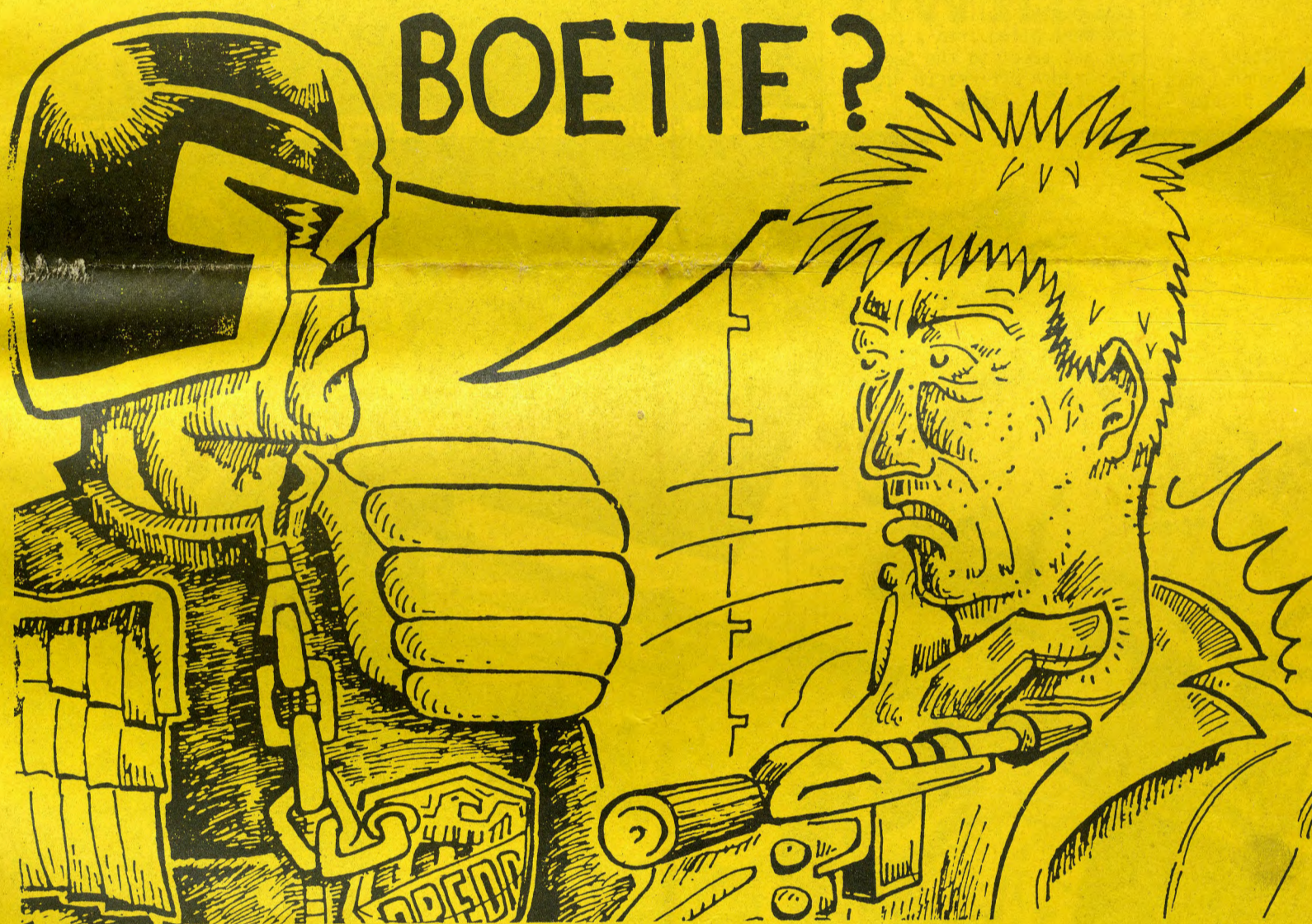


# RHODEO

RHODES MOST CHARGED PAPER

APRIL 1985

WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT  
A "POLICE STATE"  
BOETIE?



Inside: UDF, Uitenhage, BSM, Rag, Culture





# TEARGAS, BEERS,...

Students frogmarched Journalism III student, Steven Hilton-Barber, out of a Rag braai on the Prospect field after assaulting him and threatening to take his life.

The students accused Mr Hilton-Barber of "setting up" teargas which sent blinded students clambering for cover during the braai.

Mr Hilton Barber, who was shooting video footage of Rag day at the time, said drinking club members had started the trouble.

He denied playing any part in the teargassing.

"I was shooting footage as part of my course when I was surrounded by about 30 stud-

ents and ordered to leave," he said.

"I detest being a victim of drunken hysteria and unfortunately feel this is indicative of naive societal conformism. These people are as simple-minded as sheep".

I was absolutely amazed that making a movie on Rag is so threatening to some people that they see fit to threaten to kill me," he added.

Mr Hilton Barber said a video tape shot that morning of police sjambokking BSM students outside the Journalism department had been confiscated by the police after he had been piled into a police van and taken to the Security Branch offices in High Street.



A shocked Mr Hilton-Barber is prevented from filming the Rag Procession.





# AND BOYS IN BLUE

RAG day was unique this year in that the faces of many anti-rag supporters were to be seen in the annual procession through town.

But these students were there for entirely different reasons.

The Black Students' Movement (BSM) had organised a demonstration to express solidarity with the community of Uitenhage, where 19 people - according to official figures - were shot dead after a peaceful march was disrupted by police the day before.

## STUDENTS DETAINED

Police wielding sjamboks and batons attacked BSM supporters, who had joined the rag procession, detaining three students and leaving many injured, several of whom had to be treated at hospital.

Those detained were Portia Maurice, Naomi Mackay and Jannie Ngwali.

They have since been released and charged under section 43 of the Internal Security Act.

One of those sjambokked was a first-year student.

"I was marching down Somerset street towards campus with the other students when everyone just started running," she said.

## STUDENT HIT

"In the rush, I got left behind. I was clambering over a wall, when one of the policemen, coming up behind me with a sjambok, hit me on my back, my legs and my side.



A SURPRISE TO RAG'S PROCESSION, THE SAP APPEAR MYSTERIOUSLY OUTSIDE THE JOURN. DEPARTMENT.

"I jumped over the wall, and when I saw policemen putting people into the vans, I just ran," she said.

The action taken by police has been met with severe criticism from BSM.

"We had five martials there to keep order," said a BSM spokesperson.

## SAP REACTION

"The events captured the typical reaction of the South African police and the SADF in dealing with opponents of apartheid."

"Since the introduction of the new constitution, opponents of apartheid, mainly UDF supporters, have been

killed, detained and harassed, and we are no exception."

## CHAOS

During the ensuing chaos, a BSM executive member, Bonita Whitcher, was confronted by four rag supporters.

"They were drunk, and swore at me and kneed me in the groin," she said.

"They asked me what I, as a woman, was doing there, and told me my place was in the kitchen.

"This sums up the mentality of some of the men taking part in rag," she said.

Referring to the issue, the BSM spokesperson said the incident "illustrated perfectly" the criticisms so

often directed by BSM at rag, and rag day in particular.

## DRUNKEN BRAWL

"Once again, drunken brawls and frivolities emerged as the overriding feature of rag day," he said.

"They can't even keep their own people under control."

The Vice-Chancellor, Dr Henderson, who was watching the rag procession on Saturday, said he could not see whether police took the initiative against BSM students or not.

"When police intervene it takes the wisdom of Solomon to know what they should have done. It's easy to be wise after the event," he said.

## "SHAKEN"

Speaking of the recent Uitenhage massacre, he said he was "shaken and deeply shocked" by events there.

"Violence and bloodshed from whatever quarter is always a tragedy."

"We therefore sympathise with the strong feelings of some of our students."

And rag itself?

"This year's rag was one of the best organised that I've ever experienced."

"It's a pity it should have to end on such a discordant note," he said.

Rag's Patsy Weyer could not be contacted for comment.



# Action on Education

Any claim that apartheid is dead is little more than a bare-faced lie.

This was the claim made by NUSAS Research Officer, Graham Simpson at a Nusas Education Action Group meeting held on campus two weeks ago to discuss the PE-Uitenhage education crisis.

Mr Simpson went on to say that unequal education in South Africa reflected inequalities in other spheres.

## PILLARS OF APARTHEID

"Bantu education stands as one of the pillars of apartheid. It is not just control over the minds of young South Africans, it is an education of subservience," he said.

He pointed out that R1 380 was spent annually on each white child, while R92 was spent on each black child.

