not as some sudden right-wing aberration, but the result of a complex and lengthy process which responds to a large extent to the economic dictates of phenomenally exploitative system. Thus it tries to look further than winning this battle of a register of journalists. Press freedom, by any definition, was massively compromised in South Africa a long time ago, and what is now being fought is at most a holding auction. It is a vital battle, but sadly there can be no complete victory, merely a staying of the date of execution.

Against this background, the student press will resist Steyn and the like simply because they further threaten the effective fulfillment of its role. It will support with conviction those in the commercial press who reject the Commission outright, and with it any desperate deals proposed by managements concerned primarily with profit margins. And it will endeavour at the same time to remind South Africans of just how much news we are not getting, and have not been getting for a very long time.

FEATURE

Rhodes Drama professor slammed in Cape Town press

By Tracy Clayton and

SARGEANT PEPPERED Melissa De Villiers

PROF. ROY SARGEANT, HEAD OF RHODES' UNIVERSITY DRAMA DEPARTMENT AND EMINENT DIRECTOR OF THEATRE IN S.A., HAS ELICITED EXTENSIVE PRESS COVERAGE OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS.

Prof. Roy Sargeant's penchant for placing Shakespeare 'in his rightful place' at the centre of English-language South African theatre is well known. Equally notable is the polished reputation he has acquired for his many Shakespeare productions. The Professor's Capab production of *Othello* this January at Cape Town's Maynardville Theatre, however, was one that received mixed critical reaction. The fact that well-known British actor Robert Stephens had been brought out to play the lead at a cost of R35 000 also became a topic of some debate on the cultural benefits this price brought to South African performers and audiences alike.

With this in mind, Sargeant's recent controversial statements on S.A.'s English-language theatre - in particular, the Provincial Performing Arts Councils and the Independent theatre companies - come in for some examination.

His remarks that the English-language Provincial Performing Arts Councils are disbanding because the English-speaking South African actor "does not want to be part of an established ensemble group", that these actors "have grown greedy for money...they are too busy grubbing from the radio and television studios to the theatre stage" seem less hostile perhaps when it is remembered that they

were voiced as part of a vociferous attack on the absence of any Shakespearian Theatre Company existing in South Africa.

Perhaps this also throws some light on the Professor's much-quoted reply to the question of whether the recent proliferation of

Independent theatre groups did not contradict his view of the seemingly-overwhelming drive for commercialisation in English-language theatre. These companies, he snapped, were "born with a certain arrogance, and that arrogance evolves into their eventual demise and collapse."

This statement in particular drew heated

"As someone in your PRIVILEGED (sic) position, providing frameworks for young people to go into the theatre in many avenues, we are especially concerned that you should make such a glib remark that casually discards the creative energies of many highly experienced, committed and talented people of all ages."

Elaborating on the fact that these companies work on a shoestring budget and struggle for workable material, the letter noted that nonetheless they have accomplished major seasons of professional theatre.

"We do not believe it is arrogant of us to come together in groups; to have won large audiences from a range of work that

thing to have in any country. However, this "arrogance" could prove negative - when a newly-formed company tells established theatre that "they don't need them", the new company is losing out on valuable and

classic theatre has been neglected. Classic theatre, he said, needs technical prowess and provides an excellent training-ground for any actor; but smaller productions often tended to ignore these theatrical

*... born with a certain
artistic arrogance...*

response. A letter printed in a Cape Town newspaper stated: "As head of the Rhodes University Drama Department, he (Sargeant) enjoys twelve salary cheques a year; paid holidays, pension fund, medical aid; and so on. All the benefits freelance actors have to provide for themselves."

The strongest response however came from the independent companies themselves.

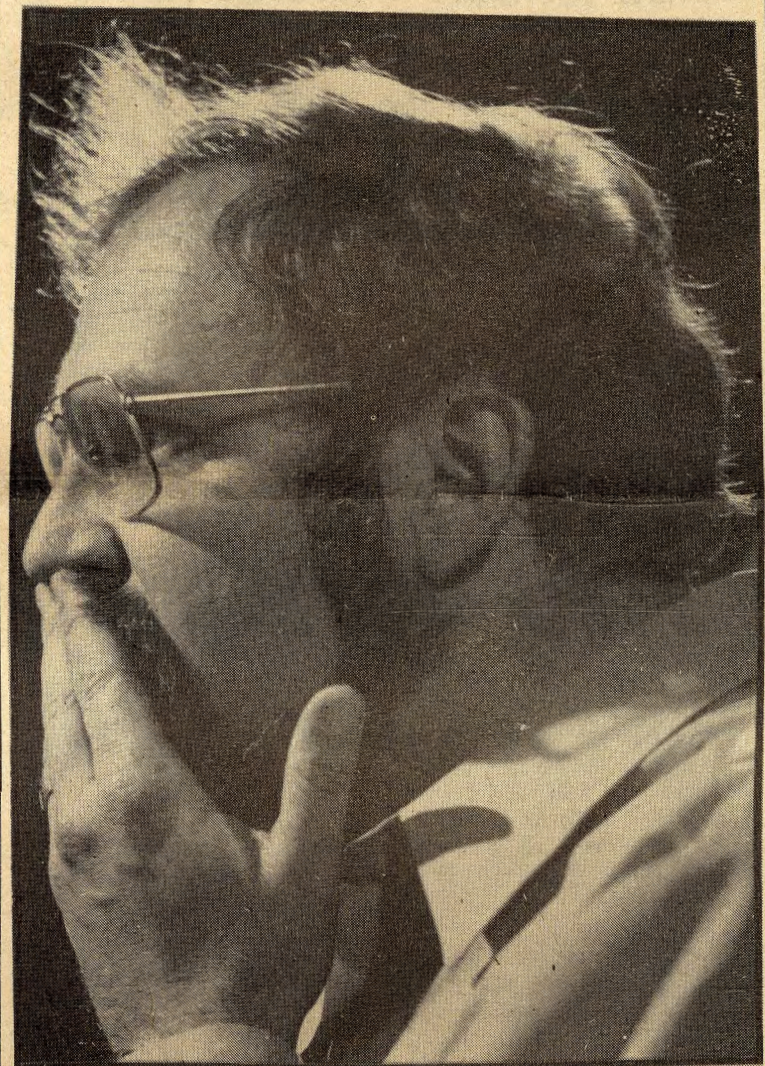
An open letter addressed to Professor Sargeant (and reprinted in part by the Argus' TONIGHT! supplement) was drawn up by the Minotaurus, Pennywhistle, Troupe and Glass Theatre Independent companies. This letter claims that his statements were not only an insult to the companies and their work but also were "worrying from a person in your position..."

stems from popular street theatre to highly esoteric visions of the social and political climate in which we live."

"We have a great respect for the classics, and would love to see such a company set up in this country. But let us remember that we are in South Africa and not Stratford-upon-Avon - we must have a major theatre tradition that speaks to all South Africans; one that is not merely apeing a learned tradition."

RHODEO interviewed Professor Sargeant and asked him to define this "arrogance" he attributes to independent theatre companies.

He feels that arrogance is, in fact, a "positive force" in the theatre. These companies were young and probably idealistic, he said, but committed theatre was a healthy



much-needed financial assistance. Arrogance would not sustain them through their financial problems, he said.

We also asked the Professor whether he feels classic theatre is the only relevant theatre tradition, surpassing any truly indigenous theatre tradition. Professor Sargeant said he felt that although indigenous theatre (in particular Black and Afrikaans theatre) has progressed in the last fifteen years, an imbalance has occurred and

skills in their focus on more contemporary issues.

