MOGOPA UPROOTED
Last year 56 cars were stolen on Wits campus, compared to 14 the previous year. This figure does not include break-ins, where car radios and other valuables were taken from cars.

The primary goal of Wits security is the protection of university property, according to Mr. MW Black, deputy chief security officer. Students who do not wish to be named, claim that this reflects Wits security’s lack of concern for people on campus — especially students.

It seems also, that people are able to wander at will in sensitive areas such as the back of the Great Hall, and that cases like the smashing of the Students Union door, and vandalism during Orientation Week, receive insufficient attention from Security.

There are only 14 guards patrolling Wits Campus day and night, and at the William Cullen Library and outside Jubilee Hall, there are no guards at all. Poster vandalism is rampant — Security claims that students from both left and right are responsible.

According to a Wits Student survey, however, during the NUSAS anti-constitution campaign in October 1983, posters advocating a ‘No’ vote stayed up for shorter periods than did SMA posters advocating a ‘Yes’ stance.

The overnight library is a tragedy; a truly venerable organisation beset by problems and flaws in which it flounders — rather ineloquently.

Mrs. Dolby, spokesperson for the library administration specifically appealed to Wits Student not to be too harsh on the Overnight or its staff. She points out that the problems begin a lot higher up, at the level of a leader-legged bureaucracy. She points out that to get more staff — an obvious and immediate cure for them — one must motivate people to their work. March is the busiest month in that month and at 8.30 started the voting. The reply was ‘Get out.’

Mrs. Dolby also hopes (along with the rest of us) that a programme of computerised bookings will be in operation by the beginning of’85. Work began on this project in 1982.

Meanwhile the problems remain. The main aggravations are:

- The non-availability of necessary books and photostats because supply is not meeting demand.
- Constant interruptions after 2pm on the paging service which means service is slow.
- The overnight library or its reading room an impossibility.
- The library administration not clamping down on people who (a) keep books for 2 days and pay the R1.00 fine (b) book books and do not come for them.

In response to this last problem Wits Student has suggested that anyone coming into the library just before closing time should be allowed to take a book on a separate booking system, rather than the book spending the night on the shelf.

One final problem is that the overnight, which by definition holds the most sought-after books at the university, is closed for 6 hours stretch ie from Friday 5pm to Monday 10am.

Academic material which is in great demand could surely be made available for reading on a Saturday.

Any improvements of this nature, however, are squarely blocked by lack of personnel. The only solution is to employ more people.

The question of Security’s relationship with the SMA is a matter of concern. The SMA is the only organisation which lodges its key with Security. All the other organisations have keys lodged with the SRC, which does not have a copy of the SMA key.

Further questions as to their objectivity emerge in their description of the Pro-PLO faction in the Pro-Israeli/Pro-PLO blow up as ‘The table-cloth on the head brigade’ and their view that only Pro-PLO students acted provocatively.

There is an escort service at Wits, yet this system is seen as inconvenient. If there were more guards on duty, the need for an escort service would be eliminated.

Security’s emphasis on the use of dogs, (which incidentally are trained in Afrikaans) seems inappropriate to the Security needs of the campus, where very few potential offenders are likely to be violent. Security claims that dogs are used in preventing the escape of a criminal.

Wits Security seems to be over-zealous in providing protection for mass meetings. So much so that they often bar people from entering even though the hall is not yet full.

Sleeping overnight

It’s a long slow moving queue. It allows much time to ponder about the overnight library as an institution. Time to wonder about the efficiency of the personnel, about their excess of charm. One cannot ponder about the books or their content — don’t try and read them, you can’t get near them.

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Vesuvius erupts

The reply was ‘Get out.’ Perlman obeyed, and apologized to the class for taking up their time, that there had been a misunderstanding and that he would hold the election at a later date once all the parties had been informed.

However Perlman received a phone call that evening from Brian Leveson who said that Prof Goodyear had called him into his office and said that Perlman had insulted and had sworn at Sivan in front of the whole class.

On 29 February Prof Goodyear went into the class and restated the above, publicly adding that ’Perlman insults women and can therefore not be called a man.’ He further stated that Perlman had no manners, and that he should ‘apologize’ for his ‘behaviour’.

Brian Leveson then approached Goodyear who admitted to being derogatory towards Perlman and stated that he could apologize through Leveson. Leveson refused: saying that he must do it himself.

Wits Student spoke to Prof Goodyear who said ‘This is a matter of courtesy — nothing else.’
A question of education

Over 1 000 students have been killed in the battle for better education since 1976. South Africa is the only country with such a bloody history of student militancy.

Kate Philip, Nusas president spoke at the Mass Meeting, Thursday 1 March, she said 'School pupils in South Africa have altered the course of our history by their actions on more than one occasion'.

'We realised for the first time in Nusas that our education did not constitute the pinnacle of the quest for knowledge and truth, in fact it left very much unsaid about our society. It provided us with no overall social and political context in which to understand the social purpose of what we were learning'.

Finally she said, 'for us as students in white campuses the challenges posed in South Africa in 1984 are many — the challenge of opposing unequal education and showing solidarity with students who are striving for a fair and equal education.

All the President's men

Last October, the term of office of Dr N Stutterheim as an elected member of Convocation expired. His place as chairperson was filled by the appointment of Mr F N Haslett.

However, during November 1983, State President's member, Dr W B Coetzee resigned, allowing Dr N Stutterheim, who had not been re-elected, to be appointed in his place. Stutterheim went on to be reinstated as Chairperson.

Council consists of various members appointed by the State President, the JHB City Council the JBHB Chamber of Commerce, the Transvaal Chamber of Industries and the Chamber of Mines. Among its members are also the Vice-Chancellor and the Deputy Vice-Chancellors and a few elected members of Convocation, Senate and past students and donors.

Advocate S Kentridge and Professor S S Israelstam were recently elected by Convocation to the Council.

Class rep guide

A comprehensive class rep guide has recently been published by Nusas.

The guide can be obtained from the SRC offices.

SP torture causes psychic numbing

The counsel for Mr Auret van Heerden, a former Security Police detainee concluded its case last week. Mr van Heerden is claiming R113 000 from 10 security policemen for alleged torture.

Mr van Heerden gave evidence that during 289 days of detention from September 1981 to July 9 1982 he was brutally tortured at the Benoni Police Station. The torture included electric shocks to various parts of his body while a wet canvas bag was pulled tightly over his head.

Friends and family of Mr van Heerden testified that after his release they found him a changed person.

Dr Louis West, psychiatrist and chairperson of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Services at the Medical School of the University of California, gave detailed evidence on Mr van Heerden's mental health and psychiatric symptoms.

Dr West diagnosed Mr van Heerden as suffering from acute and chronic post traumatic stress disorder.

Mr van Heerden's symptoms included:
- recurrent nightmares, night terrors and intrusive recollections of events at Benoni
- psychic numbing and the inability to express or experience the full range of human emotions
- fear of being attacked, physically harmed and killed by security police
- impaired ability to engage in meaningful interpersonal relationships on any level
- tension, depression, brooding irritability and impaired ability to concentrate.

Mr Kentridge, counsel for Mr van Heerden, asked Mr West whether he was not trying to create an impression favourable to Mr van Heerden's case.

Mr West replied 'I would have taken a severe trauma to produce the reaction that I have found in Mr van Heerden.'

'I don't believe he would have any symptoms if he had not been physically abused.'

Mr HZ Slosowitz is appearing for the 10 security policemen.

He suggested that given Mr van Heerden's personality, evidence that he had a peptic ulcer and was feeling physically rundown when detained, the strain of indefinite and solitary detention was enough to traumatised him.

Dr West questioned the findings of a South African psychologist and psychiatrist who said Mr van Heerden had an inadequate and immature personality.
The Engineering Faculty has a new dean. Wits Student asked Prof Kemp what he planned for the future.

This is the first in a 2 part interview:

WS: What do you think of the rightist image that engineers have at Wits? What do you think its origins are? Is it more apparent than real?

Dean: Do you think it’s a rightist image?

WS: I think there is a beer drinking, conservative image that hasn’t been too subtle. I think it’s a little more subtle than that. The engineers don’t think philosophically from day to day therefore they are apolitical.

Dean: First of all let me say that if I was an engineering student I would resent being categorised. And I would support that resentment because to my knowledge amongst our engineering students we have people of every political persuasion and some of them fairly active, politically. So to put a conservative tag to them I think is something they would resent and is something unreasonable.

WS: But most of them, say about 80%, of the students are not actively involved in politics;

Engineers sexist?

In a shock move, the Students Engineering Council (SEC) has created a Woman’s Portfolio on the council to combat sexism in the Engineering Faculty.

The decision was taken at an SEC meeting held in December, at which the idea of an Engineering Queen was mooted. However, members of the council decided that a more far-reaching position was needed, and one devoid of sexist overtones.