## COSMETIC REFORM

"Basically, nothing has changed, except the Department of Bantu Education is now the Department of Education and Training. How's that for cosmetic reform?"

He said students were demanding greater control over both their own lives and their education.

The second speaker, Eastern Cape UDF executive member and PE school teacher - Derek Swart - explained that students were now realizing that the struggle was for a

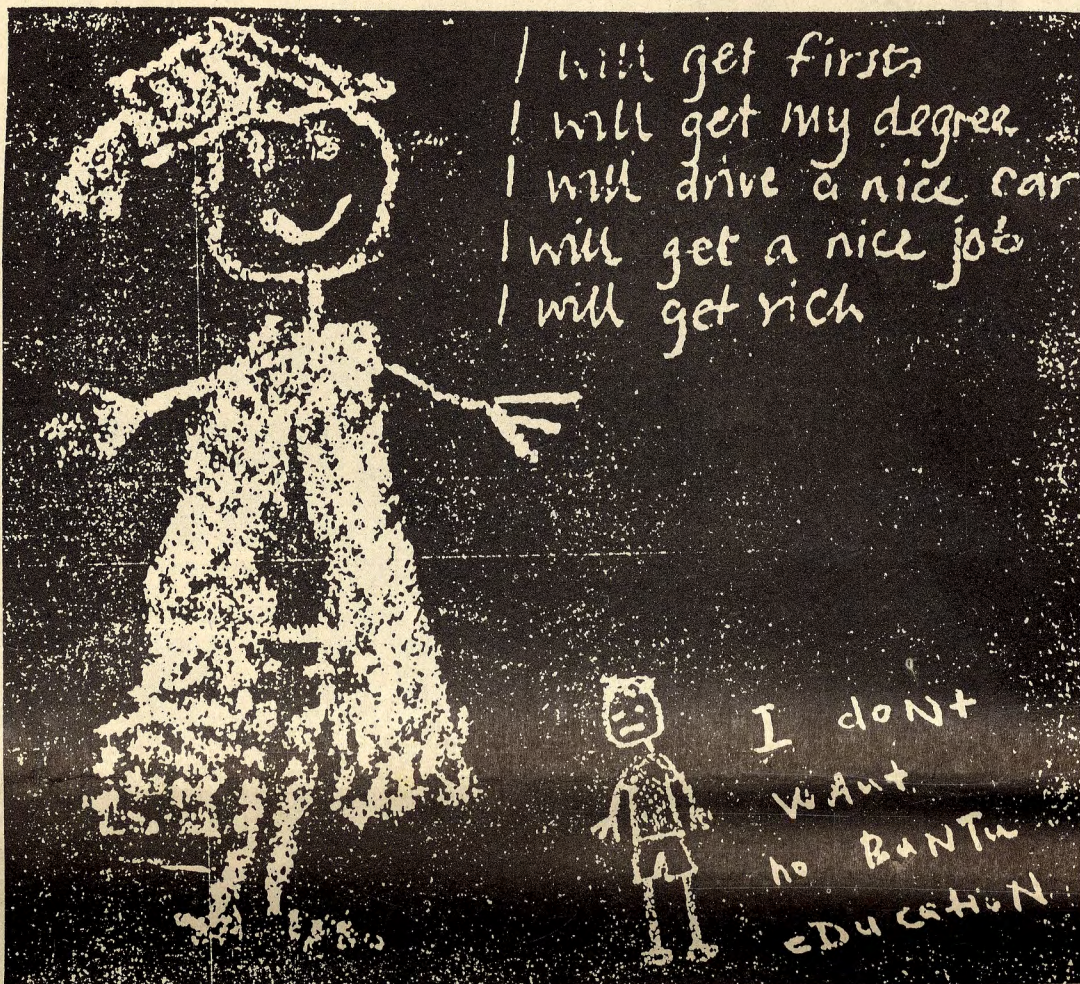
national democracy and "no longer confined to the classroom."

## DEMANDS

He outlined five short-term demands being made by PE students in 'coloured' schools:

- Democratic SRC's.
- An end to corporal punishment ("a slave practice").
- An end to compulsory school fees.
- The removal of Labour Party teachers who are using the profession to further their own interests.
- The removal of racist content in text-books.

"Classrooms have been transformed into political arenas" he said.



## HEY BRA!

A Rag stunt to raise Res spirit, left a Cullen Bowles student down in the dumps last week.

He was stripped down to his underpants, stuffed into a laundry trolley and wheeled into the Milner Common room.

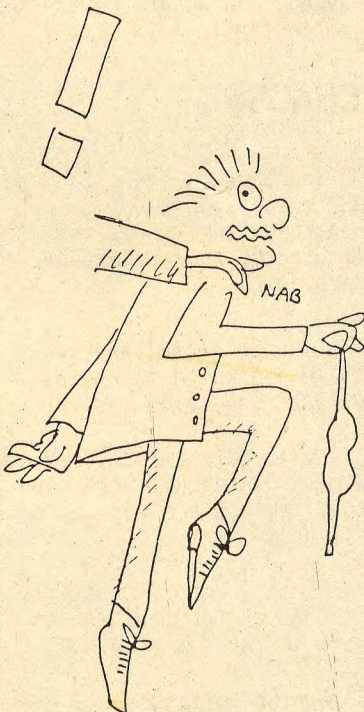
This was his sentence passed at a residence 'trial' where rumour had it that the warden was present. He was charged with returning a bra which was stolen from an Athersone friend of his.

The bra was one of many stolen from Athersone by Cullen Bowles residences as part of

a res 'prank'. There are unconfirmed reports of students being fined for this crime.

According to the student, who was unwilling to be named for fear of further intimidation, "It was all in the spirit of rag." If this is so it seems strange that when Rhodexo approached Mr Erik Meyer, the warden, for comment, he said, "I am not prepared to comment at all."

Another student said, "This incident clearly illustrates the futility and superficiality of Rag and Rag-related activities."



## PA victory

"The community bond which has developed amongst the members of Prince Alfred Annexe is one of non-racialism, democracy, understanding and a general consideration for one another. However, if we (PA residents) are scattered throughout various residences, this could destroy the atmosphere which many residences are still striving for."

This was the message of a petition drawn up after an emergency Prince Alfred house meeting recently held to protest against Admin's move to empty the res and "put it in mothballs" (Prof Bunting, Hall Warden of Drostdy Hall).

Residents resolved to fight the proposed resettlement through a petition with the help of SRC rep, Steve Worral.

"Although we have not received any official notification regarding the removal of PA annexe residents, we feel that Admin has ignored our individual feelings. Moreover we feel this is a contradiction of Rhodes' official advert: "We serve the individual", the petition stated.

Such prompt and united action by the students led to a victory when the PA House Warden informed them that the proposed move had been called off.



# SASH SPEAKS

## New Blood for SRC

Two new SRC office-bearers were elected on March 12 to take the place of reps who left for pastures new.

More than 250 students voted unanimously in favour of a motion condemning police brutality in the Eastern Cape at a lunch-time meeting last week organised by Nusas Local Committee.

### 'Children Tortured'

Addressing the meeting, Black Sash member and PFP MPC for Walmer, Molly Blackburn, read extracts from 25 affidavits alleging police brutality in Uitenhage, and pointed to similar situations throughout the Eastern Cape.

She also gave an eyewitness account of the alleged torture of a schoolchild in Uitenhage.

Members of the Black Sash had been called on by concerned parents to find children illegally detained by police.

They had walked in on a plain-clothed policeman repeatedly sjambokking a fourteen-year old youth, who was handcuffed to a table.

The Black Sash alleges that three other children were



Black Sash member Molly Blackburn addresses students

handcuffed to a bench in the same room and witnessed the beating.

### 'Prison Hospitals'

According to Mrs Blackburn, parents in Cradock had not

taken their shot child to hospital, because they feared he would be arrested. The child subsequently died.

"Some of our hospitals have become prisons, where police are taking people from doctors and placing them under arrest," she said.

### 'People Disappear'

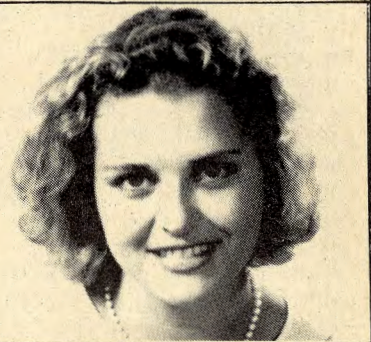
"Parents often don't know where their children are being taken.

"What kind of country are we living in, when people simply disappear?"

Schoolchildren were also afraid to board buses for fear of police on some of them, and people have been shot in their front yards from buses, Mrs Blackburn said.

