Biko remembered

'I greet you all in the powerful name of liberation. I greet you all in the name of Steve Biko,' said Popo Molefe at the commemoration meeting on Tuesday 13 September.

Steve Biko, a leader of the Black Consciousness Movement, died in detention on 12 September 1977.

Aubrey Mokwena and Popo Molefe were the speakers at this meeting.

Speaking to a packed room Aubrey Mokwena said that at the time that Black Consciousness was 'emerging as a popular and revolutionary voice lead by Steve Biko and articulating the aspirations of the people of South Africa'.

He said 'Steve Biko should be remembered as a symbol of many others who died at the hands of this racist government because of their selfless commitment to the fighter for the emancipation of the people of South Africa.'

Steve Biko

'Steve Biko was one of the soldiers who fell in the battlefield of apartheid.'

Popo Molefe saw the commemoration of Steve Biko as a 'commemoration of what he stood for.'

He said, 'the task of Black Consciousness lies in all those forms of oppression affecting the people of South Africa, the deprivation of land and Pass Laws.'

He said that Black Consciousness is a means to an end and not an end in itself, and it envisages an open, egalitarian society.

He spoke about the important role of organizations in the struggle for a free South Africa. He spoke about UDF and described UDF as 'an iceberg sliding down the slope of apartheid eroding it until it becomes a plateau of justice.'

The meeting ended with the singing of the National Anthem 'Nkosi Sikelelwa.'

Latin Prelim: saga continues

Latin Prelim students have finally solved a long drawn out conflict between the students and the department this year.

Their grievances with their course have been solved regarding course content and lectures. In the 2nd block this year students expressed dissatisfaction with the way the course was being taught, specifically with Prof. Saddington, one of the lecturers.

Prof. Saddington was removed from the main section of the course, the grammar section and was replaced by Dr. Sivan. Saddington continues to lecture in the Latin text section of the course.

However, Prof. Saddington refused to comply with the student's demands that he translate the complicated Latin texts he was setting for the students into English. Gary Pearlman, class rep after the previous rep resigned, spoke to Prof. Saddington who refused to do anything about the translations.

Matthew Chaskalson, Arts Faculty Rep. went to a meeting with Gary Pearlman and Prof. Bevin, Dean of the Faculty of Arts. The entire matter was referred to Suzman, acting head of the department.

Another issue concerning the course was a test held on August 5. Students said that 'we were only informed one day before the test regarding content.' 'Most students were not present at the lecture and thus did not know about the format the test would take.'

Saddington had set the test, but the content had been changed because Dr. Sivan had felt that it needed to be adapted to the course she was teaching. Students were not informed about this change in format.

One area where students were satisfied was course content and the new lecturer, Dr. Sivan.

Students were concerned about Dr. Sivan taking down a number of Indian students' names at the test on August 5. Students were confused as to why she had taken down the names.

Instead of clarifying her reasons she stated that she had been accused of being anti-Moslem and anti-Indian because she is Jewish said a student. Suzman later explained that there had been a misunderstanding on Dr. Sivan's part, and this served to ease Jewish-Moslem tension.

A Moslem student, who did not wish to be named, asked Dr. Sivan for permission to write a deferred test at another time. She was 'abrupt' and the class rep and Brian Levison, Edecom Chair, had to arrange for the test to be written at a time more convenient for the student.

A general explanation was given by Suzman to Latin students on September 15.

We can oppose government outside parliament

'UDF unites. Apartheid divides' was a theme at the UDF rally on Wits campus last week.

Speaking to a packed Great Hall, Curtis Nkondo stressed that UDF was based primarily on a non-racial policy. 'I believe in freedom loving South Africa fighting against apartheid as accepted as part of the UDF. We do not discriminate against anybody.'

A broad range of speakers spoke on the UDF and extra parliamentary opposition to the new constitutional proposals. It is important that we can oppose the government outside of the parliamentary process, and very effectively UDF has gained enormous support in the short time since launching.

Other speakers were Terry Lekota, Mrs Masinga, Samson Ndou and Tjie Moseneke.

Mandela for Chancellor

Nelson Mandela has been nominated for the position of Chancellor of the University of Natal.

The SRC of the Pietermaritzburg campus passed a motion last term nominating Mandela for the position. This follows the nomination of Mandela for the position of Chancellor at Wits last year.

It is not known if Nelson Mandela has accepted the nomination.

NUSAS top for Rhodes

The New Rhodes SRC elected late last term an absolute majority of NUSAS supporters.

Eleven of the fifteen office-holders were actively involved in the pro-NUSAS agitation campaign.

Alan Williams, editor of Rhodes, said 'The election results are encouraging. Although Rhodes lost the referendum by a narrow margin of votes the NUSAS has received a sound indication of the strength of support that exists among students.'
Detentions Mass Meeting:

‘Legitimate opposition is a crime’

‘If we want real change, we must be willing to pay the price.’

This was the message of the mass meeting on detention last Thursday. Over 800 people attended to express their sympathy with the two Wits Students, Karl Niehaus and Katherine Hunter, who are currently in detention.

James Alexander, chairing the meeting, explained that Karl Niehaus, Jansie Lourens (his fiancée) and Catherine Hunter were detained under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act. This ‘provides for indefinite detention, limited access to legal advice’ and ‘no independent medical attention’.

Dr A Hunter, father of Catherine Hunter, said that such absolute state control ‘have rise to horrific possibilities’.

Representing parents of ‘alive and concerned young people’ he said he was inspired by their ‘concern for their fellow humans’ and their ‘commitment to a just South Africa’.

However he was dismayed by mass student apathy. He attributed this to the ‘narrowness of the white schooling system’ which was ‘determined to propel its products into making South Africa worse’.

The education system encouraged an uncrirical acceptance of the state’s interpretation of the South African situation, fostered concern only for personal careerism, wealth and status. Dr Hunter concluded saying that it was ‘our task to make South Africa a just and equitably structured society’.

Dr David Webster, a member of DPSC and lecturer in the Social Anthropology Department focussed on detention as one aspect of repression and reconstruction in South Africa.

 SRC President smear

He pointed out that all who oppose apartheid, students, progressive community organisations and the independent trade union movement, were subject to the possibility of detention. ‘The government takes legitimate opposition activity and turns it into a crime, or intimidates you with detention’.

Pointing to the mass brutal repression of people in Ciskei, he said ‘We thought individuals were the culprits, but it is the whole system. It is rotten from top to bottom. Individuals are irrelevant.’

Dr Webster also highlighted the close collaboration between South Africa and the Ciskei. He noted that Security personnel not only advise, but are seconded to Ciskeian security police. He referred to Louis Le Grange’s remark that ‘We have a very close working relationship with the Ciskei.’

Dr Webster rejected the current ‘moves to reform’ as ‘tarting up apartheid to make it look pretty’. He concluded stating that for genuine change ‘we must work towards a non-racial democratic South Africa’.

Tiego Moseneko, president of Azaso and BSS chairperson, said that the ‘South African regime is leading South Africa on a bloodpath’. Organisations joining the struggle for democracy and ‘calling for equality and justice’ are subject to intensifying repression yet organisations such as UDF show that solidarity exists among the oppressed people of South Africa.

Suppression of legitimate aspirations could only result in embitterment and eventually violent outburst.

Brendan Barry, SRC president, said that the university’s primary historic of active opposition to apartheid was equalled by the state’s sordid history of repression. The South African superstructure was cracking. Critical protest was met by a frightening system of repression and coercion. He called for the ‘unconditional release of all detainees’.

He also noted that supporters of apartheid tried to undermine and discredit NUSAS and the SRC with smears and lies. Mr Barry warned right-wingers ‘the eyes and ears of apartheid’ that their activities ‘fuel the fire that will eventually consume you’.

Helen Joseph closed the meeting and received a standing ovation. However she may not be quoted as she is a listed person.

20th Wits student detained

Another Wits University student, Catherine Bernadette Hunter has been detained by the Security Police.

She is the twentieth Wits student to be detained this year.

Hunter is a second year BA Ed student and is the daughter of Dr A Hunter, special education projects officer at Wits.

Hunter is one of two students who are at the moment being held in terms of Section 29 of the Internal Security Act which allows for indefinite detention.

The other student is Carl Niehaus who has been in detention since August 23.

Wits Student spoke to the Head of the Security Police Colonel Malan, about the possibility of a case involving charges of high treason being built around Carl Niehaus.

Malan said he would confirm that Carl Niehaus is being held, but would give no information on whether charges are being brought against him.

Both NUSAS and the Wits SRC have passed motions condemning detentions.

NUSAS’ motion expressed solidarity with the students detained and called for their unconditional release.
Speaking frankly — Brendan Barry

Brendan Barry topped the polls in the recent SRC elections and is our new SRC President. Here he speaks to Wits Student.

Wits Student: SRC presidents like most people in public positions are always subjected to a certain amount of scrutiny by the public and by students. There is a conception that people who stand for the SRC often do so because of some overriding ambition.

Why did you personally stand for the SRC and for the position of SRC president?

Brendan Barry: I think that personal ambition is often associated with the SRC and that some people who stand for the SRC are looking for status and recognition. The usual spin-off is that because of these motives they aren't able to act in the interests of students.

My own position is based on my experience on the last SRC, where I think I had the opportunity to get a feel for the potential which the SRC actually has to represent student interests and to make gains in areas of interest to students. That has been my motivation for believing that an SRC can actually do this. I am also committed to a non-racial, democratic South Africa. I feel that the SRC provides a forum for organization towards this objective.

WS: Is there also the idea that 'idealistic' students jettison their political convictions when they encounter the 'real' world after leaving university?

BB: To an extent there is some truth in that. Over the past few years however White students have been able to identify a role in opposition to apartheid and are continuing to play that role in professional and other areas once they leave university.