Adolf Tiel, PRO of the SEC spoke to Wits Student: ‘The engineering faculty is male orientated,’ he said. ‘It has a male bias and stigma because of maths and science. The engineering faculty is male orientated and we have people of every political persuasion and some of them fairly active, politically. So to put a conservative tag to them I think is something they would resent and is something unreasonable.’

Dean: I said to first year students at the talk that I gave to official functions to ‘promote the image of the engineering faculty.’

The women engineering students were consulted by the SEC, and the plan was explained.

The SEC stated firmly that the role will entail the job of hostessing at engineering functions, receiving guests and talking to them. It also said that the council would choose the first applicant for the post.

However, opinion differed at the meeting over the primary function of the portfolio.

The role of the Portfolio is chosen by academic merit from the 66 women students in the Faculty of Engineering. She ‘must be able to hold her own with the rest of the Engineering student body.’ The holder of the portfolio is elected, but is chosen by the executive committee of the SEC.

Amongst other things, the portfolio entails representing the views and opinions of women engineering students and accompanying the president of the SEC to official functions to ‘promote the image of the engineering faculty.’

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Dean: Perhaps the fact that they’ve chosen engineering reflects that they have a particular approach to their careers. Perhaps they are scientifically orientated; perhaps they are analytical people. I believe many engineers are very creative people and it is important that they should be creative. Perhaps they are not politically creative. So, yes, perhaps because of the high mathematics content and the high science content the problem solving aspects of engineering which are emphasised just about from the beginning — perhaps there is a certain character that goes towards making a successful engineering student. But I don’t think that makes him necessarily conservative, or whatever other tag you want to make him.

Dean: Do you know the exact figures but I do know that the government contributes by a factor of over 2, compared to what he pays by way of fees. I know that private universities in the United States in fact are charging these days for engineering about $10 000 per year, and they don’t have government support — so your figure doesn’t look out of court.

WS: Why are so few women attracted to engineering? What does the university do to encourage women to become engineers?

Dean: I’d love to get that issue into some correct perspective. I’ve been asked that question a number of times in recent years. I have a pat response which reflects that they have a particular character that goes towards making a successful engineering student. But I don’t think that makes him necessarily conservative, or whatever other tag you want to make him.

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WS: Why is it that South Africa is lagging behind at just about the bottom of the table on this issue? The Russians, I believe, have the largest percentage of women engineers. I think it’s around 50%. The figure goes down gradually, with America and Britain fairly near the bottom, but well over double what we have.

Dean: As I said, there are a few occupations which present some difficulty, but I think it’s time those activities were closely looked at and it may be that there are some laws that are a little out of date in keeping with the present situations.

There may, alternatively, be laws which have some justification — but it would be a very small percentage of the total.

Rag Target: R200 000

1984 will see the first of the ‘New Look’ Rag activities. This year, instead of the traditional Rag royalty, the most suitable Wits Rep will be nominated from one of the sub-committees of Rag. Each committee is responsible for raising money through different functions.

According to Rag, the Vice-Chancellor has commented that this year’s rag magazine Wits Wits is the best in twenty-two years. Rag was successful in selling most of the copies on Saturday.

The magazine includes articles on the beneficiaries which have been omitted in previous editions, said Harry Dugmore, Wits Wits editor.

Rag as a national body is the largest student fund raising organisation in the world. The beneficiaries supported by Wits Rag are Witsco, Entokozeni, the Wits engineering library, the Wits medical school, the Wits rifle club, etc. and Shoron Jowell holding the 1984 Wits Wits.
Admin anti Westville SRC

The SRC of the University of Durban Westville was suspended by the University's Administration last year. They proclaimed the SRC's constitution 'illegal' and the SRC's financial problem as reasons.

The financial issue was resolved last year when the SRC handed in an audited financial statement, disproving accusations of misappropriation of funds by SRC. 'The constitutional problem is still with us,' say members of the suspended SRC because the independent, democratic SRC that students want is not what Admin has in mind.

Clubs and societies on the campus were enraged by the suspension and have united to form the SRC Action Committee (SRCAC). Various religious, teaching, political and community organisations have supported the SRCAC and the Azanian Students Organisation (Azaso), held and addressed protest meetings at UCT and the University of Natal Pietermaritzburg.

105 lecturers and professors at the University of Natal signed a petition condemning the Administration's actions. The SRCAC made two attempts to meet the rector during the December vacation.

The University Admin backed out. A meeting was finally held on January 11 — however the Administration's high-handed tone during the meeting hampered any reasonable negotiations.

The SRC was refused permission to hold a meeting with first year students, to put forward their viewpoint, after the Admin's orientation programme had expressed its viewpoint. The Action Committee therefore published an orientation pamphlet for new students to explain the campus crisis.

Students who were distributing these pamphlets were arrested by a security guard, their papers confiscated and were only released when their names had been recorded.

The Action Committee demanded a meeting on the same day. At the meeting the rector turned around on his decision to recognize the Action Committee, saying he would only recognize it if a list of all committee members was handed to him. All these moves by the Admin can be seen as part of a plan to delay the re-instatement of an independent, democratic SRC on the University of Durban-Westville's campus.

Smokeless society

Dr Borkon of Wits Campus Health is in the process of establishing an alternative health society.

She was motivated to do so after conducting a research study on Wits campus investigating the smoking habits among students.

One of the most important objectives of the new health society, called Alternative Lifestyle 2000, is to provide a rehabilitation service which will encourage students to stop smoking. The other objectives are to promote better health through adequate exercise, sound eating habits, effective stress management, sound attitudes to alcohol, tobacco and drugs and awareness of environmental pollution.

Dr Borkon, Mr Baird, Chairperson of the National Council on Smoking and Health, and Prof Musika will sit on the advisory committee of the society, which will be run by interested students. The society will show movies, have regular meetings, debates and discussion sessions and will aim at promoting better health among students.

The study was undertaken several years ago together with Mr Baird. Its findings revealed that 22% of students smoked, 17% classified themselves as ex-smokers and 61% had never smoked.

19% became regular smokers at the age of 18 years. Most ex-smokers stopped smoking when between 17 and 19 years which suggests that this age group may be more easily influenced to stop smoking. Only 8% had given up when older than 21 years.

In Wits Student's last article on the canteen, it was evident that prices were much higher (12-34%) than supermarket prices although the canteen is a service for the students. The enormous bulk sales (R18 000 per day last year) seem to have no effect on the prices.

This leads Wits Student to question whether reverse budgeting is in operation. With normal budgeting, costs would be tailored to fit a reasonable price that would 'serve' the student and the admin.

In reverse budgeting, the opposite occurs. Costs can always be covered by prices charged. Therefore insufficient effort is made to control costs.

If the accounting system now in operation is unsatisfactory (as it seems to be to the students) then the university is in a unique position to do something about it.

Would it not be possible for postgraduate commerce students to participate in a project to produce the most viable accounting system for the canteen? The experience would be invaluable to the commerce students, and to the student body as a whole it would be beneficial.

A possible reason for high prices might be that students are subsidising previous year's losses. A few years ago the canteen was running at a loss that ran into six figures. If the university administration decides to do nothing about the current position, the students will be left with a Hobson's choice: either they put up with the prices or they buy elsewhere.

SSC on the move

'The Science Students' Council is pleased to report positive responses to their questionnaire given out during Orientation Week,' said Linda Wedderburn, SSC President.

It was found that there is an interest in instituting sports for science students.

The Council plans to ensure effective SRC representation, so that there will be 'no miscommunication between students and staff.'

The Council also hopes to discuss and change the restricted Arts option for their courses.

They also hope to build a Science float for Rag, which has been neglected for some years.

Wits canteen - what do you think?
Two unions, one aim

In 1969, Steve Biko and Barney Pityana led black students out of Nusas. Since then, black and white students have organised separately.

Here, Tiego Mosanake, BSS and Azaso president, and Brendan Barry, Wits SRC president and a member of the Nusas executive, reflect on developments in the student movement since Biko's walkout.

After the split, black students organised themselves into an alternative body, the South African Student Organisation (SASO). Tiego isolates three main motivations behind the breakaway from Nusas:

'Firstly, the majority of students in Nusas were white. Black students were usually outvoted by white students on issues about which they felt very strongly. Secondly, white students did not appreciate the special problems of black students. Black students were still struggling over basic problems such as accommodation, which white students took for granted.

'Thirdly, Nusas lacked clear political direction.'

Brendan enlarges on this point:

'Biko challenged Nusas to define a political role for itself in South Africa. The walkout caused a crisis in Nusas. It didn't know where to go from there. But it forced Nusas to face reality.'

During the 50's Nusas adopted a rigidly apolitical stance. It voted against participation in the drawing up of the Freedom Charter in 1955. Nevertheless, black universities remained affiliated. In 1959 Nusas finally got involved politically. The University Extension Act affected universities directly. Nusas organized a campaign against the Act on a scale which has not been reproduced until the 80's. Despite the politicization of the late 50's Nusas remained politically incoherent throughout the 60's. The organization tended to view its political role in a completely unrealistic perspective.