Claiming that police were often drunk on duty, incited stone-throwing and generally intimidated township residents, she called on Minister of Law and Order, Louis Le Grange, to resign.

"If he knows about this he should resign, and if he doesn't, he should still go so," she said.



Alison MacDonald of Salisbury Res was chosen by Allan Webb for the Res Liaison Portfolio which she shares with Martin Battalliou.



Greg Westley of Botha House was elected unopposed to take Peter-Martin Turner's place as Founders Rep and Student Services Councillor.

You can contact either of the two at the SRC offices or in their respective residences.

# Ambassador chokes on reality

Over 150 students of the Black Students Movement stormed in on a luncheon called by the Vice Chancellor Dr D. Henderson, the British Ambassador Mr P. Moberly and some academic staff of the University, in the Students Union on the Friday before Rag Day.

The students demanded Mr Moberly publicly condemn the shooting of Uitenhage residents and apartheid generally.

"We want you to phone home tonight and tell Mrs Thatcher, 'We're aiding and abetting something that is wrong, something that is sinful'," a spokesperson for the delegation told the ambassador. The ambassador refused to respond: "The British government puts their views in private meetings and press statements, and therefore I can't respond



Black students demand a statement from UK ambassador, P Moberley.

to a gathering of this kind," he said.

He would have to go to his office in Cape Town and write

a statement before he could take a stand, he said.

A BSM member told Mr Moberly organisations "like BSM and other peoples organisations" seldom if ever had the opportunity to meet with high ranking officials to present their case, and this was why they had marched in on the luncheon.

The meeting ended in deadlock when the ambassador refused to give the students a statement or an opinion on the killings.

In a statement after the meeting, a BSM spokesperson said the "hypocrisy" of the British government had once again been exposed.

"While they claim to reject violence and to support 'peaceful change' in South Africa, Mr Moberly failed to publicly condemn state violence during the Uitenhage massacre," he said.



## Die Matie fights and wins

Controversy has erupted at Stellenbosch University after Die Matie, the official student newspaper, abruptly exposed the initiation practices in one of the residences.

The exposé led to a mass meeting where a motion of no confidence in the newspaper was tabled, and defeated, with 666 votes in favor of Die Matie.

Die Matie revealed barbaric initiation rites occurring in the male residence, Wilgenhof. Although initiation was banned in 1963, the newspaper revealed that:

- \* Seniors were wearing Klu Klux Klan uniforms to "discipline" first year students

- \* First years were forced to look at a picture of a naked woman and write obscene essays.

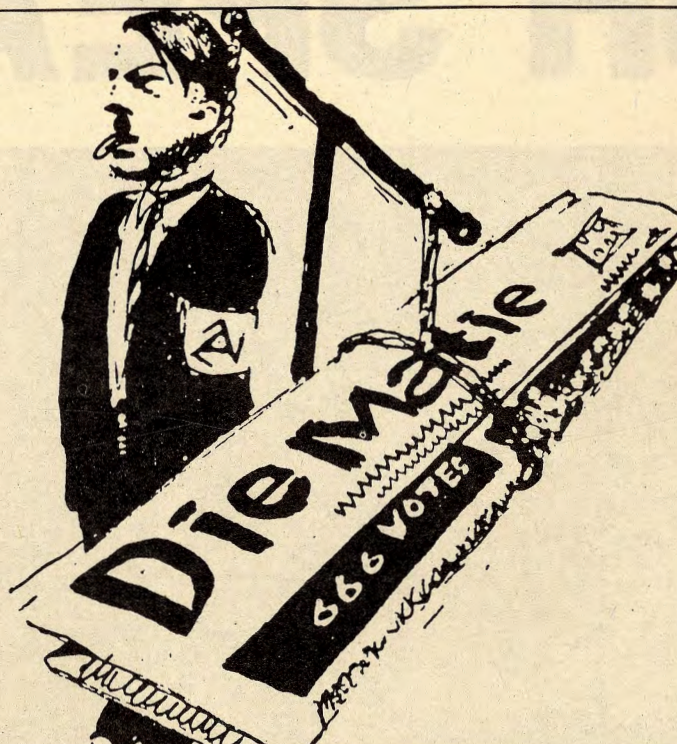
- \* Students were forced to participate in a "gallows" ritual.

- \* Students were woken up at midnight and forced to undress, douse themselves in cold water, eat bitter aloë and drink cooking oil.

After Die Matie's expose, members of Wilgenhof residence, in defence of the residence initiation tradition, stole and burnt thousands of copies of Die Matie. Police are investigating a charge of theft.

A photographer involved in the expose was abducted by nine Wilgenhof members, tarred and feathered, and left to walk home naked.

The University ordered a Commission of Inquiry into illegal initiation on campus.



A reporter, Johan Conradie, who escaped the abduction, was allegedly apprehended later and beaten till unconscious.

Nine students involved with the kidnapping appeared before the disciplinary committee and were permanently expelled from residence.

After extensive press coverage, Conradie claimed that his wounds were self-inflicted. In contradiction to this statement, Conradie then said that he had not been assaulted.

Subsequently Conradie's father has asked that the charge against the nine students be reassessed.

## Sharpeville continues

On 21 March 1960 police shot dead 69 people at Sharpeville near Vereeniging and wounded another 180. On the same day three people were killed at Langa.

The massacre of Sharpeville was preceded by years of protest against passes by organisations like the then legal African National Congress, the Pan-Africanist Congress and the Federation of South African Women.

The famous Defiance campaign, launched on 25 June 1952, was a protest against the pass laws, the Group Areas Act and other oppressive laws. Volunteers openly

defied these laws - 8500 convictions were recorded.

In defiance of the extension of passes to black women, 20 000 women from the SA Women's Federation protested by burning their passes outside the Union Buildings in 1959.

In December 1959 the ANC and the Pan Africanist Congress announced that further campaigns against pass laws were to be launched. These campaigns would include defiance of the laws, pass burnings and mass demonstrations.

On 21 March 1960, the date

of protest, a crowd of 3000 gathered outside the Sharpeville police station. The Vereeniging Commando was mobilized and three Saracen armoured cars were at hand. Although the crowd remained peaceful police shot at them and continued to shoot after the demonstrators fled.

In less than 30 seconds police fired 700 shots which killed 69 people and wounded 180. Many were shot in the back.

The rest of the world was outraged by the brutality of Sharpeville and the State found itself in a crisis. A state of emer-

gency was declared on March 31.

Many PAC and ANC leaders, including Nelson Mandela, Mbeki and Sisulu, were detained. The ANC and PAC were banned on 8 April 1964. Both organisations were forced underground, and protest hardened into resistance.

The State has learned little from history. The violence of 1976, 1980, 1984 and now 1985 bears witness to this and for most South Africans the struggle against apartheid still continues.

## UN slams apartheid

Both Britain and the United States of America cast their votes against apartheid earlier this month. The United Nations Security Council unanimously condemned the SA government for killing black people protesting forced removals.

Significantly, it was the first time since Reagan took office that the US voted against South Africa's apartheid policies.

The council went on to commend "the massive united resistance of the oppressed people of South Africa against apartheid" and re-affirmed the legitimacy of their struggle for a united, non-racial democratic South Africa.

The council also condemned the arrests of UDF leaders and members of UDF affiliate organisations.

It called on the South African government to unconditionally and immediately release all political prisoners and detainees, including Nelson Mandela, a symbol of the struggle for freedom in South Africa.

## Students Expelled

Over a hundred students, all members of Azaso, were expelled from Fort Hare University, the Cape Teachers' College, the University of Zululand and Dower College earlier this year.

The students from Azaso were all involved in confrontations with their administrations over student issues during 1984.

Dower College and Lennox Sebe College still have no SRC's.

Several students from the Universities of Zululand and Fort Hare were expelled although they had passed their courses in 1984.

The Black Students' Movement (BSM), which is also

an affiliate of Azaso was not directly affected by the expulsions.

"At Rhodes there is repression, but not in the same way. The kind of control we face is subtle", said BSM women's organiser, Portia Maurice.

"Indications are that the

Administration will in future take a more overtly oppressive stance.

"However, we will continue to fight for what we believe are our rights as students", she said.

Portia was arrested on Rag day while protesting police shootings in Uitenhage.



# MASSACRE IN Uitenhage

The recent killings of 26 Uitenhage residents (unofficial death toll, 33) has invoked a storm of local and international protest. The killings began on Thursday March 21, the 25th anniversary of the Sharpeville massacre, where police shot and killed 69 people and wounded scores more.

