The disinherited

A Palestinian history
The Wits SRC had finally responded to the events at the University of Pretoria (TUKS).

The SRC has not discussed politics for 3 years. Only 1 SRC member, a POLSTU organiser himself, attended the recent widely reported POLSTU congress.

Despite vigorous attempts to get campus support, this was only attended by a small group of people who were POLSTU members.

The motion recommends the mass meeting that the TUKS SRC called: The TUKS students passed a motion endorsing separate development, restricting admission to only postgraduates. It is proposed that bh students would seconded to the university, depriving them their status as TUKS students.

The motion rejects the policy of separate development, believing to deprive people of fundamental human rights and dignities.

'Open universities an essential for academic freedom.'

This motion was telegraphed to TUKS on Thursday and was carried on page 2 of the student newspaper.

Accommodation hassles

Shocked students reacted angrily to the University Players' publicity stunt last week.

A Body was thrown from the third floor of Senate House into the Concourse on Wednesday.

The live-sized hessian doll dressed in men's clothes, was part of a publicity stunt for the play, 'Night of January 16th' presented by the University Players (UP) at the Box theatre. The play centres around a court case, investigating the death of a man thrown from a penthouse roof.

At 9.30am, a woman's scream accompanied the falling body which disturbed a large number of people having tea.

A spokesperson for UP said 'when we planned the stunt, we had no idea that it would upset anyone."

The body was covered in posters for the play. An eyewitness expressed shock saying 'it was not a very clever thing to do, I actually thought someone had jumped.'

Whether this stunt will increase the numbers in the audience is yet to be ascertained.

Students have reacted angrily to the 'two year rule' planned by the Administration of the University for the Crescent Residence.

According to the rule, no student will be allowed to stay at the Crescent for more than two years. The rule will be implemented at the end of the year.

A motion passed by the SRC condemned the arbitrary action of the Administration with regard to the rule. This motion backed up a motion passed by the Crescent Resident's Association, condemning Admin.

Both bodies criticized Admin insisting that the rule be implemented retrospectively. This means that residents who have been at the Crescent for two years or more will be forced to leave at the end of the year.

A spokesperson for the Resident's association said that residents were upset by the rule. He described the difficulty in finding alternative accommodation, describing the shortages at the University's other residences. "This is more shifting and not solving the accommodation problems" he said.

It has been alleged that similar rules may in future apply to residences where students may not live in residence for more than three years.

The rule is the latest in a controversial attempt to find student accommodation being undertaken by the Administration. In another move Admin plans to evict 8 student organisations from the Student Centre block opposite the university.

Exam timetable changed

The new Medical School in Parktown is due to be occupied on 1 November.

In view of the large amount of fragile equipment requiring careful packing and handling the move is expected to be time-consuming.

The estimated number of cartons to be transported is 8,000. Part of the contents include 330 machines, 200 cabinets, 700 desks, 2,000 chairs, 4,000 specimen bottles, 4,000 skeleton boxes and 10,000 library books.

A contract with Sandton Transport has been drawn up to undertake this mammoth task.

Students faced with the daunting prospect of writing Economics and Legal Theory I on the same day can relax again.

A petition signed by some thirty students reached them, the Exams Office changed the date of the Legal Theory exam from November 2 to the Economics paper is still to be written on the November 5.

The new timetables were pinned up on Tuesday. Should the changes inconvenience anyone else, the Exams Office asked that the students come and see them.

Draft timetables can only attempt to try and please the majority, a spokesperson for the Exams Office said.

Computicket for campus?

Negotiations for a Computicket on campus are presently underway.

When initially approached by the SRC the manager for computicket Mr Percy Tucker, basing his allegations on a viability study at Rand Afrikaans University, was not in favour of establishing a branch on campus.

Students generally do not buy tickets and mostly attend matinees.

It was pointed out that Wits had 15,000 compared to the 3,000 at RAU and therefore the viability study could not apply to Wits.

The SRC has taken the responsibility of investigating the viability of
Admin say no to campus Free People’s Concert

The Free People’s Concert, one of the major events in the Wits calendar, is in jeopardy. Attempts to hold the concert on University property have once again been crushed by the Vice-Chancellor.

Last year the concert was forced to move to an unsuitable venue at Stringa Spa, after Parktown residents complained about the noise.

After this setback, the organizers tried to get permission to hold the concert at the University property at Frankenwald, Kelvin and Molderfontein. This site appeared ideal being reasonably far from any complainers.

However, once again the Vice-Chancellor stepped in and rejected this venue. ‘We spoke to a large number of people connected with Frankenwald’, said David Cohen, spokesperson for the Orientation Committee, and there appeared to be no problem. The technicians felt it would be possible to aim the speakers away from Kelvin, thus eliminating noise problems. The heads of the residences and the animal farm also did not see any problems occurring.’

However, when the plan was presented to the Vice-Chancellor, he raised some objections. He would not agree to hold the concert at Frankenwald, despite assurances that the objections could be cleared up. ‘He just said “NO!”,’ said Cohen.

Approached for comment, Professor Du Plessis said that he could not accept that the noise could be directed away from the residents. He did not want to see a repetition of the 1981 concert on campus, during which residents were disturbed, he said.

Admin, faced with these demands, was non-committal. Prof Tober asked Mr Abramson whether these demands meant that the SRC gave student societies higher priority than student accommodation.

Facing with a question like that, Lloyd Vogelman, SRC president, issued the following statement: ‘While the SRC is definitely concerned about student accommodation, it is in fact our greatest concern, the removal of these societies from South Court affects not only the societies themselves but the thousands of students they represent. Converting South Court into 8 bachelor flats is therefore hardly justified’.

The SRC handed the SRC to use the room vacated, thus eliminating the room vacated, as guaranteed by the SRC.

The SRC accepts and understands that the arrangement was temporary but it is nonetheless unwilling to vacate the building as the societies concerned have gone to a great deal of trouble and expense to make their room suit their purposes. For example:

- The Photographic Society has extensive equipment, a studio and a dark room all at South Court.
- The Muslim Society has gone so far as to sanctify some of their rooms. These are now religious places, they contain religious objects and they cannot be desecrated:

The organizers have spoken to a large number of people with non-racial permits. Approval is also needed from the local magistrate.

The organizers have appealed to students to help find a new venue. Anyone who has suggestions is asked to contact David Cohen or Gavin Rabinowitz at the SRC offices.

South Court: the wrangle goes on

University Administration has issued no new statements on the South Court question and the fate of a number of student societies continues to hang in the balance.

The facts thus far: South Court is a building in Jorissen Street, leased to the University in 1979. It was handed over to the SRC to use as they pleased, but on the understanding that the ‘gift’ was temporary and could be revoked at any time.