That Professor Sargeant's remarks engendered so forceful a response is encouraging, for it demonstrates the commitment and solidarity these splinter groups of 'new talent' possess. That he is shortly to take up a new post in the extremely influential position of SABC's Drama head, where his words could carry a great deal of weight, should be no less of a challenge.

WOMEN

Menstruation and tampons are in the news. Lisa Saffron explains and evaluates the information available about toxic shock syndrome

TOXIC SHOCK SYNDROME: WHAT TAMPONS REALLY DO FOR WOMEN

SINCE TOXIC shock syndrome (or TSS) hit the headlines, the choice of what menstrual product to use has suddenly become a major health issue. After 29 deaths and more than 300 seriously ill, many women are now too frightened to use tampons. But is TSS a good enough reason to reject tampons? As always, there isn't enough information. We can react to the lack of knowledge in the way most doctors and tampon companies have, by saying there's no evidence of danger. Or we can react by saying there is not enough evidence of safety.

Feminists have been trying for years to find out what's in tampons and what they do to us. "For nearly 50 years tampon manufacturers have been promising women freedom and security. But at the same time they have been denying women an equally essential right: the right to be informed. Without information, women are

neither free nor secure." The trouble is that it's not always easy to evaluate the little bit of information that is available. We inevitably end up taking risks without being able to fully appreciate the consequences.

TAMPONS - THE PRECISE FORMULATION. Tampons, first marketed in the 1930s were made of simple cotton with cardboard applicators. Although natural in some contexts, cotton is a foreign body to the vagina. Still, it's hard to think of it in the same league as superabsorbent carboxymethyl-cellulose, polycacrylate fibres and polyester foam found in some modern tampons. Perhaps there were cases of fatal and unusual illnesses that no one thought to associate with cotton tampons. Or maybe it's no accident that TSS appeared soon after the introduction of superabsorbent tampons.

In 1979, Proctor and Gamble were the first to introduce their superabsorber, 'Rely', in the USA. A year later, Rely was withdrawn from the market after having reliably increased the risk of TSS. Tampax, Playtex and Kimberley-Clark were soon ready to capitalise on the same market. When questioned by Judy Norsigian of the Boston Women's Health Book Collective, the firms were coy and blandly reassuring about their products. Tampax would not "provide for proprietary reasons, the precise formulation but....certain substances are used to increase the absorbency of the rayon. Our investigations indicate those ingredients are harmless." Kimberley-Clark divulged that their tampons include "partially solubilised cellulosic materials used to increase the absorption capacity. All these components are essentially inert from the

biological standpoint." Presumably by inert they mean that these components have no effect on the tissues of the vagina.

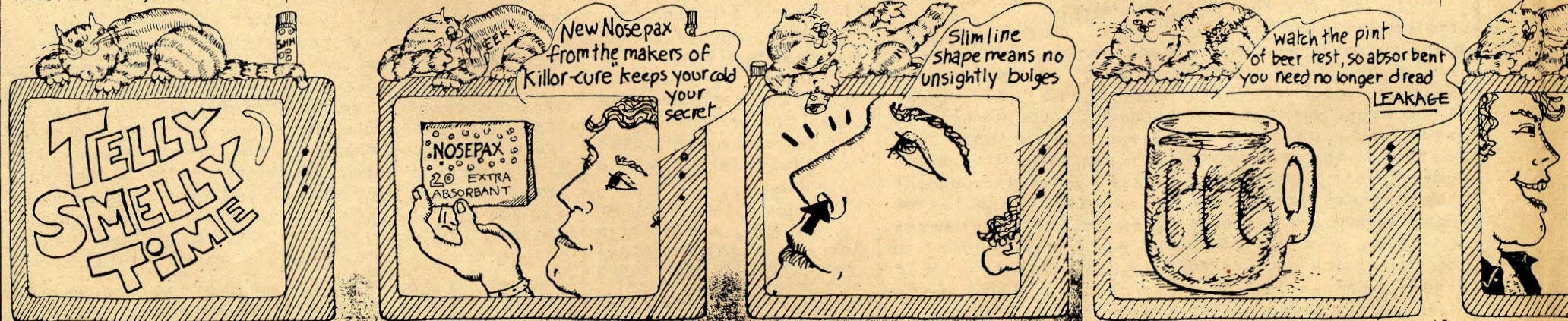
SUPERABSORBENT - GOING TOO FAR But they can't be totally inert or they wouldn't be doing their job. Tampons are meant to absorb fluid. A superabsorbent tampon soaks up 17 times its own weight in fluid, about one ounce or more. We lose anywhere from one to five ounces in irregular spurts over a period of days. The tampon doesn't distinguish between

menstrual blood and normal secretions of the vaginal wall. What effect does this have on the vagina? Kimberly-Clark sponsored an investigation by two Wisconsin researchers to find out, though they didn't wait for the results before they put Kotex Security tampons on the market.

The Wisconsin researchers looked at the

microscopic effects on the vagina of both regular and superabsorbent tampons of three unnamed leading brands. After wearing the tampons from one to five hours between menstrual periods, varying degrees of dryness could be seen through the microscope but not by the naked eye. Dry patches and areas where the surface layer of cells peeled off in sheets were the most common changes seen. Where the cells peeled off into the deeper zones of the vaginal wall, it was called a micro-ulceration. Both the regular and the superabsorbent tampons left very few women with normal moist vaginas. Nevertheless it was the supers which caused significantly more micro-ulcerations.

Who wears tampons between their periods anyway? Evidently some women do, since large but painless ulcers were reported in 14 women who had been wearing tampons



WOMEN MORE:

continuously for weeks and even months, because of break-through bleeding or heavy vaginal secretions. One woman had a three square centimetre inflamed ulcer containing fibres, presumably from the surface of the tampon. She had been using Tampax daily for six months. All these women changed their tampons often. The ulcers healed as soon as the women stopped using them.

The same Wisconsin researchers then set out to discover what changes tampons caused when worn during the menstrual period. Again most women suffered some degree of drying regardless of brand or whether the tampon was regular or superabsorbent. The supers tended to go all the way and produce micro-ulcerations more commonly than did the regulars. All healed quickly when women stopped using tampons.

It seems we can safely conclude that continuous use of tampons (for weeks or months) is definitely unwise and superabsorbent ones are more potentially dangerous than regular ones.

SUDDEN SHOCK - TSS Since even regular tampons are not inert from any biological standpoint, the advent of TSS should not have been such a shock. In November 1980 the British Medical Journal described the 20 day ordeal of a previously healthy 16-year-old woman suffering from TSS. After two days of

high fever, vomiting and drowsiness, she was admitted to hospital in Leeds. On the day of admission she developed diarrhoea, a sunburn-like rash all over her body and went into shock. She was treated for shock and slowly improved. Ten days later the skin peeled off her hands and trunk and her lungs filled up with two and a half litres of fluid.

The bacteria *Staphylococcus aureus* was grown from a swab taken from her vagina. Luckily she survived the infection.

Her doctors were observant enough to notice that she was menstruating and was wearing a Tampax regular tampon, a fact which could easily have been considered unimportant. This all happened in February 1980. The full significance became apparent to her doctors only when studies reported from the USA Center for Disease Control

(CDC) in June suggested that tampon use and bacterial infection by *Staph. aureus*. This, then, was the first reported British case of an extremely rare disease which, since 1975, had affected more than 300 Americans, killing 29.

The great majority of victims were menstruating women under 30.

In the USA especially, TSS is the subject of intense publicity despite its rarity. This is because it almost exclusively strikes healthy young women, is severe, and has a high death rate - ten per cent of the cases reported so far have resulted in death. Its notoriety has meant that it has been energetically investigated. As of March 1981, what have these searches revealed?