'Then came the black walkout in 1969.' It encouraged a process of re-examination in Nusas', Tiego adds, 'a genuine reassessment of its role.'

'Ultimately, the effects of this change were positive.'

Although Nusas started questioning after 1969, it took a long time to find answers. In the early 70's, it embarked on a series of projects with varying degrees of success. But still it was directionless.

Setback

Nusas suffered a major setback in 1973 when the Schlebusch Commission declared it an 'affected organisation'. This meant that it was forbidden to receive money from overseas, and 90% of their funds were cut off. Eight Nusas leaders were banned.

'A measure of how out of touch Nusas was then, is that in 1976, its theme was 'Year of Peace'.

Brendan elaborates: 'Nusas had been spluttering around since '69. They were vulnerable to government repression and completely demoralised. Then '76 came. It blew their minds. It hit them between the eyes.'

The Soweto riots jolted students on the affiliated campuses out of their nostalgic wallowing in the 1960's Woodstock counterculture. They were rudely awakened to the fact that they were here, they were now. In Africa.

Fink Haysom, who was SRC president at the time, took over the Nusas presidency at a time when the Union was all but collapsed. He led Nusas into a new era.

The events of 1976 showed education to be a major political issue. Nusas started to locate itself within the broader South African education system. It concentrated on exposing the injustice and cynicism of apartheid education.

It also began to explore the implications of the education received by white students. If blacks were receiving an 'education for servitude', whites were 'educated to dominate' Nusas needed to show its members how to use their education in the interests of their society, instead of merely becoming 'qualified to exploit'.

Africanization

From 1977 onwards, Nusas instituted an 'Africanisation' programme, seeking to root itself more firmly in South African reality. It began to push for more relevant education, and was partly responsible for the inclusion of African languages and courses such as Industrial Sociology in the academic curriculum.

Nusas was greatly strengthened and consolidated from 1977 to 1980. It broadened its support base, and became a far more cohesive and credible organisation. This period saw the re-emergence of a national democratic movement, and Nusas began to participate in national political campaigns.

In 1979, Nusas lent it's support to the Fattis and Monis consumer boycott.

Brendan comments: 'Fattis and Monis was amazing. The workers called for a non-racial union, but management would not recognise it. What was fantastic was that the boycott was actually effective. It boosted morale tremendously. It showed students that Nusas could play a meaningful role in the movement for democratic change in South Africa.'

Encouraged by this triumph, Nusas joined in the Red Meat Boycott of 1980 and the Wilson-Rowntrees boycott of '81/82. Although these boycotts did not meet with the success of the Fattis and Monis boycott, they did serve to consolidate the links between Nusas and other progressive organisations, as well as to build up internal unity.

This paved the way for the mobilization of students in the 'Free Mandela' and 'Anti-Republic Day' campaigns of 1981.

The Anti-Republic Day cam-
campaign caused a great deal of controversy. Its effect on all campuses was highly politicising. Especially at Wits, it led to a polarisation amongst progressive and conservative students.

Student protest was extensively covered in the press. Frequent quoting of outspoken Nusas leaders, Andrew Borraine (Nusas president), Sammy Adelman (Wits SRC president), led to their eventual banning. David Johnson, then president of the Wits Black Student Society was also banned at this time.

How had the black student movement developed since its split from Nusas in 1969?

As a campus-based organisation, Saso was not involved in the demonstrations of school-pupils in June 1976. However, following the outbreaks of conflict between pupils and police, it did mobilise black students to boycott classes in support of the pupils.

A wave of government repression followed the events of 1976. Saso was one of the 18 organisations banned on the 9th October, 1977. "Practically everything was banned," says Tiego. "Organisation was completely disrupted within Saso during the 70's."

Tiego recalls, 'Saso was very vocal in the early 70's. It addressed itself to everyday student problems as well as broader political matters. Biko and Pityeni commanded enormous respect.'

Black consciousness

Whereas the ideology of Black Consciousness had not motivated the breakaway from Nusas, it became increasingly influential within Saso during the 70's. As a campus-based organisation, Saso was not involved in the demonstrations of school-pupils in June 1976. However, following the outbreaks of conflict between pupils and police, it did mobilise black students to boycott classes in support of the pupils.

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Black Consciousness remained at the forefront of black politics, giving rise to the formation of the Azanian Students' Organisation (Azaso) in 1978. In 1979 Azaso sponsored a conference culminating in the formation of the Azanian Students' Organisation (Azaso).

Tiego: 'But until 1981, Azaso had little or no credibility. It was virtually unknown, operating on only two campuses. Things started changing in 1981. Non-racial democratic organisations sprang up all over the country. They adopted the Freedom Charter and concentrated on building up mass-based support.'

It was against this background that the 1981 Azaso conference was held.

'Students came to the realisation that the problem in South Africa is not race alone, but also class. They adopted a non-racial approach to the struggle for change in South Africa.'

This precipitated as split from Azapo, which still adhered firmly to Black Consciousness.

Tiego comments on Azaso today: 'Azaso is still very young. In the past 2 years it has made significant organisational gains on campuses throughout the country. Five campuses are officially affiliated. The problem we face is that Azaso is banned at many of the universities and colleges. Informally, however, it commands a great deal of support.'

At Wits, Azaso organises through the Black Students Society (BSS). BSS was formed in 1975, and became active in 1976.

Tiego explains: 'The motives behind the formation of BSS are clear. Here is a group of black students who find themselves on a predominantly white campus. They find themselves faced with very different problems from the white students. BSS is here to deal with such problems.'

Brendan points out that 'many black students still study under appalling conditions. White students don't experience things like crowded trains, pass laws and a history of oppression.'

'Liberal image'

Tiego continues: 'On the other hand, there is a possibility that black students may be easily assimilated into easy-going student life. It is too easy to adopt the values of an exploitative system. But our duty is first to our community, and we must not lose sight of this.'

The BSS is the conscience and guiding light of black students at Wits.'

Many students question whether a separate organisation of this nature is actually compatible with the ideal of non-racialism. 'BSS adheres very strongly to the principle of non-racialism,' affirms Tiego. 'But if the BSS was open to white students, it would be unable to fulfil its present function, either practically or politically.'

Concerning the non-participation of black students in SRC elections and other university activities, Brendan said: 'Black students feel that they are here on sufferance. They see the university as an institution which props up the apartheid system.'

Tiego: 'Despite its liberal image, this university, like any other, is part of the present system. It is no bed of roses for black students who are saddled with the liability of Bantu Education. Although black students no longer need ministerial consent to attend 'white' universities, we see the raising of entrance requirements as a deliberate ploy to reduce the number of black students. Because of these considerations, we can in no way lend credibility to the university by participating in its structures.'

'As far as the SRC is concerned, it is affiliated to Nusas. Its elections are therefore, in a sense, Nusas elections. Although we support Nusas we belong to separate organisations.'

It is for these practical and tactical reasons that Nusas and Azaso organise separately despite their common commitment to one broad democratic movement.

On the 20 August, 1983, the United Democratic Front was launched. Both Nusas and Azaso have affiliated themselves to this front against the constitutional proposals and the Koornhof bills.

In 1984, then, we see the black students' and the white students' movement whose paths diverged so radically in 1969, beginning to come together again.

Both Nusas and Azaso recognise that they have a responsibility both to students and the broader community.

Tiego: 'Although our main terrain is the educational front, it is not just the education system which must be challenged. And so we lend our support to the UDF as a mass-based political organisation seeking to bring democratic change to South Africa.'
Bye-election: Manifestos

Chris Law
On Tuesday 13th March, there will be a by-election to elect one general representative to the Students Representative Council. I am offering my candidacy, as I am in my final year at Wits. I would appreciate this final opportunity of putting something back into my university. This I can do by getting elected onto the SRC — the only body which represents the students and can negotiate on their behalf.

The present SRC has instilled spirit into the University and my efforts would be directed toward preserving this.

In the past Wits students have been criticized for their apathy. I strongly encourage student involvement in all spheres — academic, cultural and social.

Wits is a cosmopolitan university. Consequently it would be unrealistic to expect unity and singularity of opinion. While the SRC represents the majority opinion it seeks total representation through communication and active discussion with all groups. If elected I would strive for this.

It is generally agreed that in South Africa political representation is inadequate. I feel that it is important that the SRC should continue to make students aware of contemporary political issues, and to promote discussion so that students can formulate their own opinions.

Student Representation on campus is achieved in the Academic Sphere through Edcom, while Student Services looks after On-Campus amenities. I would like to see a stronger representation in the field of sport. Lack of space has previously restricted the provision of further sporting facilities. Strong Student Representation could prevent a similar situation when we expand into Milner Park. If elected I would encourage such a committee.

I would urge you to cast your ballot on 13th to elect a Representative Candidate.