The SRC handed the building over to a number of student societies who set up office there. Recently, however, Admin informed the SRC that it intended to convert South Court into 8 bachelor flats to be used as additional student accommodation.

The SRC was invited to a meeting, chaired by Prof Karl Tober, Vice-Chancellor-elect to discuss the matter. D Sloeman, the Planning officer was also present, and the SRC was represented by John Abramson in his capacity as secretary of the SRC.

The SRC put forward

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Bopping on the Library Lawns: the 1981 Free People’s Concert

However, the Free People’s Concert was bopping on the Library Lawns. The concerts have gone so far as to sanctify some of their rooms. These are now religious places, they contain religious objects and they cannot be desecrated.

They employ 2 full time professional speakers away from the residents. He did not want to see a repetition of the 1981 concert on campus, during which residents were disturbed, he said.

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Meal prices go up

A 50% increase on evening meals and weekend lunches in the new canteen dining room has caused great concern amongst students.

The increase of R2-R3 was instituted at a meeting of the Catering Advisory Committee held on 16 September along with other price increases averaging at 11% all affecting the new dining room.

The SRC strongly opposed the increases.

Commenting on the generally high canteen prices compared with other universities, an SRC spokesperson said: 'There is scope for cost-effective programmes which could reduce canteen prices'. The SRC will push for the implementation of these in future meetings.

New meal system

At a meeting of the Catering Advisory Committee held on 16 September, it was decided to abolish the present coupon system. Students will now have a refund on their fees and will have to pay cash for their meals.

A member of the House Committee at Sunny Side Residence said that the new system will be economically more viable because unused coupons are not refunded and this means that residents will not necessarily have to eat at the new canteen restaurant.

Bats raid Jubilee

At the Jubilee Hall Women's Residence, students have reported that they have seen bats.

Two terrified residents have reported seeing bats flying up to the ninth floor. They were allegedly seen and loud screeching noises were heard.

In one incident, a panic-stricken resident discovered an averaged-sized bat lying on her pillow: 'It was frightening in its silence but did not resist being removed'.

Mrs Suttner, the Dean of Jubilee Hall, expressed concern on hearing of the incident. 'I am appalled', she said. She also said that any further complaints would result in immediate action being taken to exterminate the fearsome rodents.

Mr Colin Brinkworth, head of catering justified the increase as owing to the increase in sales tax and adjustment to staff salaries. These increases have been placed only on prices that have not increased since January 1981 and do not apply to Senate House and the main canteen prices.

A review has been planned for next year which will be based on pre-increase prices.

John Livanas

Livanas won't sign

John Livanas, SRC representative for part-time students, in an SRC meeting on Monday night, refused to sign a declaration.

In the wake of the discovery of previous SRC executive members working for security police, the document was drawn up as a measure of protection for the SRC as a body. It is an attempt to elicit the commitment from members that they are not in any way connected to the security police or its agencies.

'I am objecting to the principle of signing a legal document and not necessarily to the contents of the document he said. When challenged by other members of the SRC he said that he agreed to the contents, but would not sign as he was not a South African Citizen and it did not apply to him.

Mr Livanas said that he will state his reasoning behind his refusal to sign, which will be minuted by the SRC.
Four members of the current SRC have admitted to receiving funds from the SMA. Bradley Liebman, Avrom Sevell and Anne Du Plessis accepted the money for 'election purposes', and were paid out by Glenn Lambert.

This was revealed by two 'liberal' members of the SRC, Paul Alexander (Vice-President SRC) and David Grolman (Further Deputy President SRC). In sworn affidavits Alexander and Grolman have made a wide range of allegations about six other members. These allegations include:

- That Anne du Plessis 'admitted to accepting SMA money to fund her election campaign', which was refused by Alexander.
- That Avrom Sevell 'admitted to accepting R100 of SMA money to fund his campaign and to signing a receipt to this effect'.
- That Bradley Liebman 'admitted to accepting R100 of SMA money to fund his campaign, and signing receipts to this effect'.
- That Glenn Lambert, who has known SMA links, 'Acting as paymaster' and 'arranging meetings' for other candidates with Russel Crystal, leader of the SMA.
- That Chick Forsyth, who topped the election poll and John Livanas, the business school rep, had sided with du Plessis, Liebman, Sevell and Lambert.

Alexander told Wits Student that Lambert had approached him on the day of the elections with R50 in cash. Lambert told Alexander that this could be used for his election campaign and asked Alexander to sign a receipt. Alexander refused.

Alexander and Grolman also pointed out that Chick Forsyth also sided with du Plessis, Liebman, Sevell and Lambert. Alexander also alleged that Forsyth's campaign helpers were SMA members.

Grolman and Alexander have called on Liebman, Du Plessis, Sevell and Lambert to 'do the only honourable thing and resign'.

The affidavits go on to accuse Glenn Lambert, who has known SMA links, of 'Acting as paymaster' and 'arranging meetings' for other candidates with Russel Crystal, leader of the SMA.

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Torture in detention: allegations pile up

The issue of torture of detainees has once again been brought into focus.

Aggett assault alleged

In court last week it was alleged that two days before Dr Neil Aggett was found hanging in his cell, he was given electric shocks and was 'walking with difficulty'.

These are some of the findings arising from Mr Jabu Ngwenya's evidence last week at the Johannesburg Inquest Court. Mr Ngwenya, a trade unionist released last week after more than 10 months in jail, told the court he had spoken with Dr Aggett on February 3rd and had noticed that Dr Aggett was walking wide-legged as if there was 'something wrong with his private parts'.

Aggett told him that he had been given electric shocks and was about to show Mr Ngwenya something on his arm when he was stopped by a policeman.

The evidence given by Mr Ngwenya is consistent with that of another ex-detainee, Mr Samuel Larumo, who also described Dr Aggett as 'walking with difficulty', shortly before he died. His evidence was also consistent with the evidence given by ex-detainee, Mr Njekelona, who said Dr Aggett showed him a wound on his arm. Mr George Bizos SC, for the Aggett family, read out the District Surgeon's report which described 'scab-like wounds on Dr Aggett's arms.'

Mr Pieter Schabot SC, for the Minister of Law and Order, said that all these allegations would be denied by the policemen involved.

The memorandum claimed that torture was used as a standard practice for extracting information from detainees.

The statements have been sent to the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Louis Le Grange. In the statements, the former detainees allege mental and physical torture, humiliation and intimidation.

The statements include claims of 22 cases of electric shock torture, 25 cases of people being kept naked during interrogation and 28 cases of enforced standing for long periods. There are also allegations of 20 cases of sleep deprivation, 54 cases of beating, slapping and kicking, 11 cases of suspension in mid-air, and 14 cases of attacks on genitals.