TSS - WHY NOW? First of all, is it a new illness or have people only recently begun to recognise and report it? TSS is too dramatic to have been missed. Symptoms were reported as early as 1927. Between then and 1979, 20 cases were described. If there had been more, there is no doubt they would have reached the medical journals. Since January 1980, 299 cases came to CDC's attention. Why has it appeared now? Part of

the answer may lie with the bacteria, *Staphylococcus aureus*. It might be a strain which has recently become more virulent or more able to grow in the vagina. As with influenza, different strains of *Staph. aureus* are more common at different times.

TAMPONS' CRUCIAL ROLE.

How do tampons increase the risk of TSS? The tampons themselves are not contaminated with *Staph. aureus*. The bacteria are either already in the vagina or may be pushed in with the tampon from the skin outside. About 10% of women normally have *Staph. aureus* in the vagina while they are menstruating, just as it is commonly found in the nose, armpits, and skin all the time.

Obviously the mere presence of the disease-causing bacteria is not enough to lead to disease. Blood is a perfect growth medium for bacteria. The environment created in the vagina by the warm blood-soaked tampon, especially the superabsorbent ones, may be ideal for the particular virulent strain of *Staph. aureus* to grow and produce a poison.

REDUCING OUR RISK

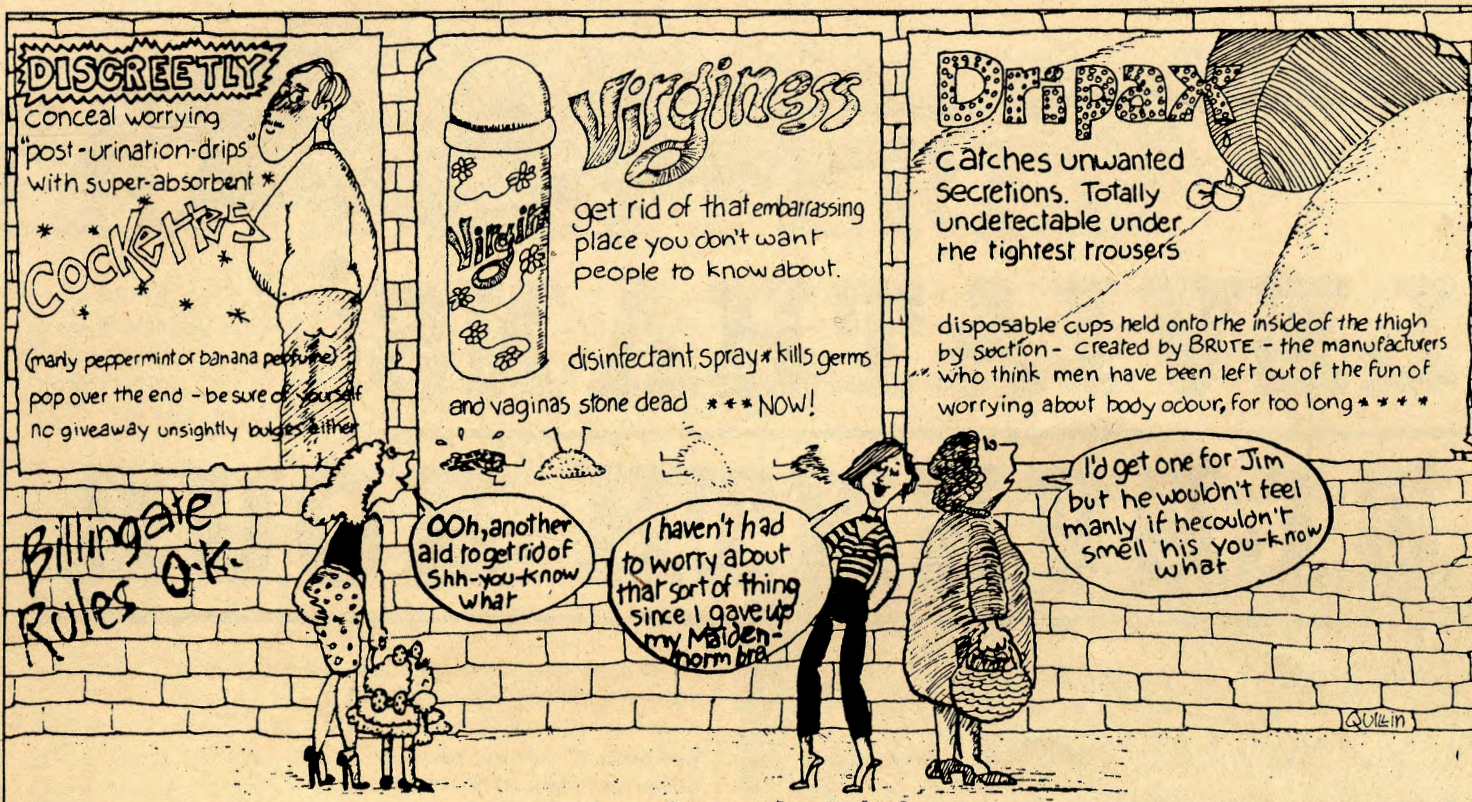
The only clear advice is that we can almost entirely reduce our risk of TSS by not using tampons.

It seems likely that the harm tampons do could occur during insertion or while they're still dry and not mainly after they've been in too long. There is also not enough evidence to say that limited use, just during the day or just during the day during the heaviest days, for instance, will reduce the risk.

Women with high fever and vomiting or diarrhoea during their period should remove the tampon and see a doctor. Antibiotics are no use in treating the illness but may be helpful in preventing recurrences, which are common. Tampons should not be used until the *Staph. aureus* is cleared from the vagina of these women.

The USA Food and Drugs Administration has regulated tampons as medical devices since 1976. In October it launched a massive educational campaign about TSS and proposed a mandatory warning label on all tampon packages. Let's keep a wary eye on anything coming our way, especially when profit is the motive for their manufacture. The self interest of tampon companies hardly coincides with ours.

BY LISA SAFRON OF 'SPARE RIB', 27 Clerkenwell close, London EC1R 0AT.



All cartoons
by Viv Quillin

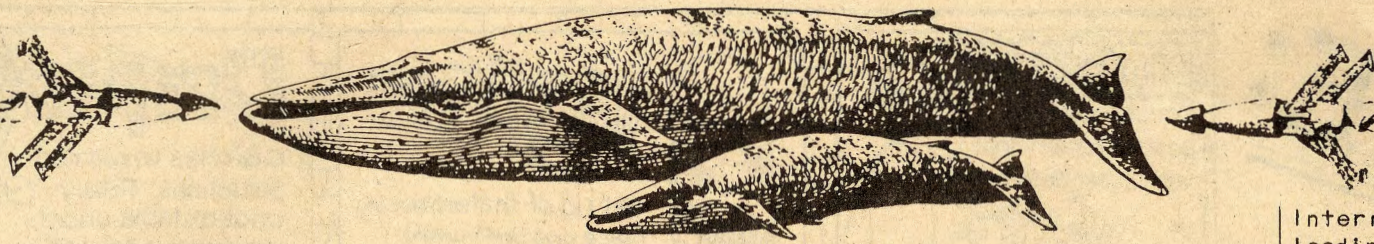
not even your closest
friends will guess your
nostrils are at that

DIFFICULT
TIME...

now, the
only hanky you
use - is for
dropping

VIV QUILLIN

ENVIRONMENT



LEVIATHANS' ELEVENTH HOUR

THE LARGEST of the whales could carry more than twenty-five elephants on its back and its bulk would be greater than that of two thousand human beings. Whales are also the gentlest of creatures with minds possibly equal to mans.