Michael Ian Levy
If elected to the SRC I will concentrate my efforts to improve the class rep system in the faculty. I believe the method of election of class reps should be more structured and democratic, thus giving the reps a better idea of what is expected of them. If the rep has the trust and support of his/her class, he/she will be in a far better position to represent them on the dental students council.

I would also like to improve dental school representation on campus. I believe that dental school should be integrated with the rest of campus, and should be informed of campus happenings. In this I hope to increase awareness amongst dental students, with regard to student and government politics, and how it relates to them as medical personnel.

In short, I believe that dental students can attain far more than just degrees, if properly and accurately informed.

Derek Lewis Levenstein
In my opinion there is poor interaction between the Dental Faculty and the rest of the University. Whatever the cause of this, I would appreciate the opportunity to improve the situation. This is my main interest as I feel it will benefit both the Faculty and the University.

I have served on the Student Exchange Council, a sub-committee of the Dental Students' Council for 2 years. I have also assisted with Rag within the Faculty since my first year of study (1981). I therefore have some experience in the student affairs of my Faculty.

I have been in the University environment for 3 years now and have experienced the University system. There are certain factors within the system with which I agree and others not. Being on the SRC will give me a chance to present the views of my Faculty to a Council which may be able to implement them to the benefit of both the University and the Dental Faculty.

If elected to the SRC I will —
• Investigate the possibility of course evaluation programmes.
• Promote better communication between part-time students and faculty as well as with the faculty officers.
• Attempt to solve the timetable grievances of part timers.

I cannot promise miracles but I will represent part time interests to the best of my ability.

Hifi equipment
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Limited stock
Contact 614-4561
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STOP PRESS
Jubilee sets out to catch a thief
Women students of Jubilee Res were instrumental in the capture of a thief who has admitted to stealing 60 car radios on Wits campus recently.

The man was spotted acting suspiciously in the basement garage of Jubilee by some women students who started talking to him to keep him occupied until security could be contacted.

When the people from Security arrived, the man was sitting in a car which had broken into. He was arrested and handed over to the police.
We will be loud and clear

Wits has a new Vice Chancellor. Prof Karl Tober is at the helm - his task: to manoeuvre the university through depths of government officialdom and the mire of student problems.

Wits Student climbed the 11 floors of Senate House to question him on his daunting task.

He originates from the Department of German Studies and was involved in the establishment of the Department of Comparative Literature. 'If one deals all one's life with literature, one is concerned with society. Literature has a social significance.'

Wits Student asked the V-C about his inauguration address to new students. He said 'The University will not take a formal stand in regard to many contemporary issues... because we feel that the University has to rise above the politics of the day'.

We asked if this meant that the University will not take a stand on issues like the detention and solitary confinement of Wits students, or the multitude of problems surrounding the education system in this country?

He said 'We will take a stand on any issue that will affect our members. We will not indulge in party political issues, but there are issues on which we will be loud and clear.'

'Our credibility would be greater without taking any party political stance.'

'When I make a statement, it is not directed to any political party, but it is directed to a state that practices laws that Wits would like to see changed.'

The V-C, an ex Nusas Honorary secretary, does not see the University as hierarchical.

'Students, staff, Convocation and Administration must interact at all times if the University is to function at all properly. I do not see these constituencies as an hierarchical order.'

'The University does not function as a power structure. It is the Administration's duty to manage the University in keeping with its academic and social objectives. As recently reported in the SRC News, both the student body and the Vice-Chancellor's office are looking forward enthusiastically to regular joint meetings at least every half term in order to convey student opinion accurately to my office and in turn to give you an opportunity to express your views.'

'We asked about the negotiation around the Free Peoples' Concert venue, and what was very nearly its cancellation.'

'When a few years ago, a Free Peoples' Concert was held on the Library lawn of this Campus, the noise level was such that there were many complaints from residents in the neighbourhood. The organizers were unable to control the noise. The adverse publicity did considerable harm to the University's relationship with the neighbourhood in which it is situated.'

When the organizing committee asked permission to hold the Concert on the Frankenwald Campus, this was refused because the Administration was convinced that the excessive noise in that area would create the same problems there that they had on the main campus a few years ago.

This left the organizers with the alternatives of Fun Valley, Ellis Park stadium and the arena in the Showgrounds. The University preferred the choice of either Fun Valley or Ellis Park and encouraged the organizers to select one of these venues. The organizers were convinced that Milner Park would be preferable. Although at first we opposed the choice of venue, fearing a repetition of events that had previously brought the University into disrepute, we were eventually persuaded by the detailed organizational procedures which were being followed that it might be possible to keep things under control.

From that point, the Administration worked closely with the organizers to ensure that things went smoothly. It is now clear that the detailed planning of the organizing committee was extremely successful and they deserve the warmest congratulations. The organizers have been asked to keep on record details of the procedures followed.

The University has just suffered a 2.42% cut in its Government subsidy. Wits Student asked what was the likelihood of this being an informal imposition of last year's Quota Act.

A 'zero', the V-C said. 'All universities suffered the same cut. I compared this with other university principals.'

'We have had to tighten up our spending. I did not cut bursaries and scholarships, I did not cut the Deans of the Faculties. I did not cut the University's relationship with the students.'

'I did not cut the new posts planned for 1984. He paused, and we asked if the cut was related to the increase in admission requirements at this and other universities, and whether these increased ratings will discriminate against black students who have, as a result of inferior education, lower marks.'

'No, the University raised its admission requirements at the beginning of last year, before the Quota Act.'

'The University has a social responsibility to society. Above certain levels, students will be admitted. Those students who do not measure up to those standards will be scrutinised by the Deans of the Faculties. Admission will be at their discretion.'

'You must never believe that the University is doing things under the cloak of pseudo-liberal beliefs.'

'We must develop objective criteria, irrespective of colour, to measure a student's potential.'

'We will not tolerate the practice of discrimination, even if it means extra work at great expense.'

The government has recently changed the formula by which the size of the government grant is decided. There is a shift now to reward the research that the university undertakes.

'We will benefit enormously' the V-C said. 'But not at the expense of teaching. We must re-examine the exam system, and we must do it together. For, the students are the clients, the recipients, and we must openly discuss the matter.'

'In the day-to-day decision-making process, it is my policy that whenever a problem arises which concerns the student body, consultation can be included. That is a function of democracy. The University undertakes its tasks in an open forum.'

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'My administration must be vigorous on this. We must expect to be told where deficiencies are spotted. I am in favour of the class representative system, and these people must be outspoken!'

Wits Student asked about Professor Kunert and the Department of International Relations. Prof Kunert planned to set up a controversial research institute on campus, where SADF members could covertly meet with the people the institute would bring out to lecture. Prof Kunert approached senior ministers and officials in the government for sponsorship.

'I understand Prof Kunert's desire, but he must go through the correct university channels. The institute would have to be recommended by the Faculty. He may not go through other channels. There is only one way for it to be established. The university must control its financing.'

'The University must be tolerant of views that it may not share.'

Finally we asked him about his degrees. He lists, after his Innsbruck (Austria) doctorate, that he is 'the bear of the Austrian Cross of Honour for Science and Art (First Class).'

'Yes, it is the most prestigious Austrian award. Only a small number are awarded. It looks something like the French Legion of Honour.'

Rising to usher us out, he said: 'We must learn as we go. We must examine our successes and review our failures, of which we have many.'

Professor Tober: Tolerance above all else
Mogopa removal:

"They pushed us out"

"If we go to Bethanie it is better than Pachsdraai. Pachsdraai has no water, no clinics, no work. What is there for us?"

This was the lament of the people of Mogopa when their long struggle to resist removal to the arid and barren Pachsdraai, came to an end.

The village was forcibly removed under police supervision and dumped in Pachsdraai.

The history of the Mogopa people is a bitter one.

Two years ago Mogopa was a thriving community. Each family had access to land. There were several hundred head of cattle. Every year Mogopa sold 200 tons of maize to the Ventersdorp Co-operative. And there were mineral deposits on the land.

But Mogopa was designated a 'black spot' by South African legislation — an island of black freehold land in 'white' South Africa and on the list for expropriation and removal.

Early in February, Mogopa was declared an operational area and sealed off from the outside world for three days.

Major A Scheepers, spokesperson for the special task force at Mogopa said that there was no resistance — 'but if they don't want to move voluntarily, we'll just take them.'

Thus it was that voices over loudhailers warned people to stay inside their homes or risk being beaten with batons. Armed police ordered the villagers to pack and forced them into waiting trucks. They were then dumped in Pachsdraai.

The Mogopa villagers refused to accept the 'remote and godless' Pachsdraai as their future home. They have decided to go to Bethanie, the ancestral land of the Bakwena baMogopa people. They say 'We are going to Bethanie because the government had forced us to go. We never wanted to see Pachsdraai.'