WS: In an article in one of the daily newspapers after the SRC elections, the new SRC was described as 'enlightened'. What does this mean?

BB: I think this year's SRC in fact does embody a variety of political opinions. But despite differences it is committed to a democratic South Africa.

WS: In the past years, many of the divisions on this campus and on the SRC have been between politically concerned students and those following a so-called 'non-political' line. While this position has on some occasions been a facade for right-wingers, it appears that a number of students actually do hold this kind of position. Considering the major divisions in South African society, what do you think is the appeal of a non-political position?

BB: It is often difficult for people to challenge the ideas which they have been brought up with at school, at home and in the army. In these areas people are often discouraged from forming their own opinions and being critical of their society.

At university, new ideas, critiques of society, and the posing of alternatives enjoy a lot of attention. Many students find this challenge threatening and adopt an apolitical position which just contributes to perpetuating the problems which we face in South Africa.

WS: What do you see to be the priorities of this years' SRC?

BB: These came out during the election campaign. There are three main areas which I would like to prioritize:

- Educational issues. The SRC in conjunction with faculty councils is taking up the grievances and problems which students have with their courses.
- Political issues. Events and issues facing South Africans have to be brought onto campus to keep us in touch with what is going on;
- the SRC is actually a student union, and as a result must take up issues such as student services and benefits. To do this it has to remain in close contact with students.

WS: What do you mean by remaining in close contact with students?

BB: It means ascertaining student needs through opinion polls, surveys, contact with residences and faculty councils and the different clubs and societies on campus.

WS: Do you feel that the SRC pays enough attention to educational issues?

BB: The SRC has begun to take educational issues far more seriously. The role that Edcom (SRC Education Committee) is now playing is an example of this. On the last SRC, Edcom established what are now seen as priorities in this regard.

What we have to do now is institute these student demands by pressurising the administrative section into accepting them. Through close co-ordination with faculty councils and other reps we must ensure that day-to-day grievances and problems are taken seriously and effectively. We have to make sure that students have more control of their education.

WS: Do you think that students are necessarily capable of controlling their own education?

BB: I think that having more control of that education can only improve the quality of course content, lecturing or lecturers.

WS: During the course of the last year a number of pamphlets have been distributed at Wits and on all the English speaking campuses in an apparent attempt to smear NUSAs and organizations associated with it.

The most recent appeared at the end of last term and alleged that you had been meeting ex-campus spy and security policeman Craig Williamson.

Do you think this pamphlet was an attempt to undermine student opposition to apartheid or something in which the SRC has always participated against?

BB: The pamphlet was an attempt to undermine student opposition to apartheid — something in which the SRC has always participated against. The SRC over the last few years has been effective and strongly supported in opposing apartheid. This attempt to discredit the SRC by a personal attack on myself as SRC President is the only way that they can try to undermine our support on campus.

There appears to be a nationally co-ordinated campaign to undermine the role that NUSAs and the SRC play.

WS: Where do you think the pamphlets emanate from?

BB: A smear like this could only come from people who would benefit from undermining the SRC. These would be groups who support apartheid.

WS: The commercial press has presented the upcoming referendum as an important historical event. Is the SRC going to take up the issue of the Constitutional Proposals and the Referendum?

BB: A lot of people are confused about the issues surrounding the Referendum and the press hasn't really contributed to clarifying them.

The SRC in the coming week will make a concerted effort to provide education around these issues. We've personally rejected the new constitution.

A constitution can only be effective if all the people affected by it participate in drawing it up. This new constitution doesn't include all South Africans and only represents the division.
and vicious attacks against his country.'

Wits Student contacted the Zionist Federation who 'emphatically denied' that they had anything to do with the refusal of the visa. A spokesperson said: 'The Zionist Federation would never be a party to the refusal of entry to any Jew coming to South Africa.'

It has been rumoured that the Argentine government, with whom the South African has extremely cordial relations, made strong representations to the South African government to prevent Timerman from speaking.

Wits Student has been unable to contact the Argentine Embassy to verify these allegations.

The SRC and the Academic Freedom committee issued a statement last Saturday, in which they stated, 'It is interesting that it should be an occasion of Academic Freedom that is disrupted by the government. But this also is nothing new. 2 years ago Tom Hayden, an American civil rights activist, was refused permission to enter South Africa. He too, was to deliver the same Memorial lecture.'

In addition to the statement, a motion was passed at Monday's SRC meeting, condemning the refusal of a visa to Timerman. At the time of going to press, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Du Plessis, had issued no statement on the incident.

The government, predictably, gave no reasons for the refusal of a visa to Mr Timerman, although his international reputation as a champion of human rights does not make speculation very difficult.

His visa was refused by the Minister of the Interior, Mr F W De Klerk, leader of the Transvaal Nationalist Party, on Friday.

Ironically, the following article appeared in The Star, Saturday 10 September, in which Dr Klerk was named as The Star's personality of the week. Here are a few select quotations from the article:

- 'The Transvaal political scene is fortunate to have FW De Klerk. Even if he were to cross the aisle, for he is a politician who nearly became a professor.'
- 'At the Transvaal National Party provincial congress last week he said, 'We must read the times right, put our fingers on the pulse to feel what is happening in our time.'
- 'Let us hope he brings his considerable intellectual and political gifts to bear on the pressing problems of his country.'

new style to whatever place he is allocated by his followers, and that he is not a man afraid to lead from the front.'

Some style. Even before the current publicity surrounding Timerman's visit, it had caused considerable controversy in the Johannesburg Jewish community.

There have been a great many misconceptions, it appears, about Mr Timerman's political viewpoints. He has often been labelled anti-Semitic and anti-Zionist by right-wing Jews. In fact, at last week's SAUJS election one or two candidates urged SAUJS members to make a strong protest against his visit.

Perhaps this passage from Timerman's book on the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, 'The Longest War,' will clear up some of these misconceptions.

Timerman quotes from a statement issued by among others, Nahuma Goldmann, once president of the World Zionist Organization, which says: 'What is now essential is to find a political agreement between Israeli and Palestinian nationalism. Mutual recognition must be sought without delay. Negotiations must be started to accomplish the co-existence of the Israeli and Palestinian people on the basis of self-determination.'

Timerman subscribes to this viewpoint absolutely.

Private Paul Dobson, who describes himself as a 'conscientious objector,' was sentenced by court martial to a year's jail and a dishonourable discharge from the SADF on Saturday. He is the first objector from within the ranks of the SADF. In a statement made on the 7 September 1983 he said:

During the past fourteen months as a national serviceman I have come to perceive that I cannot justify my position as a member of the South African Defence Force. Therefore I wish to be court martialled as a conscientious objector in terms of Section 126A of the Defence Act.

My reasons for refusing to continue to serve in the SADF are threefold:

1) I perceive the role of the SADF in South African society to be an integral part of an unjust and undemocratic society. Despite its claims to political neutrality, its role is to guarantee the position of a government elected by a minority of South Africans. The rule of this minority is at the expense of the majority of people in this country and the SADF has often been called on to quell the legitimate aspirations of this majority.

2) South Africa is an illegal occupant of Namibia and has been declared as such by the International Court of Justice and by the United Nations Organization. To date it has denied the desire of the majority of Namibian citizens for a free and democratic society. Instead it has bolstered a form of society based on racism and ethnicity. This occupation is enforced by the SADF.

3) Furthermore, the SADF has persistently pursued a policy of aggression towards neighbouring states. Its role has been to undermine and destabilize the governments and economies of these countries.

I believe in a free, just and democratic South Africa in which there is no illegal occupation of another country which serves to suppress the democratic aspirations of its people. Furthermore, I believe that the relationship between South Africa and its neighbouring states should be one of non-aggression and friendly co-operation premised on a mutual respect for democratic aspirations.

Although I have already been serving in a non-combatant position, this does not detract from my reasons for objection. Whatever position I may occupy in the SADF, I remain associated with and supportive of an institution which serves to protect and reproduce an unjust society. I find this situation untenable.

Paul Dobson
The 1983/84 Students Representative Council recently held their first meeting to decide on the various portfolios for the coming year. Below, are listed the newly elected SRC office bearers and heads of committees and sub-committees. Students can contact these people by leaving messages at SRC reception or by leaving a note in the pigeon holes in the SRC members room, all on top floor Students Union.

**SRC President:**
- Brendan Barry
- SRC Vice President:
  - Terry Shakinovsky
- Deputy Vice President:
  - Nicholas Leonsins
- Further Deputy Vice President:
  - Garth Klein

**Committees and Sub-committees** elected to office in the standing Council:

- **Chairperson:**
  - Grant Rex
- **Vice-Chairperson:**
  - Gavin Rabinowitz
- **Deputy Vice President:**
  - Terry Shakinovsky
- **Student Services:**
  - Secretary: Nicholas Leonsins
  - Under-Secretary: Coenrad Wesselink
- **Campus Services:**
  - Secretary: Neil Hellmann
  - Under Secretary: Dennis Connack
- **Representatives on Nusas:**
  - Garth Klein
- **Honorary Secretary:**
  - Neil Hellmann

**Cultural Affairs:**
- Chairperson: Anthony Gordon
- Vice-Chairperson: James Alexander

**Sports Council:**
- Chairperson: Sue Albertyn
- Vice Chairperson: Colin Coleman

**Academic Freedom Committee:**
- Chairperson: Adam Bethlehem
- Vice-Chairperson: Carth Klein

**Seminars Committee:**
- Chairperson: Sue Albertyn
- Vice Chairperson: Colin Coleman

**Projects Committee:**
- Chairperson: Garth Klein
- Vice-Chairperson: James Alexander

**Trust Fund Committee:**
- Chairperson: Mathew Chaskalson
- Vice-Chairperson: Not yet elected

**Joint Vice-Chairpersons:**
- Student Observer on Executive Committee of Council:
  - Brendan Barry
- Student Observer on Academic Freedom Committee:
  - Arthur Shemesh
- Student Observer on Student Representatives on Nusas:
  - Sue Albertyn
- Student Observer on National Council:
  - Garth Klein
- Student Observer on SRC Representative of the All Students Union:
  - Garth Klein
- Student Representative of the All Students Union:
  - Brendan Barry
- SRC Representative of the All Students Union:
  - Sue Albertyn
- SRC Representative on Academic Board:
  - Garth Klein
- SRC Representative on Academic Board:
  - David Grolman
- SRC Representative on Academic Board:
  - Alf James
- SRC Representative on Academic Board:
  - Brian Leveson
- SRC Representative on Academic Board:
  - Mathew Chaskalson
- SRC Representative on Academic Board:
  - James Alexander
- SRC Representative on Academic Board:
  - Neil Hellmann
- SRC Representative on Academic Board:
  - Ed Com:
  - Brian Leveson
  - Alison Giddy

**Calling all Women**

Although the Women’s Portfolio on the SRC is a relatively new one, the coming year promises to raise exciting women’s issues.