"We had been informed that the funerals were banned - but we felt that since we had stayed away from work we had to go and hold a memorial service."

These are the words of a marcher who was caught in the awful violence which began when mourners walking to a memorial service in Uitenhage's Kwanobuhle township were confronted by police.

According to PFP MP, Mrs Helen Suzman, mourners walked after police had forced people out of taxis and Kombis going to the funeral.

A contingent of 9 police in a caspir confronted a crowd of mourners and after ordering them to disperse, opened fire at point-blank range, killing at least 17 men, women and children.

The official police reports say they opened fire with R1 rifles and buckshot only when the crowd surged forward despite the order, and after a shot had been fired into the ground.

But mourners say it was a peaceful gathering. They say they decided against carrying placards, making speeches and throwing stones.

Onlookers have described the panic as the gunfire cracked and the people fell.

23 Children have been reported missing since the shooting. However, mortuaries and hospitals in Uitenhage have been placed under police guard and closed to members of the public seeking information about relatives.

Consequently people have been streaming into St. John's Catholic Church in Baird St, Uitenhage, where the PFP and legal resources lawyers have set up a legal aid clinic.

A spokesperson for the Uitenhage Fire Department told the EP Herald that the department had been called in to clear the road after the Thursday shootings.

He said there had been "bodies, blood and stones" in the road when the fire engine arrived at the scene. The road had been "hosed down", he said.

During the weekend SADF troops moved into Uitenhage townships to patrol the streets together with the police in armoured vehicles. Power has also been cut off in the townships.

Police have confirmed that all black policemen living in Uitenhage's townships have been evacuated to temporary quarters after 13 of their homes were fire-bombed.

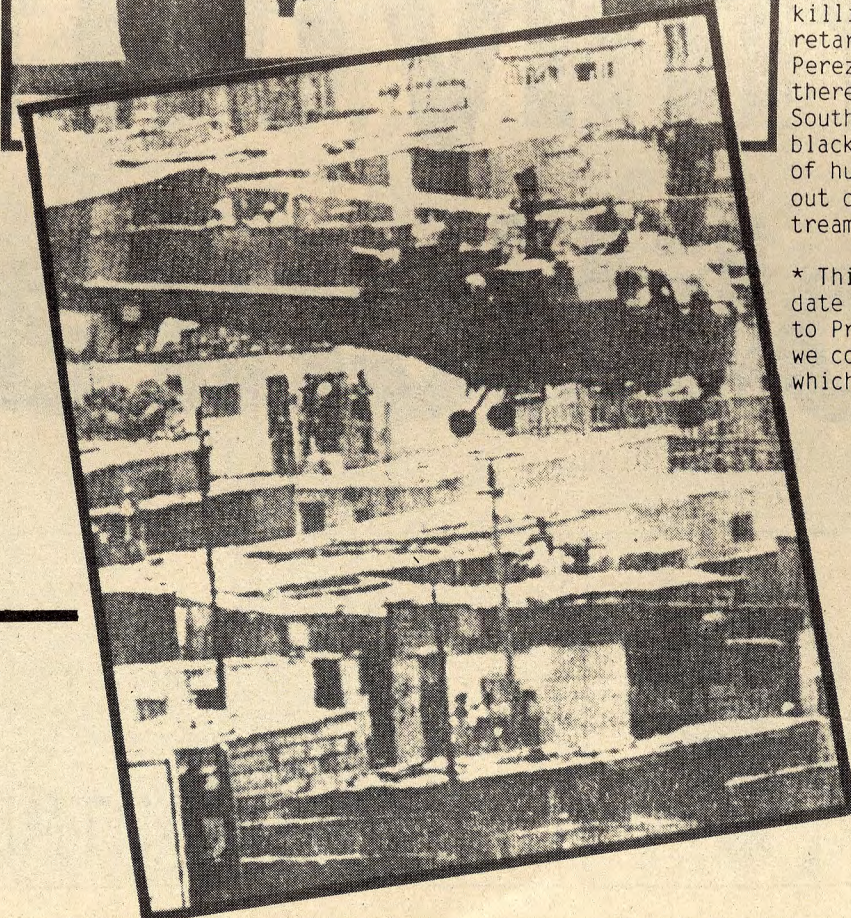
Reactions to these events have ranged from guarded rebukes to outraged condemnation and calls for sanctions.

The South African ambassador, Dr Denis Worrall, told the British Press that what had happened in Uitenhage was "completely unjustified" and that it "could not be justified on any basis."

In a statement the South African Catholic Bishop's Conference said no amount of provocation - if there was any - could have justified the shootings.

Top right: The SADF enters Uitenhage's townships to patrol the streets.

Bottom right: An SADF helicopter hovers over Langa, scene of the massacre.



UDF Eastern Cape Publicity Secretary, Mr Stones Sizani said in a statement issued on behalf of the UDF National Committee monitoring events in the Eastern Cape, that the UDF deplored the deaths.

The shooting was also condemned by the Uitenhage Parents Committee, the Port Elizabeth Black Civic Organisation and the Uitenhage Youth Congress, Nusas, and the Black Students' Movement at Rhodes University.

Director for the Centre of Applied Legal Studies at the University of the Witwatersrand, Professor John Dugard, has called for the sacking of the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Louis le Grange.

Britain, France, Ireland, West Germany, Sweden, Egypt, Tanzania and the United States have also released statements condemning the killings, while the UN secretary-general, Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, said there could be no peace in South Africa so long as the black majority was deprived of human rights and kept out of the national mainstream.

\* This report was up-to-date at the time of going to Press. RHODEO regrets we could not publish events which happened after this.



# "Rooted in the past, committed in the p

The United Democratic Front burst on to the political scene in August 1983. Its specific aim was to unite organisations against the Nationalist Party's blueprint for a new constitution and to fight the implementation of the "Koornhof Bills" as they were then called. However, the UDF Declaration made it clear that the present white minority rule and unequal distribution of wealth and land lay at the root of these particular developments. Consequently, the UDF was committed to a struggle against apartheid in all its forms.

In order to understand fully the role played by the UDF, it is necessary to situate it within the broader context of South African resistance.

A crucial watershed in black political resistance occurred in 1960. In the wake of a decade of national legal protest, the ANC and PAC were banned, the massacre of Sharpeville was perpetrated, a state of emergency declared, the basis of an underground movement was laid, and many leaders banned, detained and banished.

Mass protests re-emerged in the early 1970's in the context of a number of important developments. Firstly, South Africa had experienced good economic growth which contributed to a doubling in size of the working class between 1950 and 1970. This working class was concentrated in the urban areas under deteriorating conditions.

Secondly, the growth of Black Consciousness provided an important stimulus to political debate and discussion, but never translated itself into a substantial organisation.

Thirdly, the liberation struggle came to Southern Africa in the form of guerrilla wars in Angola and Mozambique. Finally, a series of dramatic strikes in the early 70's flexed the muscles of the black working class and laid the foundations for the independent trade union movement of today.

Then came Soweto 1976, a popular uprising rooted in the education system which fast became a generalised protest against apartheid.

So began an era of renewed political protest and changing government strategies. The government set out not only to crush resistance on the one hand, but also to remove the bases of resistance on the other. It is this latter impulse which is often called "reform".

Never before had the government been faced with so many problems - the failure of the homelands to sustain a pure separate development policy, the increasing cost of securing the safety of elite minority rule and the growing economic problems of inflation and unemployment.

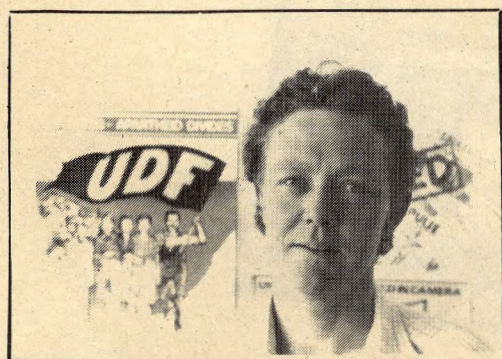
With the deteriorating

conditions in the townships - housing backlogs, unemployment, rent increases and the like - many organisations were formed in an attempt to solve these problems. The growth of what are commonly known as "grassroots" organisations revolved around the need to address specific problems such as transport, rents, housing, wages and education.

Separate by virtue of their objectives, these organisations nevertheless generated a political culture drawing on the history of popular resistance, and the generalised grievances of the mass of South Africans.