The DPSC released the statements in response to an order by Mr Le Grange for a CID investigation into such allegations. This came after a memorandum was sent to Mr Le Grange by the DPSC in April this year.

Minister of Law and Order, Louis Le Grange

On the subject of medical care, the detainees have complained of cur- soratory examination; irregular visits; the power of the Police to overrule the District Surgeon; threats by interrogators not to complain to District Surgeon; and reports back from the District Surgeon to the interrogators.

There have been repeated cases where detainees have taken the Security Police to court over torture allegations. The DPSC point out the futility of charges against the Security Police. The committee points out that there are few cases where Security policemen have been charged, and none known where any have been convicted.

Mr Le Grange acknowledged receipt of the report, and said that he would issue a response. His response was not yet available at the time this report was written.

Massive Stats failure rate

Applied Maths, Computer Science and Maths Stats recently failed their first Stats est in droves.

Some of the students who failed got good firsts in the Computer Science section of the course.

Of 12 multiple choice question, 10 were taken from tuts, with minor changes, yet students still failed.

Students have blamed various factors: 'too much content', 'too high level', 'laborious presentation', 'bad lecturing', 'system of negative marking in the multiple choice'.

Prof Boyd, the head of the department and lecturer in charge allegedly said 'This course separates the men from the boys'. 19% of the class are in danger of losing their DP's for not attending tuts, which are felt to be unproductive

The department has arranged special tutorials for students with marks between 30% and 50%. This does not, however, cater for those who got less than 0%.

Students who approached the Science Rep, Andrew Stoddart, said they felt intimidated by Prof Boyd. The class reps were not effective.

Prof Boyd dismissed the complaints presented by the Science Rep. He refused to discuss the matter, saying the Science Rep had no standing in the issue.

Prof Boyd said that Mr Stoddart had been listening to the gripes of a few students. He said he would only discuss the matter with Class Reps or a deputation of students.

Mr Stoddart has sent a letter to the Dean asking for confirmation of his right to negotiate on behalf of the students.

SRC condemn decision

SRC President, Lloyd Vogelman said that "Council's decision was not punitive enough in line with the SMA's contemptuous attitude to Student government.'

This was a response to council's decision which reprimanded the SMA for flaunting the by-laws and constitution of the SRC.

The SMA has been reinstated on campus after SRC withdrew official
Collaboration with the SADF:

‘Why I say no!’

South Africa today is characterised by growing civil conflict. It is also fighting an increasingly bloody war against SWAPO in Namibia.

At the same time allegations have been made that SA has been involved in attempts to destabilise Angola, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, the Seychelles and other African states. In South Africa itself the military control of the State has reached unprecedented levels.

It is against this background that Billy Paddock, a 31 year old civil engineer and sociologist, has decided to resist military service. He faced a court martial on the 5th October.

Although Paddock has had a theological training he has chosen to make his stand on political rather than religious grounds.

In a long and detailed statement entitled ‘Why I say “No!” to collaboration with the SADF’, Paddock has motivated his decision.

Paddock writes that he cannot enter the SADF ‘because of the role it plays in defending the structural violence of the SA system’. Confronted by the reality of this violence – manifested in oppressive and exploitative laws – Christians cannot remain neutral.

It is hypocritical, says Paddock, for Christians to condemn violence directed against the system if at the same time they accept the violence used to defend it. The SA regime’s refusal to allow a ‘peaceful revolution’ to take place necessitates radical action by Christians and all others opposed to the system.

Paddock sympathises with those who have chosen the path of violence in their struggle against racism and capitalism in SA.

He quotes Jurgen Molmann: ‘The problem of violence and non-violence is an illusion problem. There is only the question of the justified and unjustified use of force.’

Paddock’s stand is based on the conviction that the SADF is engaged in the illegitimate use of force.

Having made the decision not to fight for the Defence Force, Paddock was then faced with two options: to leave the country or to object.

He writes: ‘I did not want to leave the country or to “objet” I believe I have a role to play among the peoples of this country from oppression and exploitation. I believe I can do this best by remaining in the country and committing myself to this struggle.’

Paddock explains why, in his view, the violence perpetrated by the SADF is unjustified. He notes that there are eight criteria which have to be satisfied before a war can be declared just:

- it must be declared by a legitimate authority;
- it must be waged for a just cause;
- it must be carried out with a right or good intention;
- it must have a reasonable chance of success;
- it must be undertaken only as a last resort; the good that will be accomplished must outweigh the evil expected in bringing about the good;
- the war must be carried out with just means; and
- it must give rise to a situation of just peace.

Regarding the question of legitimate authority Paddock notes SA’s continued occupation of Namibia was declared illegal in a 1971 decision of the International Court of Justice and is opposed by the people of the territory.

In SA itself the government was not constituted for the common good and does not administer and distribute justice. The regime is not a legitimate authority but rather a tyranny.

Turning to the question of just cause, Paddock remarks that ‘the SADF is engaged in a war against Blacks who have fled this country’s oppressive and exploitative system of apartheid and capitalism in SADF. According to Paddock, the refusal of the majority to accept the types of reforms being offered by the state will ensure that they will never be successfully crushed. The war to defend apartheid can never be won.

There is thus no reasonable chance of success. At the same time, the SADF is not resorting to violence as a “last resort”. In Namibia SA has shown its reluctance to negotiate a settlement, while in SA it has detained and arrested rather than negotiated with the real leaders of the resistance.

In a war that no-one can win, no amount of violence can be said to be “proportional”. And the war must certainly not be being carried out by just means. There have been numerous reports of atrocities committed by SADF personnel. Paddock points to the Cassinga massacre of women and children and to the systematic use of torture.

Regarding the possibility of a “just peace”, Paddock notes that if the SADF were to come to power as a result of a peaceful settlement, it is not being carried out by just means. There have been numerous reports of atrocities committed by SADF personnel. Paddock points to the Cassinga massacre of women and children and to the systematic use of torture.

Billy Paddock

them school pupils who fled after clashes with the police in 1976 and 1977.

‘Thus the war is a civil war and not a war of defense against some external faceless oppressor.’

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Wits Student examines the causes of tensions in the Middle East

Israel and the Palestinians

Amid mounting world-wide condemnation and internal Israeli dissent, the government of Prime Minister Menachem Begin has reluctantly committed itself to an investigation of the recent massacre of Palestinian refugees in Beirut by Israeli-sponsored rightist militias. The Sabra and Shatila killings have occurred against the background of Israel's invasion and continued occupation of Lebanon. Since Israeli forces first moved into West Beirut some 17,000 people, mostly civilians, have died.

To understand recent events in Lebanon we need to know something about the dynamics of Israeli and Lebanese history.

Zionism is a complex and controversial subject. At its origins Zionism was part of late 19th century Imperialism. As Britain set out to extend its political and economic influence overseas, the proposal to set up a European colony in Palestine became more appealing.