Sue Albertyn has been elected to the Women’s Portfolio for 1983-84. In an interview with The Student, she stressed that she wants to encourage participation and interest in women’s issues on campus.

As opposed to the Women’s Portfolio, which educates campus on general feminist issues, the Women’s Portfolio is intended, more specifically, to act supportively on women’s behalf in problems that arise on campus.

A major area of focus will be women’s conditions at the University Residences. A survey will be conducted in order to gauge whether or not women in residences are satisfied with the security provided, and how they feel about the hours and restrictions to which they are subjected.

She also plans to hold a seminar on the topic of rape, to deal in some way with the issue of rape. Investigations will be made into improved lighting and security at night on campus as a whole.

Another important issue would of course be the continuation of the campaign for a creche on campus. The demand for a creche has been accepted in theory by the University Council and a Provisional Committee, which includes Sue Albertyn and two other students, has already been set up to investigate its feasibility.

In addition, a fact sheet is to be drawn up to provide campus with statistical information with regard to restrictions that may have existed or still do on the acceptance of women into certain university faculties. This and other forms of discrimination will be taken up with the faculties concerned.

A box will be provided in the Students Union Building and women are encouraged to bring forward any problems that they have encountered with the new University regulations.
UDW Rector suspends SRC

The SRC at the University of Durban-Westville (UDW) has been unconditionally suspended by the Rector.

The administration of UDW claimed that the SRC had not produced any publication or hold any meetings on campus. The Rector, on the other hand, has produced a number of pamphlets to advance the position of the administration.

The SRC is also not allowed to issue press statements, and campus security has been called in to break up "illegal" meetings and intimidate students.

The administration of UDW has proposed a new constitution for the SRC. It includes a requirement for the Rector's permission for the distribution of all student publications, and for permission for all guest speakers to speak on campus.

A NUSAS motion condemning the arbitrary suspension of the SRC, passed at last weekend's National council, called on the administrations of the various universities around the country to apply pressure on the UDW administration to unconditionally reinstate the SRC.

The motion also mentioned that the UDW admin had blown up the issue of finances in an attempt to discredit the SRC and destroy all autonomy and democratic representation on campus. The motion also paid tribute to the present and past SRC's and students of UDW for their hard work and commitment in ensuring that their university serves the interests and struggles of their community.

The SRC, which has been functioning for 2 years without a grant, has run up a debt for R40 0000. A lucrative photostating scheme run by the SRC covered some of the costs, but the UDW SRC are still in the red.

At Wits Durban is Dave Ensor who came 2nd. At Rhodes Alan Williams, Donna Jackson and Joanne Zasman who came 4th and 5th respectively, were made Vice-Presidents.

At UCT, and is SRC President New Projects Officer, Christine Burger, came 2nd. Donna Jackson and Joanne Zasman who came 4th and 5th respectively, were made Vice-Presidents. At Pietermaritzburg University was made SRC President. Mark Stanbridge, chair of pro-NUSAS Committee at Pietermaritzburg University was made SRC President. He also topped the polls.

All the new SRC presidents topped the polls, and exactly the same candidates were re-elected.

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All the new SRC presidents topped the polls, and exactly the same candidates were re-elected.
Dr Gerrit Viljoen, Minister of National Education, announced in Parliament last month that the government would not impose the quota system at white universities.

However, he said that the concept of a racially determined quota would still remain on the statute books and could be imposed at any time in the future.

Dr Viljoen said that he had consulted the authorities of the White universities and it was his opinion that their 'own admission and selection policies would be in accord with what the government had wanted to achieve by the imposition of quotas.'

He felt that there would be no substantial change in the composition of their student bodies in the immediate future.

However he would continue to monitor registration statistics at the universities and if the results were not 'satisfactory', implementation of the quota system would be reconsidered.

The present system of having to obtain ministerial permission would still apply to non-whites wishing to study in medical, paramedical, agricultural and surveying fields as modern facilities are available in these faculties at the black universities.

Dr Viljoen said that he was not in favour of rigid exclusion, but he felt that a 'measure of control was needed to preserve the community-oriented character of universities, each of which serves a different population group.'

'The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Du Plessis said that the university had made several representations to the government and had explained their normal admissions procedure. The response was that the system was 'compatible to their members' objectives'. The VC said 'we told him what our standards were. Previously we had used only academic criteria but it the student was Black. Coloured or Asian it was necessary for them to obtain a permit. The situation now is that students may come into the university without a quota or permit system operating.

Only in certain faculties will it be necessary for students to obtain a permit as sufficient facilities exist elsewhere.'

'On admission forms no racial classification will appear'. He omitted to say whether racial classification would be removed from admission forms.

He went on to say 'Although we are pleased that the Minister is not imposing the Quota Act, it still exists and can be used. I feel that both the Act and the permit system should be removed.

When asked whether he felt that admissions of Blacks to the University would increase, Prof Du Plessis said 'admissions would obviously go up'.

Students and academic opposed to the Bill see suspension as a positive move, but have reacted cautiously to the fact that it has not been totally repealed.

Brendan Barry, president of the SRC sees the move as a 'definite improvement'.

However he stressed that it is only a temporary decision and no assurance has been given by the Minister that restrictions would not be imposed in subsequent years, therefore the SRC and students at Wits must do their utmost to ensure that quotas would not be imposed in future.

Professor Philip Tobias of the medical faculty said that if it is a relief that quotas are not to be imposed immediately on universities.

'However it is regrettable that the Quota Act has reached the statute book at all and we must apparently remain despite tremendous opposition.'

NUSAS says:

Welcome Maritzburg!

The NUSAS National Council met for a two-day conference in Pietermaritzburg during the vac. It was attended by SRC members from the four NUSAS affiliated campuses.

Delegates from the NUSAS local committee at Rhodes also attended, as well as a large number of observers from NUSAS sub-committees on the various campuses.

National Council was held at Maritzburg to celebrate and seal UNP's re-affiliation to NUSAS following a referendum held in August.

Most of the conference was spent discussing affairs relating to student government. Reports from the different campuses were tabled, in which NUSAS activities over the last term were assessed. Particular emphasis was given to the nationally co-ordinated campaign against the Quota Bill, which was widely supported around the country. It was agreed that the fact that the government had backed down on the issue could be seen as a victory, but that the minister of education still has the power to implement the quota at any time meant that the matter has not been made to rest.

SRC's will be holding discussions this term to discuss the implications of the government's new stand, and to discuss ways to ensure that the Quota will not be implemented.

All the NUSAS services (with the exception of the Student Handbook held up by a technical hitch) are functioning well, according to reports. A new NUSAS service was launched. This service would set in motion an accommodation exchange programme, where accommodation for students from affiliated campsites wishing to spend time in Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban, Pietermaritzburg and Grahamstown would be provided.

Some time was also spent discussing NUSAS policy on the November 2 referendum. It was unanimously decided that NUSAS would continue to call on students to reject the constitutional proposals and to vote NO in the referendum.

'This term will see a national campaign against the proposals. NUSAS fared well in elections around the country. Each campus voted in solidly pro-NUSAS SRC's. Furthermore the new presidents of both Rhodes and Maritzburg also chaired the pro-NUSAS committees established on the campuses during the recent

Shlomo Peer: playing Santa Claus to the SMA

Shlomo Peer, sugar daddy of the SMA, has decided to retire and devote his life to his first love — National Party politics.

Dr Peer was a senior executive of Anglo American, and was instrumental in providing the SMA with funds — from business and government sources.

He organised a dossier for the SMA comprising the SMA manifesto and letters of reference from Mr PW Botha, Mr de Klerk, Mr Botha, Mr Hofmeyr, Mr Stienstra and Mr Brackenridge.

Students and academic opposed to the Bill see suspension as a positive move but have reacted cautiously to the fact that it has not been totally repealed.

Brendan Barry, president of the SRC sees the move as a 'definite improvement'.

However he stressed that it is only a temporary decision and no assurance has been given by the Minister that restrictions would not be imposed in subsequent years, therefore the SRC and students at Wits must do their utmost to ensure that quotas would not be imposed in future.

Professor Philip Tobias of the medical faculty said that it is a relief that quotas are not to be imposed immediately on universities.

'However it is regrettable that the Quota Act has reached the statute book at all and we must apparently remain despite tremendous opposition.'
Everything you ever wanted to know about the new constitution but were afraid to ask

Q: What is a constitution?
A: It should be a document drawn up by all the people in the country, which determines how the country is governed.

Q: What does the new constitution entail?
A: It appears to permit the country's 2.6 million Coloureds and Indians to participate with the Whites in the process of undemocratic government.