Three important factors then emerge as we move into the

# The UDF - now firmly on the political agenda



BY SIMON BURTON

LECTURER

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY



# present, the UDF finds itself with a future"

1980's, which must be considered when contextualising the UDF:

- An increased political awareness among the oppressed people, and the translation of grievances and hardship into organisation.
- The increasing difficulties of the government as it attempts to maintain power and privilege in the hands of a minority.
- Grave economic setbacks which throw into stark relief the problems faced by black South Africans, calling into question the possibility of a free enterprise system ever satisfactorily meeting their needs.

Coupled with growing international pressure, a growing

guerilla presence inside the country and continuing anger and protest, the tensions inside South Africa became very sharp.

The final straw is a constitution which effectively excludes the majority of South Africans from political rights in South Africa and the unwillingness of the government to make any efforts to substantially alter the anatomy of apartheid

The UDF draws together those organisations which previously worked individually into a front with a specifically general and political aim.

General, insofar as it

brings together different groups with different bases (civics, youth groups, church groups), and political insofar as its focus is on the apartheid state and its crucial role in maintaining an oppressive system.

The policies of the UDF are embodied in its focus on democracy and non-racialism. Its commitment to democracy is to a defence of democratic principles and democratic organisation and the struggle for political rights. Its commitment to non-racialism is a commitment to the abolition of separation into ethnic groups, town dwellers and rural dwellers. In other words, a commitment to the end of divide and rule.

The UDF, then, ensures the coming together of different groups and organisations - of both different interests and "colour" - on the basis of equal participation and involvement.

In the context of the resistance in 1984 and 1985, the UDF faces the task of systematically continuing to build the base of a strong democratic movement in South Africa and of projecting a vision of the future based on democracy.

It faces the task of articulating popular resistance into a series of demands and campaigns which act as a unifying force to fight apartheid.

The question of the education crisis in the black schools is clearly of major importance. Insofar as the UDF unites those organisations committed to an equal education system in a society free of apartheid, it provides the political and organisational arena for co-operation and united action.

In a year which has already seen UDF leaders charged with treason, offers made to Mandela, a huge economic crisis, and the recent shootings in Uitenhage, it seems clear that the UDF will have a major role to play. Rooted in the past, committed in the present, the UDF finds itself with a future.





## Ours

University students occupy a unique position in our society. We have been afforded the privilege of being able to pursue selected fields of study, to direct our education towards goals we may be certain of one day achieving.

However in a society where injustice is the order of the day we cannot afford to merely confine our knowledge inside the parameters of an academic environment. And particularly when efforts to bring about changes in this status quo are being met with brutal repression, our contribution cannot be purely academic.

Here on our own campus students were sjambokked, baton-charged and detained when attempting to express solidarity with the people of Uitenhage last week. At least 33 people have died in confrontations with police and army forces in Uitenhage townships so far, and tension there shows little sign of abating.

RHODEO remains opposed to the violent means employed by the government to quell the call for peaceful change in South Africa. We reaffirm our support for the UDF and its affiliates, and we call on students to involve themselves in actively meeting the challenge of change.

## Creditorial

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## Yours



### Students pay slave-rates

Dear Eds

I was recently shocked to read on the Oppies notice board that a domestic servant was offering her services five times a week for the meagre salary of R50 per month.

These people are so desperate for any employment that they are prepared to work for a barely livable wage. Imagine supporting a family on what some of these women earn - feeding, clothing, educating their children and probably at least one other family member - on a salary of R15 to R50 per month.

These figures are no fabrication, but absolutely true - and students are to blame for this gross exploitation.

Because in Grahamstown there is no trade union for domestic workers, and thus no guaranteed minimum wage, medical aid, insurance or any other "benefits" that most workers have come to regard as their right, it is up to we students, who are in the best position to pay a decent wage, to do so.

I consider students who pay their maids less than R15 for a day's work to be disgustingly inhumane, cruelly exploitative and guilty, in this century of "enlightenment" of the basest of human evils: slavery.

Yours sincerely  
Disgusted Oppie.

RHODEO condemns any form of exploitation. Where it concerns privileged students who cannot clean their own mess, it becomes an even more disgusting issue. RHODEO has launched an investigation into the question of domestic workers for the next edition.

Eds.

## Closet Encounters

Dear Eds (and JF for that matter)

So is to be presumed that Drag Queen Compères are anti-gay? The constant jokes about homosexuals (and a few anti-semitic ones thrown in for variety) were found to be offensive to males (or should that read 'males'?) but to some women too.

If this RAG stunt is happening under the auspices of RAG, could it be presumed that RAG is anti-gay too because the jokes are apparently part of the Drag Queen stunt.

RAG has no prejudices so leave the gays alone. Here's a challenge for JF - come out of the closet and enjoy some real fun where it's all happening! Hope it's not too big for him to handle...

Yours

Already-out-of-the-closet-and-enjoying-it!

## When sick, avoid san

Dear Eds

Since arriving at Rhodes I have had the misfortune as I am sure many have, of waking up one bright morning and not feeling on top of the world. My greater misfortune however lay in the fact that nobody warned me to keep away from the sanatorium, even if you are on death's door. In fact, I would like to suggest that the sicker you are, the greater should be your desire to stay away from this hostile place.

I am of course not referring to the building or the furniture but to the staff. I can imagine their indignation when they read this and their protests that stroppy students need to be treated as they so expertly do, but I would like to suggest that the majority of us know how to behave even though we don't always, but I think that when you are feeling ill the last thing on your mind is to be purposely bad-mannered.

In any case, the san is here to serve the students. If we were not here then the staff would have to seek employment elsewhere, so if they do not like the students they may leave and there are many others in the present economic climate who would like to take their place. With the way I was treated, next time I feel off colour I'd much rather go to the doctor or the chemist, despite the fact that I, like everybody else, have paid san fees.



So as a warning to other first-years, don't make the same mistake I did, stay away unless you are feeling particularly strong and as long as you can handle an unfriendly and hostile manner in which you will be treated, and to those who have received tender loving care in san and feel that this letter is unfair, let me say this: from what I am able to gather you are in the minority and must have been particularly ill in the first place which would have meant that you were under the care of a doctor, this in turn providing a very good reason why you should be well-cared for.

Yours faithfully  
San Phobia

## No justice for Majority

Dear Rhodoe

An hour ago the police and SADF cold-bloodedly killed between 14 - 22 people in Uitenhage. The news shocked me beyond words and I'm still reeling in my feelings of horror and terror for what will happen in the future.

To meet people with automatic rifles is totally unjustified. I use the word unjustified because I am increasingly believing that there is in fact no justice for the majority of South Africans and that only the privileged minority of whites enjoy any measure of justice at all.

To kill people for attending a peaceful funeral march or commemoration service is not the type of thing that a stable and sensible government does. A good government does not need to kill people to stay in power.

Botha claims that we live in a democracy but democracy means ruling by the use of the ballot box, NOT bullets. Please don't live under this false notion of a democratic system in SA now - its not true.

We (South Africans) are now truly (if not before) at Civil War. We have our white (usually) sons and brothers killing our black sons and brothers. Here I speak about South Africa's sons and brothers.

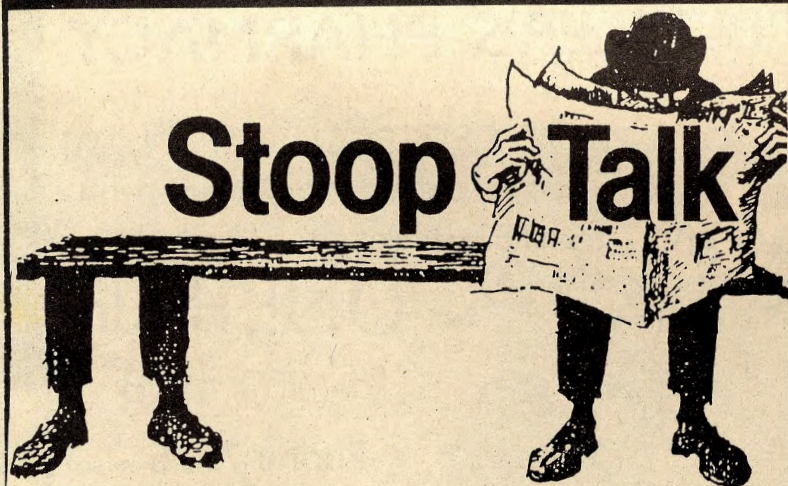
I think it is important for all South Africans to listen to the truth about what their privileged white power is costing the rest of the South African people. If we have to stay in power by killing others, I don't want power, nor should anybody else.

I think the time has now come for every single white person to open themselves up and to listen to the other side. The days of "ignorance" must come to an end. We owe it to our country to acquaint ourselves with the facts (No matter how terrible).