For countless centuries, generations of whales have journeyed to the cold polar seas to feed and return in summer to warmer waters to calve. Man too has followed the exact same route - but for a far shorter time and for far different reasons.

Their reason has been to butcher the leviathans, haul then up the metal rears of their factory ships and turn them into glue, lipstick, dog food. Every thirty-five minutes of every hour of every day of the year, a whale is killed. In under a century man has destroyed over two million whales. For some species this has meant a decline of up to 50% of their original number. However, for most of the larger species this has meant a drop to less than 4%.

The Blue whale has been whittled down to between only an estimated five and thirteen thousand individuals. The point of no return for the Humpback whale may already have been reached and now numbers between only 1700 and 2800.

When man and the whale parted company at the

beginning of time - man staying on land and the whale returning to the sea - it was not the only time in which they were to differ. Whales have managed, over thousands of years, to control their urge to kill, their desire to dominate and the temptation to exploit - something mankind in general has yet to dream about.



**Every 35
minutes of
every hour
of every
day,
a whale
is killed
by hunters**

Whales are warm-blooded, air-breathing mammals with highly intelligent and complex brains. So highly developed are their brains that many neurophysiologists place them in a similar category to human beings. Along with this, a growing number of scientists are certain that cetaceans (the term 'cetacean' refers to all whales, dolphins, killer whales and porpoises) are capable of carrying out many of the complex mental functions associated with the human brain.

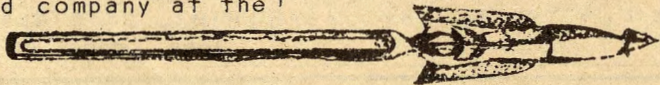
In 1978, an

BY

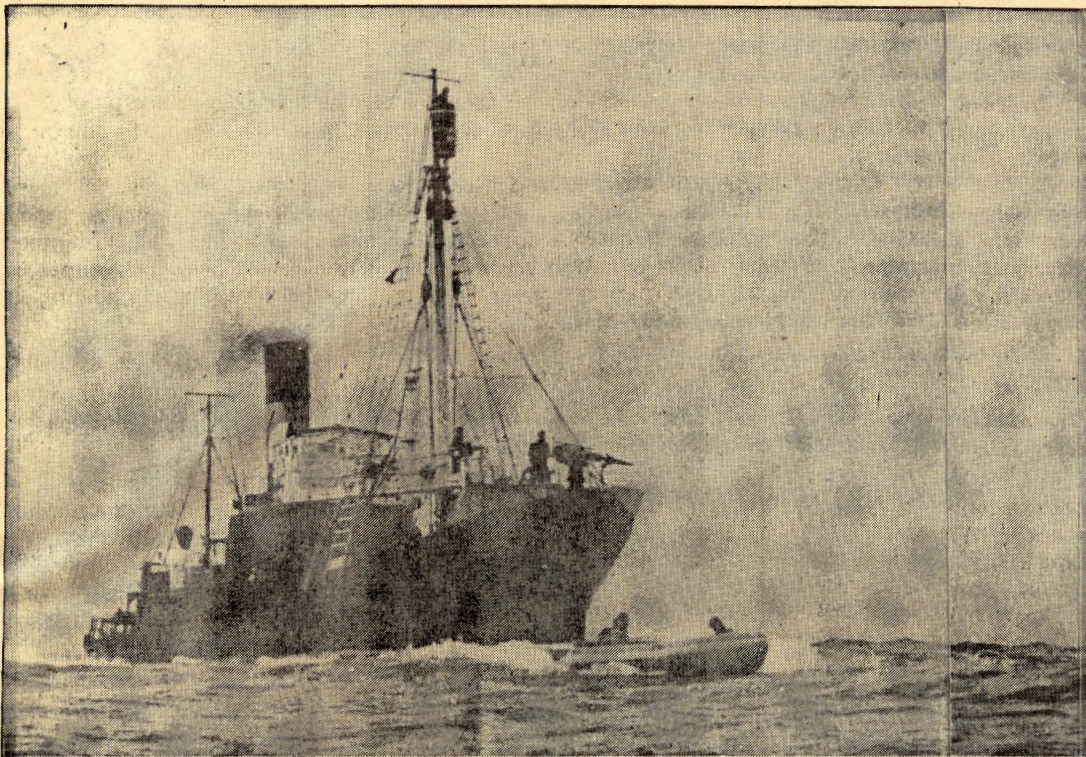
MARC LE CHAT

International group of leading neurophysiologists made a statement to the International Whaling Commission (IWC). What the statement amounted to was that whales have the capacity to think. In other words, the scientists were certain that whales too have ideals and desires, they too have legends and laws passed down from generation to generation.

What is certain is that whales utilize their complex brains for intelligent communication by which they can identify individuals. Their conversations and calls consist of an awesome array of creeks, sighs,



ENVIRONMENT



Greenpeace crew in dinghies protecting Fin whales from the Spanish Whaling fleet. August, 1978.

groans and other high pitched noises that can be heard 322km away.



The sight of a whale kill is itself enough to turn the stomach, apart from the fact that it must be the most barbaric method of killing ever devised by mankind.

Commercial whalers use a 55kg harpoon with an explosive head. Upon impact, the harpoon smashes through the whale's bonestructure and the head blows its insides to pieces. As the animal tries to free itself, barbs release and hook into any loose skin or torn guts making escape impossible.

If the harpoon strikes the whale's brain, heart or lungs, death may be instant or take a few minutes. However, if these life-giving organs are missed, death may take an hour or longer. On average around 70% of all whales killed die a long, slow, agonizing death.

Why then does man continue the destruction of an intelligent species sharing the same planet?

The simplest answer to the madness is that certain countries are determined to make whales pay and are hounding the last to the very corners of the earth.

A number of countries still maintain whaling fleets, but over 80% of the killing can be laid squarely at the hands of the Japanese and Soviets.

It is staggering to think what these intelligent and magnificent mammals are being turned into. Lipstick, dog and cat food, shoe-polish and glue amongst others. On top of this is the fact that there are far cheaper substitutes for all whale products.

In 1949/50, whales constituted over 10.2% of the world's annual marine harvest. Today, through overkilling, it is far less than 1%. Japan imports and supplies itself with more whale meat than any other country. They claim that it is an important part of their national diet. But the truth of the matter is that all the meat that

ends up on Japanese dinner tables is less than 0.5% of Japan's total protein consumption.



The only body having any say over whaling matters is the the International Whaling Commission (IWC). Although the commission has rules and regulations, it has no political clout in which to implement them.

The only reason that the whaling nations stay within the confines of the IWC is that they have the power to veto any any of its decisions. If a ban was placed on commercial

THE HARPOON: AN AGONIZING SLOW DEATH

whaling, Japan, the Soviet Union and the other whaling countries have threatened to leave the IWC, leaving them free to plunder the seas as they so wish.

At every annual meeting, a moratorium (ban) proposal is defeated by a number of countries who refuse to scrap their whaling fleets. The members of the commission are: (non-whaling members)

- Argentina, Australia, China, Costa Rica, Denmark, France, India, Jamaica, Mexico, Holland, N.Z., Oman, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, U.K., Uruguay and the U.S.A.;

(whaling members) - Brazil, Chile, Iceland, Japan, South Korea, Norway, Peru, Spain and the U.S.S.R.

Although South Africa ceased whaling in 1976, it has, remarkably, continued

to side with the whaling nations. * 1980 - 13 out of 24 nations voted for a moratorium. Nine, including South Africa, opposed the motion.

* Last year - 16 nations voted to end whaling. South Africa abstained and again a 75% majority needed to prohibit commercial whaling was not reached.