Q: What's going to happen to Parliament?
A: There will be 178 Whites in the White House, 85 Coloureds in the Coloured House and 45 Indians in the Indian House. In other words the houses, are racially weighted in a ratio of 4 Whites: 2 Coloureds: 1 Indian.

Q: What does this mean?
A: It means that although Coloureds and Indians will have access to power through the tricameral parliament, this will in no way constitute any real power. Political power will remain in white hands.

Q: Are Africans included?
A: No, of course not.

Q: What is the electoral college?
A: It is elected by the party with the majority of seats in each chamber. It will consist of 50 Whites, 25 Coloureds and 13 Indians (again in the ratio of 4:2:1). The electoral college will elect the State President.

Q: Some people believe that the new constitution will lead to a dictatorship, is this true?
A: Yes, the State President will have power to dismiss the Prime Minister, Cabinet, the President's Council and Parliament. No one can dismiss him. He can nullify any law. He also appoints the Prime Minister and Cabinet, who need not be drawn from Parliament.

Q: What does this mean for the PFP?
A: The power of the PFP will be so reduced as to be totally insignificant. The loading of the tricameral parliaments, the electoral college and the President's Council all entrench NP rule.

Q: What is the President's Council?
A: The President's Council has final say over controversial laws. The majority party in the White, Coloured and Indian Parliaments will elect 20, 10 and 5 members respectively. The President appoints another 25. Thus the ratio will be 9 Whites: 2 Coloureds: 1 Indian.

Q: What is an own Affair?
A: Who knows, who cares.

Q: What is a General Affair?
A: Pass.

Q: If the PM, and the Cabinet are not elected, to whom are they responsible?
A: They will be accountable to the President only, not the electorate.

Q: Are the proposals a step in the right direction?
A: Definitely not. They are as bad, if not worse than the present system of racial government.

Reject the constitutional proposals
Put South Africa first
Quota Bill:

Down but not out

Until 1959, this university was free to consider applications for admission on academic criteria only. Race and colour were irrelevant. In 1959, this basic right was taken away by act of parliament. The extension of the Universities Act was instituted despite widespread protest by academics and students. Since then, every black applicant has had to seek the permission of the Minister of Education in order to study at this university.

The Quota Act is an amendment to the extension of the Universities Act. According to its provisions, blacks need no longer obtain individual ministerial consent to study at Wits. Instead, the Minister is empowered to 'suggest' a quota of black students. If the university exceeds the 'suggested' quota, the minister can withdraw the government subsidy which is crucial to the financing of the university.

Motives

The government had several motives for instituting the Quota Act:

- The present permit system is too cumbersome and time-consuming. The quota, by dealing with black applicants collectively rather than individually, will increase the administrative efficiency of the discrimination against them.
- The Quota Act was designed to appear as a 'liberalising' measure on the part of the Government. No doubt it intended to create the appearance of allowing greater university autonomy, as recommended by the De Lange Commission into education.

'No to Quota!'

The government's 'New Improved Tertiary Education' package didn't sell. The majority of people whom it affected realised that it was just the same old whitewash with a new name, and refused to buy it.

Students were particularly vociferous in their criticism and condemnation of the act. They pointed out the contradictions embodied in the quota. Far from being a 'liberalising' measure, the quota would merely serve to entrench ethnicity as a criterion for admission to the university, and to force the university to act as an instrument in the execution of the government's racist program. It is a sham which reflects the larger and slightly less clumsy sham of the constitutional provisions — The only 'reforms' which the government can contemplate are those which will prop up its power, and the apartheid system on which it is based.

Reaction

This time, the government could not afford to ignore its critics: It is desperately trying to persuade the country (or at least its white voters) to accept its constitutional proposals. With the referendum of November 2 looming close, the government cannot afford to be intransigent and lose support over the quota issue.

And so, the government has backed down. Not completely, but some of the way. Viljoen, the Minister of Education, has announced that the Quota Act will not be implemented next year. It will, however, remain on the statute-book.

The government's (partial) volte-face on this issue is undoubtedly due to their desire to avoid a confrontation with their critics at this stage. Moreover, the government knows that it can afford to shelve the offending enactment and still keep the universities predominantly white.

Although blacks form the majority of the South African population, they are bound to remain a small minority at 'white' universities, in the foreseeable future. This is because they simply cannot meet the academic requirements for selection to these universities. Thus the 'neutral' academic criteria attempts to uphold, serve the very function against which it rails — In effect, they bar thousands of blacks from tertiary education.

But the fault is not really the university's. It is one which is rooted in the South African Education system as a whole. Whereas white scholars are assured of an education which will equip them for further study if they have the aptitude and the desire, blacks are offered something startlingly inferior.

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Verwoerd, are taught that 'there is no place for (them) in the European community above the level of certain forms of labour'.

Skills shortage
But if this is so, and the schooling of blacks is deficient, how have they managed to 'infiltrate' the sacred precincts of the white university at all? Quite simply, because their presence is expedient to the government and industry.

The economic boom of the 60's and 70's created more skilled and semi-skilled jobs than could be filled by whites alone. This skills shortage persists despite the recession. Economic development in South Africa depends upon the alleviation of this shortage. This means that blacks must be trained to fill the vacant positions.

It is essential, therefore, that schooling for black is improved. This, combined with the shock-effects of the '76 riots, had led the government to introduce certain changes in black schooling.

The improvements are far from adequate though. The majority of black school-leavers are still unable to meet the entrance criteria of white universities. Those who do manage to get in are handicapped by the inferiority of their education compared to that of their white peers.

The university does attempt to make provision for these students. Particularly in science and engineering departments, bridging programs are run to allow black students to attain the necessary qualifications.

In the South African context, this implies the maintenance of a system of racial domination. The fact that certain blacks are being filtered through into the ruling elite merely shows that the form of domination is being modified slightly to appear somewhat more legitimate.

As we have already pointed out, the inadequacies of the schooling system ensure that not too many black students reach university level. If it ever looks as if they will, the Quota Act, still on the statute-book, will be implemented.

Shelved
The act has not remained on the books just to placate the right-wing. It serves to warn liberal universities that if they do let too many black students through, the government will slap down the racial quota. Viljoen's past record, including Broederbond membership, inspires little confidence in his assurance that the act will not be implemented in the near future.

Does this imply that anti-quota activity was in vain? No. It would not have been in the interests of the government to shelve the quota if academics and students had not showed their determination to fight the quota all the way. Commenting on this, SRC president Brendan Barry, who topped the election polls with a firm anti-quota stance, said:

'The government's withdrawal of the application of the Quota Act for this year can be seen as a victory by students and the university. It proves that student activity can and does have effect.

However, the university maintains racial classification as a criterion for registration at the university, and makes this available to the government. This means that the Quota Act can be applied at any stage in future if the government so desires. We as students must devise ways of not allowing the quota to be applied at this university in future.'
A monster has emerged within the borders of South Africa. Quietly and insidiously, it developed at first, and now, seemingly fully grown, it maims and murders all who come near it. Locally, and more recently, internationally as well, people have expressed their horror and loathing for the inhumanities being perpetrated in this small corner of the country.

Of all the government's sham 'independent homelands' the cruellest and most odious is the Ciskei, under the dictatorship of Chief Lennox Sebe.

The Ciskeian horror story is not a bad dream, or a fantasy that can be enlarged or reduced at will. The facts emerging currently prove beyond doubt that the age of barbarism is alive and well and living in the Ciskei.

Recently there have been a number of major news stories about the Ciskei: the so-called 'coup attempt'; the bus boycotts and the banning of SAAWU.

The coup

Signs of a rift within the ruling echelons began to emerge on June 6, with the detention of an influential Ciskeian cabinet minister, as well as two prominent members of the CNIP (the Ciskei National Independence Party). Shortly afterwards Lennox Sebe visited Israel, but returned suddenly, causing speculation that there had been a coup attempt in his absence, led by his brother, Lieutenant Colonel Sebe, head of the armed forces the most hated and feared man in the Ciskei.

On July 16 Lennox Sebe dismissed two of his brothers from their ministerial posts. This demonstrated that it is not the name 'Sebe' that is sacred to Ciskei, but only 'Lennox Sebe'. On July 19, eight close aids of General Sebe were detained, as well as his son, and the son of Ciskei Vice-President Xaba.

On July 20, General Sebe and his closest aid, Minnaar, were detained. (Minnaar is an ex-South African security agent.) Two South African Security policemen were present at the arrests, apparently assisting the Ciskei authorities at their own request. Coincidentally, South Africa's two top policemen, General Johan Coetzee and Major-General Steenkamp, head of the Security Police visited the Ciskei on July 22 on a "routine goodwill visit".

Theoretically, political power does not rest solely with Lennox Sebe, but with the system of chiefs and headmen in the Ciskei. However, he has recently consolidated his power by becoming 'life-president' of the Ciskei. In supporting this move, Vice-President Xaba said: 'It is a demonstration of the high esteem in which the people of the Ciskei see him.' (Ciskeian cabinet ministers are renowned for their sophisticated use of irony.) Lennox Sebe's powers have been increased further since he appropriated the enormous powers enjoyed by Charles Sebe, in happier times.

In general, power in the Ciskei is distributed among the various chiefs, but in varying degrees. Degrees of power are determined by the President, so ultimately all power is concentrated in Sebe's hands.

Chiefs have the power to allocate housing and social welfare. Through the agency of the Job Control Centre, they allocate employment. Members of trade unions and political activists are 'blacklisted' and discriminated against in the allocation of jobs. This tends to act against militancy amongst the people in general.

bus boycott

The bus boycott began on July 19 in response to an increase of bus fares recommended by the Welgemoed Commission of Inquiry into bus transportation. The following day, an 80% drop in the use of CTC (Ciskei Transport Corporation) buses was reported. In the following weeks boycotters were subjected to unprecedented levels of police and vigilante violence.