In 1879 Lord Shaftesbury argued that 'Syria and Palestine will before long become important. The country lacks capital and population. The Jews can give it both. And has not England a special interest in such a restoration?'

The Zionist pioneer Herzl appealed to the man responsible for the British colonial subjugation of Rhodesia, Cecil John Rhodes, to assist him in colonizing Palestine.

Britain became especially eager to set up a European outpost in Palestine after an anti-imperialist Pan-Arab Nationalism began to grow during the First World War.

That the Zionists understood their role in the British Empire is illustrated by the words of Chaim Weizmann, a Zionist pioneer. 'Should Palestine fall within the British sphere of influence and should Britain encourage settlement... (we could) develop the country, bring back civilization to it and form a very effective guard for the Suez Canal'.

What the Zionists really wanted, however, was an independent Jewish state, and to achieve this they abandoned Britain and, for a number of reasons, turned for support to the US during the 40's. In subsequent decades Israel became American Imperialism's major ally in a volatile and oil-rich region threatened by anti-western nationalism.

Britain's own role in Palestine was entirely duplicitous. During World War One the British promised independence to Palestine as a reward for Palestinian support in the struggle to overthrow the pro-German Ottoman Empire.

In secret, however, it declared its readiness to support Jewish settlement. At the Versailles Conference Britain admitted an astonished Arab World that it had indeed issued the Balfour Declaration promising Jews a home in Palestine.

In practice Britain's support for the Zionists was erratic. The influx of Jewish immigrants was restricted during the 1920's. One reason for this was the colonial administration realized the Zionist's unilateral establishment of an embryonic political and military government was a clear indication that the Jewish settlers were planning to eventually evict the British.

But there was a more fundamental reason.

Zionist settlement occurred at the expense of the Arab peasants, the fellahin — who subsisted on the land coveted by the settlers. Many of the fellahin were tenants on large estates; others were small-scale farmers.

Zionist colonising agents made profitable deals with absentee landowners, buying their lands and pushing out tenants with minimal compensation. In other cases Zionist financiers bought the plots of debt-ridden Arab peasants.

The result was the large dispossession of the Palestinian people.

Arabs forced off the land sought employment on Jewish farms. Here they were treated badly. The Jewish poet Ha'am observed: 'They treat Arabs with hostility and cruelty; they deprive them of their rights, offend them without cause, even boast of their deeds.'

The problem was compounded by the policy of 'Law and Order'. The basis of this policy was the political alliance between Arabic and Jewish political parties to form a single government.

The policies of the British authorities in Palestine during the 1930's can be summed up in two words: Law and Order. The Arab population was treated as a second-class citizen, with less rights and less protection than the Jewish settlers.

The British became increasingly unpopular with the Arab population. This was the background to the rise of Arab nationalism in Palestine.

The Arab National movement emerged in the 1920's as a reaction to the frustration and poverty of the Arab peasantry. The movement was organized and run by the Muslim Brotherhood, a political party that sought to establish an Islamic state in Palestine.

The British authorities responded to the Arab National movement by increasing their repression of the Arab population. This only served to increase Arab dissatisfaction with the British mandate.

The Zionist movement, on the other hand, was supported by the British authorities. The British authorities hoped that the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine would provide a buffer against Arab nationalism.

The conflict between the British authorities and the Arab National movement continued throughout the mandate period. The Arab National movement became increasingly militant, and the British authorities responded with increasing repression.

The result was a conflict that lasted for over 50 years, and ultimately led to the establishment of the state of Israel.

The story of the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians is a long and complex one, and it is impossible to tell it in full in this short space. However, the basic causes of the conflict can be summarized as follows:

- The desire of the Jewish people for a sovereign state of their own.
- The desire of the Arab people to keep the land that they lived in.
- The British mandate, which was seen by both sides as a temporary arrangement.
- The desire of the United Nations to establish a Palestinian state.

These are the basic causes of the conflict, and they are still the causes of the conflict today. The conflict is not likely to be resolved in the near future, and it is a conflict that will continue to shape the Middle East for years to come.
government of the US and by the British administration in Palestine.

In America, Socialists and non-Zionist Jewish organizations protested against Roosevelt's immigration quotas.

Zionism's voice was nowhere to be heard. The reason was simple. Zionism was not, according to Ben Gurion, fundamentally interested in finding homes for Jewish refugees.

Its sole concern was to promote Jewish settlement in Palestine.

He said: 'If Jews will have to choose between the refugees, saving Jews from concentration camps, and assisting a national museum in Palestine, mercy will have the upper hand and the whole energy of the people will be channeled into saving Jews from various countries. Zionism will be struck off the agenda...

If we allow a separation between the refugee problem and the Palestine problem, we are risking the whole of Zionism.' (letter to the Zionist executive 17 December 1938).

This neglect of Jewish refugees took on sinister proportions.

At one stage a Hungarian Zionist agreed to abandon thousands of Jews to concentration camps provided the Nazi authorities assisted the emigration of a small number — the 'best biological material' to Palestine.

Zionist disregard for Jewish refugees reflected a paradoxical fact about the movement in its early stages: namely the fact that it mirrored anti-semitism.

Both Zionists and anti-semites agreed that there was no place for Jews in Europe; that Jews were necessarily aliens for as long as the Diaspora continued. Many Zionists saw anti-semitism as a congenital condition which it was futile to struggle against, and bitterly opposed those Marxist Jews in Russia who argued that anti-semitism should be attacked at its roots and destroyed through a social revolution.

For the Zionists the only solution to the 'Jewish Question' was Palestine.

The overlap between anti-semitism and Zionism resulted in the movement acquiring some strange bedfellows. In 1903 Herzl met with von Plehve, the tsarist minister who organised the pogrom at Kishinev.

In exchange for the assistance of this rabid anti-semite, Herzl agreed not to raise the question of the Kishinev massacre at the Zionist Congress which followed shortly after wards.
The new Jewish settlers. On the homes, shops and land left by the Palestinians to absorb the new Jewish settlers.

The Fatah was formally established in the early 60's but it was the war of 1967 that activated Palestinian resistance.

During the war, Israel occupied new land in Gaza and the West Bank. One million more Palestinians were incorporated under Israeli rule. There was an upsurge of Fedayeen sabotage raids.

There were two strategies within the PLO. The Fatah believed most of the Palestinians should not only challenge the internal structure of Arab states since they would then lose their base of operations. The Zionists were their first enemy and only after the liberation of Palestine the reactionary Arab regimes would be overthrown.

The Popular front, however, saw that the liberation of Palestine and radical changes in the Arab government went hand in hand.

They called for the overthrow of Hussein and the establishment of a democratic Jordanian state.