The official South African policy is that

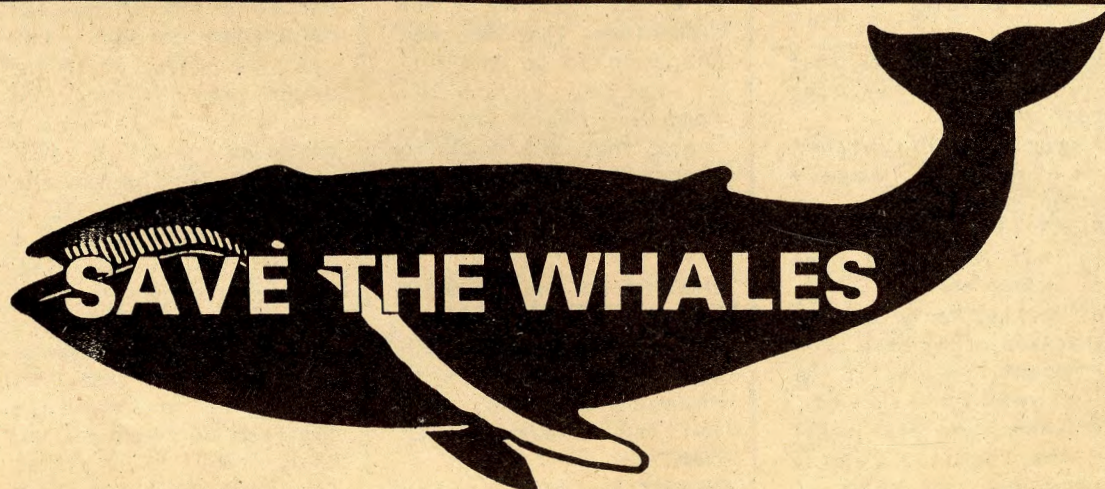
whales are an exploitable marine resource that can be rationally harvested. This view is highly short-sighted when one realizes that whales are warm-blooded, intelligent mammals, with a complex social structure, absent in any known fish.

While the killing continues, some species have already been brought to the brink of extinction. Maybe there will come a day when the last of the whales shall call out in a song of groans, sighs, creaks and squeals - and there shall be no answer. The final condemnation committed by man on his own planet will have occurred, the whales



will have been wiped off the face of the earth. If this extinction were to occur, their creation will never be repeated.

In this technologically advanced time, whales should be free - free to breathe and live their own lives in their own world. Free to give birth to generations that shall not know the harpoon.



ARTS

ANDRÉ BRINK, professor of Afrikaans/Nederlands at Rhodes University, is not only one of South Africa's foremost literary figures, but also has been given the distinction of 'delving deep into the psyche of South Africa'.

For this, he has had two books banned, at the time unheard of for an Afrikaans author.

RHODEO* When did your attitudes to your own society change?

BRINK* Well, it's changing all the time, but I could say that my attitudes changed after the 1968 student revolts in Paris. I had moved to Paris with the intention of living there. There was no reason for me to stay in South Africa. Paris is a wonderful city and I had wonderful friends. But the revolts came as a violent shock to me as it exposed the individual's role in society. If my writing was to mean anything, it would have to show a commitment to my own society. It is too easy to criticize from outside.

RHODEO* Do you utilize much personal experience in your writing?

BRINK* Quite a lot. The philosophical climate in Europe at the time was totally different to South Africa. I almost rejected my own personal experiences, but I realized that one can only write from one's own experiences. In other words, those that characterize South African society.

RHODEO* Do you think that change will only come about through disgruntled, enlightened Afrikaners, loosely termed 'verligtes'.

BRINK* If you had asked me that yesterday (the day before the Nationalist Party split), my answer might have been different. Because of the Nationalist split, Afrikaners are also split on the issue of reform. There are two ways in which change can occur in

Nobel Prize nominee says time for change is running out. Marc leChat reports.

ON THE BRINK



South Africa. Through Afrikaners, who hold power, and change will be relatively peaceful - or through blacks, who have the world, Africa and time on their side, and change might not then be so peaceful. Because 'verligtes' only go so far, and no more, they are an obstacle in themselves. They are not prepared to go the full distance, which is complete power-sharing - and they are fooling themselves because black majority rule is inevitable.

RHODEO* Do you think it would be true to say that the warning signals are screaming at whites to change, but they are failing to see or hear them?

BRINK* The big problem amongst whites is that

they refuse to learn from history and other peoples' experiences - so are running out of time in which to adapt.

I used to hold a cautious optimism involving the slight possibility of change. For example, there is a willingness in young Afrikaners to change and reject the conservatism that is prevalent in the older generation. And there is still such a reservoir of black goodwill even under the most trying circumstances. Even a radical like Steve Biko was prepared to co-operate with whites if only a hand was offered.

I have found that I am beginning to lose this optimism because of the basic inability of whites to initiate change and learn from the past. For

example, the removal of the Langa squatters which showed an inhuman harshness, cynicism and arrogance that shattered me personally. This is just one example of the forceful maintenance of white supremacy.

RHODEO* Do you find, as an Afrikaner, you are ostracized by other Afrikaners?

BRINK* By certain sections. The first generation of Afrikaans writers who came out against the laager mentality were totally ostracized, so much so that they could not live normal lives. In my own case, as one of the 'sestiges', we were completely rejected by the authorities, but at the same time we received a surge of enthusiasm from young Afrikaners.

There is a strange sort of dualism as far as Afrikaans writers and the authorities are concerned, because the authorities are glad to see that Afrikaans literature has emancipated itself from outside influences, but it still can't stand the outlook which many of the writers hold.

RHODEO* What do you think is the most serious obstacle to writers and their work in South Africa today?

BRINK* Censorship is not the prime danger and has in fact receded. The real danger is that the sheer weight of the establishment can pounce at any moment. For example, the security police can tell a Minister what to do in a situation, while law givers are becoming ensnared in their own machinery - this in itself is a big danger to free thought and expression.

Writers too can become complacent. If he or she becomes a political animal, his/her perception of the truth will be blurred because of their adherence to one or other groups.

RHODEO* What will the subject of your next book be?

BRINK* My next book, to be called 'A Chain Of Voices' will be ready by May.

The book has an historical background and concerns the slave revolts that occurred in the early days of the Cape. It is appealing in that it is almost a summary of the South African situation. A slave and master grow up together and are torn apart by and drift into their different sections of society. Eventually, the slave revolts against the master, not against the cruelty which he was shown - this he was prepared to swallow - but against a promise of freedom which never was realized. The book is in a way a literary peg to hang present day South Africa on.

ARTS

rotten fruit at export prices

BY PHILLIPPE MILLAN

PEACH, the promise of glam pop and voyeurism. Peach, the gilt-edged invite to the KOZMIC DANCE, trendier than JULUKA, more exciting than CAT and will pay the price anyway to see a presumably 'not' r&r band. But somehow the horn of plenty turned into a barrel of monkeys. They screwed RMR (who for once kept students in mind and not their own puritanical image. Hooray!) They cheated an eager audience at the price of 35c a song and their onanism will be complete when they go the same way as Young, Dumb and Violent and Flash Harry. Is this a professional band?

Like all one-eyed queens in the land of the blind they took their time and made us wait. Even Cat were never that concited, even RMR's Fuhrers could never reach such heights of arrogance. Unless

the concert that wasn't

something is done swines like Peach will trip in and out of G@Town and laugh at us for not being a trendy backwater like Durban or Cape Town, and expect us to bow to them- cheap lighting effects and all. Their dance floor philosophy reeks of money and stale gimmicks.

Angie Peach strikes me as a cross between Lene Lenovich and Sheena Easton.