The police set up roadblocks and allegedly manhandled car passengers. Several cases of sjambokkering were reported. Queues of up to 100 cars were kept waiting at roadblocks.

Train commuters were also harassed. Police opened fire on a crowd of commuters at Mount Jackson Railway station on July 25, wounding 5 people.

Skeur National reports: 'August: Ciskei soldiers and police sit on top of trucks and watch vigilante attack people with sabres and knobkerries. People are pulled from registered taxis and beaten up. Witnesses say the police have been hire because they were acting with authority'. Other witnesses claim the men are members of the CNIP. The government refuses to comment on the allegations.

Disbelieving

'A woman tells the Ciskei Supreme Court that police fired at disbelieving commuters without warning. She saw an e film fall down with a leg woun and vigilantes beat a man lyi on his back. She crawled awa and heard bullets whizzi around her head. She said poll picked up a man and kicked h although he was motionless, it dead'.

On August 4 a State
curfew between 10.00pm and 4.30am. Police opened fire again at Fort Jackson, this time killing 5 and wounding 22.

Meanwhile, car and train commuters were being forced onto the buses by the police. Some of these passengers later got off and began stoning the buses. Trains stopped between stations to pick up commuters who had jumped railway fences in an effort to avoid the police.

Raided

The General Workers Union, the Food and Canning Workers Union and the South African Allied Workers Union (SAAWU) claimed that the boycotts were being used to crack down on the unions. SAAWU vice-president, Sisa Njikelana was detained at a roadblock; at least 20 other unionists were detained and their houses raided; and the SAAWU president, Thoramile Gweta was prevented from addressing the United Democratic Front National Launch in Cape Town on August 20.

Schoolchildren boycotted classes in support of their parents. About 70 students were detained by police under security legislation. The president of the East London Chamber of Commerce, George Orsmond, warned that Mdantsane (the township outside East London) workers could face wage cuts of up to 25 per cent.

Dispossessed

A successful peasantry represented a threat to two sectors of the South African economy. The mining industry was finding great difficulty in attracting cheap black labour. The peasants had no incentive to leave their lands. White farmers also wanted labour for their farms. What was even more worrying was the threat which successful African agriculturists posed to their white counterparts. These two influential sectors applied pressure on the government to undermine the African rural economy.

First, heavy taxes were imposed. The only way for many subsistence farmers to meet these cash demands was to find work on the mines. Taxation, however, was not fast or effective enough for the white farmers and mine owners. Eventually, the South African government passed the Land Act of 1913.

The 1913 Land Act effectively excluded the vast majority of the population from 90% of the land. Africans required special passes to leave the areas assigned to them. They were not permitted to own or farm land outside of their homelands.

The 1913 Land Act, combined with taxation, broke the back of the African peasantry. The homelands became increasingly overpopulated. The land was overworked, leading to a gradual deterioration of soil.

Peasant families were unable to subsist merely on their agricultural produce. Men were forced to migrate to the towns and find work on the mines or in industry. They sent a portion of their earnings back to their families to supplement their income. But this is barely adequate. Malnutrition, starvation and poverty persist.

Screams

Ciskei's Commissioner of Police, Brigadier Madolo, denied all knowledge of these incidents, saying that they would be investigated by the police if they were reported. Mdantsane residents claim that they asked the police to investigate after hearing screams coming from the dressing rooms.

The Act of Dispossession

Looking at the Ciskei and other local bantustans today, it seems inconceivable that the South African peasantry was once fairly prosperous. Yet in the late 19th and early 20th century, indigenous African farmers had adapted to market forces and achieved a high rate of productivity. Very few peasants starved; many were pulling in healthy profits. So what happened? What turned these fairly prosperous, viable territories into disease-ridden, poverty-stricken, dusty wastelands?

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These migrants face the constant threat of losing their jobs and being sent back to the homelands if they protest in any way against their working conditions and the low wages they receive.

The land division of 1913 formed the geographical framework for the Homeland Policy. Since 1976 Transkei, Bophutatswana, Venda and then the Ciskei have been given 'independence'. Millions of Africans have been deprived of South African citizenship and condemned to homelands 'citizenship'. Thousands of 'homeland citizens' prefer to live illegally in South Africa because anything is better than their rural ghettos and impoverishment.

Today, the parched and crippled land of Ciskei stands testimony to the 1913 Land Act.
that of South Africa. The total population amounts to some 700,000 people, half of whom have been dumped there over the last 20 years; victims of the South African government's infamous 'resettlement' policies.

The infant mortality rate is over 50%. Half the children between the ages of 2 and 3 suffer from malnutrition or related diseases. The average land allocation per family is one hectare, which scientists have estimated to be insufficient for one person's subsistence. Furthermore, 77% of the land is barren and eroded due to the tremendous land pressure.

Drastic

The vast majority of workers are migrants (jobs within the Ciskei provide less than 1% of employment requirements). The drought has intensified the plight of people living in the Ciskei. The drastic effects of the drought can be ascribed to the Ciskei government's lack of foresight and planning, and more generally, to the killing of land in the 'homelands' through overcrowding.

Ciskei leaders claim to be battling to raise R30m for an emergency drought relief programme. Their problem can be readily appreciated when it is understood that Ciskeian finance is first channelled into far more important and priority areas.

- Huge salaries for all government officials -- especially cabinet ministers
- Millions of rand are being spent on the construction of a new capital at Bisho, a chief feature of which will be luxury palaces for cabinet ministers
- Fleets of cars for cabinet ministers. (Lennox Sebe has recently bought a R70,000 Mercedes Benz)

Daimler to add to his BMW and Mercedes Benz

- Ministers take numerous trips overseas every year
- A R3-million Lear jet has just been purchased, despite the fact that there are no landing facilities for it in the whole of the Ciskei.

This must be seen in the light of the fact that the Ciskei budget is a mere R98 million per annum.

Where does the South African government stand in relation to all of this?

South Africa provides R68-million towards the Ciskei's drought relief programme. The South African Development Bank is attempting to organise industry in the Ciskei by creating incentives for enterprises to begin operations in rural and 'border' areas.

Control

The South African banking authorities control the Ciskei's access to markets (on the assumption that the Ciskei produces something). Pretoria also has the final say over who gets arms licences in the Ciskei. To cap this neat working relationship, Chief Lennox Sebe, President of the Ciskei has committed himself to working within the framework of the South African government's policy of separate development. Adding weight to the close co-operation between South Africa and the Ciskei, Vice-President Xaba said, 'The Ciskei will become the first homeland to send its citizens to fight alongside the SADF on the borders.'

However, the punchline belongs the General Charles Sebe with this flawless gem: 'There is one gift which God has given to the Sebes. They don't like to see people suffering or starving.'

Yesterday's hero

Charles Sebe began his career in the South African Police Force, later joining the Special Branch. His duties included, amongst others, keeping a watch over the movements of Steve Biko.

In the Ciskei he rose rapidly through the ranks until he became head of the armed forces, with the rank of Lieutenant General merely one rung below the rank of Field Marshall. Sebe was given incredibly wide ranging powers. The terms of the Ciskei's Emergency proclamation No. R252 enabled Sebe to do anything he liked in the way of censorship, banning and detentions.

Ultimately however, as recent events have shown, Charles Sebe relied on his brother Lennox for his powers, which were as swiftly removed as they were conferred.

Under Charles Sebe, 73 publications were banned in February 1983 alone, including publication of the Freedom Charter. Also banned was a necklace containing an Africa medallion with the word 'Anandla' inscribed on it, as well as all trade unions, and political parties besides the CNIP.

300 trade union leaders were detained in 1982, and Ciskei police have carried out continual raids on Mdantsane township. Trade union members and political activists have also been continually harassed by the Ciskei police.

Leaders of the Media Workers Association have had their visa applications withdrawn. This means that they cannot cross the 5km strip of South Africa between two separate (but equal) bits of the Ciskei without a visa.

Rugby teams belonging to the Kings District Rugby Union (a SACOS affiliate) are continuously harassed. KDRU teams have been sent off the field four times, and the General Secretary of the KDRU was detained for a week.

Poets come under severe censorship, and a special 'poets license' (not to be confused with a poetic licence) is required by law, before a poet may set pen to paper, a tragic irony in the most literal sense.

Sebe believed that he had a divine mission to eradicate communism. He realized the certain heatheans would attempt to obstruct him, but he believed that God would provide him with protection. Nevertheless, just to make doubly sure he surrounded himself with bodyguards, his house with a series of iron gates, and the gates with yet more security guards.

As with all great statesmen, Sebe's sayings are studied and quoted. Wits Student has carefully selected some of the most famous:

- 'They (the ANC) are trained as terrorists, but I am also trained as a terrorist. We are trained in the same skills.'
- 'Any person who has a gift as a poet or a playwright should be scrutinized. We can't allow subversive poets to operate.'
Temperatures rise over Korean catastrophe

There is no excuse for the callous and brutal actions of the Soviet Union in shooting down an unarmed civilian airliner. As US President, Ronald Reagan has pointed out, it was a barbaric act which claimed 269 innocent lives. But behind the barrage of anti-Soviet propaganda unleashed by the West, there lie some very disturbing questions.

Harry Dugmore examines the confusions surrounding the airliner shooting and points to some disturbing implications.

The first questions to be asked are technical. Why did the plane fly off course at all? Why did 2 1/2 hours elapse between the plane entering Soviet airspace and its being shot down? Why the lack of communication with Japanese air controllers? The South Korean Air Lines Flight 007 left Anchorage, Alaska, at 11.00pm, bound for Seoul in South Korea. Approximately two hours later the plane strayed into Soviet air space. As Newsweek asks, 'How could Captain Chon (a veteran pilot with over 18,000 hours in the air) have gotten so lost in the first place?' The article goes on to say that the aircraft was fitted with extremely sophisticated navigational equipment, accurate even in the most adverse weather conditions.