So much for our so-called reform. The only "reform" I can see in the past 25 years is that on 21 March 1960, 69 people were killed by police and on 21 March 1985 - between 14 and 22 people were killed by police.

In other words, the only so-called reform is that they killed less people today than they did 25 years ago!

Jennie Masey



\*In the Allan Webb by-election, Mark Horn was beaten to the winning post by 33 votes to 20. This is despite a grizzle speech to the effect "I've done more for this varsity than anyone else". We as RHODEO would just like to add a personal note of thanks to Mark for all the hard news he has provided. BUT if on the eighth attempt you don't succeed, please, please, please don't try again.

\*We at RHODEO are wondering why Admin get preferential parking treatment (a-là-red dot). Is it that they don't get up early enough to find parking? Is it that they have very large cars (né Derek), or is it to protect us against bad driving?

\*And in a related incident, traffic fines

around Grahamstown are on the increase. Maybe because of many more traffic officers. This is not a joke. This is a WARNING.

\*Meanwhile, back in Durban students are squatting on the Varsity lawns to pressurise their Admin to find them accommodation. Here at Rhodes we have 80 empty rooms in the residences. Something to do with supply and demand, or merely bureaucratic inefficiency? Here's a message to all homeless Durbanites - pull in!

\*And finally we suspect that our printers may be reading our paper and using our stories to fill blank spaces in their newspaper, before they print RHODEO. But please don't quote us on this yet,... Grocotts.



Just when you thought it was safe to move out into digs.....

In virtually every oppie column and oppie newsletter printed in the past year, oppies have been reminded that Lease Guides are available from the Oppidan Secretary. Because very few students have responded to this, we automatically presumed that very few students have hassles regarding their digs. However, we know this is just not the case - there are a number of oppies who are being taken for a ride by their landlords or estate agents.

It is no secret that accommodation is hard to come by in Grahamstown but I find it disgusting that on top of this, certain lessors actually exploit student's desperation to find digs. Merely the fact that we are students should not mean that we are discriminated against in terms of what is required of us as lessees.

Some points that may be useful:

1. An estate-agent cannot treat students any differently to say for example a family that could hypothetically be letting the same house. No agent would forbid members of a family from putting prestik on the walls. If tenants pay 'caution money' to cover damages that they do not attend to before leaving, that can be used to repaint the walls (especially if that amount is R50 000).
2. If requests to have major repairs go unheeded then you are perfectly entitled to have it done at your own cost and deduct the amount from the next month's rent. However, you must first demand that the estate-agent sees to it (preferably in writing) and allow a reasonable period of time (about two weeks), before doing it yourself.
3. Any lessor may maintain the right to enter and inspect the premises. It is usually written into the lease. However, there is a limit to the number of times this can happen and these visits must only occur firstly when the lessee is present and secondly at a reasonable time. Reasonable in terms of the tenant, that is. The lessor may not barge in at 8.00 am when everyone is asleep and look around the house.
4. If a house has over 10 rooms that are being let it is classed as a boarding-house and is not subject to rent control. However, houses with fewer rooms, even if they are being let individually can be taken to the Rent Control Board. Rent paid in total may not exceed the limit set by the Rent Control Board.
5. You are not obliged to have a domestic working for you especially if he/she is paid by the lessor and only indirectly by you through your rent.

These points and more are all explained simply and thoroughly in the Oppie Lease Guide. Please, don't let yourself be exploited and then plead pathetic! Oppies are people too, you know.



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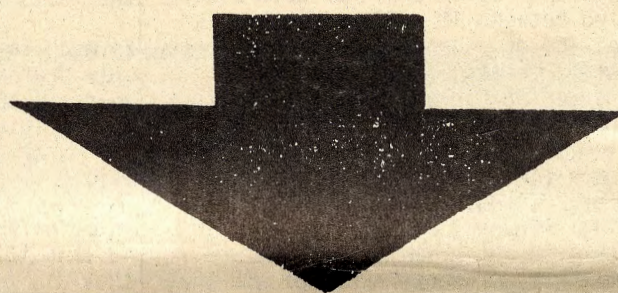
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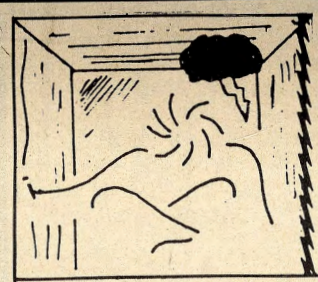
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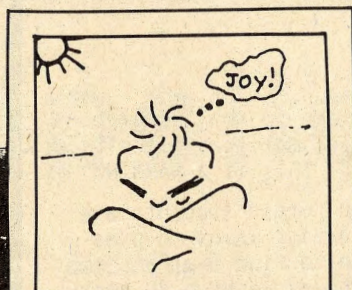
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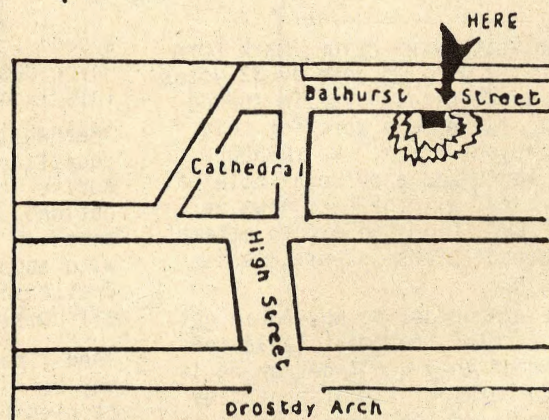
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# PE. PARALYSED

BY AN EASTERN CAPE CORRESPONDENT

A fat army troop transporter swoops in low over Kings Beach, Port Elizabeth. It unloads about two hundred para-military police.

Two SADF Commando units call up white men in the Eastern Cape. They are seen by an East Cape correspondent driving in army vehicles wearing riot helmets out of town.

The city centre is busy. There are whites everywhere.

Not a single african person is seen. Not a familiar orange PE Tramways bus is heard or seen in the streets.

## ● SATURDAY, MARCH 16

It is Saturday, March 16, in Port Elizabeth. Day one of a stayaway from the white commercial center in protest against government mismanagement of the economy. An economy which has been threatening to decimate the lives of thousands of africans and an increasing number of 'coloured' and white people in Port Elizabeth and the Eastern Cape generally.

## ● CALL FROM PEBCO

In response to a call from the Port Elizabeth Black Civic Organisation (PEBCO) almost 355 000 africans living in the surrounding townships withdrew their buying power from white shopping centers on Saturday.

On Monday they withdrew their labour power from Port Elizabeth's industrial and commercial centers. Only african nurses and workers in vital services were exempted from the call by PEBCO.

## ● NOTHING MOVED

An eery calm blanketed the townships as people heeded the call and stayed in-doors. A bird's eye view showed that nothing moved, no cars travelled along the dusty townships' roads. Few pedestrians.

Only brown armoured vehicles and the riot police in combat blues.

## ● POLICEMEN WITH SHOTGUNS

Policemen armed with shotguns drove buses into the townships to provide residents with "protection from intimidators". That only scared residents from going near a bus.

## ● SMEAR PAMPHLET

An anonymous pamphlet appeared "on behalf" of PEBCO calling off the boycott. It was used as toilet paper.

The blow to white confidence which resulted from the near total stayaway resounded throughout the city as white took to menial labour with a cheerfulness reminiscent of the blunderbuss attitude of white Rhodesians during closing stages of the bush war.

## ● STAYAWAY

Fosatu argued that in a time of severe recession, unemployment and repression, to call a stayaway would lead to increased victimisation of workers and more retrenchments. PEBCO said a time of recession was precisely when people should fight back.

They smiled, joked, and said maybe they did not need workers anyway. But it was a weak and worried gesture. Some said the response of employers would be to streamline and cut back on boycotters. But at the end of the three days when workers streamed back to work, little was heard of the issue. Most said a day's pay would be deducted, and put the success down to "intimidation".

But the message circulated in the township was to stress intimidation when explaining to bosses why workers would not be at work during the stayaway - "Say you are afraid of intimidation."

## ● POLICE PROPAGANDA

But this theory which fits so well with Police propaganda is difficult to believe when one is confronted by the spectacle of 355 000 people sitting in their homes in protest against high bus fares, food and rent hikes and massive deprivation. 355 000 people discussing their problems.

Particularly, a ten cent increase in bus fares during peak hours - to keep unemployed people off the buses - according to the company - outraged the most.

In a nutshell, the stayaway served to rally and unite township residents around their twin enemies - a contracting and callous economy and the brutality of the police. On the night of the third and last day of the protest weekend, police gunned down four residents.