In Bethanie the thorn bush is being cleared. Building materials and possessions lie in heaps next to corrugated iron shanties. The Mogopa people must now begin...
In the hope they would not be moved, villagers began to rebuild the buildings the government had demolished the previous year. They spent R15 000 rebuilding their school. The government can’t come back now, we have suffered enough. We watched while they smashed our old schools. We still respected them though. But if they try to touch this one. Hey! We will fight — we want to show them this is a place inhabited by human beings.

Police declared Mogopa an operational area and refused entry to white journalists and clergy. Profiteering farmers however, were allowed in to purchase livestock. People were forced to sell cattle worth between R5 000 and R10 000 for as little as R50. Also local farmers such as A T Niemand (above) charged residents who were moving ‘voluntarily’ as much as R300 for the trip to Bethanie.

This is the history of the removal of Mogopa:

1911: The Bakwena baMogopa buy land in the Ventersdorp district.
1913: The Bakwena install a Native Affairs. The residents establish a village, Mogopa, invest in houses, shops and agricultural implements including tractors, ploughs, windmills and motor pumps.
1937: The democratically elected headman and his tribal council.
1975: The South African government decides to obliterate all ‘black spots’ in accordance with the Black Administration Act of 1927 grants the State President powers to establish a place inhabited by human beings.

Bakwena people that they will have to move after the 1980 harvest.

The Black Administration Act of 1927 grants the State President
Pachsdraai was like a jail

According to government officials, Pachsdraai is a 'beautiful well watered part of the bushveld.' But the Mogopa people feel differently:

'We were dumped in Pachsdraai and given a two roomed shack with broken doors and no windows. There were bushes inside the house. We had to cut them down before we could sleep. By any black community or tribe to move from a specified area and to forbid their return on pain of criminal sanction.

1981: The government negotiates the intended removal with the headman, Mr Jacob More. The tribe deposes him after his misuse of tribal funds, and extortion of bribes. They elect Mr Shadrack More in his place. This move is not recognised by the government which continues to negotiate clandestinely with Jacob More and his 'planning committee'. The official asserts 'I am a white man and a magistrate and I say Jacob More will rule over you until he dies.'

1982: Jacob More agrees to move to Pachsdraai, an arid squatter camp far from the rainbelt and industrial areas. About 60 families agree to leave with him. The rest of the tribe approaches lawyers to act on their behalf.

June 1983: Bulldozers move into the village and start demolishing houses, schools, the four churches and the clinic. Diesel is poured into the water sources, and the water pumps which provide the village with fresh water are removed. The number of families who move 'voluntarily', increases to 170. Between 200 and 300 families remain at Mogopa.

July-September 1983: The bus service to the area is terminated. The magistrate at Ventersdorp threatens that pensions will not be paid at Mogopa. Endorsements to satisfy influx control regulations to obtain work in urban areas are refused to Mogopa workers. The Bakwena tribe, under Shadrack More, refuses to move to Pachsdraai without first seeing the area and insists on negotiating about adequate compensation for their homes and mineral rights to their diamond-rich land at Mogopa.

November-December 1983: A State President's Order is issued saying that the tribe must move to Pachsdraai within ten days, failing which, they would be forcibly removed. The tribe institutes legal proceedings against the order. Bishop Desmond Tutu and Helen Suzman, among others, intervene on their behalf. Lawyers fail to obtain an interdict against the removals.

The people hold a meeting and decide that they will not move to Pachsdraai. At least 8 families move of their own accord to places of their choice. These families demolish their houses, take whatever building materials can be reused, and abandon their property without compensation.

February 1984: Police move in and begin to remove the people forcibly to Pachsdraai. Any form of resistance is met by beatings from the police. People refuse to stay in Pachsdraai and move to Bethanie, using hired trucks and voluntary help.

In Bethanie, people have had to start building a new life. One man said 'What can I do, Mogopa was the best farm I'll ever have. I built my house myself. I'm too old now, my children have gone away. Who's going to build my house now?'

... There's not enough water in Bethanie. We pay R1.50 a barrel but some of us can't afford this much.'
Cheryse Prestin-Tyte stood at the ticker tape machine in Senate House. A roll of tape lay lop-sided across her finely formed palms. Her beautiful teeth were clenched in a tight (yet fetchingly feminine) grimace of surprise and consternation.

Still rooted to the ground by the shock of what she had read, Cheryse might have stood at the tape all day had she not been rudely pushed aside by a senior lecturer in accountancy looking for a joke to put in his next lecture.

She turned away and walked blindly across the concourse, standing on legs and kicking coffee cups so that they skidded across the bright polished floor.

Nobody observing Cheryse at that moment would have guessed at her state of mind. Her smart suede-leather Gucci briefcase was clasped firmly (but not too aggressively) in her right hand, and her elegant Riva Norman blouse-and-skirt-for-the — businesswoman disguised her inner turmoil.

Cheryse reached the refreshment kiosk and placed a hand on the pillar to support herself. She was trembling but she managed not to scrape her gleaming red nails on the rough concrete. To regain her composure, she tossed her natural, permed hair. It sparkled in the ray of sunlight which beamed down through the skylight and briefly illuminated her. 'What am I to do now?' Cheryse thought. 'I'm on a world-wide sales trip. I'll fill in a diary. 'We have to find something to discriminate against', he told the Phantom. 'Just so happens it's Tuesday's turn.' The Phantom stepped into a lift. One bound from his muscular bronzed legs and he had joined here in the lift.

Cheryse stepping into a lift. One bound from his muscular bronzed legs and he had joined here in the lift.

Drakensberg, and which had never failed to bring a twinkle to the old man's eye, the other having been lost in the war. 'I hope no-one noticed how upset I was,' Cheryse thought, a pensive expression on her perfect features, 'it would really spoil my curriculum vitae. Oh well, I must go to my seminar now.' Without realizing it, she said the last sentence out loud, and blushed when she realized how odd it must have sounded.

However, Cheryse's progress across the concourse had been noted by a young man sitting idly at a klaberjas table. The saturnine features and piercing blue eyes of Aubrey Coriglomo-vitz had watched Cheryse, and had sensed as if guided by a supernatural force, her inner dishevelment.

His eyes still on Cheryse he stood up casually and sauntered over to the kiosk. conscious of the perfect fit of his Ronald Babbit jeans, his gold chain entangled in the rich and proteus growth which matted his broad chest. Roughly and assertively he pushed his way to the front of the queue and bought some chewing gum.

When he turned away from the counter, he saw that Cheryse was gone. Overcome with disappointment he searched for her frantically. His lazer-like eyes scanning the crowds, he spotted Cheryse stepping into a lift. One bound from his muscular bronzed legs and he had joined in the lift.

If you can write strong passionate prose — if your creative genius has not been squeezed dry by the 20th century rat race, then submit a chapter of 'The Rest Room of Passion' to Wits Student. We don't pay R40 000 for submissions, but successful writers will receive an Afrikaans photo-romance absolutely free!

To the manna born

Professor Manna, enigmatic Psychology I lecturer claims psychology is a dynamic subject. 'Not so' says a student. 'This is my twelfth year in Psycho I, and he's still lecturing from the same notes.'

The tied-piper

Commerce Student's Council President, Hi-Ace Fickleson, is up to his size 14 neck in 2 000 ties. Commenting on the major tie-marketing drive undertaken in Orientation Week during which 17 ties were sold, Mr Fickleson said, 'Sales are going well.' Speaking from the Hawaii Hilton, vice-President Ima Hart told the Phantom: 'I'm on a world-wide sales trip. I'll fill in the Phillips pattern, too agressively) in her right hand, and her elegant Riva Norman blouse-and-skirt-for-the — businesswoman disguised her inner turmoil.

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This week Wits Student runs a feature on Azasos and Nusas, the country's two mass-based University student organisations.

The need for two separate organizations highlights the appalling inequalities in black and white education, and the different experiences of black and white students.

Black students are oppressed and humiliated by the apartheid system every day, they study under incredibly difficult conditions and under the terms of the Group Areas Act, they cannot live in residence on Wits campuses, problems which white students never have to face. Azaso and the BSS address these issues directly.

It must, however, be stressed that although Nusas and Azaso exist as separate organizations, often focusing on different issues, or on the same issues but in different ways, they are united in their affiliation to the UDF and in their aims and aspirations.

The removal of the community of Mogopa to Pachsdraai is easy enough to explain theoretically. Last week, Wits Student editorial commented that the resettlement of 'black spots' is part of a process of political and economic exclusion of black South Africans — the process which shows the 'reform initiative' is only apartheid in a new guise.

But it is one thing to write an editorial, and quite another to see the effect removals have on a community. A Wits Student staff member visited Bethanie, last week to gather material for the feature. The reporter's overriding impression was of the courage and determination of the community. While they lost their struggle to prevent the resettlement, in a sense they won a small victory when they refused to stay in Pachsdraai and decided rather to go to Bethanie.