In 1970, Jordan's King Hussein launched a massive attack on those PLO factions which had sought to undermine his pro-Western regime. Thousands more Palestinians fled to Lebanon. The bloody events in Jordan triggered a series of brutal terrorist attacks in Israel launched by a splinter group calling itself Black September.

Resistance within West Bank and Gaza was sparked. A Palestinian National Front was formed in occupied territory to link the struggle with that of exiled Palestinians. The movement incorporated trade unions, women's organisations, student organisations and political parties.

The strength of the PNP is revealed in a boycott of September 1973 trade union elections in which 60% of the Palestinian Arabs voted for the so-called legitimate representatives of the Palestinian people.

The PLO struggle gradually came to involve less military and more diplomatic activity.

In 1969, its decision to use force, make Israel found herself engaged in a war of attrition with neighbouring states. On three occasions 1956, 1967 and 1973 open wars broke out. In all these cases Israeli claims were sincere or not to be taken 'seriously'.

This changed, however, around 1976/7, when Israeli began to actively intervene in the Lebanese civil war in support of the Right-wing forces. From then on Israel began a policy of active aggression and expansion.

New paramilitary settlements were established on the West Bank and Gaza Strip; the Golan Heights were annexed, an Israeli puppet regime was set up in Southern Lebanon; and an Iraqi nuclear reactor was bombed.

At the same time Egypt was reduced under pressure from the US, Israel and its own economic problems to a client state of Israel. In exchange Israel ceded the Sinai to Egypt (after securing the demilitarisation of its eastern region).

Once Sinai had been returned, Israel turned its guns on Lebanon. It proceeded to launch a military offensive against the PLO and the Lebanese Left, in spite of the fact that the PLO had, according to Professor Porath, been observing the cease-fire for more than a year. According to Professor Meron, the Begin régime had been disseminating 'lies and misinformation' to justify its attack.

Modern Israel is an American subsidised arms-exporting super-power which has assisted numerous reactionary régimes in their struggle against democratic opposition (Somalia, Nicaragua, South Africa, North Vietnam, and many others).

Today the early ideals of Labour Zionism have been swept aside. Menial work is done by underpaid Arab guest-workers from the West Bank and elsewhere; manual work is considered to be beneath less. State capitalism is giving way to private capitalism; class differentiation is growing; the pioneering titre of the Labour Party, the Histadrut and the Kibbutzim have given way to the faction of the Likud Blue.

Israel's brutality on the West Bank and Gaza has been well documented. At a press conference organized by the Peace Now movement in May, Major Barabas of the Israeli army and some of his colleagues admitted that military rule in the occupied areas is characterised by repression, humiliation, maltreatment and collective punishment.

According to Captain Neria, 'soldiers are sent into villages in the middle of the night. They drag people out of their homes, concentrate them in groups and assault them'. Lieutenant Shuki Cohen said that Arabs were treated like 'filth' and that settlers had been entering their houses, beating people up and smashing property. 'Soon', said Lieutenant Avneri, 'we will lining all those people up against a wall and shooting them.'

The Lebanese conflict in which Israel intervened was essentially a class struggle between predominantly peasant and working class Muslim organisations assisted by the PLO and the private armies of powerful families drawn from the Christian elite.

The Maronite Christian middle class - bankers, businessmen, professionals had run the government and army of Lebanon for years. Groomed by the French, who took their fee as protection of 'delegation' in the time of the Ottoman Empire, the Maronites gained a position of privilege during the French mandate in Lebanon.

When Lebanon became independent in 1943 the French set up a system based on 'confessional' or religious differences. The Maronites, composing half the population received a majority of seats in parliament and control of the army. The remaining seats went primarily to Moslems. Despite the rapid increase in Moslem population this proportion was maintained, so that in the 1982 elections the Moslems remained underrepresented.

In 1948, Lebanon received 100,000 Palestinian refugees who upset the balance between the Christian and Moslem population.

A 'belt of misery' gradually developed around Beirut. It was inhabited by the Palestinian refugees and poor Lebanese - mostly the Muslim farmers from South Lebanon. They were discriminated against by the Lebanese government in rural areas where the government neglected sanitation, communication and irrigation projects, and in the cities where unemployment was high.

The early 1970's were characterised by waves of strikes and demonstrations by Lebanese workers and students.

The Palestinians began training militias of progressive organisations in a move to broaden the popular struggle. Their self defence was necessary. For many years the right-wing businessmen and politicians had been organising private militias to complement the army. Notable among these is the right-wing phalangists modelled on Hitler and Mussolini's armies. The phalangists were established to 'defend' one Maronite Christian middle class.

The Lebanese civil war saw atrocities committed by both sides. The most notorious and brutal was the slaughter of 1,800 Palestinian civilians at the Tal Al Zataar camp by rightist forces disguised as Red Cross workers.

When the balance of forces in the war appeared to be favouring the Left-PLO alliance, the US sponsored a Syrian intervention to beat them back, enabling the Right to launch its own offensive. Syria then switched sides.

Over 40,000 people perished in the civil war.

These, then, are the tragic and intertwined histories of the two nations that have been prominent in the headlines recently. No solution is possible while the Palestinians' right to self-determination is denied and the Christians' continue to defend their positions of privilege in Lebanon.

As one Palestinian fighter, speaking for oppressed people everywhere, explained: 'Even if I feel that I have no power and no leader to direct me to rebel, I have another director which is suppression and subordination.'

Women fighters in Jordan, September 1970: there are many women guerillas among the PLO forces.
Support for Lipschitz

In reply to a letter published in Wits Student Vol 34 No 23 regarding the alleged split between Sandy Lipschitz and myself concerning the nominations for Chairperson to the Academic Freedom Committee (AFC) I would just like to state that this was definitely no form of personal antagonism between the two of us but rather an attempt on behalf of myself, Avrom Sevall, to express our objections to the insidious way the broad left was attempting to manipulate us into accepting positions they had preordained that we should accept. We felt it our duty to make an objection of this form due to the fact that we do have a mandate from campus and regard it as our moral obligation to uphold our principles and our promises to our electorate.

In conclusion I would like to state that Avrom Sevall and I, as members of the AFC fully support Sandy Lipschitz and offer her our full co-operation and applaud the good work she has done on this committee to date.

Bradley Liebman

Alexander replies

In response to the letters and editorial appearing in last week's Wits Student, and subsequent scurrilous accusations made against David Grolman and me, I would like to clarify my position.

I am a liberal and I stand by the principles outlined in my election manifesto. I have not changed my mind since the election, those who distance themselves from me are distancing themselves from the principles they were elected on.

Paul Alexander
Vice-President, SRC

Liberals say more

In reply to a letter which we expect to appear in this week's Wits Student, shown to us by Ms Anne du Plessis, we feel we should explain our position to campus.