It has been suggested that the computers were fed the wrong information - but this is almost impossible. A triple check procedure is carried out by both the pilot and the ground crew equipment, the flight flew well off course. Apparently Flight 007 coincidently flew straight over a number of the Soviet Union's most sensitive military bases, including the Petropavlovsk missile and naval base, at which 90 nuclear submarines are stationed.

Confusion

The plane also seemed to be making directly for Vladivostok, headquarters of the Soviet Pacific Fleet.

This leads us to another feature of the affair - the presence of an American spy plane in the area at the same time. On September 5 the Radio Daily Mail carried a front-page leader, which read, 'The United States yesterday admitted that the Soviet Union had 'initially confused' the Korean airliner shot down last week with a US spy plane, a modified Boeing 707, which was also in the area at the time!'

Unfortunately press coverage has downplayed this aspect, leaders (including PW Botha) against 'Godless Russian barbarism'. It is clear, however, that by the time the plane was shot down, the Soviet Union probably knew that it was a civilian aircraft.

Stupid?

The Soviet Union has repeatedly claimed that it fired highly visible tracers across the bows of the plane. How could the Korean pilot have failed to see any Soviet planes or the warning shots? All accounts of the actions taken by the Korean pilot at the time are at best conflicting; at worst, garbled.

They may be callous and even barbarous, but are the Soviet leaders stupid? Did they have any reason to throw away the carefully built-up goodwill and sympathy of anti-nuclear groups in Western Europe?

Did the Soviets want to give Ronald Reagan the perfect justification for the passing of the MX missiles by Congress, and to undermine all efforts to keep the next generation of American nuclear weapons out of Europe? Did they want to give Reagan the opportunity to flatten opposition to his Central American policies?

The daily incidents of cold-war paranoia reported and encouraged by the daily press are girls with 'I don't like the Soviet Union' placards (front page The Star two weeks ago), the nightly scenes of human debris washing up on Japanese beaches are hardly examples of constructive reporting. They simply bolster and encourage war fever, and exacerbate tensions which could lead to a global nuclear confrontation.

It is cynical to suggest that the United States was implicated in the incident. However, we must keep the issue in perspective:

The massacre of civilians by the United States in neutral Cambodia in the early 70's; their collaboration with barbarous regimes such as Samoza's in Nicaragua, the Shah of Iran, and Pinochet's in Chile, hardly suggests that the US places much value on human life where their political and economic interests are at stake.

One of the most alarming aspects of the tragedy of Flight 007 is that Reagan now has the ideological justification to 'go in' to Central America, and to step up the arms race.

Reagan, who has proved himself to be the supreme warmonger, can now launch a popular crusade against the 'dark empire', as he has called the Soviet Union. It might be the crusade which
The central feature in this week's edition is on the Ciskei.

No-one with even the barest sense of common humanity can fail to be shocked and horrified by the brutalities perpetrated by Lennox Sebe and his government.

The atrocities listed in the feature resemble the brutal techniques employed by right-wing South American dictatorships. These have aroused international condemnation in the past — let us hope that the world will protest in the same way against the Ciskei.

The Ciskei story is indeed a horror story — but perhaps its most terrifying aspect was not spelt out in the feature.

We refer to the growing indifference in this country and on this campus. White South Africans, besieged by a stream of never-ending atrocities are becoming immune to them. In a country defined by bannings, detention without trial and deaths in detention, a few death in the Ciskei do not seem to be very significant.

Certainly the lack of public outrage implies a tacit acceptance of situations which should make us sick with loathing and revulsion.

In the saga of the Ciskei a number of villains appear prominently. First, there is the South African government, guilty of creating the Ciskei and creating it in its own image. Truly the pupil has now surpassed the master.

Next, there are the Ciskei authorities, guilty of ruling through terror.

Absolutely culpable is the South African daily press for its lack of coverage of the Ciskei. This suggests that the so-called liberal press has accepted the independence of the Ciskei, reserving its major coverage for 'South African' news.

Surely coverage of the Ciskei should be at least as extensive as coverage of the Korean air disaster, or is the Ciskei seen to be less important?

Wits Student urges all students to unite in a universal expression of anger and disgust at the present situation in the Ciskei, a land which has proved that even a puppet can be dangerous if it is taught to shoot.

The situation in the Ciskei highlights another aspect of the government's new constitutional proposals. The government claims that blacks will not be included in the new dispensation because they have 'political rights in the independent homelands'.

What a joke.

The South African government is condemning them to the right to be tortured and killed at the hands of people like Sebe.

There can be no question as to the attitude one should adopt towards the new constitution:

It must be rejected out of hand.

Wits Student would like to thank the 1982/3 editor, Harry Dugmore, for his incredibly hard work on the paper over the last year.

Contributors:

Matthew Kentridge
Karen Jochelson
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Cathy Stadler
Janet Hersch
Clive Glaser
Peter Lazarus
Paul Jammy
Nell Abrams
Liz van der Riet
Derek Spitz
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Hélène Joffe
Debbie Abrahams
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Arts editor
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Karen Brodie
Amanda Cohen
Isobel Thompson

I would be pleased if you would publish the following letter in your next edition. It is a reply to a letter from Mr R Dewar, who in his letter ‘Christian Conscience’ displays a number of confusions which ought to be cleared up. My reply runs as follows:

Whilst not disagreeing essentially with the point Mr R Dewar makes (somewhere between the rhetoric) in his letter about the relation between Christianity and homosexuality, I would like to point out that his justification for it is very slender — if it exists at all. First of all, is it not the case that timber is he who can dismiss the central test of Christianity as being merely... a social and political history of the Jews... and of a more recent breakaway sect? There is, I suspect, a distinction between reading the Bible as literally the Word of God, and accepting it as the interpretation of prophets.

The second, more serious point is that such a view seems to licence Mr Dewar in thinking that he can call himself a Christian whilst depending solely... on the dictates of (his) conscience... and he seems to think that the idea that Timothy was ‘only a man’ justifies this belief. The problem here is that if Timothy was only a man, so is Mr Dewar — in which case, on his own terms, how can he believe the ‘dictates of his conscience’? Mr Dewar, I think misses one of the aims of religion, that is, to provide a system of values which do not depend solely on one man’s ‘dictates of conscience’. Mr Dewar is, I must conclude, more insecure than he would have us believe. At any rate, if he continues to present such emotionally confused arguments he will only undermine the efforts of other people for whom the problem is far too serious to warrant escape into solipsism.

Richard Jürgens BA II

The words of the prophets

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The second, more serious
Military — calling Council’s tune?

University autonomy and neutrality is one of the ideals which the university claims to uphold. We need only examine the composition of the University Council to see how laughable this is.

The University Council is the most important decision making body on all academic and administrative issues. When we look at the candidates standing for election to Council at the moment, we see that most of those who are standing are ill-equipped to fill such positions.

For the most part, their links to the academic world are extremely tenuous. Moreover, some of their credentials appearing on their CV’s are downright disturbing.

Round 2: Dewar vs Cairns

Some while ago I wrote in on the issue of maladministration of parking permits on the part of the SRC executive (which, I believe, is personified by one Mrs Cairns).

Mrs Cairns, supposedly on behalf of SRC was good enough to write in response to my letter, but she failed to answer any of my questions. This is a pity, as it merely confirms my view that parking permits are NOT equitably distributed, for it they were, the manner in which they are distributed could surely be discussed in public.

I must also take this opportunity of disclaiming any personal involvement in the rash of ‘Anarcho-Syndicalist’ posters that has recently appeared. Though I sympathise with the views of these ‘Anarcho-Syndicalists’, I am not in any way involved in the anti-SRC campaign these posters are pushing.

But, to quote from a poster in the old canteen ‘Who gets the parking anyway?’

Perhaps the new SRC would be so good as to reply to my questions, rather than leave the issue with a non-elected, non-representative executive branch, because unfortunately Mrs Cairns does not make the policy, but merely administers it.

RJD Dewar
BA III

I hope the following elaboration on the points I made in my reply to Mr Dewar’s letter will allay his suspicions regarding the allocation of student parking permits.

1. The stickers for students in executive positions in student organisations such as Rug, All Sports Council etc are allocated by the organisations and not by the SRC.
2. Stickers granted on medical grounds are authorised by Campus Health Clinic and not by the SRC.
3. The balance of the stickers are allocated by ballot to applicants who are in their third or higher academic year. The draw is done by SRC staff members and not by the SRC.

Please, Mr Dewar, where is the maladministration and what is inequitable in this method of distribution? What would you suggest?

Jocelyn Cairns

Windscale corrected

I refer to your issue Vol 35, No 13, Page 14 ‘Nuclear Power’.

As one was there at the time, I would point out that Windscale No 1 Reactor was situated on the coast of Cumberland.

I said ‘was’ because Cumberland has now been designated Cumbria after some boundary changes.

Take Nikos Stutterheim, for example, present ‘chairman’ of the council. Stutterheim is ‘Vice-Chairman’ of both Soekor, the state funded oil exploration monopoly, and the Atomic Energy Corporation. In addition, he is Deputy President of the CSIR, and director of the National Building Institute.

Other candidates, such as Victor Robinson, John Job and Samuel Israelstam, hold important positions in big business and state institutions.

Incidentally, Israelstam was a member of the Prime Minister’s Scientific Advisory Council from 1962-72.

Some candidates are closely linked to the military: John Job has been the Commanding Officer of the Witwatersrand Rifles since 1981. Felix Machanik also seems to be involved in various military activities.

Credentials such as these hardly suggest that decisions taken by such people on Council are likely to be disinterested.