## ● POLICE KILL FOUR

Four lives were the price to pay for three days of freedom. The feeling left many giddy with the realisation that the poor and exploited are powerful and that they and their democratic allies hold the key to real change in South Africa.



Brigadier C A Swart of the South African Police released a statement at the start of the stayaway calling on workers "not to heed the call to stay away."

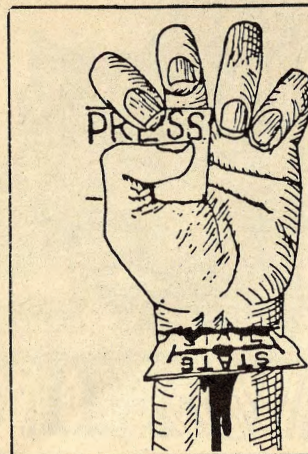
The Brigadier pointed out that PEBCO did not have "the approval of other organisations" and that "workers themselves were not in favour of the stay-away."

The police's opportunistic support for Azapo and Fosatu's call to abandon the stayaway was an unprecedented blunder. What the police supported, people opposed. That's how it is in the Eastern Cape.

## Flagship sinks

The Rand Daily Mail, flagship of one of South Africa's major press groups South African Associated Newspapers (SAAN), will publish for the last time on April 30th.

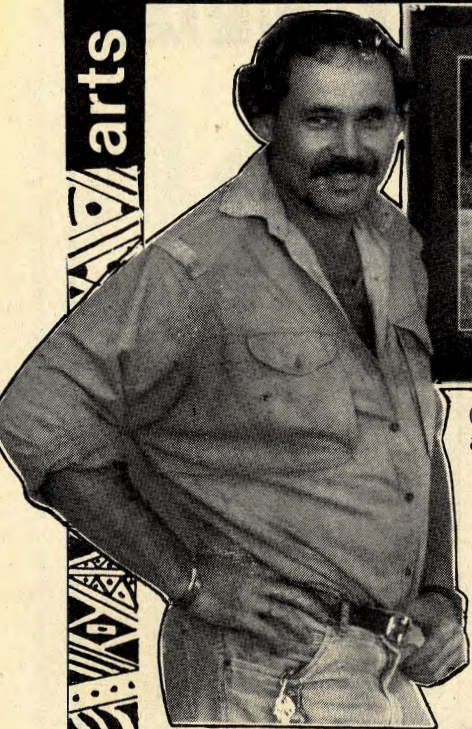
The newspaper, which will be replaced by its commercial section, Business Way, became another victim of the country's failing economic policies, when SAAN could no longer afford to prop the paper up financially.



The Daily Mail, a morning paper, clashed with the Star, an Argus afternoon newspaper, over distribution times when the Star broke an informal arrangement and began distributing in the morning.

The ensuing war over circulation figures coupled with the recession fast turned the Dail Mail into an economic burden which SAAN could no longer afford to subsidize.





Obie Oberholzer, and friend.

Obie

exposed

by SP

How does one go about taking artistic photos full of surreal colours, moving lights and alternative images? One way is to go park in the middle of nowhere in the middle of the night and take thirty-minute exposures of the moon and passing cars. However as this is more difficult than it sounds (or looks), not many people are prepared to do it, which is why Obie Oberholzer's photo's are so original.

Unlike photojournalists, Obie doesn't look for decisive moments, preferring to take carefully planned shots. "I used to work with black and white film, taking more candid journalistic shots. However, colour involves a larger format and greater expense. I can't afford to take instantaneous pictures."

"I prefer taking photo's in the Hinterland, in out of the way places, rather than commercial shots of Table Mountain from Blouberg, the Kruger National Park etc."

Obie's next venture is a book called, "The everyman's Guide to Fontein": There are about 65 towns in South Africa ending in 'Fontein', Bloemfontein, Springfontein etc. I think it says a lot about the historical value of water. I'd like to get together a collection of anecdotes and local gossip about these places - sharing with people impressions they can't get for themselves."

# the Helicopters

by £



The Helicopters; unknown...pretentious...anti-ethnic..mixed up... What do you expect, good music?

Please, incinerate your cute checkered uniforms, dump the make-up, and think people...look closer than Europe for your inspiration as there are big and exciting things happening in your own country.

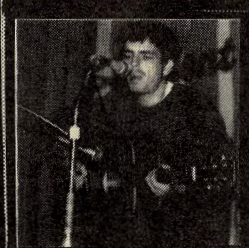
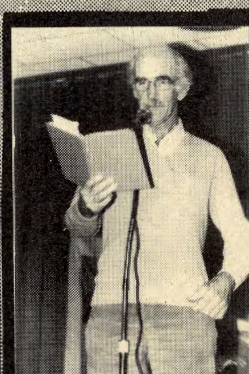
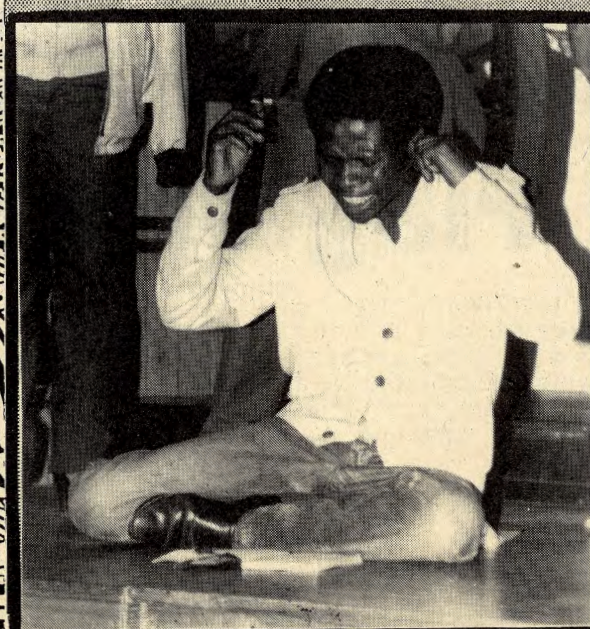
There is a chronic shortage of insight into our society and its problems. Let me assure you that LOVE, the predominant theme in their work, is sorely lacking in South African society, no matter what the State may lead you to believe.

As far as I'm concerned, The Helicopters fall into the same money-grabbing category as Face to Face, e' Void and the Working Girls to name a few.



The NUSAS Culture Evening.....an evening to remember.....bringing the sorrow and frustration of township life into vivid perspective.....poetry, captured in mesmerizing motion.....spellbound.....a lighthearted jab at censorship in the form of a short story softened emotion.....Larry "100% Blues" Strelitz deviates from the evenings' theme entirely.....why don't you and Rob Berold put together something relevant, Larry?.....voices in harmony.....rising.....with them my tension.....emotion was tangible as EATSOC and a township drama group brought the gut feeling of the townships into our cosy existences.... I felt totally drained and did not speak for a long time afterwards..... thanks EATSOC.....you really gave me some "food for thought".....give me more!!!!

# VIVA! NUSAS





# Kief Kowie Kontest

OK, so off all surfers, 'connections in town', went to the "spot", being East River, Kowie, Sunday, being the 17th, to surf in the 1st contest starting 9am, being crazy, to surf like men possessed in their respective heats, being besides themselves at this stage, I might add, but going there anyway, being the point so to speak.

RIGHT! The Rhodes Surf Club held the first of 4 of the Rhodes Selection contest. Stiff competition, bleary-eyed, dry-mouthed and feeling oh so groovy covered in soft neoprene wet suits, the preliminary heats got underway at 10 am after some massive mutual psych-up induced by the Romans screaming "Beat on the Breast". Good pre-juice material, this.

All running smoothly

(would you believe), the competitors lacerated through about 4 foot semi-consistent surf to get through to the first round of the semis, with Gain Humme 6th, Pete Vogel, 5th, Karsten Roloff, 4th, Garry Rolfe, 3rd, Alan Carter, 2nd, and Lennie Tebbutt, first.

The finals hit off at 2pm under sucking sun with the surf slightly lacking in swell but still the odd long ride, where most surfers scored their points managing to pull through. The final had some of the hottest surfing seen in these parts, with Kenny Rolfe and Lennie Tebbutt pulling off particularly solid moves. Those that got through into the finals were placed as follows: Garry Rolfe, 6th, Donovan Shaw, 5th, Russ Seymour, 4th, Alan Carter 3rd, Kenny Rolfe, 2nd

and Lennie Tebbutt, to him another first and so winner of the contest. Viva Lennie, good one.

Success formula? Three longish rides to the beach allowing for manoeuvres.