As the left have a majority on this year's SRC we felt that the Liberals must provide effective opposition while at the same time preventing personal and political groups on campus from taking the initiative to influence policy. In these attempts to focus on 'alternatives' the student press cannot be expected to reflect the views of individuals on the editorial board of Wits Student.

It does, however, reflect our determination to provide a progressive alternative to the commercial media and to stimulate constructive debate on campus.

This is the last Wits Student for 1982. With three weeks to go to exams and 83 days to go in the year Wits Student wishes you everything of the best in exams and in the new year.

Alexander and Grolman are 'tokens'

The Liberal Caucus and the independents would like to set the minds of our supporters at rest and let it be known that we are not violating our individual principles and are determined in our common goal of providing a strong and effective opposition on the SRC.

In answer to allegations in the Wits Student editorial (Vol 34 No 23), we have no links with conservative organisations on or off campus and we view this as nothing more than a smear campaign.

At this point we endorse our standpoint as the opposition on the SRC in that we believe in a campaign with all other political groups on campus whether they be right-wing, left-wing or conservative. Unlike certain political groups on campus which claim to support Freedom of Thought, Speech and Association, and then make inferences about our members being fascists if they're seen talking to Russell Crystal, or being ardent left-wingers if they're seen talking to Lloyd Vogelman; we believe in exercising our rights and dismissing these ridiculous claims as mere sensationalism.

We also feel that our duties to inform our electorate about the misleading and exaggerated claims in the Vogelman interview (Wits Student Vol 34 No 22) in which he states that the Liberal swing on campus was 'recognised by the SRC and is reflected in the senior positions on the SRC that are occupied by liberal SRC members'. We see Alexander and Grolman as 'token liberals' on the SRC Executive, a move by the Left to bluff campus into believing we have a Liberal SRC in spite of the fact that the Liberals have no other significant portfolios.

We have a mandate from campus and intend executing our promises to the best of our abilities. Any attempts to bait us are doomed to failure.

Glenn Lambert
Chick Forsyth
Anne du Plessis
Bradley Liebman
Avrom Sevall

The 'liberal' SMA

I was very interested to read of allegations levelled at various students by Action Liberals this week, concerning links with Right-wing organisations.

As a keen follower of SMA strategy over the last few years these allegations do not surprise me.

In 1980, the SMA put up its own candidates for election to the SRC. Only one of their men, Dietmar Grolman, was an individual who presented a serious alternative to the domination of the left.

He was the only candidate who had the vision of being able to increase the artificially low voter turnout and start a discussion on the role of student politics in the university. His success was a clear indication of the support that the students had for a more coherent student movement.

In 1982, when the SRC elections were held, the students were faced with only two alternatives: to support a right-wing candidate who had no significant portfolio or to support a member of the SMA who had a history of challenging the status quo.

I believe that the students had the right to choose, and I hope that they will continue to support candidates who are prepared to challenge the establishment and fight for a more effective student movement.

In the future, I would encourage all students to be more careful when voting for liberal and apolitical candidates in the future.

'Eye for the Future'

NUSA Conference
28 Nov - 3 Dec
SAUJS finds deplorable the attitude taken in the Wits Student editorial (vol 34 no 23) and we refute the veracity of certain statements on which the editor bases his erroneous conclusions.

We contest the validity of the claim that Israel was "directly involved in the massacres in at least four crucial areas."

1. Israel disarmed the PLO whose military role in Lebanon included defending Palestinian refugee camps from right-wing militiamen. The implication that Israel's reason for disarming the PLO was deliberately to expose Palestinian refugees to the vengeance of the right-wing militiamen, we find ridiculous. It should be superfluous to emphasize that the sole reason for 'Operation Peace for the Galilee' was to protect the citizens of Israel's northern border, as well as the defenceless non-PLO Muslims and Christians. Concomitantly, does the murder of civilians by the PLO constitute its form of defence of the Palestinian people?

2. 'Israel militarily, financially and politically supports the right-wing militiamen that carried out the massacres. This applied, .. to the forces of Major Haddad in the South.' We are certainly not 'defending Palestinian civilians.' We draw the editor's attention to the orderly transfer of the third refugee camp in the area, Burj Al Barajneh, by the IDF into the hands of the official Lebanese Army, thus ensuring the safety of its residents and precluding any acts of vengeance.

3. 'They (Israel) allegedly intervened to 'Keep the peace.' Keeping the peace evidently meant shooting or arresting Leftist (not PLO) civilians not defending Palestinian civilians.'

4. 'Israel refused to intervene to stop the slaughter. It must be pointed out that only the intervention of the IDF had prevented further slaughter, by evading the undisciplined elements among the Christian militiamen. In fairness it has to be said that Israel, already condemned for being in Lebanon, was not responsible for the massacre.

5. 'Israel refused to intervene to stop the slaughter. It must be pointed out that only the intervention of the IDF had prevented further slaughter, by evading the undisciplined elements among the Christian militiamen. In fairness it has to be said that Israel, already condemned for being in Lebanon, was not responsible for the massacre.'

SAUJS places on record its strong faith in the independence of the Israeli Government to establish and make known the truth of the events which occurred in Sabra and Shatila. Until such time as the results of the inquiry have been published, judgement of the kind passed by the editor is premature and reflects his emotional bias rather than the objective truth.

Ultimately, one has to question the blatanly hypocritical posture demonstrated when students at Wits campus, praying vehemently against the destruction of the human race, align themselves closely with an organisation dedicated to terror. The wear of a black armband to mourn civilians (also Jewish) deaths will certainly be remembered as one of Wits campus' greater ironies.

Issued by SAUJS

Rabbi replies to editorial

Vol 34 No 23 of your newspaper reflected a most disturbing attitude of the new editorial board with reference to Israel and Jewish sensitivity.

On page 3 your emblazon in a headline 'BSS condemns Israeli atrocities', using an emotional word could be interpreted as an indifferent thought that was not even present in the article following. It is strange that you should wish to go even further than the BSS's outrage and imply that the massacres of Palestinian civilians actually undertaken by the Israelis. Where are your facts, Mr Editor? Where is your journalistic responsibility? Talk about inflammatory journalism, Sensation seekers! And so on to your artificial editorial.

In your fourth point you state that 'now Israel appears to have . . . ah, there's the rub. You do not have the facts. All that you have to go on are rumours and appearances. But that seems to be enough for you to condemn an embattled country and all those who will not dissociate themselves from its government. Do you not think that justice would be better served, if people in responsible positions did not jump to conclusions and incite hatred ('sinister implication of Zionism') but rather had the patience to wait for the facts to be known? Perhaps it is you who have the duty to set the record straight. I wonder: should the court of inquiry vindicate Begin and Sharon, will you write an apologetic editorial? I wonder? (Rabbi) Michael Katz

Deputy Chairman, SAUJS

Phalangists not Nazis

In the article headed 'BSS condemns Israeli atrocities' in your recent editorial of Wits Student, the writer stated that the Lebanese Phalangist Party was formed on Fascist principles.