She obviously fancies herself as the 'objet d'art bitch', a cold fatal punk goddess who exploits her body enough to make a few arms stretch out to touch her; like touching the side of a coke tin. Glossy and glamorous yet cold and empty.

The effects relied heavily on the dry ice machine mixed with an epileptic stroboscope to make the band look hip and nouveau. (The sort of thing that appeals to cock rock poseurs.) However their upfront soft punk bagel image does not displease, Angle certainly titillates and the bass guitarist is good for a laugh.

The music borders on frenetic heavy-metal much played by their acid-head brother band The Asylum Kids. The beat has been cloned from the '77 punk sound, watered down and garnished with South Africanisms and then served up as a sauce to Peach's pyrrhic feast. Best song of the evening, "Complicated Game"- an XTC song (definitely not Peach). Life.

Pity...It could have been a nice evening.



Ludwig and Norbert aghast as ex-Corporal Punishment guitarist, James Phillins, demonstrates his rock and roll talent.

rock'n roll reaches rhodes new music course offered

NEVER AGAIN need you feel embarrassed by mistaking Harry Belafonte for Boney M blaring forth from your boyfriend's tape deck.

Salvation for all those who thought Fats Waller was a diet milkshake has appeared in the form of Dr. Norbert Nowotny's new course in the history and appreciation of jazz and popular music - a long overdue serious study of twentieth-century rhythms.

Designed as an option to the existing history and appreciation of classical music, the one-year course may be taken as a credit towards a degree, or not for degree purposes by anyone wishing to register as a special student.

Dr. Nowotny, who is an accomplished jazz pianist and heads the Rhodes Jazz Ensemble, will be utilising the talents of this group and of several other music students - "specialists in various modern styles" - to demonstrate techniques.

African music specialist Andrew Tracey will help with the African origins of Jazz and the Caribbean reggae forms. The jazz component of the course will cover early jazz, through blues, dixieland, swing, bop, progressive jazz, and the mainstream jazz of the 50's and 60's.

Rock, soul and reggae will be emphasised in the section on popular music.

Roll over, Beethoven.



Seventeen-year old Angie... objet d'art bitch?

SPORT

1982?

Will first team coach and captain Derek Barter receive a pension from the Rhodes Sports Union when age finally cuts short his rugby career at Rhodes?

Why does Mark Horn's sports magazine feature an "I am the man" shot of Mark Horn on the front page of this year's first edition?

Will Rhodéo get banned again this year for its raving sports editorials?

Will Rhodes break with tradition and avoid the wooden spoon after disastrous tennis, swimming, cricket and athletics South African Universities tournaments around the country last year?

Is Rhodéo's sport content worth the toilet roll it's written on?

Is Maggie Thatcher merely a front for Dennis Lillie to pursue his blood-lust in the field of politics?

Should Rhodéo, as a "leftie" student paper, only cover SACOS sport?

Just how much are the English XI getting paid to come to South Africa, and by who?

For the answers to these profound and deeply moving queries keep in touch with the Rhodéo sports pages - the meaning of life is secondary.



OPINION

SA sport: think again

Neal Collins offers an alternative

So the English XI are out here. The first "international" side to risk the ire of the sporting world for ten years - the media will tell you what a rave it all is, so Rhodéo will risk the censors' pen to put an alternate view forward. A view, incidentally, that may hold water with a lot of South Africans who aren't quite as distinctly heard as the South African Cricket Union.

The American Rugby Union, it is reported, received a substantial sum of money from a well known South African businessman prior to the Springbok tour to the States. The Irish and New Zealand Rugby Unions put tremendous pressure on their governments and fellow sportsmen by stubbornly insisting on a test series with the Boks despite the withdrawal of several key players on principle.

A huge South African hotel chain raises a million dollars worth of prize money to attract top golfers to the world's most lucrative tournament in a fairly remote, impoverished "homeland" that desperately seeks recognition to keep the apartheid hell alive. The same people are able to

fly out top entertainers as mere "side shows" on the course and 12 big name international sports writers to cover the event.

The World Boxing Association sees fit to rate South Africans - several significantly optimistically. One local world title contender recently floored his opponent half a minute into a risky fight that could have jeopardised his world title stab later in the year.

And now the rebellious collection of English cricketers blandly put their individual careers, their country's test future and the hopes of young South Africans involved in English county cricket on the line by playing a series of sham tests against South Africa for financial rewards that vary according to various reports from R40 000 to R90 000.

The abnormal features of South Africa's sporting set up are limitless it seems. Perhaps one safe conclusion can be drawn from a pile of naughty meanderings: the powers that be in this country are not happy with the international sports isolation imposed on them by opponents of apartheid. Exactly who encourages high profile



A true change of face?

personalities to visit this country, defying all but a mercenary logic, and precisely what forces lie behind the

"Foundation for Freedom in Sport" and such groups, is dangerous to speculate.

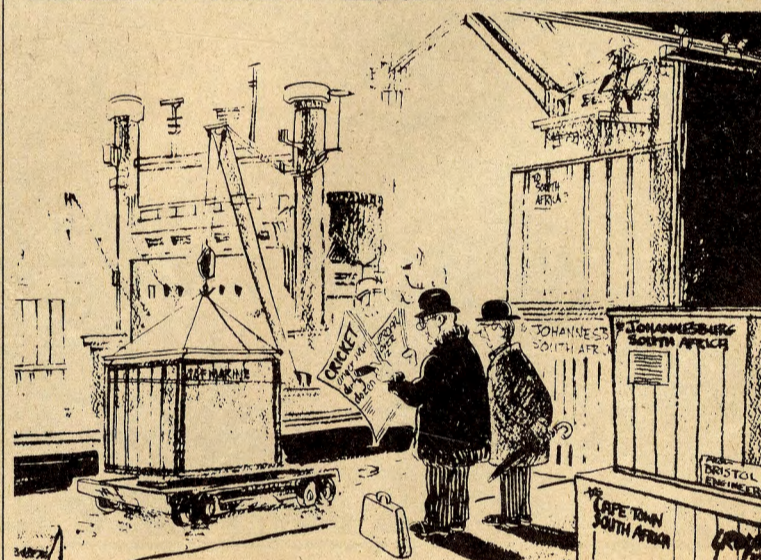
Suffice to say that the isolation has brought South Africa away from the days when Basil D'Oliviera was banned from touring the country. Sport across the colour line is now almost free from police interference and maniacal reaction from the Nat media. The cry now is for a "reasonable chance" - and a lot of money, power and effort lies behind that rather pathetic plea.

But what of change?

The Treurnicht faction still openly supports racism at the level of

schools sport. The Pretoria City Council, loudly backed by conservative dailies in the notorious capital of apartheid, told the organisers of Nuffield Week to ensure that blacks should never need to use "white" facilities in that city again following the "skande" caused by the five black lads that were granted permission to sleep at Pretoria Boys High "to avoid embarrassment" in December. In the same "verkramp" city Christian Brothers College have been forced to withdraw their rugby side from major school competition due to the presence of black players in their side. Sy Lerman, the Rand Daily Mail's controversial football writer perhaps outlines the argument more succinctly in the adjoining article lifted from the RDM.

On a more local level Joza (that's the township up on the hill) has one dusty football ground to serve forty clubs - and can the black schools up there collectively boast half the facilities granted to a single one of the schools a little closer to the university? I could also go into the social situation that arises when you wish only for a drink with your team mates but are unable (cont. on next page)



"It's the filthy lucre that's getting them there."

SPORT

(OPINION CONT.)

to do so, times when only half the side can go to movies together, but are you going to bother to think over your views?