Other success formulas included things like "eat lots of fish and make love as much as possible." "Love driftwood, sand and sex-wax". "Conserve energy, bearing in mind that one only uses one's brain when surfing".

Oh, and a big thank you to judges, especially Rich Tebbutt and kisses to Jude for hard work and working all totals out.

So all in all, a lekker contest with lak to look forward to from the Kowie herd this being the year of victory my broers and sisters.



## Rowing Rave

The Rhodes rowing team made its way through the preliminaries in the Natal Rowing Championships before taking second place in the finals recently.

Durban Rowing Club won both the coxless 42's and the

48's race while Wits won the A coxed 4's at the regatta held at Hauley Dam in Natal.

The team, one of the two Rhodes entries, took second place to a string school team.



A tense moment during Rhodes' swimming gala

## Kimberley crawls to victory

The inter hall swimming gala held on the 13th March gave Rhodes a chance to show their depth of talent in the sport.

In the mens section, Kimberley Hall proved too strong for Founders, beating them by one point. The Oppidan team, with only four swimmers did well to come third. The women's section resulted in a tie between Hobson Hall and St Mathews Hall with Adamson in third place.

RESULTS:  
Men: (4x50m Butt)  
First, Kimberley  
Second, Founders  
(4x50m Back)

First, Smuts  
Second, Founders  
Third, Kimberley  
(4x50m breast)  
First, Founders  
Second, Oppidans  
Third, Alan Webb  
(4x50m Free)  
First, Kimberley  
Second, Oppidan  
Third, Founders  
(4 50m ind. med)  
First, Kimberley  
Second, Founders.

Women:  
First, Mathews  
Second, Hobson  
Third, Oppidans  
(4x50m Free)  
First, Mathews  
Second, Hobson

Third, Atherstone  
(4x25 ind. med)  
First, Atherstone  
Second, Hobson  
Third, Alan Webb  
(4x25 Free)  
First, Mathews  
Second, Hobson  
Third, Atherstone  
(4x50m Back)  
First, Hobson  
Second, Mathews  
Third, Oppidan

OVERALL  
First, Kimberley, 19 points  
Second, Founders, 18 points  
Third, Oppidans, 10 points  
Fourth, Smuts, 6 points  
Fifth, Alan Webb, 5 points.

## Volley Ball Tournament

Volleyball star, Dave Mee, inspired the Rhodes team to the final of a tournament held at the UPE centre a fortnight ago.

After winning four of the first five games, Rhodes fell to Defence 10-16 in the final but finished a creditable second out of

14 teams. The inter res volleyball tournament will be held at Alec Mullins Hall on March 31.



# 161 IN THE SHADE

It was not a case of bad light stopping play recently when Rhodes 1sts edged a victory over a Grahamstown Select XI on a flood-lit Great Field.

Play started at 3pm when Rhodes were sent in to bat. They started badly and were soon down two wickets for just 13 runs.

A determined stand by Peter Andrew (57) and an injured Vernon Cresswell (51) took Rhodes to 104 before Creswell was dismissed.

Disaster then struck leaving Rhodes floundering at 132/8. A brave last minute partnership by Middleton and Hutchings saw Rhodes to their final score of 175. Grahamstown were then left to bat under flood-lights but failed to make enough runs to clinch a victory. Their final score was 161. The following prizes were given out at the close of play:

Batting - D Van Rooyen (Grahamstown Select) for his 61 runs

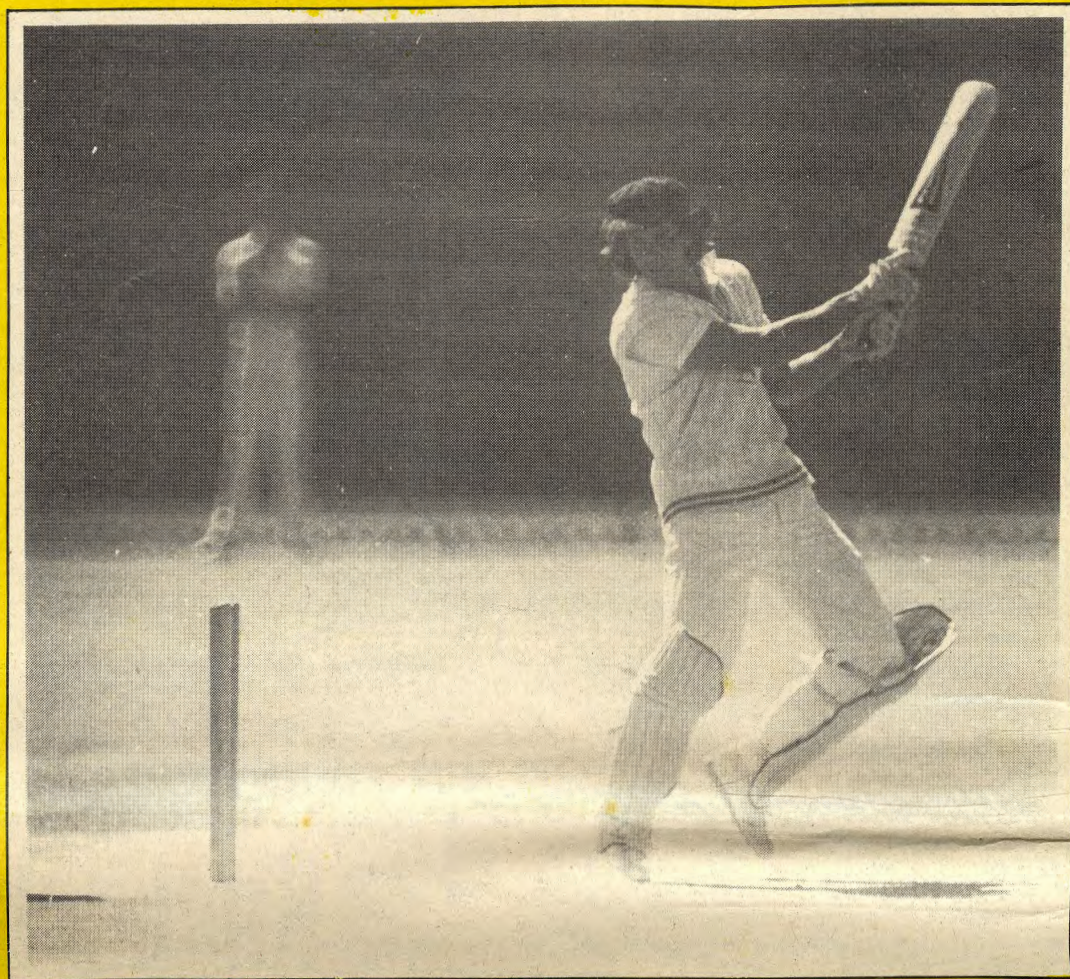
Bowling - G Long for his consistent bowling of 9

overs 2 maidens 1 for 18  
Fielding - P Andrew  
Man of the Match - V Cresswell.

Later in the week, Rhodes played in a PECC league game against Walmer. Rhodes batted first, scoring 161 with valuable contributions being made by Matt Bland (57) and G Long (22). Walmer retaliated with 175 (Long 2-22, hutchings 4-50). In the second innings, Rhodes scored 258 thanks to Long's 127, leaving Walmer to score 245 to win. Walmer were at 208/9 (Bland 5-78, Long 3-34) when the game was unfortunately called off due to bad light. the match was drawn.

In the annual intervarsity game against UPE the following Wednesday, Rhodes scraped together a dismal 85 runs all out in only 35 overs. Top scores were Roger Moul (23) and Vernon Cresswell (16) while thirteen extras made a valuable contribution. UPE passed this score with just three wickets down.

Matt Bland showed his bowling skills when he took 2 for 10 in just 9 overs.



Rhodes cricketer hits a whammer!

## INTERVARSITY RESULTS

We have the following intervarsity results as well:

Swimming: Rhodes men beat UPE.

Athletics: UPE 23,5 points, Rhodes 22,5 points.

Water Polo; UPE 11, Rhodes 6

## squash

Two Rhodes students. Gillian Smith and Morgan Morris both finished second in the E.P under 21 squash championships held here on Sunday 17 March.



Water polo player raves it up at intervarsity.

## HOCKEY VICTORY

A spirited second-half comeback by the Rhodes first hockeyteam, failed to prevent UPE winning the men's indoor match 6-4 at Alec Mullins Hall recently.

Skipper Gary Hardman inspired the Rhodes players in their attempts to repeat an earlier 5-2 victory over UPE this season and expressed pleasure in the side's performance.

UPE's success stemmed from their superior use of short corners.

Gary Hardman, his brother Craig Hardman and Roger Moul scored for Rhodes.