But Bethanie is no paradise. People live in small corrugated iron shanties. The possessions and building materials they salvaged from their houses in Mogopa lie in neat heaps outside. Most people have not received adequate compensation for their property and the community will not be compensated for the R15 000 school they built themselves. To add to the disruption, the community has been split and settled in three different areas of Bethanie.

Rebuilding a community from scratch is an expensive process. The resources of the Mogopa community have been drained by the removal. A fund has been set up by the SACCO and monetary affiliation to the UDF and in their aims and aspirations.

The letters pages in this edition of Wits Student contain a broad range of opinion and comment.

The University must take action against those who violate the law if you could publish the letter you received from 'ordinary students' and another for Crystal?

Well done!

Delighted Student

It appears that my letter concerning NUSAS in your last edition was subbed beyond recognition. I would appreciate it if you could publish the letter in full in your next edition.

Brendan Barry

16 March 1984

I would like to extend my hearty congratulations to Mr Monty Sklar for his outstanding achievement on Wednesday.

What a pity it wasn't captured on TV so we could have slow motion replays!

It's about time somebody nailed Crystal. None of us ever detains and bans our students (Sammy Adelman, SRC president in 1981/82 is still banned, his banning was a direct result of SMA activity) and uproots the people at Mogopa (and thousands of others) from their homes.

I hope that the new Vice-Chancellor does not repeat the cowardly attitude of the previous administration: why should there be one set of rules for ordinary students and another for Crystal?

The University must take action against those who violate the laws set up, specifically to enable our academic community to function smoothly and fairly. Crystal and the SMA bring disgrace to this concept, this University and this country.

Disgusted BSc III

Sex Educationist

The new Vice-Chancellor, Professor Tober, took the opportunity of his inauguration to warn students against involving Wits in party political affairs. Students may hold what ever views they like, he said, but they should not attempt to implicate the University in these views.

At the same time students are continually charged with bringing the University into disrepute — for their bad behaviour at intervarsities, for heckling speakers: even cheating in exams is a ground sufficient to bring this particular charge down on one's head. It is thus with absolute disgust that I witnessed the SMA's behaviour at Orchards' municipal by-election last week. Not only did Russell Crystal have the arrogance to insult Molly Seftel, resulting in a punch from Monty Sklar but SMA members wore WITS T-shirts with the words 'national party' emblazoned on them. These students, who were rude to passers-by and (hopefully) as to every one else, dragged the University's name through the mud with glee. How dare the University administration issue one rebuke to students who may or may not be members of the National Party with our University, when that National Party turns away 24 black students from Medical School; cuts our subsidy by 2%; and the SMA's action involving 42 transgressions of financial by-laws in 1982/3 went unpunished (any other club, society would probably have been expelled).

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Sex Educationist

The need for two separate organisations highlights the appalling inequalities in black and white education, and the increased prevalence of sexually transmitted diseases.

I commend you on your article on contraception. If two people believe they are mature enough to make love, they must also be mature enough to accept the responsibility of shared contraceptive planning.

Your article provides some guidelines for making informed decisions. However, two issues were not clearly stated:

Coitus interruptus is not only extremely risky but can cause psychological tension for both partners, which can interfere with their relationship.

Further, it is postulated as a potential forerunner to the development of the sexual dysfunction of retarded ejaculation (Helen Singer Kaplan 1974 The New Sex Therapy). I believe this method should not be used in any event.

The second issue, which could take an article of its own, is the increased prevalence of sexually transmitted diseases.

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Mogopa .. SAVS slams societies

I am a final year law student at Wits, and a member of SAVS. It is with regret that I write this letter to your newspaper, for the allegations about to be made are serious. Very briefly the circumstances which initiate the writing of this letter are as follows:

SAVS has been assisting the Black Sash in an area where the Mogopa people have chosen to settle after being forcibly removed to Pachdrain. As the removal of the Mogopa tribe-people has been widely publicised I assume readers are aware that the situation is quite desperate. The resettled people are suffering from a dire shortage of accommodation, water, food and transport for their belongings.

On the 3rd March SAVS was asked by the Black Sash to transport a large quantity of food and transport for their age of accommodation, water, and in our quest for knowledge, for their resources and having done so, to communicate their knowledge to other students so that they can get involved. SAVS has for many years provided the opportunity for students to get involved in projects in rural areas where the harshness of our system is most sorely felt. Not only have very few students availed themselves of this opportunity, but many so-called progressive students have dismissed SAVS from a position of ignorance.

Are students actually working towards a better society or are they merely concerned with approaching the issues from a distance?

It would seem that students are not so quick to get their hands dirty or make personal sacrifices when they can immediately assist people who bear the brunt of the apartheid system. There is constant talk on campus about students confronting issues, educating themselves and being involved in alleviating problems in our society.

The conundrum is that we have shopping to do; I have an essay for next week; We already have a meeting in the evening.

It might be said ‘but this is only an isolated incident and we never knew about it anyway.’ In answer to this it can be said:

1. It is the duty of every concerned student to find out the areas in which they can channel their resources and having done so, to communicate their knowledge to other students so that they can get involved.

2. SAVS has for many years provided the opportunity for students to get involved in projects in rural areas where the harshness of our system is most sorely felt. Not only have very few students availed themselves of this opportunity, but many so-called progressive students have dismissed SAVS from a position of ignorance.

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Debate is essential to understanding the nature of the problems which face our society. However, when it leads to the acquisition of knowledge as an end in itself its value is diminished.

Students’ over-concern with self education is partly responsible for a lack of awareness that there are areas outside our university where we could be creatively involved.

Education does not only come from the seminar room, the mass meeting, or an industrial sociology lecture.

It is far more potent when it comes from being physically involved in a situation where on attempts to deal with problems experienced by other people.

My attitude is not one of pessimism. I know that there are practical problems which confront those actively involved in the student organisations. At the same time there is no good reason for students declining to help on a practical level when the opportunity and need arises.

Finally I am also aware that the student body is not homogenous and that there are people who are prepared to and do make considerable sacrifices for the causes in which they believe.

Steven Kuny

Flashbacks great in Bowie movie

On the whole, I was very impressed with your review of the film ‘Merry Christmas, Mr Lawrence’ (Wits Student vol 36, no 2). Your reviewer has demonstrated a depth of perception and sensitivity that is seldom seen in your publication in delineating some of the dominant themes underlying the unfolding drama.

At one point, however, you reviewer writes: ‘...some scenes seem awkward and incongruous...’ The flashbacks ruin the feeling and continuity of the carefully constructed atmosphere of the POW camp. I beg to differ. It is the flashbacks that serve to heighten and reinforce the tensions within the film.

The contrasts and clash of cultures that, amongst other things, the film’s powerfully symbol of, are undermined by the astute use of somewhat jarring cinematic techniques. In deed, it is the differing qualities of colour and intensities of light that bring out the East-West dichotomy.

Consider the vegetation in the POW camp — sparse, dry and jungle foliage — and compare that with the luxuriant well cared for garden in Celliers’. While I found the flashbacks a trifle laborious in parts, I am convinced that they served a vital function, not just with respect to Celliers’ personal motivations, but to the entire meaning of the film itself.

Anthony Dickman, BA III

Film & Drama Drama

It would be of invaluable assistance to students on this campus if some clarification could be obtained regarding the policy of the School of Dramatic Art / the Performing Arts Administration.

A distinction seems to be drawn between Dramatic Art students and ‘Drama and Film’ students. I am one of the latter. I pay fees, I study Drama, I am compelled to see School of Drama productions. But I have to pay, and Dramatic Art students do not have to pay.

Is this university really opposed to discrimination? On what basis is this distinction justified? I speak for the majority of Drama and Film students. Please help us obtain clarification.
De-stripping the zebra

How would you react if a lion suddenly promised to no longer chase the zebra but on condition that the zebra did not keep it's stripes. A tall story — well, that is certainly how I feel about South Africa's diplomatic moves with the frontline states.

After years of hostile relations with Mocambique, there are now 'peace' initiatives with this country — a country from which thousands are fleeing to Zimbabwe from the jaws of starvation. Now awaiting only the signature of the 'agreement', Mocambique is ensured milk powder, seed and tourism. Consequently South Africa is assured of no ANC attacks and openings to dealing with other African countries.

What of the operation cease-fire with Angola? Can Cassinga be forgotten? Since when would the South African state ever take a chance like that unless it was sure it had its opponent held by the neck.

Namibia — peace by December with US help. What happened to Grenada with US 'help'? And is it not strange as soon as Mocambique agrees to talks with Pretoria, the US sends massive supplies of food aid to them. Further, what are we to make of Toivo's release? Can we expect something to happen to him if his activities are contrary to Pretoria's expectations?

On 7 March we read that Zimbabwe is now heading for negotiations with South Africa. Why? If they do not, then we expect a stepped up programme of destabilization.

If they do, Zimbabwe will get more food and be ensured railway links through Mocambique.