May I draw your attention to a few facts. The Phalangist (Katock) party was formed in 1936 by Pierre Gemayel, who, during his participation in the Berlin Olympic Games was... very impressed by the discipline, the order, and the national zeal which you cannot find in the New Lebanon (the Lebanon only 3 years independent). We, the orantals, are by nature a people individualistic and undisciplined. In Germany I have been filled with admiration by the perfect discipline of the orantals, are by nature a people individualistic and undisciplined. In Germany I have been filled with admiration by the perfect discipline of the Phalangists not Nazis

Who is Sheila Dre

I hope you won't keep campus in suspense for too long about who Sheila Drew is what she did for a photograph, to appear in the Section of our last publ

Unfortunately this was referred to in the coverage of the meetin

Mommy

Sheila Drew read a statement on behalf of the Barlow Rand at the Conference. Unfortunately this was referred to in the coverage of the meeting. - Sheila Drew reads the statement on behalf of the Barlow Rand at the Conference.
Dog Detachment (l to r): Terry Typhoon, Brian Wylde, Animal, MXY7

Mission: Galactic rule

They handle musical instruments like weapons, wear uniforms on stage, even have a military-style name, yet Dog Detachment's songs and attitudes are anti-violence, anti-war, and even, or so they believe, anti-politics.

'You find yourself redundant, the victim of a dream of those who want world control — the dictators of the scheme' from Machines, C B Armstrong.

Dog Detachment's 'Machines' is a protest song. Protesting against war, against the sterile mechanisation of labour, and against the computerisation of human existence, they are also waging their own war against musical restriction.

They boldly satirise the system in which they operate. Unfortunately, some misinterpret their image and hail the band as standard-bearers of right-wing violence. The old Dog song, 'Iron Youth', is a chilling condemnation of the Nazi concept and of totalitarianism (with disturbing overtones for South Africans), yet the skinheads who spit and sieg-heil in front of the stage at the Dog's live performances, think the song is for them.

Terry (bass, vocals) agrees that their image appears fascist on the surface, but, as with other members of the band, refuses to apologise or compromise.

'Look, it's satire. If we have to spell it out, it's not worth doing.'

Brian Wylde, guitarist and vocalist, says that the image has to be powerful to get people's attention. It makes people's reactions that much stronger when they realise that all is not what it seems.

When they first emerged as Dog on the tail end of South Africa's punk invasion, it would not have been too far from the truth. Did this embarrass them?

'Not!' says Brian. 'If we can get nominated for a Sarie by doing what we want to do, it's excellent. As long as we're not conforming.'

Terry points out that in this way, 'making the unacceptable acceptable,' the band is contributing towards changing South African music.

The principle that original music should be indigenous is rejected outright.

'We play the kind of music we like,' says Terry, 'so if we enjoy British type music, we play that.'

Dog Detachment view every gig as an event, unlike club bands that eventually turn into professional hores. As opposed to their Dog days when they relied on 'bashing it out' to an impression, they now go 'controlled power'.

Anirnal feels that this gives them as slightly organised noise. Dog eventually split after experiencing local music's endemic disease, 'personnel hassles'.

Dog Detachment surfaced soon after with a far more thoughtful attitude — they were going to be original, they were going to be themselves, allowing their musical direction to develop spontaneously, they and they were going to be good.

The result is a big surprise to local music.

From a finished-before-they-started punk group, Dog Detachment has emerged as one of South Africa's leading 'alternative' contemporary bands, with an unparalleled image.

On stage the band resembles an assault group, giving credence to a statement by Animal (guitar, vocals, second bass) that 'a guitar is a weapon and must be used as such.'

Brian describes the band members as 'Moonstrappers', which he feels is in line with their aim of galactic domination.

Animal feels that this gives people something to identify with.

The major obstacle in their path to cosmic control is that their sound is not what South African programme directors consider safe for their listeners. Somehow, though, they do get airplay, and were even nominated for a Sarie award last season.

Arthur Goldst

VOW hit parade

This Week | Last Week
1. | Da Da Da | TRIO
2. | Caught up in you | 38 Special
3. | Eye in the Sky | Alan Parsons
4. | Lala Reggae | Stevie Kekana
5. | Budgie | David Kramer
6. | Come on Eileen | Dexy's Midnight Runners
7. | Street Life | The Crusaders
8. | Rosanna | Toto
9. | My own way | Duran Duran
10. | Abracadabra | Steve Miller Band
11. | Pledging | Robert Plant
12. | Who can it be now | Men At Work
13. | Nightbirds | Shakatak
14. | Bakgat Boogie | David Kramer
15. | Valerie | Steve Winwood
16. | Keep the fire burning | The Speedwagon
17. | Scatterlings of Africa Juluka | McCoy
18. | Ballad of an MCP | David Kramer
19. | Stepping out | Joe Jackson
20. | N / E | N / E

Arthur Goldst
David Bowie: taking on the world

Last week Wits Student looked at David Bowie's stylistic eccentricities. In this feature we examine his music.

In the 60's critics called him the 'Englishman who knows what makes today's hits happen!' Well, they were wrong! It took six years for his brand of rock 'n roll to imprint itself on the world.

After being mesmerised by the movie, 2001: A Space Odyssey, Bowie broke into planet earth with 'Space Oddity' in early 1970. The song was eventually used as a theme for television coverage of the first moonwalk. Obviously TV producers had not scrutinized the lyrics. The song is really about profound alienation. Bowie's astronaut hero - Major Tom - lifts off, looks back on the planet and decides to cut off all communication and never return.

The grand slam came in 1972 with 'The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust'. The album is all about the concept of rock and roll. Bowie became Ziggy Stardust on and off the stage. In 1972 Bowie was not the star that his Ziggy character was, but by 1973 Bowie refused to behave like a struggling hopeful any longer.

The 1970's were spent to depict Bowie riding in limousines, Bowie staying in the best hotels, Bowie eating caviar. Bowie acted as if he was a superstar, and soon he was accepted as such! If the plot had backfired, who knows.

'Rebel rebel' hit the #1 charts fast. The song celebrates the antics of a freaked out teenager.

On the 'Diamond Dogs' album, Bowie began to use his talents on the guitar, as opposed to being exclusively a vocalist.

Bowie's visit to the USA in 1975 re-activated his interest in black American music and in disco. He was interested in the latter as a means of individual expression. With the Young Americans' Bowie began to attract the mainstream or 'commercial' audience. The album provides some exciting funk. Bowie remarked - 'I'm really knocked out that people dance to my album!'