Go ahead and make your decision. The sports isolation has changed the face of our high profile competitions - if Errol Tobias, Alvin Kallicharran and Vincent

Tshabalala and co. constitute a change of face (sic). But how much more remains to be done? As a sportsman - arguably a selfish one - I'll probably be in the common room watching the cricket with the rest of you - just like I watched the rugby last year; but seeing isn't always believing.

Five provincial players

Water polo Wonders

RHODES water-polo side triumphed over the best of the Eastern Province and Border areas when they romped home with the regional Super League title by a clear six points this term.

At the end of last year Rhodes competed in the first round of the competition held in Port Elizabeth where they crunched the sides from East London, King Williams Town, Uitenhage and Port Elizabeth - ending the tournament undefeated.

This year they bounced back from an extremely poor SAU showing with a depleted squad in Bloemfontein to lose just one game in the second round of the Super League.

With Bruce Cambell, Derick Wood and Simon Jordan representing Eastern Province last year, and Gerry Hollick

and Frick van Deventer playing in the provinces 'B' side, Rhodes established themselves as a force in the pools in this part of the country. Paul Rigby, Frick van Deventer, Derick Wood and Simon Jordan were then selected for Eastern Province A in February, while Gerry Hollick played for the B side.

Van Deventer and Wood subsequently accepted invitations to the National trials in Johannesburg where they are playing at present. Meanwhile Rhodes' Super League victory means that the varsity will be represented at the Old Eds tournament in Johannesburg at the end of the year, when the "big guns" from all over the country battle it out for the South African title.

UPE Thrashed

Rhodes Return Volley

RHODES MEN'S

volleyball first team shocked UPE on Saturday, Feb. 27, when they handed out a 3-1 walloping to their local rivals at the Alec Mullins Hall. Led by veteran Colin Kloot, the line-up of Hoffman, Cruttendon, Mee, Siekel and Bellamy put up a consistent display of volleyball to triumph 15-13; 14-16; 15-10; 15-7 in this pre-season friendly.

The second side, thanks mainly to talented first year Duncan Mcrobby, stretched the UPE second string team - crushing their opponents 15-2 in the first set, before going down 13-15; 11-15.

The women's team, despite a staunch showing from Namibian international Helge Meicker, performed poorly to slip to a 5-15; 9-15 defeat.

LERMAN AT LARGE

I GAVE a man a ticket to watch the soccer at Orlando Stadium on Sunday. He ended in jail instead. This is his story.

On the small-holding near dusty Reitz in the Orange Free State, where he worked and played for the farm soccer team, they called Petrus Nhlapo, a slightly-built, unassuming centre-forward who was the local hero, "Sharpshoot".

Twenty-six-year-old Petrus dreamt of playing for Orlando Pirates one day alongside his hero, Jomo Sono, with the makeshift, dirt-track soccer pitch at Reitz transformed fancifully in his mind into one that glittered with the glamour of e'Goli (Johannesburg).

Two years ago, however, the dream was shattered. Petrus was struck down in his prime by a stroke that left his left arm paralysed and the razor-sharp reflexes which earned him the name "Sharpshoot" impaired forever.

Playing for Orlando Pirates was a dream that had ended forever. That was certain. But still, Petrus yearned about coming to Johannesburg one day to watch "The Mighty Bucs."

Opportunity

Last Sunday afternoon was the ideal opportunity, with Sono back from America to thrill 17 000 fans with an electrifying display in the 1-0 NPSL win against Hellenic at Orlando Stadium.

And Petrus, who was in Johannesburg to seek medical aid and physiotherapy to alleviate the discomfort of his stroke, did, in fact, set out for Orlando Stadium.

It was, he believed, to be one of the big events in his life. Instead, he spent the day (and the night) in a bleak cell at the Norwood Police Station on a "pass offence."

As a black South African from the Free State, he had no right to be in the Transvaal (also part of South Africa, in case anyone unfamiliar with South Africa's race laws might suspect otherwise).

Application

Yesterday, Petrus appeared at the over-crowded Department of Community Develop-

ment's Commissioners Courts Johannesburg and was fined R30 or 30 day's imprisonment.

It is a bitter irony that outside the courts in downtown Market Street, hundreds of pigeons swoop onto the pavement to feed in abundance on crumbs spread over the sidewalk by the local shopkeepers and Indian tenants from a nearby block of flats.

As free as a bird, they say. But, in the austere Commissioners Courts there is little sign of it as people who are in no way criminals by normal standards are turned into jail-birds because of pass offences.

Petrus was informed he should have made application to be in Johannesburg through the "proper channels".

Was there sympathy for a young man who had been cut down in life at the age of 24 by a stroke, was seeking medical assistance for his paralysis and had suffered the degrading humiliation of a day in prison already because he had infringed one of the myriad of race laws that makes South Africa a polecat in the eyes of the international community?

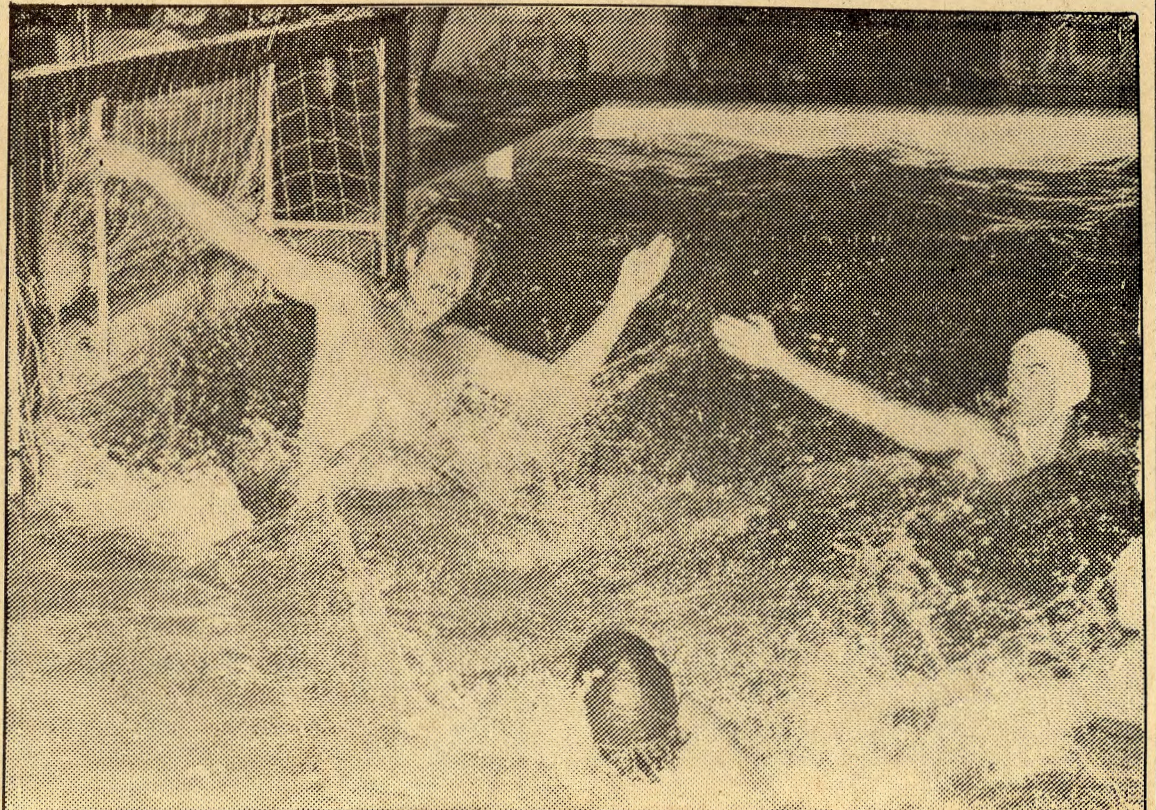
Not likely. Brevity is the order of the day during the endless string of cases in the Commissioners Courts. Compassion is not the name of the game. And, but for a friend helping Petrus with his R30 fine, who knows in which institution for the criminally-inclined he might be in right now.