Pig rep blasted

The definitive guide to selecting your class representative.

Campaigning from the position of being a male chauvinist, pig and from having been in the army was how a proposed Psycho 1 class rep purported to represent his class. All of us are just half. This extraordinarily 'representative' line was accepted by the class. He was voted in.

Of course with such relevant experience and credentials it is understandable that he was elected. The army is the perfect place to learn about democratic principles. Everyone knows that a representative vote is taken for all decisions, big or small, that may affect even the lowest private. A private's individual rights and respect are endangered. He knows he will not be forced into any position harmful or repugnant to him.

The fact the rep is a man is of course a self evident advantage; it hardly needs explanation. This in case you are a little unsure of the finer points we can briefly survey them. The first self evident fact is that men are biologically equipped to be dominant, superior to women and generally more talented than women. This fact is so obviously true that it does not need any logical support.

Second, men are innately altruistic and will always ensure women are treated fairly. Again this is immediately obvious.

Third and last, men are biologically equipped to protect women. Because women are so well looked after there is no need for them to worry their little heads about boring political details.

But anyway we know this class 'representative' only meant it as a joke; and what's in a joke? Many a true word may be said in jest, but this was not the case here. It is a bit paranoid to suspect that fundamental and controversial beliefs, not questioned too closely by their believers may be presented in the form of jest.

Anyway why worry? What effects could this remark signify?

When our 'representative' and the people who elected him are in a position to affect other people in later life, they will only make their decisions on the basis of merit. They will know who has merit. Their beliefs and experiences will give them a deep intuitive knowledge of who is most meritorious: the male.

Psycho student

Kidson carted over coals

Please will someone restrain Kidson from writing any more letters to Wits Student — mechanically if necessary. I'm getting tired of that asshole's poison gibberish.

Eugene Dreyer

The Anti-Crystal

In response to an article on Russell Crystal, published in the Wits Student, Vol 36 No 2, (Issued on the above date), I would like to pose a question. Why does the university administration not actively condemn Russell Crystal?

Scarce day escapes when Crystal does not make obvious his right wing racist tendencies. Since I have been at Wits (as of 1982) he has provoked, antagonised and insulted various people whose political beliefs differ from his own. This kind of behaviour is reminiscent of a fascist.

In a liberal democratic institution like this university, his connections with the government and the SAP are not praiseworthy.

I would seriously like to question the capabilities of the administration of Wits, which continues to allow this individual to commit offences within the university.

Russell Crystal gets more than enough coverage on state radio and television, and the aura created around him is one of someone with a huge following. On Wits the SMA is a tiny organisation, whose membership in proportion to the student body is virtually negligible.

Makes you think, doesn't it?

 SRC WOMAN'S PORTFOLIO

Worried about Contraceptives?
Do You Feel Safe on Campus at Night?

In line with other NUSAS campuses, the 1984 SRC Women's Portfolio is planning on opening an Advice Bureau to help women deal with their problems on campus. The NUSAS Advice Bureau will have a 2 pronged direction.

1. to help women take up campus related issues (learning problems, sexual harassment from lecturers or students, contraception, legal aid, mechanical advice).

The Advice Bureau can only be as successful as you make it. Fill out this questionnaire and help us establish your needs.

1. Do you feel there is a need for an Advice Bureau on campus? YES NO

2. Would you use the service? YES NO

3. do you think sexual harassment of women is an issue at Wits? YES NO

4. Do you feel there is adequate security on campus? YES NO

Is the lighting at night adequate?

(ii) if not where is lighting needed? YES NO

5. Would you make more use of the Advice Bureau if it was situated —
(a) In the SRC offices
(b) In a kiosk near the SRC Bookshop
(c) In a secluded Social Science classroom (tick appropriate suggestion)

6. do you have another suggestions for Women's Portfolio?

Issued by SRC Women's Portfolio
Sue Albertyn
Jeremy Cronin is outside. This 35 year old son of a South African naval officer was arrested in July 1976, charged under the Terrorism Act, and sentenced to seven years imprisonment for furthering the aims of the ANC.

Cronin had previously been a lecturer in politics and philosophy at UCT. After his release in May 1983 he wrote a book of poems about his experiences and emotions during his incarceration.

Remarkably the poems which constitute this collection, Inside, were conceived and memorised in prison where Cronin had no access to writing materials. The most prominent technical effect of this is the short, often staccato lines which reflect the sound and rhythm of pacing up and down his cramped cage.

Inside is not merely a collection of prison poems. It is both a subjective self-examination and a social history of the country and the men and women who have worked for freedom and democracy in it.

The poem Overhead is Mesh... describes the background and actions of John Matthews. It simultaneously evokes the atmosphere of the prison workshop: a crisis of religious faith and the events which have shaped political resistance: Kliptown 1955. Sharpeville and Langa. It is perhaps the richest and most highly wrought poem of the collection.

In many ways Cronin's subjective situation becomes a metaphor for the captivity of millions trapped with a violent and exploitative system. Yet his poetry is neither overtly angry nor rhetorical. It is the careful distillation of conversations and experiences into image patterns which give vivid glimpses of a partial reality much as photographs do.

Cronin weaves emotion into what is left unseen. One section of his book contains poignant love poems written for his wife who died while he was inside.

I saw your mother with two guards through a glass plate for one quarter hour on the day that you died

Meryl Streep glows in Silkwood

In 1974, Karen Silkwood, an employee at a plutonium recycling plant under contract to the USA government died in a mysterious car crash. She was on her way to expose the alleged mishandling of plutonium and the plight of the exploited workers at the plant, to a newspaper reporter from The New York Times.

Karen Silkwood's actual story is characterized by the ambivalent mythology created around her in the United States. By some she is viewed as hero, by others as neurotic.

Meryl Streep, as Karen Silkwood, succeeds in the portrayal of this ambivalence (perhaps not consciously) as she sets out to make a case for the disadvantaged workers in the nuclear plant where she is employed.

The factory owners are none too concerned about protecting their workers from 'contamination' - exposure to harmful radiation from the materials they handle. If radiation leaks do occur the incidents are ignored by management in order to keep production going to meet contractual deadlines.

Unfortunately, the nature of Silkwood's efforts and, by extension, the implications of the issues explored in the film to rectify this type of exploitation are clouded by glossy commercialism and sentimentalism. This is reminiscent of how the treatment of the rise of Communism in America was lost against the backdrop of the Beatty/Keaton affair in Reds.

One wonders whether the average viewer, unaware of the politics of worker exploitation, will glean anything of the essence of the issues explored in the film; or will merely fixate at a plot level, absorbed only by the emotions and sentiments of the extreme glamour.

This film provides, at best, a mild and possibly innocuous education in factory worker exploitation by a sensitive and compelling performance from Streep. Her move from the romantic 'soft-focus' portrayals of previous years to the vibrant, passionate and emancipated characterization of Karen is successful. Her excellent capabilities are realized in her relationships with the people involved in the drama - boyfriend Kurt Russel - handsome and loving but lacking her moral intensity - fellow workers, Union leaders, and of course lesbian house-mate Cher whose character becomes somewhat irritating in its excess of emotional insecurity. Silkwood's integrity and concern for her fellow worker draws one to her unconditionally and absolutely - however it is only to her we are drawn, not the issues themselves.

Mike Nicholls directs with skill, his continuous close-ups are brutal and fascinating, contributing to the emotional concerns of Silkwood's personal struggle. Visuals do work effectively, the desolate and dusty quality of the Mid-West landscape is constantly juxtaposed with the colour and richness of the character situations.

This film provides, at best, a mild and possibly innocuous education in factory worker exploitation.
The world's an asylum

It's a semi-cold Wednesday night during orientation week. The Black Theatre is box. I mean... you know what I mean. People in strange outfits crouch outside. The Sanity Inspectors are about to play.

They start. Phil wails about a revolution you can feel. No one seems convinced. Hello, out there! Anyone out there?

Then, somewhere in the middle of the second song, someone turns on the white light and—white heat!—it's all over.

The black theatre is a box. But people are dancing. There is movement in the distance... the distance.

Then there was The Free People's: the audience sits so silent! Then Phil's twenty-first, then a Friday night at The Box, then another party—The Sanity Inspectors look popular. The judge is the jury and the jury is the dancing horde who pours out its adulation in wild, wasted, galvanic, gyrating movement... well, it was fun.

So: what exactly are The Sanity Inspectors? Robert once said that they rose from the sea, and Phil told me his father was an octopus, but I don't think anyone really believed them. Some people accuse them of being a Desert Moves spin-off, but that's inaccurate too. No-one seems convinced. Hello, out there! Anyone out there?

The major impression of the band when one sees them live is the jarring contrasts within it. Robert is perhaps the most incongruous member, filling in the space between sax-solos with a curious cavort that looks like a cross between Groucho Marx's walk and a gargoyles's convulsion. Phil leaps up and down, insults the mike, shrieks hoarsely, and generally tries not to trip over his trousers. Simon stands dead still. Not a flicker. Not a jutter. The eye of the storm. And Chris does his dervish drummers duty, pounding away with fury. "We're total exhibitionists really," Robert admits. And Chris accusses: "Philip often pulls silly faces when he's singing about death."