How can they divorce themselves from their links to big business and the state, both of which are vitally concerned that Wits should produce the ‘right’ kind of graduate — people equipped to perpetuate the status quo. This does not only mean the acquisition of skills and expertise. It also implies the adoption of attitudes which accept and endorse the political and economic inequality on which our society is based.

In my opinion, Sydney Kentridge is the only candidate whose record is uninsured. He is a well-known advocate, a member of the Board of the Faculty of Law and that of the Centre for Applied Legal Studies. As such, he is the only candidate for whom I would even consider voting.

Concerned post-graduate student

Justice and Equity

Freedom of speech, justice, open mindedness, human rights, etc? Where? At Wits??

Wits has always been considered to be the leader in all of the above fields but the events of Wednesday August 24 proved that Wits cannot even uphold its own ideals.

We may be jumping to conclusions but is the SRC to be called in to the events of Wednesday August 24 proved that Wits cannot even uphold its own ideals.

We may be jumping to conclusions but is the SRC to be called in by the SRC and disciplined for its irresponsible, unruly act of disrupting another society’s meeting? If not did they have the SRC’s approval?? By all appearances the SMA meeting seemed to be above-board especially as Wits security were endeavouring to allow the meeting to go ahead as scheduled and all the posters advertising the meeting bore the SRC stamp.

Let us have some justice and equity on campus. Let us hear the SRC condemn irresponsible acts by all societies, and also, condemn, not only the government (and rightly so) for its acts of violence against the people of Mozambique, Angola, etc, but also the ANC and other underground military organisations for their acts of violence against innocent civilians as in the Pretoria, Carlton Centre, etc bomb-blasts.

Come on SRC, practise what you preach!

Definitely not a SMA supporter

RW Randall
DR de Jongh

Anyone wanting to join

SRC ORIENTATION COMMITTEE

come to a meeting in the
ID MacCrone Room SUB
on WEDNESDAY 28 SEPTEMBER
at 12.30 pm

or Contact:
Alf James 615-5624
Neil Hellmann 783-1348
Matthew Chaskalson 784-3456

SRC ORIENTATION COMMITTEE
Live the Tassenberg life
Deep-frozen drama

The city dies at dusk. Trains and buses squeeze towards the 6.00pm Smoglands while BMW's cruise to 6.00pm sundowners. The production lines are silent; the retail outlets shut. But in the backstreets of Newtown, a new animal is stirring: The Dhlomo Theatre.

The newest Johannesburg theatre opened almost unnoticed. No glamour nor rave from the commercial press or the 'arty' elite. Their verbal constipation is easily understood: Dhlomo Theatre is not traditional; it is people's theatre at the vanguard of South Africa's New Wave. 66 Pim Street Newtown is deep in abattoir-country, but the theatre's as real and tangible as canned beef. It's an afterhour's project by the Azanian National Theatre Company. Situated in an old Vishcentral refrigerator, the setting facilitates a fusion of Johannesburg history and dynamic potential.

Night of the Long Wake by self-exiled playwright Dukzwa Ka Mako opened the Dhlomo Theatre. In combining the hate, fear and pain of Sharpeville and Soweto '76, the play tears down comfortable illusions in a searing explosion of anger and agony. This is the genuine article. It's not just 'relevant' but its black theatre.

And it's all accessible to whites because it is in town. No bureaucratic maneuver hems commonly encountered when people seek permits to enter the townships, and no paranoia about the Unknown City.

Around the corner; under the motorway; across empty lots and dimly lit streets, people's theatre is asserting itself. It's raw drama. It's dynamic. Go.

Sarah Roberts as 'Agave' and Jeremy Crutchley as 'Pentheus' in The Bacchae

Pentheus, a 'macho' militaristic character into a woman. 'Made-up' languages have been used, exploring the notion of tongues. 'When this God talks to you, he talks to you in a language you've never heard before, but you understand.

The result is a production, rich in texture.

The story is about a repressive city run by an oppressive boy-king. Pentheus played by Jeremy Crutchley (who represents the state). He comes into conflict with Dionysus the God of Freedom and Desire, played by Arthur Molepo who comes to the city and encourages the women to leave for the mountains and become Bacchae. The story unfolds and the conflict is presented in an outstanding sequence where Pentheus tries to chain up the God, but discovers that he is really chaining himself and the God cannot be held captive.

The choreography by Robin Orlin is outstanding and there are many excellent dance sequences.

The theme of Dionysus, God of Freedom and Desire has been 'teased out', making it peculiar to our time.

Malcolm Purkey: 'Dionysus may be more than a god of freedom and desire, but for me it's a sign, complex but explicable, of the need to examine the repression, both social and psychological, I experience. In addition, the play lends itself to the most theatrical of interpretations - what more could one ask?'

The music, composed and directed by Colleen-Rea Holmes, includes the use of drums, whistles and melodic percussion. It highlights the energetic rhythm of the play, and the excellent costumes, make up and masks need special mention for their contribution to the atmosphere of the production. Design is by William Kentridge and Sarah Roberts.

At this, and the superb performance of whole cast provides a captivating theatrical experience which should not be missed.

University Players — Informal Brecht

In a tribute to one of the most original and vigorous dramatists of the century, the University Players are staging 'An Informal Evening of Brecht.'

The most permanent feature of Bertolt Brecht's drama is the Verfremdung, or 'alienation' effect, whereby the drama is not ritual, but debate. The debate is marked by the rejection of the individual in favour of a social ideal. Despite its debate, Brecht's drama excites a lively interest and curiosity.

In this 'informal evening', a variety of the playwright's work will be performed. The audience will be invited to circulate freely in the theatre, and, hopefully, be stimulated to decisive social action.

The Brecht evening will run at the Box Theatre from September 26 to October 1.

Students are urged to support this innovative production.
MUSICALLY INCLINED
USE
YOUR MIND!

OPEN LATE FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

no 4 pretoria st · hillbrow · jhb             tel: 724 · 4915
Martha and The Muffins Danseparc

After unpleasantly listens to this record, I can come to no other conclusion except that Martha and the Muffins' third album is horribly disappointing. Their first, Metro Music was interesting, innovative, a bit rough around the edges (not unlike most debut albums), but nevertheless a breath of fresh air. The second album, This Is The Ice Age, was a work of art, rated by many as one of the best albums of '81. Tense and exciting, it looked as if Martha and the Muffins would go far.

But here M & M regress to the level of a dull 'Noo-Wave' rock band. They're a lukewarm Motels, a boring Pretenders (with all due respects to Martha Lloyd and Chrisie Hynde). The only inkling of hope coming via Side Two, Track One. Several Styles of Blonde Girls Dancing is really quite appealing with its enticing intro, primitive, carnal rhythms, and continuous background Maori chanting. However the song is marred mid-way by a sudden change of direction, including a David Byrne impression by Mark Gane: 'Aaaaah should know better!' (he should), and further hysteric Maori wailing brought to the fore.

The song eventually returns to its original path, but by then it is too late. It is a pity that, at the expense of being experimental (taking wild excursions into Maori folklore), M & M ruin what, potentially, could be as good as anything they've ever written. Mark Gane sings: 'The music that we danced to wasn't anything like this . . .' No kidding.

Perhaps the only other moment of 'inspiration' this album offers is to be found in the lyrics of What People Do For Fun: 'Communication happens out on the floor / They dance until two, fuck until four / Smoke in bed while outside it rains / They don't think they'll see each other again / I'm using you / Am I amusing you? You decide.'

M & M have produced some disappointing material. They've lost the ability to rivet the listener to the speaker (excuse the pun). Their rhythms are the same throughout, and the pace seldom varies. The songs are dull and lifeless (perhaps due to Martha Johnson's increased songwriting share and new member Nick Kent), and when they are experimental, they fail.

Martha and the Muffins have regressed. Unfortunately, not as far back as The Ice Age. GG

Records supplied by Street and Hillbrow Records.

22 September 1983

Elvis Costello and the Attractions - Punch the Clock

Elvis is dead. Long live Elvis! Elvis Costello (real name Declan McManus) was always typical of the artists who originally signed with Stiff Records. He was never prominent, but he was always there. His early albums were appreciated by a small band of die-hard fans, but despite a few charting singles over the years, his music was never accessible to the general public.

The new album has a kick to it. The music is much fuller, and Elvis' soft, laid-back voice has adapted with admirable efficiency. There are a few sensitive ballads on the album, of which Shipbuilding (Yes, Robert Wyatt sings the same song but originally written by Costello) is the best example. The rest of the tracks contain an aggressiveness not previously heard in Costello's music. This is provided mainly by the brass, which combine with Steve Nieve's keyboards to produce a clear and polished sound.

I wouldn't attempt to classify this album, as none of Elvis' albums are classifiable, and modern categories are generally vague anyway. The album's only weakness lies in the lyrics. Elvis has always been a profound ballad-writer, so don't expect too many social comments. However, the quality of the music more than compensates for this weakness.

Elvis Costello is no celebrity. His new album will probably again go unnoticed. But for those of you who try unknown artists, give Punch the Clock a listen - you won't be disappointed.

Long live Elvis! PJ

The great South African tragedy

So you thought Fugard had never heard of Gridiron Football! His latest play 'Lesson from Bison', which had its premier at the Market last night features just this. It is an adventure, a suspense thriller, and a weepy, all in one.

The play is about an extremely gifted South African sportsman who falls in love with money, and follows his love across mighty oceans to the American football circuit.

The play starts with a reenactment of his past triumphs. The audience sees some excellent miming of deadly goal-kicks and cheering crowds. In the centre of it all is the hero. We are introduced to a great man.

But, O misery! He has a flaw in his character, arrogance. The Hubris of Aristotles is coupled with a lust for money. Scene I fades into Scene 2 and we see our hero crouching in a dark corner covered in gold, while BMW's are flashed against the background in powerful montage.