He missed watching Soweto's "Black Prince" scoring the masterly winning goal for Pirates on Sunday. Who knows, in his present frame of mind he may never again venture to see Sono in action.

It was a dream of playing for Pirates ending in a horrifying nightmare for the young man they called "Sharpshoot".

And, although, he may be a strange, unpredictable bird at times too, can anyone argue with Hassan Howa's biting assessment of "no normal sport in an abnormal society"?

The answer must be "no" while every black in South Africa is liable to the indignities suffered by Petrus Nhlapo on his own particular Black Sunday.



SPORT

Versatility is his game

HOBSON'S CHOICE

BY NEAL COLLINS

Final year Physical Education student Morne Hobson is not the kind of person that can be ignored by the Rhodoe sports team.

Primarily as a tennis player, but as a runner and versatile sportsman too, Morne has the kind of sporting background that leaves Roy of the Rovers and his comic book characters cold.

Briefly: Hobson has won the Botswanan and Lesothan tennis tournaments twice (1980 and 1981) and last year added the Border and Karoo titles to his name. He has been the Rhodes champ throughout his three year varsity career

and received Eastern Province senior colours last year. At the SAU tournament at Stellenbosch during the vacation, Hobson achieved SAU selection despite the fact that the Rhodes side finished bottom of the log.

Although not rated on the SA rankings due to his status as a student, playing EP no 1 Hobson beat Henry de Wet - the Western Transvaler ranked number 20 in South Africa - in Cape Town last year. The likeable, slightly built 22-year-old admits he "needs more experience," before he takes on the big guns. Hobson also rates highly

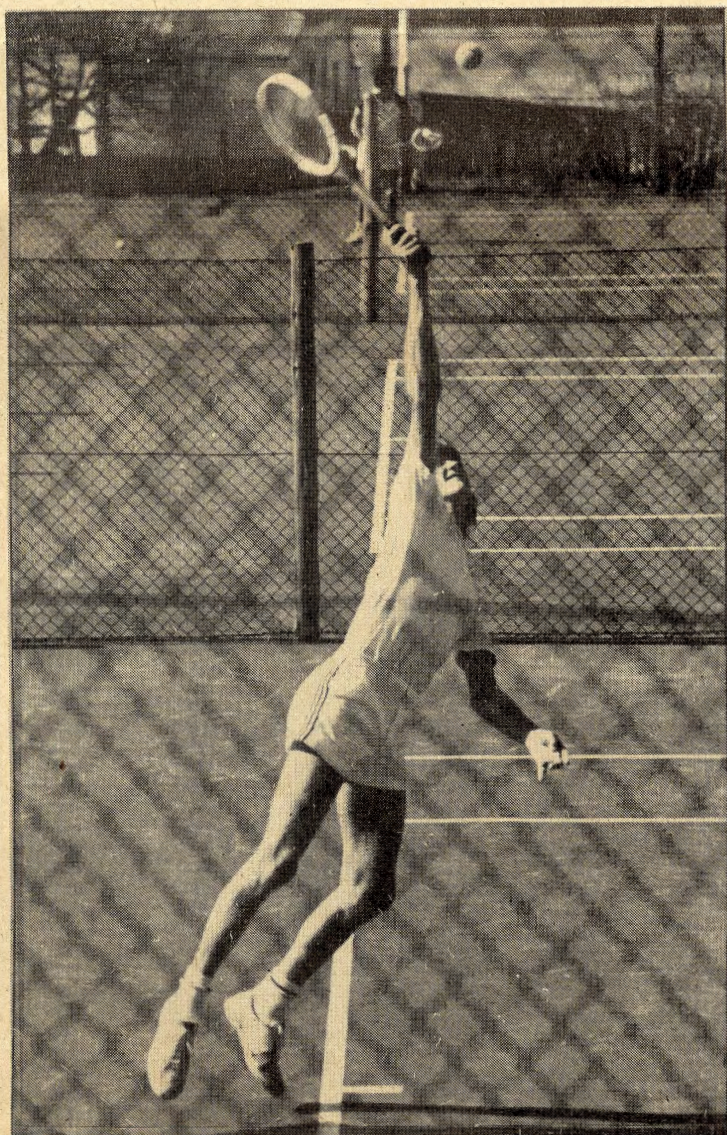
as an athlete at Rhodes. He won the Varsity 800m last year, and was cross country runner-up in 1980 and 81. Second team cricket and house rugby experience add to his versatility.

He finished second in the Rhodes Super Sportsman competition last year and has twice been a "Sportsman of the Year" finalist.

But his time at Rhodes is drawing to a close: what of the future?

"I'm too old to get places as a tennis pro - I'm in my mid-twenties - you have to be an infant to make it now. Take people like Tracey Austin - she was local club champ at the tender age of ten."

"I'll probably go over to the states to coach - I went over as an apprentice to East Illinois some time ago - could be a good career."



RUCK 'N' ROLL

*RMR plans**Rhodes—Wits clash*

By Colin Neals

For rugby fans at this isolated little education institution in the Eastern Cape, Saturday April 24 will be a date to keep in mind at the start of the second term. It will be during the first week of next term that the Wits rugby side make the trip to Rhodes for an intervarsity clash organised by the ever-active Rhodes Music Radio chairperson Byron Xypteras.

"It's been in the pipeline since last July," Xypteras told Rhodoe, "I had talks with Kevin Finnegan and Jomo King - the men in charge of Wits Rugby - both sides were super-keen. All I had to do was tie it all up in December."

"Tickets will be sold at the normal price, we haven't even discussed

the monetary breakdown - but then money isn't the object in this venture, we're simply trying to get Rhodes involved in the mainstream of things."

"We're hoping for a full house," Xypteras added, "We've lined up Drummies and parachutists and the press in Jo'burg and the EP will be there. We're also likely to get coverage on 702, Capital and maybe the SABC."

To round off the day, after the presentation of the RMR Interschool Trophy ("to try and encourage the game as an annual event") Flash Harry and/or The Asylum Kids will be playing at the Great Hall - hopefully with a local campus group as the supporting act.

A drop in fortune

A Mild Summer Season

BY MALCOLM BARR



Rhodes 1st cricket side started off well this season, and at the year-end break were handily placed as log-leaders, but having played a few more games than the other league teams. This was however quickly offset during the the vacation and at the beginning of 1982 the men in white found themselves second to last in the log, but with 2 or 3 games in hand.

The first match this term was played against Old Grey on the Great Field. Rhodes did well to hold the log leaders to a creditable draw. The second league match was played against PECC in

Port Elizabeth, where the lads were soundly beaten. Still with a couple of games in hand Rhodes could pull themselves up to a mid-table position by the end of the season.

Rhodes lost to UPE in the annual Benson and Hedges Interschool match at UPE on February 17. The gallant Rhodes team batted first and scored 151 in their allotted 40 overs. UPE found considerable difficulties in passing this score with just three wickets standing. Derek Hawtrey slammed 45, while Gavin Krenski claimed 3 wickets for 22 runs.

At the SAU cricket

week held during December in Cape Town, Rhodes ended a disappointing second last, while rivals UPE took the top slot in a high standard tournament. We hope things look up this year in Potchefstroom.

"Rhodes certainly has potential in its ranks," according to opening bowler and SA Schools footballer Malcolm Barr, "You can see it in our second team performances. Once players settle down to their true potential, Rhodes could pose considerable opposition to the best side in the EP."