Their politics are a little amorphous. "We've inspected politics," says Chris, "and we've decided it's insane." Which is not to say they're coping out: they realise fully that the whole situation is ludicrous—utterly laughable—and they mock the megalomania that underpins the status quo. In "After the War", Phil sings: "He said, 'Soon I'll be Fuhrer'... I said, 'That's clear; I can smell it in your smile'... He just opened fire from behind his barbed wire."

Here's to insanity.

Sexual utopia?

Drama students will explore the themes of homosexuality and socialism in their latest production Downstairs at the Wits Theatre.

The Dear Love of Comrades is about Edward Carpenter, one of the leading members of the early socialist movement in Britain. His open declaration of homosexuality challenged this movement to take a stand for gay rights. The play examines his efforts to 'create a social and sexual utopia in the chilly climate of Victorian England'.

Directed by Joseph Ribeiro, the play involves a cast of five third year drama students. The music was composed by Edward Viljoen, a fourth year BMus student at Wits.

The script was written by Noël Greig who is a founding member of Britain's 'Gay Sweatshop' a company formed in 1974. The Dear Love of Comrades carries the company's ideology which is 'to increase general awareness of the oppression of homosexuals and socialism in their latest production.'

Marais presents a variety of material ranging from wide landscapes to detailed close-up impressions. Grouped into series, the works portray detailed studies of vital Cape flora. In recognition for her work, Diedie Marais was awarded Fellowship to the Watercolour Association of South Africa—a privilege shared by only nine other artists.

Although the exhibition has not received extensive coverage in the media, it is well worth seeing. Eastern Cape Impressions is on at Gallery 21, Victory House, Fox Street and runs until the 16th March.

Flower-power

Eastern Cape Impressions is an exhibition of Diedie Marais' most recent watercolours. Although a small collection, subject matter is fresh and visually vibrant.

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Part of the proceeds from the exhibition will be donated to the Hauggi Foundation to assist in the financing of the Pelindaba Museum of African and Modern Art.
### Classified Ads

**Black Sash Conference on**

- Removals
- Exclusion
- Housing Policies
- Homelands
- From Friday 16th March to Sunday 18th March
- For further information contact:
- Black Sash
- At: 337-2436

**NEUSA Weekend Seminar on**

- NEUSA in the Community
- 24-25 March 1984
- At: Wilespruit Fellowship Centre
- If interested contact:
- Emilia: 642-4657
- or Ian: 716-2368

The Counselling and Careers

The Counselling and Careers Unit plan to run a series of lunchtime seminars this year on 'The World at Work'. The first seminar will be on 'Careers in Retail Field' and will be held in Room 3023 Senate House at 12.30 on Wednesday, 28th March. Representatives from Edgars, Foschini and Woolworths will be there to talk about career opportunities in their respective organisations and to answer questions. These seminars will provide an ideal opportunity for students to get information on various careers now rather than at the end of the year when the pressure is on to find jobs.

Eileen White (Mrs)
Placement & Careers Officer

### Bursary bounty

Few people realise the importance of sports bursaries in advancing the standard of sport on campus. Through bursaries, potential sportspersons are given the opportunity to develop their sporting abilities through top level competition, top coaching, and financial assistance.

The Convocation bursaries, which are donated by the Wits Old Boys Committee give bursaries to a number of applicants each year, depending on the number of applicants. The amount given is not fixed and is reviewed every year according to the amount donated by the committee. This year 8 students received Convocation bursaries.

**Council**

The All Sports council also gives an unspecified number of bursaries each year on much the same basis as Convocation bursaries. 8 people also received ASC bursaries this year.

The Neil Simons bursary which is donated by the father of an ex-Wits 800m runner who died tragically is given exclusively for athletics. 1 person each year receives this bursary which entitles them to R 1 000.

The squash club also gives bursaries according to their funds which are collected throughout the year. This year 2 squash club bursaries were awarded.

A committee within the Old Boys Association, the so-called rugby 100 club also donates money for the awarding of Bursaries. The amount and number of bursaries awarded depends on the standard of the applicants. 8 rugby bursaries were awarded in 1984.

**Soccer**

The soccer club offers 2 bursaries to its players. The first comes from funds raised by the soccer club and may be awarded to any player who plays for Wits, although the applicant doesn't necessarily have to play for an NPSL side and can play for the first amateur side or even the Colts.

The second soccer bursary is given by Encyclopedia Britannica who give R 20 000 a year to as many applicants as there are of the required standard. One of their bursaries must be awarded to a sportswoman. This bursary was awarded to Melanie Dembo this year for her outstanding karate achievements.

### Conquest for cricket club

The first team of the Wits cricket club has won the Dion Limited Overs League with one game in hand, beating Old Johannians in the final.

In addition, the Wits first eleven is strongly in the running for the premier league, with only one other club, Pirates, in the race for first place.

The Wits Cricket Club first won the premier league in 1958. In recent years the club has fared reasonably well, but a convincing recovery was started in the last season.

One key factor in the upswing of Wits cricket must be the professionalism of recently appointed player/coach Richard Ellison who has represented Kent in the English County Championships.

The team which is said to be well-balanced, providing good competition for all players, is otherwise composed entirely of students.

Two of the players, Kevin Kerr who is an off-spinner, and Bruce McBride, the wicket keeper, have in the past on occasion played for Transvaal.

McBride is regarded by many as successor to Springbok wicket keeper, Ray Jennings. Both players, including another Wits player, Michael Rindel, play for Transvaal B.

One of the problems that the cricket club faces, is that the cricket season, which begins in September, does not co-incide with the academic year, so that many first year students who have potential cannot play for Wits.

In addition there are many other players with potential who choose to play for other clubs. To combat this problem the club is looking into the possibility of bursary money offers.

The chairman of the cricket club, Professor Murray, has expressed a hope for an intake of new talent this year. The spirit of the club is one of the best and there are good turn-outs at practice sessions.

### Critical Health

**A Journal Examining Health & Politics in South Africa**

**Subscription Rates for 1984:**

<table>
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### Stay Wide Awake with Lert

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**Grey Advertising and Marketing 1558**
The Wits University Boat Club on top again

The Wits University Boat Club seems once again to have established itself as the top rowing club in South Africa.

After dominating local rowing during the late seventies, the club had its most successful year to date in 1980 when the club's first eight reached the final of the Ladies Plate event at the prestigious Henley Royal Regatta in England, only to be beaten by the top crew from Yale University.

The next season however, was disastrous with the club not being able to field a crew in the Senior 'A' division with only one competitive racing boat in its fleet, after an accident in which their boat trailer was destroyed. An extensive rebuilding programme was initiated and after limited success in 1981 and 1982, the Wits crew was once again able to win the gold medal in the Senior 'A' eights event at last year's National Championships.

A tour to Europe and the UK followed in July last year in order to expose the top oarsmen in the club to international competition. This exposure to top class racing has already paid handsome dividends, says club captain David Britain. "The experience gained had filtered down through the club and noticeable improvements in all rowing techniques have resulted."

Since the club's training camp early in February, the club has won the overall points trophies at both the Victoria Lake Regatta and the Buffalo Regatta in East London, as well as winning the Senior 'A' and Senior 'B' eights races at the Wemmer Pan Sprint Regatta last week.

"With two very fast Senior 'A' Eights, a winning Senior 'B' Eight, a large and dedicated junior squad including some scullers with enormous potential and for the first time in the club's history a women's crew, we can only look forward to next season when we intend sending a winning crew to Europe," concludes Britain.

With such an impeccable record the club members are all set to win the remaining races of the season.

FORTHCOMING SPORT EVENTS

MARCH

SATURDAY 17
Weightlifting: Springbok trials 14h00 Lower Gym in the Old Mutual Sports Hall on Campus.

Volleyball: 14h00 league match in the Old Mutual Sports Hall on Campus. Wits men and women can be seen in action.

Cricket: Wits 1st IX vs Wanderers on the Campus 'A' field (Walter Milton Oval).

SUNDAY 18

Cricket: Wits 1st XI (amateurs) vs Defence Marks Park 'B' field 15h30.

SUNDAY 19

Baseball: Wits 1st team vs Tukkies at 19h00 on the Campus 'A' field (Walter Milton Oval).

SATURDAY 24

Rugby: Wits 1st XV vs Kempton Park on Campus Rugby field 16h00. Wits 2nd XV vs Kempton Park on Campus Rugby field 14h30.

Soccer: Wits 1st XI (amateurs) vs Durban at 15h30 at the Rand Stadium.

SUNDAY 25

Fencing: Transvaal Mens at 14h00 in the Old Mutual Sports Hall on Campus.