The play then moves to a climax of thrilling tension as player after player is eliminated from the pre-season training squad. For a moment it looks as if the sun will forever shine on the green rubber matting. The pivotal moment between success and failure is a nasty one. We see the full range of human emotions, with generosity and sportsmanship vaining to control jealousy and lust.

Inevitably his tragic flaw leads to his nemesis. Alas fair American dream. The hero is revealed as an overreacher, as we have suspected all along. In a moment of emotional dramatic self-punishment he raked his eyes out with his boot studs.

Finally, however, we see that he has learnt from the experience. A fuller self-knowledge, and a new humility is evident as he gets off the plane at Jan Smuts. Don't miss this masterful work, a reenactment of a true story of a South African debutante.
James Alexander, into the student diary and that
students, and that's all. We want to be like cheerleaders — creating spirit on campus, gloving them identity.
J: No. I really think the past SRC was accessible. This was shown in their contact with a broad range of student opinion.
WS: James, what are the important cultural issues pertaining to students?
J: (getting in assertively, JUST before Antony can go off) Culture can't be just jorks and obvious entertainment. It has got to bring artistic awareness onto campus. We have to be aware of the relevance of art in our society. Art is an expression of the way the artist relates to the environment.
J: No-one operates in a social vacuum. Each person reflects their social reality.
WS: What do you feel about cultural boycotts, then?
J: The purpose is to put pressure on apartheid and express disapproval of it. Overseas artists can have a positive contribution to make. Cultural interplay between countries is important.
WS: Are you then condemning Equity's total cultural boycott on SA?
J: I don't know. Probably debates should be held, at length, about this. I've got to just say that I can't see what positive contribution Sun City makes. The whole money thing makes it a real farce.
WS: And Antony, how do you feel about boycotts?
A: Are you asking me? Well, ja, OK. If artists come and are accessible to all equally — both financially and racially — then they must come. We mustn't be so heavy. This is a culture article. Ja, and I hope you're putting what we say under our names, haven't like — 'A says, J says'.
WS: Ok. You don't seem to agree on very much. How did you resolve who would be the Culture chairperson and Vice?
A: No, no problem. Neither of us is above the other. We're just both filling the two positions available. I've got more Voice of Wits and dynamics-type skills and James is more into the student diary and that.
J: I'm vice chair of this and of Projects Committee and we're both on the University Art Galleries Committee. I actually made my political stand quite clear in my manifesto and campaign. I'm very interested in cultures though...
A: Ja, he's doing the Free Peoples'. Hopefully it'll be at Milpark — we're negotiating with admin (the old story)! Ja, we need it there so people can identify it as the Wits Jorl — no Hell's Angels or Hippies. (Antony's identity issue reappears — interesting.)
WS: Do either of you have aspirations for SRC president?
A: (1st AGAIN) If I stand next year I want to be president for the following 3 reasons:
1. I'll get a special parking space
2. I'll get the most post and phonecalls, so it will seem as if I'm the most popular... No number (3)!!!!!!!!!!
J: I think Antony should be SRC president to help him overcome his inferiority complex!
A: Ah. come on, you can't

James Alexander, into the student diary and that

Antony Gordon, into pink

This year's chairs of the SRC Cultural Portfolio, Antony and James, will not be sat on. With Antony's enthusiasm (English for chutzpah) and James' suss nothing can go wrong, go right...

WS: Why the pink election poster?
A: You've just answered your question. You noticed them.
J: Ja, and I like pink. It's different. I don't know (obviously finding the question extremely trivial!)
WS: Has your portfolio got anything different to offer students, beyond the pink posters?
A: (jumping in long before James had even had the chance to process a thought) 'Rising Star Week'. Ja, I know it sounds kitsch and all that but what I mean is that we've got to find the talent among the 14 000 students — got to find some fresh faces for pool stunts and things, besides Neil Hellmann and Anthony Gordon. Also, we're starting a 'jorl board' outside Students' Union. It will advertise all campus cultural functions.
J: And the 'culture week' next year will include student sculpture and poetry competitions.
A: Ja, like before this, the SRC was like a 22-man ('person, Antony, person') prefect body who were seen as...
Gymnasts: a springing success

The gymnasts from the Wits Gymnastic Club representing Southern Transvaal did very well at the South African Senior Competition held in Bloemfontein.

In the rhythmic section with scarves, Kim Tosefsky gained a creditable third place with a mark of 7,85 out of a possible 10. In the Class I section for women, Pamela Kew did a lovely exercise on the step bar to gain a good mark of 8,4 which placed her second, Pamela gained seventh place overall where there were 40 gymnasts competing.

Miss. Wittuhn, competing in the women's Class II event, did an excellent hand-spring vault to gain first place with a mark of 8,7.

Kim Tosefsky also competed in the Class IV event for women and improved tremendously. She gained a third place for vaulting with a mark of 8,4 and first place on floor with a score of 8,5. Kime was eventually placed third overall.

In the same section, Debbie Howes performed her best on floor to gain a mark of 8,3 which placed her third in third place

In the women's open section, Caroline Wortley did extremely well to win overall against very strong opposition. Caroline gained first place on bar with a mark of 7.85 and second on beam with a score of 7.75.

Caroline's sister, Jacky, was close on her heels by gaining a second on bar with a mark of 7,65 and third on floor with a score of 7,9. Jacky was placed fifth overall.

Daniel Harvey had a fair competition in the Men's grade IV section. He picked up a second place for floor exercise with a good score of 8.2

Battered JCE lose narrowly

The Sharp Interfaculty rugby league at Wits University ended on a high note when Men's Residence beat JCE 18-16 in a tense final.

With fourteen, closely matched sides having played each other on a league basis over several weeks followed by hard fought semi-finals, the stage had been set for an absorbing final clash.

Indeed it was and the packed stadium rose from their seats on numerous occasions to applaud the thrilling moves and the desperate defence of both teams.

'Kamikaze' tackling was invariably the order of the day as the respective captains of both Men's Residence and JCE, Dave Smith and 'Solly' Solomon, urged their players on to greater deeds.

In fact it was said that JCE, with their captain bespattered with blood, should have lost by the narrowest of margins particularly as they were pressing for much of the last part of the game.

Perhaps the desire to win of these two sides was best reflected by the score of the curtain-raiser where the winning side was locked 3-3 at the final whistle of their play-off for third and fourth places

But, it should be added, the teams were never lacking in imaginative play with the wide-ranging Glen Gallagher of Builders and the mercurial Mike Hisley of Commerce inspiring their sides in some outrageously daring moves.

Said a satisfied Chairman of Inter-faculty rugby, John Lane, at the conclusion of the tournament, 'The chaps have done wonderfully well to produce rugby of such an impressive standard in that they do all their own training, coaching, selection and administration with limited facilities being available'.

Table-tennis loses Cinderella tag

With the table tennis season drawing to a close, Wits University students can look back on a certain amount of success and a great deal of promise.

In recent seasons Wits' leading players have joined other orders to participate in the Transvaal League and have only joined forces to represent the university side at the major South African University tournaments.

At Wits next year, table tennis enthusiasts in the Transvaal will be provided with further incentive to promote this up-and-coming sport.

Aitken victory

The Wits University Fencing Club has just brought home the magnificent Alex Aitken and Carpenter trophies for both the men's and women's sections of their recent inter-varsity tournament at Pietermaritzburg.

With the annual South African Universities tournament, this competition serves to provide the university club sides with high standard fencing and the inevitably intense rivalry.

To further boost Wits' winning streak, Graham Wald, making a comeback after a recent injury and Marianne Pienaar, won the mixed pairs event and therefore ensured a clean sweep.

With the Ladies team having won the SAU and the College having triumphed at the prestigious Black Diamond tournament at Newcastle, Alex Aitken has been a memorable season and one which has re-established Wits' reputation in the fencing fraternity.

While Wits might not today possess a side comparable with those of their two调试, Marianne Pienaar, won the mixed pairs event and therefore ensured a clean sweep.

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This year witnesses the 25th Sportsman of the Year award at this university. The award is decided upon at the Sportsman of the Year Dinner/Dance which offers the largest social occasion for athletes at Wits University. The University's sporting successes of the preceding year are considered for some similar important and meaningful competition. The selection of the sportsman and sportswoman of the year is done by secret ballot at a full meeting of the All Sports Council comprising the chairmen of all the sports clubs at Wits. The results of the voting are not revealed until a precise moment during the progress of the Dinner/Dance, when the Guest of Honour makes the presentations.

With the institution of these magnificent trophies the tradition of the Sportsman of the Year function has become firmly embedded in the social structure of Wits as one of the most important and meaningful functions at this university.

The Sportsman of the Year competition has been narrowed down to four finalists: Harry Chweidan is a world-routed Karate exponent. He was first seen by the University in 1983 to underlinr their supremacy in this country's Karate.

It is interesting to note that West Germany finished second to Japan at the last World Championships and that South Africa convincingly beat the West Germans in two tests last year. This indicates that South African Karate is of an exceptionally high standard.

But reigning supreme this year have been the two Karate girls Melanie Dembo and Angela Toulouras. Springboks in 1982 they were re-awarde national colours again for the World Championships. They took first and second places in the South African NAKA (A Styles) Championships in 1982 and then repeated the performance in 1983 to underlinr their supremacy in this country's Karate.

The fact that Melanie and Angela tied on points against West Germany and that they alone were chosen as the women representatives in these internationals and for the World Championships, makes it surprising that the All Sports Council has awarded a Full Blue Cum Laude to Melanie and not to Angela.

Another Full Blue Cum Laude award was made to Bruce Fordyce (who was a re-award).

The Club of the Year award originally received seven nominations following one of Wits finest ever sporting years. These were narrowed down to Rugby, Boat, Gymnastics and Soccer which will ensure an exciting and very close finish.