In 1979 Bowie's 'Lodger' flopped. It was equivalent to a giant hit for anyone else, but by Bowie's own standards it was a flop.

Bowie had been temporarily upstaged by Gary Numan's synthesizers!

The most recent Bowie's truly devastating albums is his 'Scary Monsters' recorded in 1980. The song 'Fashion' tells of the National Front invading the discos and dance, politics and fashion become metaphors for each other: turn to the left, turn to the right. 'Fashion' is the perfect anti-disco song yet it utilizes a classically irresistible dance beat. It comments simultaneously on the death of disco, the rise of the politics of brutality and the fact that fashions affect considerably more than simply clothes and cultural accessories.

And where to from here . . .

David Bowie in 'the young American'

'Station to Station' (1976) effectively divides the '70's for Bowie. It ties off the era of Ziggy and plastic soul, and introduces a taste of what was to follow in 'Low'. It features the last of the Bowie personas - the Thin White Duke. The Duke is an aristocrat who expresses himself in clichés, with domination on his mind. 'Station to Station' was Bowie's farewell to America cocaine, and the high life of the biggest rock star. The Thin White Duke was locked into a trunk and one hopes he will be left there for good!

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And where to from here . . .

B. COMM. OR EQUIVALENT?

Join an established training programme to equip yourself for a senior position.

The Coal Division of the Anglo American Corporation of South Africa is one of the largest and most progressive private sector coal mining groups in the world. We operate a number of major collieries in different locations throughout the country and are constantly expanding.

To satisfy our growing need for professional skills in the disciplines of finance and administration, we devised a training scheme whereby graduates, preferably with accounting as a major subject, are attracted and developed for managerial and executive positions in the future. Postgraduate experience is not a pre-requisite.

Successful applicants will complete a formal training programme on our collieries. During this period they will receive a comprehensive and thorough grounding in the administrative and financial systems and procedures, and the management skills utilised within the Division. The programme will be supplemented by outside seminars, workshops and conferences as well as formal courses. Successful completion will result in the Graduate Trainees being appointed to key positions in the Division.

Because of our steady growth, we offer unequalled scope for advancement, challenge and job satisfaction. Fringe benefits include *subsidised single accommodation of housing (including water and electricity) at R10 per month. *generous leave = 13th cheque = medical aid and pension schemes = excellent sports facilities.

Interested persons are invited to write to Mr. J. van den Berg, Coal Division, P.O. Box 61587, Marshalltown 2107, giving full personal and career details.

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Bruce Fordyce makes it three in a row

This year's Sportsman of the Year Dinner was held at the Old Edwardian club on Wednesday, 29th September. This year's Dinner saw 30 full certificates awarded.

The dinner was attended by 200, with Dr Tim Noakes as guest speaker. The Sportsman, and Sportswoman of the Year, top club and sportsmanship awards winners were chosen from 14 nominated clubs, sportsmen and women.

Bruce Fordyce, Howard Herr, Eric Rosenburg, Murray Winklpy Mandy Yachad and Niels Verkerk were nominated for the Grant Mackenzie Sportsman of the Year Award.

In the woman's section Fiona Duncan, Leslie Pedlar and Gillian Winkler were nominated for the Sportswoman of the Year Award.

The Sportsman of the Year was however Bruce Fordyce. Fordyce is at present in his final year of his MA (Archaeology). In 1981-82 Bruce Fordyce established himself as one of the greatest ultra marathon runners of all time.

He won the London—Brighton Marathon last year and two weeks ago defended his title in fine style. He also won the Comrades Marathon in May this year — no mean achievement. Bruce was selected for the SAU Marathon team as well. At club level he has inspired younger members and is a true credit to Wits.

Gillian Winkler won the Terence Berkow Sportswoman of the Year Trophy. Her award was well deserved and evidence of this is her rapid move up the SA ratings (no 10 in March to No 4 in August).

The Skydiving club won the Sportsclub of the Year Trophy. This year's club produced a SA Champion team and has trained over 62 members in the art of parachuting. The club's senior team won the National 4 man Sequential event the first University team to do so by a record score of 46 points.

Mandy Yachad, the blues

Mandy Yachad was finally awarded full University Blues at the Sportsman of the Year ceremony last week.

Mandy, who was Maccabi Sportman of the Year and made his Transvaal cricket debut last year, is poised to become one of South Africa's great all-round sportsmen.

A hockey Springbok since 1979, captain and coach of the Wits indoor side which won the Transvaal Indoor championship last year and came second this year. Captain of the inter-provincial, captain of SA Universities Hockey it is held that the awards committee had little choice.

But the same was said last year, and the year before. The problem? Mandy played cricket for Ballou-Guild.

The All Sports Council constitution carried a clause that no sportsman who played for an outside club competing against Wits could be awarded Blues for a sport he played for Wits, except in exceptional circumstances.

This year a clause was introduced loosening the rule, and the award was made, not without some opposition.

Mandy was nominated for Sportsman of the year last year (likewise this year). Had he received the award, he would probably have been the first person to be honoured thus without being awarded Blues.

Mandy himself comments, 'After all the politics and arguing about Blues in past years I think it's quite ironic if they'd given me my Blues four years ago I would have possibly considered playing cricket for Wits.'

He is not unapprreciative though.

'Generally I'd resigned myself to not getting it because of the politics and the sports council. I basically adopted an attitude of not caring whether I got it.

'Having not got it, in my last year at Wits, it's something I can look back on with pride."

Wits amateurs - Transvaal Amateur League Division II champions

Where are the fans?

Wits has been sharing the top spot in the NPSL for at least a month now, yet there is no substantial increase in their support.

The attitude amongst students seems to be, if I supported Highlands Park as a kid, I might as well support Dion Highlands as an adult.

Some complain that most members of the senior soccer side of Wits are non-students professionals who should rely on the general public and not a captive student population for support.

So how come students did not turn out in their hundreds to watch the Wits Amateurs — an all-star team?

Playing as Wits 3rds, this team has just won the 2nd division of the Transvaal Amateur League, only one season after ending top of the 3rd division.

The Wits intervarsity side

Rugby looks sharp

A sponsorship from Sharp Electronics has changed the state of Wits Interfaculty rugby. Wits was able for the first time to buy new jerseys and much needed rugby balls, as well as to stage a Rugby Dinner. The evening proved very successful and ties were awarded to the sponsors and to season's referees.

The standard of rugby in the league was very high and the finals and the play-off (3rd and 4th place) reflected what a long way this rugby has come. In the play-off match Commerce managed to contain EOH A by securing a last minute try. In the final between Mens' Res A and JCA A, Mens' Res also won by a
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